

Fairy Tail 801

Chapter 801: Giving Retsu What She Wants

Vroom~~~~! x 2

A few miles outside of magnolia, two people riding two-wheeled magic vehicles, one black and violet, the other black and white, sped along the road. However, the one riding the black and white vehicle suddenly slowed down before skidding to a stop.

Shortly after the man riding the black and violet magic vehicle did the same, coming to a stop a few yards past the first. He then took off his helmet, revealing the person to be Alfonzo.

"Is something wrong?" Alfonzo asked while shaking his head back and forth, his dreads swinging along with his head movements.

"No, not at all." The woman, Retsu, replied as she took off her own helmet. "Rather, I think we've gone far enough."

Alfonzo could only smile wryly at that. Especially because he had a good idea of why Retsu asked him to go for a ride with her. And when he saw the wide, manic, somewhat psychotic smile on her face, his wry smile only deepened.

"I guess I saw this coming." Alfonzo said while shaking his head lightly. "But is this really necessary, Master Unohana?"

"Necessary? Of course not." Retsu replied as she dismounted her motorcycle. Then, after placing her helmet on the motorcycle's seat and pulling her Zanpakuto from the rack on the back of the bike, she continued. "But I believe this will let me have the one thing I've wanted for a long time. Someone who can push me to my limits in a fight to the death. Even more, someone who won't hold back. To be honest, I thought I found that person a long time ago. But because of my weakness, he subconsciously held back during our fight. And that left me unsatisfied."

"And what makes you think I'll be able to satisfy you?" Alfonzo asked while dismounting his own motorcycle.

"Just a feeling." Retsu replied, her smile still as wide as ever. "Now, I think that's enough talk. We should hurry before it gets too late. We don't want the girls to worry, do we?"

As she finished speaking, Retsu began walking away from the two parked motorcycles. Meanwhile, Alfonzo shook his head again. Then, after thinking of a way to stop this, and failing miserably, he followed behind her.

A few minutes later, Retsu came to a stop a distance away from the motorcycles. She did not want to damage her motorcycle right after getting the maintenance done, after all. She then turned to face Alfonzo. As she did, she drew Minazuki from its sheath.

"After seeing you fight in the Grand Magic Games, I doubt a warm up will be needed." Retsu said as she threw her sheath to the side. So, why don't we just go all out from the start? [Bankai, Minazuki]."

With her release command, Retsu cut her left palm with Minazuki's edge. Then, an impossible amount of what appeared to be blood dripped from her palm, along the blade, and fell to the ground, creating a

vast sea of blood in nearly an instant. At the same time, Minazuki's blade, which was the size of a normal nodachi, thinned, the missing mass of the blade mixing into the blood on the ground.

"*Sigh* I'm not looking down on you, Master Unohana." Alfonzo said as he drew Riot and Bedlam from the strap on his lower back. "But I don't go all out for just anyone. You'll have to make me go that far. But the question is... Are you strong enough?"

As he spoke, Alfonzo took a fighting stance with his arms out to either side. At the same time, his magic power flared.

"[Run Wild with Destruction on Your Fingertips. Usher in Pandemonium with Creation in Your Hands. Riot, Bedlam]." Alfonzo said, chanting his own release command.

In the next instant, the tonfa in Alfonzo's hands liquified before covering his hands, wrists, and forearms. However, unlike his usual fighting style when releasing Riot and Bedlam, he had no intention of fighting barehanded, as he had no doubt that Retsu's exquisite swordsmanship would be able to cut through his hands if he was not careful. Instead, the liquid metal covering his hands began to bubble before a pair of short swords, one white and one black, formed in his hands.

"This is the first time I'm using these after seeing those [Projections]." Alfonzo said to himself as he twirled the two short swords in his hands. "Honestly, they're not bad. I should use these more often."

Yet, when Retsu saw the weapons in Alfonzo's hands, she frowned.

"Alfonzo, are you looking down on me?" Retsu asked in an irritated tone. "You dare to wield swords when I've never seen you use them before?"

"Oh, I guess you haven't known me long enough to, huh?" Alfonzo asked after a moment of confusion. "My original fighting style was meant to be used with dual short swords. But since I'm against killing when not necessary, I always used a pair of sticks about this long. So, I'm actually quite good at fighting like this, you'll see."

Boom!

Then, without giving Retsu the chance to respond, Alfonzo shot forward, his speed breaking the sound barrier and sending the blood covering the ground around him flying in all directions.

Swish! *Swish!* *Swish!*

Yet, before Alfonzo could completely close the distance, Retsu swung her sword three times. The first was a powerful downward slash. The second was an upward slash. And the third, a swift horizontal slash.

However, instead of Retsu's sword, three slashes made of the blood-like substance in the surroundings rose from the surface and flew at Alfonzo from three different directions, front-left, front-right, and behind, respectively.

Zap!

However, instead of moving to block or dodge the incoming attacks, Alfonzo coated himself in violet electricity. Then, as each blood slash approached, an arc of electricity shot out of the cloak, striking each attack, cancelling them out with little difficulty.

"Good!" Retsu cried excitedly as she saw how easily Alfonzo dealt with her three probing strikes while tightening her grip on Minazuki's hilt.

Clang!

In the next instant, Alfonzo was standing in front of Retsu, his lefthand drawn across his body, the sword in his hand primed to deliver a slash towards the shorter woman's neck. Then, with lightning speed, Alfonzo swung the blade in his left hand. However, Retsu, showing off her mastery of the sword, gently positioned her blade to receive the blow, the clang of metal meeting metal echoing through the surroundings.

Proving her mastery even further, Retsu quickly adjusted the grip on her hilt, pulled her hands to her left, and raised the hilt above her shoulder. As a result, Alfonzo's slash ran downwards toward the tip of her blade.

Swish!

Then, in the same motion, once Alfonzo's short sword cleared her blade, Retsu raised the blade high before delivering a downward slash even faster than Alfonzo's. However, thanks to his incredible reflexes, Alfonzo was able to step forward and make a quick quarter turn. As a result, the blade passed less than an inch away from his back.

At the same time, Alfonzo reversed the grip on the blade in his right hand. Then, he jabbed it to his right, the tip of the blade aimed at Retsu's right shoulder.

Quickly pulling her right foot back by half a step, Retsu narrowly avoided Alfonzo's stab. She then adjusted the grip on Minazuki's hilt and slash diagonally upwards towards the center of Alfonzo's back.

In response, Alfonzo dropped down, barely avoiding the edge of Retsu's blade. He then whipped his right leg at Retsu's knees, intending to disrupt her balance.

Yet, just before Alfonzo's leg came in contact with hers, Retsu vanished from where she stood with the use of the [Flash Step]. An instant later, she reappeared above Alfonzo with Minazuki's tip pointed down at his head.

"I guess we're done with just swordsmanship, huh?" Alfonzo muttered as he was once again cloaked in violet arcs of electricity. "Fine, let's kick it up a notch, then."

Zap!

Shunk!

Just as his words ended, Alfonzo also disappeared from where he stood. In the next instant, gravity pulled Retsu down, and Minazuki's blade was driven into the ground.

"[Electromagnetism Magic: Supersonic Dismemberment]." Alfonzo chanted after reappearing several yards away.

With his chant, Alfonzo released the two short swords he had been wielding. The two swords then started spinning to either side of him. As they did, they were both covered in electricity, the speed at which they spun increasing exponentially.

Boom!

The two swords were then shot forward at several times the speed of sound, both blades aimed at Retsu's shoulders. And were these attacks to land, it was definite that at the very least, Retsu would lose her arms.

However, with Retsu's experience, even if the two attacks were moving faster than the naked eye could see, she was not helpless. Putting her exquisite footwork to use, Retsu twisted her body causing both blades to soar past her chest and back without causing any harm.

Though, thanks to her quick movement, the braid hanging in front of her chest flew up with her movement. Because of that, as one of the swords soared past her chest, the trail of superheated air it left in its wake burned away the tie that kept her braid in place, causing her braid to unravel and spread out.

Unbothered by the loss of her hair tie, Retsu slashed her sword several times in Alfonzo's direction.

Swish! *Swish!* *Swish!*

With that, the same number of blood slashes were sent flying towards Alfonzo at high speed. However, instead of coming from near Retsu like they did last time, they started only a few feet from Alfonzo, giving him little time to defend or dodge.

Because of that, instead of trying to block or dodge, Alfonzo used his [Metal Magic] to extend the liquid metal coating his hands and forearms so that it covered the entirety of his arms. He then lowered his stance, minimizing the area that could come in contact with the slashes. Then, he crossed his arms, making sure to cover his face, neck, and chest as he hardened the metal.

Clang! *Clang!* *Clang!*

Once again, the sound of colliding metal echoed around the area. On top of that, thanks to the force of the strikes, Alfonzo was sent sliding backwards, his feet carving trenches into the blood-like substance covering the ground. Though, they were quickly filled in, the sight of the ground underneath lasting for less than a second.

In the next instant, just as Alfonzo lowered his arms, Retsu reappeared in front of him, her blade held aloft above her head and ready to cleave him in to.

Clap!

Yet, as Retsu swung her sword down, Alfonzo quickly brought his hands together in front of his face. When he did, Retsu's sword was brought to a complete and sudden stop between his hands.

"Oh, your physical strength is greater than I thought." Retsu said, her manic smile spreading from ear to ear. "Minazuki is complaining about how you almost broke her just by clapping her between your hands."

"Well, I aim to please." Alfonzo said with a smirk. "So, are you enjoying yourself?"

"Quite a bit, actually." Retsu replied. "I don't remember the last time I was able to fight with all my strength."

Hearing that, Alfonzo sighed internally, relieved that Retsu would probably not go all murder hobo to get the fight she wanted. Unfortunately, that relief did not last long.

"Even so, I want to see your full power." Retsu said as she began putting even more force into her blade. "And if I don't get what I want, I'm not sure what I might do to get it."

"*Sigh* I guess I was relieved too soon." Alfonzo said in an exasperated tone. "But you know, if I go all out, this isn't going to be fun for you, right?"

"That's for me to decide." Retsu replied sharply.

"*Sigh* Fine..." Alfonzo sighed in resignation.

Then, just like Retsu, Alfonzo put more strength into his arms, once again stopping Minazuki in its tracks. A moment later, he stepped back with his left leg, twisted his waist, and tensed the muscles in his upper body. Finally, he let his waist uncoil.

Swoosh!

With that, Alfonzo sent Retsu flying, using Minazuki's blade to throw her into the distance. Yet, that did not seem to bother Retsu, as she twisted in midair before landing softly.

Looking up to the place where she had just been speaking with Alfonzo, Retsu saw him standing there with his hands raised over his head, the liquid metal coating his hands and forearms no longer in place. Instead, he held both of his tonfa aloft, the long ends crossed together, a clear sign that he had reverted from his partial release state, or [Shikai] as she knew it.

"Just remember, you asked for this." Alfonzo said softly, though his voice carried well enough for Retsu to hear.

Hearing that, Retsu's smile widened even further, a feat that Alfonzo thought impossible before actually seeing it.

"[Ban... kai]." Alfonzo said solemnly.

Voom!

Immediately, Alfonzo's magic power skyrocketed to at least ten times its normal amount. And even from where she stood, Retsu could feel the pressure it was putting on her. Yet, instead of stepping away, she tightened the grip on Minazuki's hilt, prepared for the full power battle she had dreamed of for longer than she could remember.

At the same time, Riot and Bedlam melted down into a ball of liquid metal that expanded to cover Alfonzo's entire body. And as the seconds passed by, the ball shrank, eventually forming the outline of a 9' tall humanoid with black, red, and violet coloring with its arms spread to either side, palms turned up to the sky.

"We are Upheaval." Alfonzo said, his voice a combination of his own, Riot's and Bedlam's.

"Oh my." Retsu said, her eyes glued to Alfonzo, palpable excitement radiating from her. "I can feel it... Such power... It's tingling all over my skin. Now, show me just what this power can do."

"As you wish." Alfonzo replied.

In the next instant, Retsu found herself held off the ground, a massive hand wrapped around her neck with a pair of glowing white eyes just in front of her. What made it even worse was the fact that Retsu was not even to perceive how Alfonzo moved in the slightest.

'What?' Retsu exclaimed internally. 'How could he be so fast? I couldn't even follow his movements.'

Boom~~~~~!

Just as that thought finished, the sound of the air being torn apart nearly twenty times over exploded. In the place where Alfonzo stood before, there was a crater glowing red from the heat generated by the electricity used to propel his movements. ON top of that, all the blood-like liquid that covered the ground in that spot had been completely vaporized.

Even so, Retsu's honed combat instincts kicked in without her own conscious thought.

Clang! The source of this content is novelfire.net

Despite being so caught off guard and being held nearly two feet off the ground, Retsu's sword swung with power and precision, aimed to remove the arm that held her. Yet, when Minazuki came in contact with said arm, it rebounded harmlessly, the reverberations of the impact drawing blood on Retsu's palm.

Though, with Retsu's ability to heal herself, the injury did not last long at all. In fact, it did not even slow her down, as she continued to swing her sword rapidly at Alfonzo's arm and vital points, doing her best to free herself from his grasp.

Ting!

Yet, Alfonzo just allowed the slashes and stabs to land without defending himself, the strength of the metal that formed his body and a layer of compressed magic power rendering all of Retsu's attacks useless.

Well, until Retsu aimed at his manhood, that is.

With speed that surpassed even his own wildest imagination, Alfonzo moved his free hand and clamped Minazuki's blade between his fingers before it could make contact, despite knowing that it would not be able to harm him with its current defenses.

"What the hell are you doing, woman!?" Alfonzo shouted, a bead of cold sweat rolling down his back from the scare.

Chapter 802: It's Tsunade's Problem Now

"Come on, Yoruichi, don't look so nervous." Elicia, wearing a black bikini with white ruffles, said while reclining on a deck chair in the Mansion on the Lake's Grotto. "I mean, the worst Fonzie can say is that he doesn't want to be with you. It's not like he'll forbid you from coming around or anything. And given enough time, you might be able to change his mind, you know?"

Currently, while Alfonzo and Retsu were out in the countryside around Magnolia having their duel, Elicia, Erza, and Rika were enjoying themselves at the grotto with Yoruichi, who was thinking herself into a nervous wreck. And because it was still summer, the ladies were naturally all dressed in swimsuits custom made by Elicia.

"Indeed." Erza, dressed in a solid red bikini, added solemnly while wading in the grotto's water. "Alfonzo has incredibly high emotional intelligence. There's no way he hasn't seen just how much effort you've put into making yourself a better person. Although I can't say that he would definitely accept you, at the very least, he won't scorn you for bettering yourself."

"Besides, just think, if he does accept you, I bet you'll have a good time tonight." Rika, wearing a white one-piece swimsuit with purple accents, said while waggling her eyebrows suggestively as she sat near the waterline with her feet barely submerged. "He'd probably be ready to rack his firearm and help you with some target practice, if you know what I mean."

Hearing what Rika had to say, Yoruichi, wearing a black and orange one-piece swimsuit, could not help but roll her eyes. Even so, it was clear to see that some of the tension in her expression had softened as a small, amused smile curled her lips.

"Honestly, being rejected isn't the issue." Yoruichi replied while shaking her head gently while sitting upright on a deck chair near Elicia's. "It's more about what I told him when we reunited a couple years ago. I mean, I did tell him that I wasn't allowed to go back to the Soul Continent until I convinced him to take me as his wife. And now that I think about it, I really regret telling him that."

With that explanation, Elicia and Rika wore expressions of realization. Erza, on the other hand, frowned slightly in confusion.

"Is that a problem?" Erza, not one to just stew in her confusion, asked what was on her mind.

"She's afraid." Elicia said softly. "Afraid that Alfonzo will misunderstand and think she's only making a move because she wants to be allowed to go home."

"Exactly." Yoruichi said with a nod.

"But like I said, Alfonzo is smart enough to see through that." Erza reiterated. "All you have to do is be sincere, and he will understand."

"Erza's not wrong." Rika pointed out. "Just be yourself and tell him the truth. That will be enough for Alfonzo to see the truth. In fact, if I had to guess, the only reason he did not accept you from the start was because of the other girls and what they thought. But since you managed to make a mends with them, there shouldn't be a problem."

"*Sigh* Unfortunately, that's probably not true." Elicia said while shaking her head once again. "That stunt that Yoruichi and I pulled really damaged Fonzie's trust in us. So badly, in fact, that if I hadn't known him so long, there's a chance that he would have broken up with me, too. Honestly, the punishment I got from the other girls was me getting off lightly."

That brought the mood down quickly. Yet, it did not last long.

"Speaking of which..." Rika said while tapping her chin with her right index finger in contemplation. "I still don't even know what happened back then. Kinda makes any advice I just gave sound kinda hollow, doesn't it?"

A moment later, Rika's expression spread into a mischievous smile as she leaned towards the deck chairs.

"So, why don't you two tell me the story." Rika said in a tone filled with excitement for a bit of gossip. "Then, I can try tailoring advice better suited for the situation."

That statement only made the atmosphere more awkward. Elicia, Erza, and Yoruichi exchanged glances. Meanwhile, Rika's mischievous grin turned awkward.

"Uh... Did I just stick my foot in my mouth?" Rika asked sheepishly. "You know what? How about we just forget I asked?"

"*Sigh* No, I'll own up to my mistake." Yoruichi said after a few seconds of awkward eye contact with Elicia and Erza. "At worst, I'll just get a few more punches in the face... *Sigh* I'm not looking forward to a punch from you, though. Something tells me you know just how to hit to make it hurt a lot more."

With that, Yoruichi told Rika about the hairbrained scheme she came up with a few years ago to get Alfonzo and Elicia in bed together. Then, when the story was over, she simply closed her eyes and waited for the expected punch.

As time passed, Yoruichi could hear the wet footsteps as Rika stepped closer. Yet, when the expected impact never came, she cracked her eyes open and peaked in front of her, where Rika was standing with her hands on her hips. However, when she looked up to see Rika's face, she was surprised to see that Rika was not just looking at her. Rather, she was staring at both herself and Elicia with dumbfounded disbelief on her face.

"Are you bitches stupid or something?" Rika asked before shaking her head in disappointment. "Honestly, I'm surprised that Alfonzo didn't just beat the hell out of you for doing something so fucking dumb."

Elicia and Yoruichi only lowered their heads in response. Because they, in fact, also thought they were stupid for actually executing a plan like that.

"Well, whatever." Rika continued with a shrug. "I trust Alfonzo. And if he forgave you, then I'm not gonna get mad over something that I wasn't even there for. But seriously, I just can't understand what either of you were thinking."

Meanwhile, out in the countryside, Alfonzo was still holding Retsu by her throat with Minazuki's blade clamped between the thumb and index finger of his other hand, the blade suspiciously close to his crotch. All the while, Retsu struggled with all her might to free herself, clawing at the arm holding her up, kicking at his torso, and striking him in the face. Unfortunately, nothing she did made Alfonzo even flinch.

Even with Retsu struggling so fiercely, Alfonzo did not move or say a word. Instead, he simply stood there, looking Retsu in the eyes. And when he noticed the murderous intent starting to mix with another emotion, he found himself somewhat startled. But at the same time, he almost expected it.

"*Sigh* Are you done yet?" Alfonzo said as Retsu's struggle eventually stopped. "If so, let's go back. This fight is over."

"Kill me." Retsu replied raspily with her air flow slightly constricted.

"And why the hell would I do that?" Alfonzo asked, tilting his head slightly as he did so.

"Because I lost." Retsu said as if Alfonzo asked a stupid question.

"*Sigh* Nah, I'm good." Alfonzo replied. "I'm not really into taking life needlessly. And since there's no life and death grudge between us, there's no reason for me to kill you."

Retsu only looked at Alfonzo blankly when she heard that. The fact that she was genuinely trying to kill him should have been enough of a reason for Alfonzo to kill her in return. So, she could not understand what he was talking about.

"I know what you're thinking." Alfonzo said while shaking his head. "But what you fail to understand... You would have never been able to kill me. Even if I had not used my [Bankai]. You're just not strong enough."

Retsu only continued to stare blankly when she heard Alfonzo's explanation.

"*Sigh* Fine, I'll take your life." Alfonzo said in an exasperated tone. "But I won't be killing you. Instead, your life belongs to me. Meaning, I can do with it as I wish. You okay with that?"

'For some reason, I get the feeling she's gonna take this completely the wrong way.' Alfonzo thought to himself.

"Put me down, please." Retsu said, her tone returning to its usual gentle tone. Yet, there was something extra mixed with the gentleness.

"You're not gonna attack again if I do, are you?" Alfonzo asked before agreeing to release Retsu.

"I won't." Retsu replied calmly.

"And you're not gonna try to kill yourself, either, right?" Alfonzo asked.

"I won't." Retsu replied just as calmly as before.

Hesitating for a moment, Alfonzo eventually lowered Retsu to the ground. He then took a step back, not that that would do much good. Then, he released Minazuki's blade.

A moment later, instead of attacking again or raising her blade to end her own life, Retsu released her [Bankai] causing all the blood-like substance to be retracted towards Minazuki's blade. Finally, when the blade returned to its normal size, she sheathed it in one fluid motion.

"*Sigh* Good. She didn't---" Alfonzo began to mutter.

Yet, before he could even finish his sentence, Alfonzo's eyes, as well as the white liquid metal covering them, widened dramatically. The reason? Retsu pulled her sheath from her sash, held Minazuki with both hands, and dropped to one knee in front of him.

"Hey! What the fuck are you doing?" Alfonzo asked in a dumbfounded tone. IF YOU WANT TO READ MORE CHAPTERS, PLEASE VISIT novelfire.net

"Making it official." Retsu said as she raised her sword while lowering her head. "As the loser of our duel, I have no right to refuse. Therefore, my life belongs to you."

Completely dumbfounded by Retsu's words and actions, Alfonzo found himself even more so when he saw a light pink tint Retsu's cheeks.

["Oh my. Oh my. Looks like you picked up a violent psycho mommy for your harem."] Bedlam said in an amused tone from Alfonzo's inner world. ["Aren't you happy? Now you have someone that would definitely not shy away from doing the dirty work for you. Not only does she enjoy killing, but she's also rather good at it, too."]

["Hmph! She's not as good as Lici, though!"] Riot scoffed in return. ["Lici would do anything for you, too. Even if she didn't like it, she would push through for you. And that definitely makes her better."]

["Simp."] Bedlam shot back mercilessly.

And that led to another fight between Alfonzo's [Armament Spirits], something he has gotten used to over the years. So, he just ignored them and returned his attention to the kneeling Retsu.

"*Sigh* You know, you're taking this way too seriously, right?" Alfonzo asked in a tired tone. "The only thing I wanted to do is keep you from throwing your life away."

"If that's the case, you should take responsibility." Retsu said, her cheeks reddening a little more as she did so.

"Take responsibility?" Alfonzo muttered to himself while continuing to watch Retsu. "Yeah, that sounds kinda wrong in this situation. Especially with you blushing like that."

"Does that mean you're not willing?" Retsu asked, finally raising her head to look Alfonzo in his eyes. She then began pulling Minazuki from its sheath as she continued. "If that's so, then there is no reason for me to continue---"

Click!

"Alright, that's enough." Alfonzo said, sounding even more tired than before as he used his [Metal Magic] to force Minazuki back into its sheath. "I get it. If I don't accept, you really will kill yourself, won't you?"

'Thank God I can control a Zanpakuto when it isn't in a released state with my magic.' Alfonzo thought to himself. 'If I couldn't, making her stop would be a lot harder.'

"For as long as I can remember, I've fought for the thrill of battle." Retsu replied solemnly. "To clash blades with the strong. To be pushed to use all my power and skill. I even learned [Kaidō] so that I could either heal myself or my opponent to make fights last longer. And all that was so that I could meet a warrior's end when I found someone who could best me in all aspects. But now, you've taken that final pursuit away from me. So, if you have no intention of accepting me as yours, what point is there in living?"

"*Sigh* And this is why you swordsman types are so annoying." Alfonzo grumbled. "Erza and Saeko are just as bad, if not nearly as extreme. I'm just glad my

Sun isn't so bat-shit insane."

After he finished grumbling, Alfonzo looked down at Retsu. Then, after exhaling an annoyed sigh, he released his [Bankai], returned to his base form, and put Riot and Bedlam in the strap on his lower back.

"Fine, I accept." Alfonzo grumbled.

"Very well." Retsu said with a nod. She then stood up and put her sword back into her sash. "Then, When Yoruichi and I get back to the guild, I will start packing my belongings. I'll probably need you to come to Mermaid Heel's headquarters to help me bring them back to Magnolia."

"Hold on... What?" Alfonzo asked while raising a hand to stop Retsu. "Why the hell would you do that? You're the acting guild master for Mermaid Heel."

"Why shouldn't I?" Retsu asked, tilting her head cutely as she did so. "I belong to you now. So, it only makes sense that I would be by your side, would it not?"

"And what about Mermaid Heel?" Alfonzo asked in an exasperated tone. "They need a guild leader."

"They can figure that out on their own." Retsu replied nonchalantly. "As you may recall, I am retired. Technically, I'm not even the guild master anymore. In fact, Tsunade is still registered as the guild master. So, she can figure it out."

"Oh, now that you mention it." Alfonzo muttered while rubbing his chin in contemplation. "She never named a successor when she went to the Village Hidden in the leaves to become Hokage, did she?"

"She did not." Retsu replied with a smile. "So, it's only right she fixes the issue after dumping the problem on me without a word."

["Wasn't she the one that told Tsunade to fulfill her responsibilities, though?"] Bedlam asked with a grin. ["But now that she wants out of the responsibility, the job was forced on her. This woman is sly as hell."]

"Well, Mermaid Heel can't be without its guild master." Alfonzo said while internally rolling his eyes at Bedlam. "So, until you can get Tsunade to do something about it, you'll have to stay at Mermaid Heel, so things don't get out of control."

To Alfonzo's surprise, Retsu's response to that declaration was a pout... A very powerful one. One so powerful, in fact, that Alfonzo actually felt bad about telling her to stay with Mermaid Heel until things were settled. But since he had been dealing with Elicia for so long, after a moment, he was able to see through it and realize that Retsu was only trying to manipulate him into changing his mind.

["If it was Lici, you would have changed your mind, though."] Riot said. ["But this old hag has nothing on her."]

'I can't even deny that.' Alfonzo replied internally.

["You're both simps."] Bedlam said with a hint of disdain in his tone.

"Anyway, let's get back to the mansion." Alfonzo said, completely ignoring his [Armament Spirits], who began fighting once again. "We've been out here long enough."

"As you wish." Retsu said, clearly unhappy that Alfonzo did not give in.

With that, Alfonzo and Retsu made their way back to their motorcycles, put on their helmets, and started the magic vehicles. Then, at a leisurely pace, they drove back to the Mansion on the Lake.

Chapter 803: A Call from Retsu

Ever since Naruto, Sasuke, and Jiraiya returned from Fairy Tail with Rock Lee after the Grand Magic Games, things have been business as usual in the Village Hidden in the Leaves. The shinobi took missions, the children attended classes at the Ninja Academy, and the higher-ups filled out copious amounts of paperwork.

And the one who had the largest load of paperwork was the village's highest authority, the Hokage, also known as Tsunade. In fact, ever since taking the position three years ago, Tsunade could count the number of times she finished all her paperwork before the sun went down on the fingers of a single hand.

And today, to her absolute delight, would be the time that actually filled the aforementioned hand.

"Finally, I'm done." Tsunade said from behind her desk in the Hokage's Office in the Hokage Tower as she raised her arms over her head to stretch, causing her large breasts to stand out even more than they already did as they stretched the fabric of her grey kimono top. "Now, I should have time to have a few drinks and play a few rounds at the casino before I go home."

"Is that really a good idea, Lady Tsunade?" Shizune, with her pet pig, Tonton in her arms, asked apprehensively. "You have a meeting with Lord Third, Elder Koharu, and Elder Homura first thing tomorrow morning."

"Eh... Don't worry about those old fogies." Tsunade replied disdainfully. "Honestly, if I could, I would have removed them from their positions a long time ago. With their outdated ways of thinking, all they ever do is impede progress. But I can't exactly tell Sensei that he's no longer the Third Hokage, can I. And as long as he's still alive, he'll never let me get rid of the other two, either."

Hearing that, Shizune and the Anbu assigned to be Tsunade's guards could not help the cold sweat they could feel forming on their foreheads and backs. Especially when you consider just how beloved the Third Hokage, Hiruzen Sarutobi, has been for so many years.

"Lady Tsunade..." Shizune said, her tone even more apprehensive as she looked around to make sure that no one, who should not be, was listening.

"Stop worrying so much." Tsunade said, cutting off Shizune's complaint with a dismissive wave. "Anyway, let's get going. I've got money to win!"

Once again, Shizune and the Anbu felt cold sweat forming over their bodies. Over the years, especially for Shizune, they have all seen just how abysmal Tsunade's gambling ability was. And they all felt stomach pain at just the thought of how quickly she lost money whenever she stepped into a casino.

{BGM: "The Raising Fighting Spirit" -- ACN Music}

Yet, just as Tsunade stood up from her desk, the sound of an energetic guitar rift sounded in the room. And if one were to pay attention to where it was coming from, they would notice that it was coming from Shizune's kunai pouch strapped to her thigh.

"That ringtone really gets me pumped up." Tsunade said with a smile as stood up from her seat. "Asking Alfonzo to make something just for me was definitely the right idea. I just wonder how he came up with something so good. Seriously, is there anything that boy isn't good at?"

A moment later, however, Tsunade's shoulders slumped.

"*Sigh* But why did I have to hear it right now?" Tsunade asked in a forlorn tone. "Every time that thing rings, it usually means there's more work to do."

After saying that, Tsunade's eyes lit up as if she had a brilliant idea.

"Hey, Shizune." Tsunade said. "Just ignore it. Whoever it is will leave a message if it's important."

"Um... I don't think that's a good idea, Lady Tsunade." Shizune replied after pulling Tsunade's iPhone out of her kunai pouch. "It's Master Unohana calling."

Hearing that, Tsunade froze for a second. Then, she began to shiver at the memory of the training session Retsu put her through when she gambled away the money Mermaid Heel was planning to pay Alfonzo with. After a moment, she shook off the terror and started walking towards the office door.

"Just leave it." Tsunade said without looking back. "I'll tell her I was busy when I call her back. Just don't forget to remind me."

Before Shizune could respond and try to convince Tsunade to take the call, the ringtone ended.

"See?" Tsunade said with a smile. "She knows how busy I am these days. So, she'll understand."

Ding! *Ding!*

However, just as Tsunade's hand landed on the doorknob, her iPhone sounded, notifying that she received a text message. And that caused Tsunade to stop in her tracks, a bad feeling washing over her... A premonition that if she did not find out the contents of the text, she would regret it in the not so distant future.

"Who's it from, Shizune?" Tsunade asked while inwardly praying that it was not from who she thought it was from.

"Master Unohana." Shizune replied, shattering Tsunade's unrealistic hopes.

"What does it say?" Tsunade asked after taking a fortifying breath.

Shizune looked down at the iPhone once again to read the message. A moment later, she looked up and looked directly into Tsunade's eyes.

"She said that she would wait exactly one minute." Shizune replied. "After that, she is going to call again. And she said that you had better answer. Because if you don't, she will come to the Village Hidden in the

Leaves and deliver her message in person. Then, she promised that you would not like the outcome if it came to that."

With that, the room fell into an unnerving silence. Tsunade, forgetting to even breathe, simply held eye contact with Shizune. As for Shizune, her hands, holding the iPhone her right and Tonton in her left, began to tremble in nervousness, which made Tonton tremble by default. As for the Anbu, they all remained silent, not wanting to draw Tsunade's attention.

{BGM: "The Raising Fighting Spirit" -- ACN Music}

Then, just as the one-minute mark passed, that familiar ringtone played once again.

"I hate that ringtone." Tsunade muttered without breaking eye contact with Shizune.

Meanwhile, Shizune, without responding, only raised the iPhone in her right hand, holding it out towards Tsunade.

"*Sigh* Fine... I'll answer it." Tsunade said after taking a deep breath.

Tsunade then stepped towards Shizune, who remained perfectly still, hoping that Tsunade would take the iPhone before the ringtone stopped playing again. Luckily, her hopes were not dashed. Tsunade, just as afraid of what it meant were Retsu to come to the village to deliver her message in person, did not dilly-dally, answering the phone with a surprising level of composure once the iPhone was in her hand.

"Good evening, Master Retsu." Tsunade said, doing everything she could to keep her voice from trembling. "Sorry I missed your call. I wanted to finish going over the last of my paperwork for the day before I switched my focus. Unfortunately, I was just a moment too late to answer your call."

{"Hmm... Let's just pretend I believe you."} Retsu replied from the other side of the phone. {"I'll pretend that you weren't thinking of just ignoring me so that you could do something like lose all your money and possibly a large sum of the village's funds while gambling and drinking."}

"*Cough* *Cough* Uh... So, did you need me for something, Master Retsu?" Tsunade asked, obviously trying to change the topic after being seen through so easily.

{"I do, actually." Retsu replied. {"I intend to retire for good. And since you are still registered as Mermaid Heel's master, you need to come back and settle everything. The guild cannot be without a master, after all."}}

"Huh?" Tsunade intoned in an unfortunately, unintelligent tone. "You're going into full retirement, but why? What about the Magic Council?"

{"The Magic Council will be fine without me."} Retsu replied nonchalantly. {"There are enough former guild masters in its ranks that they will hardly miss me. In fact, that old pervert, Makarov will probably be shedding tears of joy once he finds out."}

"Well, I can't argue with that." Tsunade replied while the image of a short old man appeared in her head. "But what brought this on?"

{ "I was defeated." } Retsu replied after a few moments of silence. { "So utterly and completely that my desire for battle has been mostly quenched." }

"Seriously? How are you even still alive?" Tsunade asked in a dumbfounded tone. She then felt the silence from the other side of the phone call grow heavy, so she continued before Retsu decided she needed more training. "I mean, you told me that you wanted a great battle to the death that would force you to use all your strength and skill. So, shouldn't such a battle have ended in one of you losing your lives? Now that I think about it, who could even be strong enough to spare your life in a battle like that?"

With her quick save, Tsunade could feel the unsettling aura that had been building up on the other side of the call settle down, causing her to exhale a silent sigh of relief.

{ "Did none of your shinobi report to you on this year's Grand Magic Games?" } Retsu asked, the murderous aura that caused Tsunade's unsettling feeling completely absent from her tone.

"Well, Naruto and Lee both reported to me." Tsunade said, an oncoming headache beginning to make her head throb. "But from the way they reported it, I really couldn't get much more than the fact that Fairy Tail took all three of the top spots and Alfonzo's team won. As for Sasuke, he left the report to Naruto. *Sigh* And don't even get me started on Jiraiya... The only thing he's brought me since he got back was an uncountable number of complaints from bathhouse owners and their female clientele"

{ "I see." } Was the only response Retsu could give. { "Either way, you need to come back to the Mermaid Heel HQ to settle the issue about your successor. And you won't be able to return until a sixth guild master is in place. So, you'll need to arrange for someone to cover while you are absent." }

"I understand." Tsunade replied in a resigned tone. "I will make the proper preparations. At least I won't have to worry about the Akatsuki causing trouble thanks to Fairy Tail. Hopefully, I'll be able to make it back before the end of the month."

{"Good."} Retsu replied. {"Then, I'll be waiting for you at the Mermaid Heel HQ. I'll do everything I can to help you through this situation. I'll also forward a message to the Magic Council that says you are unable to take on the role of a Council member because of your position as the Village Hidden in the Leaves' Hokage."}

"Thank you, Master Unohana." Tsunade replied in a downcast tone because she knew that her free time after finishing her paperwork early had been cut short.

{"I'll see you soon."} Retsu said before hanging up promptly.

Listening to the sound of the call ending, Tsunade stood in place for a few seconds while wearing an expression that was only a moment away from crying. Meanwhile, the other people in the room, Shizune and the Anbu remained silent, as well. Knowing Tsunade's temper, no one wanted to become the outlet for her discontentment. This text is hosted at [novel✂fire.net](http://novel.fire.net)

"Damn it!" Tsunade shouted after coming back to her senses. "Why now? Why me? Why did I ever decide to become the Mermaid Heel guild master or the Fifth Hokage? Why~~~~~!?"

No one really knew how to answer any of Tsunade's questions. And to be perfectly honest, Tsunade was not expecting any answers, either. So, the only thing Shizune and the Anbu could do was continue to remain silent as Tsunade started stomping around her office with visible rage in her expression.

However, Tsunade's enraged state did not last long. Because after about a minute, she realized that she never got an answer from Retsu to the question she most wanted an answer to.

"Damn it!" Tsunade shouted once again. "She distracted me! I still don't know who it was that defeated her! On top of that, why would that cause her to go into full retirement!? Damn you Master Retsu! You tricked me!"

After getting that outburst out of her system, Tsunade calmed down significantly. She then put on a serious expression and looked towards Shizune.

"Shizune, call the elders." Tsunade ordered. "We have a lot to discuss. There are plans that need to be made for my absence. And as much as I really don't want to, I'll have to give the reigns back to Sarutobi-Sensei for the time that I'm gone. I just hope his conservative, outdated ideals don't end up cancelling out all the work I've done over the last three years before I get back."

"Understood." Shizune replied, snapping to attention immediately. "I'll go right now."

With that, Shizune, with Tonton still in hand, rushed out of the Hokage's office. Meanwhile, Tsunade stomped back to her desk, pulled out a scroll, and started drafting plans for both the time before she left the village and the time she would spend away from it.

Chapter 804: Alfonzo and Yoruichi

"Good, that's taken care of." Retsu said as she walked into the Mansion on the Lake's living room. "Hopefully, Tsunade will be back to have this issue taken care of by the end of the month. Though, I would not be surprised if things took a bit longer to get settled in her village."

After entering the living room, Retsu looked around and saw most of Alfonzo's wives and lovers playing with the children, reading, chatting, or drinking in Cana's case. However, there were a few exceptions.

For example, Irene was not currently at the mansion. Instead, she was at the guild hall chatting with Mavis. Lucy was also not in the living room. Instead, she was up in her own bedroom writing the manuscript of the book she has been writing for the past few years.

"Where is Yoruichi?" Retsu asked after identifying everyone present.

"She probably went to talk to Alfonzo." Cana said casually while sprawling across a couch.

"I see." Retsu replied as she took a seat on the floor next to Amar'e, Bianca, and Calvin, who were playing with their mothers, Sun, and Saeko.

"I wonder how that talk will go." Rika said while reading a copy of Sorcerer's Weekly from another couch. "Do you think he'll accept her?"

"That's between them." Mirajane replied. "But knowing Alfonzo..."

"As long as she doesn't want to be his only one, he'll probably accept her." Elicia said, picking up where Mirajane left off.

"Speaking of wanting to be his only one..." Ultear said with a contemplative expression on her face. "How is Laki doing with that guy from the Village Hidden in the Leaves? What was his name again? You know, the guy with the mask that always has one eye covered."

"Kakashi Hatake." Elicia answered. "And from what I've heard from Laki, they're doing pretty well. Though, she's having a tough time getting him to not read that smutty book he likes in public. Hehehe."

At the same time, somewhere in the Kingdom of Fiore, a white-haired, masked shinobi of the Village Hidden in the Leaves sneezed. A moment later, he grimaced as the inside of his mask was covered in snot. Meanwhile, a man wearing a green jump suit laughed at his misfortune while doing one-handed, hand-stand push-ups.

Meanwhile, in the master bathroom of the Mansion on the Lake, Alfonzo was standing in front of the mirror and drying his hair with a towel, another towel wrapped around his waist as he just got out of the shower.

"Seriously... Fighting Unohana is such a mess." Alfonzo said in a disgruntled tone. "Even though I managed to evaporate most of that blood-like stuff with electricity, the vapor got in my hair anyway. And getting that shit out is such a pain in the ass."

Knock! *Knock!* *Knock!*

"Hmm? I guess she got all the girls' approval." Alfonzo muttered after expanding his [Magic Power Detection] to see who was knocking on his bedroom door. "Well, might as well let her in."

With that, Alfonzo draped the towel he was using to dry his hair over his shoulders. Then, he tightened the towel around his waist while making his way into the bedroom.

"Gimme a minute!" Alfonzo called out as he made his way to his closet.

"Okay." A voice replied from the other side of the door.

It did not take long for Alfonzo to get dressed, throwing on a pair of comfortable pants and a sleeveless shirt over his undergarments. Shortly after that, he made his way over to the door and pulled it open, revealing Yoruichi standing there in her usual attire, her form-fitting black Shihakusho and orange long-sleeved shirt combo.

"Hey... How's it going?" Yoruichi asked, sounding uncharacteristically nervous.

"Come on in." Alfonzo replied as he opened the door wide and stepped aside.

"Thanks." Yoruichi replied softly as she stepped into the room.

Upon stepping inside, Yoruichi took the chance to look around the room. When she did, she was surprised at how simplistic it was. The last time she was in Alfonzo's room, it had a lot more decoration, after all.

"I know what you're thinking." Alfonzo said with a chuckle. "But since I don't share a room with Lici anymore, the room has a lot more of my style. So, there aren't as many decorations. Instead, there's just a bunch of practical stuff in here. Anyway, go on and have a seat."

As he spoke his last sentence, Alfonzo gestured towards the foot of his massive bed. Meanwhile, he picked up the towel he was using to dry his hair before he got dressed and made his way into his workshop. Then, after a few seconds, he came out carrying a chair which he set up in front of the bed, where Yoruichi was sitting.

"Don't mind me." Alfonzo said as he took a seat and started drying his hair again. "I was just getting out of the shower when you knocked. So, my hair isn't dry yet."

"I could help you with that, if you don't mind." Yoruichi replied shyly.

"Sure." Alfonzo said with a shrug. "I wouldn't say no to the help."

With that, Yoruichi stood up once again. She then took a few steps before she arrived behind Alfonzo and took the towel from him. Then, with practiced hands, she began drying his hair.

"So...?" Alfonzo asked while leaning his head back and enjoying the feeling of someone drying his hair for him.

"Yeah, I know you know why I'm here." Yoruichi replied while continuing to dry Alfonzo's hair. "But I guess you want me to say it myself, huh? Fine... I did it. I got hit in the face at least thirty times doing it. But I finally did it. I got the okay from all the women who were here when that... Um... accident happened between me, you, and Lici."

"Accident, huh?" Alfonzo asked casually. "Is that what you're telling yourself?"

"*Sigh* No..." Yoruichi replied, her tone dropping as she did so. "It's just... calling it an accident sounds a lot better than saying I tricked Lici into helping me take advantage of you while you were drunk."

"Well, I definitely agree with that." Alfonzo replied with a chuckle. A moment later, however, his chuckling stopped, and he spoke in a solemn tone. "But you shouldn't do that. Because if you tell yourself that it was only an accident enough times, even you'll start to believe that's how it really was. And the only way to grow when you mess up is to acknowledge it and not forget. That way, you won't make the same mistake again in the future."

"*Sigh* I know." Yoruichi replied, her tone just as solemn as Alfonzo's.

"Anyway, you got all the girls' acknowledgement...?" Alfonzo said. Though, it was clear that he knew what was next. Even so, he asked his next question. "So, what now?"

"You really can't just make this easy for me, can you?" Yoruichi grumbled, drawing a quiet chuckle from Alfonzo, which made her more irritated than she would have liked to admit. She then took a deep breath and said everything she wanted to say in one go. "Fine, I'll just say it. Now that I have their permission, I want to be with you. I know you probably don't trust me all that much, and to be honest, I understand. I did that to myself. But if you'll give me the chance, I'll do anything to build that trust with you again."

Taking another deep breath after getting all of that off her chest, Yoruichi continued to dry Alfonzo's hair in silence. She wanted to bring up the point about being exiled from the Soul continent until she

could convince Alfonzo to accept her and tell him not to worry about that. However, she knew that if she did, it would leap to the forefront of his mind. And that was not the reason she wanted him to accept her.

On top of that, she was sure that Alfonzo was already aware of that particular fact. She had told him about it the first time she met him after returning to Ishgar, after all. But if she knew him as well as she thought she did, Yoruichi was sure something like that would not sway Alfonzo's decision in the slightest.

As for Alfonzo, he was not in a rush to respond to Yoruichi. Seeing such a usually head-strong, confident woman squirming with nervousness was a rather novel sight. And to be honest, he could not get enough of it. Especially after the way she used to pursue getting into his and Elicia's bed so relentlessly every time, he saw her all those years ago.

But he knew he could not revel in this novel feeling for too long. Otherwise, he would end up making Yoruichi misunderstand. So, despite his desire to keep things the way they were for a little longer, he finally opened his mouth when he felt Yoruichi's hands slow down and subconsciously start putting more pressure on his head.

"To be honest with you, I more or less forgave you when you rushed off, grabbed Sui-Feng, and decided to go back to the Soul Continent for training." Alfonzo said. "I mean, before that, even though you reprimanded Sui-Feng for her actions, you never really took them seriously. But that moment was when you showed serious awareness of something being wrong."

By now, Yoruichi's hands had completely stopped moving as she listened to Alfonzo speak. New novel chapters are published on NOvel.Fire.net

"I don't know if that was when you realized that all actions have consequences, or something else entirely." Alfonzo continued. "But that was the first time I saw you actually take action towards something that was wrong around you. Something that was more than likely your fault. You didn't even act this decisively when you apologized for what you and Lici did back then. That's not to say that your apology wasn't heartfelt. But... Well, I think you know what I mean."

At that moment, Alfonzo, based on the pressure on his head from Yoruichi's hands, could tell that she nodded her head, despite the fact that he could not see her from his current position. Also, he had no idea what exactly she was nodding at. But he had no intention of asking, either. He had seen and heard enough to make his decision by now. So, he continued to speak to let her know what that decision was.

"Now, don't get me wrong. I've made enough mistakes in the past that I really have no right to judge you." Alfonzo said, almost casually. "But I have made a decision about your request. And I am willing to accept you. But like you said, it will take some time before I can give you the same level of trust as the others. Because despite the fact that I want to say that I'm over what happened back then... I would be lying if I did so. Even so, I believe most people deserve second chances. And I'm willing to give you one."

With that, the room fell into silence. At the same time, Yoruichi's hands started to tremble. Then, after a few seconds without moving, Yoruichi repositioned the towel so that it was covering Alfonzo's forehead and eyes. After that, Alfonzo could hear her footsteps as she walked around to his front before stopping and standing still for a few seconds.

Eventually, Alfonzo felt Yoruichi's body heat approaching followed by the feeling of her breath tickling his face. Lastly, he felt a pleasant, warm feeling on his lips. Naturally, this was Yoruichi's kiss. A tender, lingering kiss that conveyed her emotions. Added to that, there was a somewhat salty taste, letting him know that she had been crying silently before she decided to kiss him.

"Thank you..." Yoruichi said, her volume so low that Alfonzo had to strain to hear her.

In response, Alfonzo smiled. Then, he reached up to take the towel off his face. However, before he could grab hold of it, he felt Yoruichi's hand wrap around his wrist.

"Don't... take it off... please..." Yoruichi said quietly. "At least, not right now."

Understanding that Yoruichi did not want him to see her crying, Alfonzo lowered his hand. Then he reached out and grabbed Yoruichi by the waist before pulling her to sit side saddle in his lap, eliciting a surprised yelp from Yoruichi in the process.

Then, once Yoruichi was seated in his lap, Alfonzo pulled her to lean against his chest before wrapping his arms around her, untying her ponytail, and combing his fingers through her hair in silence.

At first, Yoruichi struggled. But when she realized that Alfonzo, even with her in his lap, did not reach up to remove the towel, she relaxed. Then, after a few more seconds, she snuggled into Alfonzo's embrace and enjoyed the feeling of his fingers gliding through her hair and gently rubbing her scalp. And before long, she fell asleep in his arms after her taut nerves relaxed.

Chapter 805: Finally Found You

"So, how do you think things went with Alfonzo and Yoruichi?" Ultear asked as she and Cana walked through the halls of the Mansion on the Lake towards their bedrooms.

"Fonzie probably accepted her." Cana replied, a slight slur marring her speech. "If he didn't, she probably would have come back downstairs with tear stains on her cheeks a long time ago."

"You're probably right." Ultear replied with a nod. "By the way, what's up with Master Unohana? I know you've noticed that she's been a little weird since she and Alfonzo got back after their ride, right?"

"Yeah, but I can never tell what that woman is thinking." Cana said with a shrug. "I mean, she's always wearing that gentle smile. It's damn near impossible to see through her. Then again, Fonzie and Lici seem to know that there's something up with her."

"But they don't say anything." Ultear replied with a slight pout.

"Well, everyone has their secrets, right?" Cana asked rhetorically. "And it's probably not their place to tell."

"It's hard to get used to you acting like this." Ultear said. "I mean, you usually act like a hooligan. But when you drink stuff from either yours or Alfonzo's special stash, you turn into a philosopher... Or get really horny... Honestly, it's always a tossup."

"Heh." Cana tutted in a good natured manner. She then started wagging her eyebrows. "Why can't it be both?"

Ultear only turned to her with a deadpan.

"Say... Why don't we go and check on Fonzie and the cat?" Cana asked with a wide grin on her face.

"Maybe they're doing something to make up for lost time. And if we're lucky, we might be able to join."

Ultear's deadpan only intensified when she heard that. Even so, Cana, despite her intoxication, did not miss the hint of desire that swirled in her eyes. And when you added the way she slightly bit her lower lip, it was clear that Ultear really wanted to see what was going on, as well.

"Come on, let's go." Cana said, leaving no room for protest as she grabbed Ultear by the arm and started walking towards the elevator while pointing in its direction with a bottle of liquor she just materialized from a [Storage Card].

Before long, both Cana and Ultear were standing on the top floor of the Mansion on the Lake, just outside Alfonzo's bedroom door. And when they arrived, they were not surprised to see that they were not the only ones who thought to take a peek at Alfonzo and Yoruichi, as there was a third woman standing outside the door, as well.

What did surprise them, however, was the fact that it was not Elicia, the most likely suspect to peek on Alfonzo's bedroom activities. Instead, it was the woman they had just been talking about not too long ago, Retsu Unohana.

On a side note, had they been thinking clearly, they would have realized at that point that Alfonzo and Yoruichi were not getting up to anything too adult-oriented when they saw that Elicia was not trying to sneak a peek. Because it was a well-known fact that Elicia's "Fonzie Sense," as she called it, always kept her up to date about occurrences of a similar nature.

"Master Unohana, what are you doing here?" Ultear asked in a confused tone.

"Oh, I just wanted to check on a member of my guild." Retsu replied as she turned around with a gentle smile on her face. "Yoruichi has been really hurting because of the incident back then. And I just wanted to make sure she would not spiral into depression."

'And because I wanted to spend more time with my new master.' Retsu added internally. 'But since the secret is not out yet, I do not believe it is the right time to say so. Plus, I'm sure that Alfonzo would not appreciate the fact that I now see myself as a servant beholden to him.'

"Damn... You have a heart like Master Mavis." Cana muttered, her speech even more slurred as she drank more on the way here. "If it had been Ur with one of us in a situation like the cat's she would have just told us to get over it."

"Hey! My mom isn't that bad." Ultear protested, though it was a rather weak protest, as she knew that depending on Ur's mood, she might actually respond the way Cana said she would.

"Well, it is my responsibility to make sure that the younger generation is able to grow healthily." Retsu replied, her gentle smile not wavering in the slightest. "Anyway, I think it is best that we leave them be for tonight. It seems that Yoruichi was tired out once all the stress she had been enduring was wiped away."

"So, they're not doing the nasty, huh?" Cana asked under her breath. "Well damn... This is a wasted trip. Whatever. I'll just go back to my room and drink some more."

With that, Cana turned around and started walking back to the elevator. Meanwhile, Ultear watched her go while shaking her head with a helpless smile on her face. She then followed Cana after bidding Retsu good night.

As for Retsu, she smiled as she watched the two Fairy Tail wizards leave. She then turned back to the door and stared at it, looking as if she could see through it. Then, after a few moments, she turned around and made her way to the guest room she was staying in, as well. Though, she took the stairs rather than the elevator.

Earth Land, Ishgar, Bosco Airspace, Cube.

At the same time, on the floating cuboid island serving as the headquarters for the Dark Guild, Tartaros, the members of the Nine Demon Gates who were defeated during the two-pronged raid on Fairy Tail were emerging from the magic device responsible for reviving them after their apparent deaths.

And as she was one of the last to be defeated, Kyôka was not surprised to see that the revival chamber was not empty when she was revived.

However, she did notice that there were a few of their number missing. Though, that could have been because they were defeated later than she was, she had a sneaking suspicion that they would not be coming back this time.

"Damn that human!" Jackal, the loudest of the revived Demon Gates shouted angrily. "I'll make him pay for what he did!"

"Well, maybe if you didn't charge in like an idiot, you wouldn't have been defeated so easily." Franmalth replied in his usual cheerful tone. "But then again, if you weren't such an idiot, you wouldn't be you, would you?"

"What did you say?" Jackal shouted back in return. "Do you want to die again, Franmalth?"

"Not particularly." Franmalth said while shaking his head. "It's not an experience I want to get used to. I've seen how angry it makes you, after all. What is this, the second time you've died in five years? I'm sure no one else has died so often as you have.""

"Argh~~~~~!" Jackal roared in rage. "I'll kill you!"

Tap!

While the other revived Demon Gates, Kyôka, Torafuzar, Ezel, and Keyes simply watched the argument, albeit with varying amounts of annoyance, the sound of a footstep from down the hall made them all, even Jackal and Franmalth, snap their heads towards the entrance to the room. Google search nov e lfire.net

"It seems rather lively in here." A familiar male voice said from the other side of the closed doors.

Creak~~~~~!

Shortly afterwards the doors were opened slowly, revealing the voice's owner, Mard Geer Tartaros, the master of the Tartaros guild, with a smile on his face. However, everyone knew that the smile Mard Geer was wearing was nothing if not deceptive. As they could all see the rage that was burning in his eyes.

"But why are there so few of you in here?" Mard Geer asked, sounding as if he did not already know the answer to his question. "I guess more importantly than that, why are you all in here in the first place? I was expecting you to come report to me in my throne room about your successful completion of the mission to eliminate the ones who have been getting in our way for so long."

Knowing that excuses would more than likely lead to another trip to the revival device, the remaining Demon Gates all fell silent with their heads lowered in shame.

"Hmm...?" Mard Geer hummed as his narrowed eyes swept over his subordinates. "I see... I guess this means you failed. Such a shame... To think you all lost to humans."

As his final word fell, Mard Geer's Curse Energy flooded over the entirety of the Cube, putting pressure on every demon living in the headquarters. And that pressure was naturally the most concentrated on the Demon Gates, evidenced by how they were all forced to their knees.

"The question is..." Mard Geer continued as if he was unaware that he was on the verge of crushing his most powerful subordinates with his power. "If you all can't beat a few pieces of human scum, is there any reason to allow you to continue existing?"

As he spoke, Mard Geer wore an expression of genuine consideration. And it was clear that he was genuinely considering just killing the Demon Gates and handling Fairy Tail on his own.

"Ah! Such a tough decision." Mard Geer said as he began pacing back and forth near the revival room's entrance. "On one hand, I would be getting rid of such useless subordinates who only bring shame to our superior race of demons created by Lord Zeref. But on the other, if I did get rid of you, who would do all the tedious tasks that I can't be bothered to do myself? Decisions... Decisions..."

In the end, Mard Geer opted to leave the remaining Demon Gates alive. Though, it was clear that decision could change rather quickly were they to fail again, especially Jackal, who had been defeated twice in such a short time.

Eventually, Mard Geer left the room, returning to the throne room without even asking what happened and how they were all defeated. Meanwhile, the Demon Gates continued to stand there for a while with their heads lowered until they were sure that Mard Geer was no longer nearby.

"Damn it..." Jackal muttered in frustration.

"*Sigh* Not only did we fail, but all my corpses were destroyed, too." Keyes said in a flat tone. "Oh well, I'll just have to go wipe out a guild or two to replenish their numbers. Finding another like that Silver will be difficult, though."

"As long as I don't have to fight that crazy woman with the sword again, I'm sure I could kill any of those weaklings from Fairy Tail." Ezel said, shivering slightly when he mentioned the "crazy woman with the sword," as she, Retsu, cut him into pieces and healed him over and over again until she got bored during their fight."

"Hey, look on the bright side." Franmalth said in his characteristically cheerful tone. "Even if we can't finish them off, there's no way Master Mard Geer would lose. Even if he kills us all permanently, at least we know that he would succeed in our goals, right?"

In response, Jackal, Torafuzar, Ezel, and Keyes all shot disdainful glares in Franmalth's direction. Meanwhile, Kyôka did not react much, still feeling as if something was wrong. Though, she could not put her finger on what it was, exactly. And without anything tangible to present, she would not report what she was feeling to Mard Geer, especially when he was in such a foul mood. That would only get her killed faster.

Eventually, the remaining Demon Gates left the revival rooms, all heading to their own domains in Tartaros' base, waiting until they were once again summoned for a task.

Earth Land, Ishgar, Kingdom of Fiore, Magnolia.

Meanwhile, back in the master bedroom of the Mansion on the Lake, Alfonzo was lying in bed, face up, with Yoruichi curled up on his chest like a cat. And if anyone else were in the room, it would look like she was sleeping better than she had in years.

However, Alfonzo, Yoruichi's makeshift cat bed, was not asleep. In fact, he was wide awake. And the reason for that was simple, Riot had just informed him that Jackal had been resurrected. And thanks to the piece of himself that he attached to Jackal's soul when Alfonzo killed him in Hargeon a few days ago, he knew exactly in which direction they should go to find him. Though, he was unable to give an exact distance.

"Good." Alfonzo whispered to himself as he subconsciously petted Yoruichi's head. "I've got more than enough lacrimas to power the Blackbird for three trips around the world. So, getting to Tartaros won't be a problem. The only question is, what kind of weaponry should I use when I shoot them out of the sky? A gamma bomb is probably a bad idea. I don't wanna fuck up the environment, after all. Plus, turning one of those mother fuckers into the Hulk would suck, too. Hmm... Well, I have time to figure it out. There's no rush. I'll just get some sleep and think it over in the morning."

Chapter 806: Stroking the Naughty Kitty (R-18)

The following morning, most of the residents of the Mansion on the Lake were gathered in the dining room for breakfast. Naturally, Retsu, as a guest also joined them. However, Alfonzo and Yoruichi were both absent.

"Hey, it's unusual to not see Alfonzo at breakfast." Mirajane said as she wiped a bit of food smeared on Bianca's mouth. "Do you think he's working on something this early in the morning?"

Before anyone could respond to Mirajane's question, the sound of someone sticking out their tongue and blowing a raspberry sounded. Looking in the direction of the sound, everyone at the table could not help but smile as it was Bianca who blew the raspberry.

"Aww! What's wrong Bibi?" Elicia asked with a smile.

"I wanted to cook with Daddy." Bianca said with a pout. "But he's so lazy. Still sleeping. Hmph!"

Hearing what Bianca had to say, all the smiles turned into full-blown laughter. Even Retsu, who was planning to leave around noon, could not help but giggle behind one of her hands.

"I wanna start training with Daddy, too!" Amar'e shouted, not wanting to be left out.

"Train! Choo! Choo!" Calvin added, wanting to support his older brother. Though, his two year old mind missed the point completely.

"Yoruichi's not here, either." Cana said with a shrug. "I guess she's still tired from last night."

"Oh... Did she and Fonzie do something last night?" Marin asked curiously.

"Not what you're thinking." Ultear replied. "When Cana and I went to check on them last night, she was sleeping in his arms."

"That makes sense." Lucy said after chewing and swallowing a sausage. "I bet her nerves were wound up really tight. Getting that off her chest must have been liberating."

"If it was such a torture, she shouldn't have done that in the first place." Marin shot back, her mood switching quickly.

"You already forgave her, Marin." Sun said with a smile. "There's no reason to be mad anymore."

"I know that." Marin replied with a pout.

"Anyway, do you think Alfonzo will be with us for training this morning?" Rika asked while shaking her head. "If not, I need him to look at some upgrades I thought of for my guns. I hope he can take a look for me."

"Of course, he'll help." Shizuka said with a smile. "As long as it will help you stay safe, he'd do anything for us. By the way, when do you think he'll make a [Soul Armament Embryo] for me? I still wanna fly."

"I don't wanna burst your bubble, Shizuka." Brandish said in her perpetually bored tone. "But you know, there's a chance that the released form of your [Soul Armament] may not allow you to fly, right?"

"Yeah, maybe it will turn you into a magical girl." Elicia added with a giggle at the thought of the overly voluptuous Shizuka wearing a magical girl uniform.

"What's a magical girl?" Shizuka asked while tilting her head to the side in curiosity.

Shizuka was not the only one curious to know what a magical girl was. Especially since in this world of magic, any girl who used magic could technically be called a magical girl, right?

"Something like this." Elicia replied with child-like excitement all over her face as she started producing different colored threads from her fingertips.

As the many different threads wove themselves together in the air above the center of the dining room table under Elicia's control, all the women and children in the dining room, which included the maids, found themselves drawn to the feminine figure that was taking shape. And as time passed, they all realized that the figure closely resembled Shizuka. However, instead of her usual blouse, skirt, lab coat combo, she wore a tight top, a short skirt, and stockings with jewels in her hair, a wand in one hand, and her hair styled into twin tails.

"Wow... Just... Wow..." Ultear muttered, not knowing what to think of what she was seeing.

"The outfit's cute." Sun said with her eyes sparkling. She then turned to Elicia with fierce momentum. "Lici! Make me one, please!"

"That top looks like it's struggling." Rika said as she reached over and grabbed Shizuka's chest. "These puppies are just too much for a top like that."

"Stop it, Rika!" Shizuka squealed as she slapped Rika's hands away before covering her chest with her arms."

From that point, breakfast devolved into cheerful chatter and joyous laughter. And in the end, Elicia gave the stuffed doll she made of Magical Girl Shizuka to Bianca, whose eyes were sparkling from the moment she saw it.

At least, that was what happened until Elicia's head, which was lowered while cutting a piece of her breakfast, shot up.

"Elicia, what's the matter?" Erza, the first to notice Elicia's actions, asked curiously.

"Nothing really." Elicia replied while shaking her head gently. "It's just... It looks like I'm gonna miss something fun."

While Retsu wore a puzzled expression, having not been around Elicia enough to recognize when her "Fonzie Sense" was tingling, the others all knew exactly what she meant. But since none of them had plans to miss out on training, they agreed with Elicia's assessment about missing something fun.

===R-18===

Meanwhile, up in the mansion's master bedroom, Alfonzo, who was usually the first one in the house, other than the maids, to wake up, was finally stirring from his slumber.

'Damn... I stayed up way too late thinking about what kind of weapon would be the best to bring down the Cube.' Alfonzo thought to himself while his eyes stayed closed. 'But there are so many options. Like some kind of incendiary munitions. Boiling all the water on the island would be kinda cool. Seeing the whole thing blow up in a steam explosion would be pretty bad ass. Or what about spreading a cloud of white phosphorous over the whole cube? Wait, wouldn't that be a war crime? Then again, would something like that even work on demons and Etherious?'

However, before Alfonzo could fall into the rabbit whole of creating weapons of mass destruction once again, the feeling of something small, smooth, and wet sliding up and down the side of his neck pulled him out of his thoughts. On top of that, he could feel two more somethings crammed into his pants and boxers rubbing against his dick and softly squeezing it between them.

'Hmm... looks like the naughty little kitty is awake already.' Alfonzo thought to himself. 'And she's trying something that none of the other girls have done before. I don't think I have a foot fetish, but I gotta admit. Her feet feel nice.'

Just as Alfonzo thought, Yoruichi, having slept quite peacefully, was still laying on his chest when she woke up. And now that she had put down her burden, she was back to her mischievous self. So, while trying not to wake Alfonzo, she carefully slipped her bare feet under the waistband of Alfonzo's pants and boxers and started using them to play with his dick.

However, as time went by, Yoruichi found herself getting excited by her own actions. And with her growing excitement, her movements grew bolder, as well. ON top of that, she started lapping at the side of Alfonzo's neck with her tongue.

Purr~~~~~!

Out of nowhere, Yoruichi found herself purring like a cat. A moment later, she snapped out of it and realized that Alfonzo was combing his fingers through her hair again. However, when he noticed that Yoruichi had snapped back to reality, instead of raising his hand to start from the beginning, he let his hand trail down her back, his finger tips sliding down her spine as they poked through her long, purple hair.

"Ah~~~~!" Yoruichi moaned slightly as she shivered thanks to the feeling of Alfonzo's fingers running down her spine.

"Good morning." Alfonzo said, his tone making it clear that he had just woken up. "You must have slept well to be this energetic first thing in the morning. *Yawn* What time is it anyway."

"No... Mmm! No idea." Yoruichi replied, her speech interrupted for a moment when Alfonzo's fingertips reached her tail bone after his hands slipped into her pants.

"Hmm..." Alfonzo hummed in both acknowledgement and pleasure as he turned to look at the clock hanging above the door to his workshop.

At the same time, Yoruichi used her feet to move Alfonzo's dick in his pants. Then, with one foot, she stroked his dick by squeezing it between her big toe and second toe as she raised and lowered it at a moderate pace. Meanwhile, she used the sole of her other foot to gently rub the tip.

Meanwhile, Alfonzo's hand did not stop at Yoruichi's tail bone, continuing downwards, it slipped between her butt cheeks, eventually reaching her pussy lips.

"Mmm~~~!" Yoruichi mewled as her back arched and the speed at which she moved her feet moved up and down increased.

Even so, Alfonzo clearly was not done as his fingers rubbed the Yoruichi's clit slowly while his thumb began caressing between her pussy lips.

And as Alfonzo's fingers and thumb moved, Yoruichi's body began to writhe unconsciously as her mewling turned into moans. And as the pleasure slowly built, the movements of her feet began to falter before they eventually stopped moving completely. Instead, her back arched as an orgasm hit her.

"Oh, God~~~~~!" Yoruichi moaned while shuddering from the orgasm.

With his hand drenched in Yoruichi's love juice, Alfonzo used his free hand to pull Yoruichi's legs out of his pants while he also pulled his hand out of hers. Then, he slowly rolled over so that he was lying on his side while Yoruichi lay on her back next to him.

"I guess you wanna make up for lost time, huh?" Alfonzo asked while grinning at Yoruichi who was taking in deep breaths.

"*Pant* Yeah." Yoruichi replied breathlessly. "Ever since I returned to the Soul *Pant* Continent, I haven't felt any sexual pleasure. *Pant* It was one of the ways I punished myself for the stupid stuff I did back then."

Taking a few more moments to get her breathing under control, Yoruichi then turned her head to look Alfonzo in his eyes.

"But now that you've accepted me, I can finally for--- Mmph!" Yoruichi continued.

However, before she could finish what she was saying, Alfonzo interrupted her by forcing his fingers, still covered in Yoruichi's love juice into her mouth. Discover more novels at [Novel\[F\]ire.net](http://Novel[F]ire.net)

"I might have accepted and forgiven you, Kitty." Alfonzo said in a domineering tone. "But that doesn't mean that I'm not gonna punish you for what you did."

In response, Yoruichi's eyes lit up with excitement. A moment later, however, she started playing along with Alfonzo's tone and an overexaggerated expression of fear appeared on her face. She then put on a show of struggling to get Alfonzo's fingers out of her mouth before replying.

"No, please don't..." Yoruichi cried, mock-terror in her tone. "I'm sorry, Alfonzo. I promise I won't do it again."

Grinning at Yoruichi's response, Alfonzo pushed himself up before straddling Yoruichi's abdomen while grabbing her wrists and pinning them above her head.

"If you knew you were gonna end up apologizing for what you did, you shouldn't have done it in the first place." Alfonzo replied while taking both of Yoruichi's wrists into his left hand. Meanwhile, he used his right hand to pull down his pants and boxers, letting his hard dick spring up from its confines. "Now, just accept your punishment like a good girl."

While Yoruichi continued to put up a token struggle, Alfonzo used his [Metal Magic] to create a pair of shackles around her wrists. He then connected them to his bedframe. Then, once both of his hands were free, Alfonzo began to undress the woman below him.

Once Yoruichi was completely nude, she spread her legs, giving Alfonzo easy access. However, Alfonzo had no intention of diving straight in. Instead, to Yoruichi's surprise, he closed her legs.

"Don't worry, we'll get there eventually." Alfonzo said while grinning. "But for now, there's something else I wanna do."

Curious to know what Alfonzo was talking about, Yoruichi watched him closely as he crawled over to the side of the bed and opened a drawer on his nightstand. Then, when she saw what he pulled out, her surprise turned into curiosity.

"So, what are you gonna do with that?" Yoruichi asked while eyeing the bottle in Alfonzo's hand.

"This?" Alfonzo asked rhetorically while taking a look at the bottle himself. "It's just to make things a little smoother for the next step."

With that, Alfonzo returned to Yoruichi's restrained body and once again straddled her. He then uncapped the bottle before tipping it over and let its contents drip onto the space between Yoruichi's breasts.

"It's cold." Yoruichi complained as she began to wiggle beneath Alfonzo.

"Well, it wouldn't be a punishment if it wasn't at least a little unpleasant, would it?" Alfonzo asked as he capped the bottle before tossing it to the side. "Now, just be quiet and let me do my thing."

With his hands free once again, Alfonzo reached down towards the oil he spilled on Yoruichi. He then began to spread it outwards, carefully spreading it all over her chest and breasts.

"Ah~~!" Yoruichi gasped as Alfonzo's hands glided over her breasts. And when he lightly pinched her nipples while rubbing in the oil... "Mmm~~~!"

About a minute passed as Alfonzo had fun playing with Yoruichi's breasts. Then, once he was satisfied, he scooted up her body. When he reached the proper position with his dick positioned between Yoruichi's breasts, he pinched her nipples stronger than before. Then, he used his grip to pull her breasts towards the center, sandwiching his dick between them.

Meanwhile, Yoruichi, with the head of Alfonzo's dick almost touching her chin, could only look down at it with anticipation.

"Looks like you know what's coming next." Alfonzo said with a smile as he drew his hips back slowly.

Nodding her head in acknowledgement, Yoruichi's eyes never left Alfonzo's dick. Then, as she felt Alfonzo thrust forward, she instinctively opened her mouth and stuck out her tongue.

"Fuck yeah..." Alfonzo groaned as the tip of his dick came in contact with Yoruichi's tongue.

With that, Alfonzo sped up his thrusting while tightly squeezing Yoruichi's breasts around his dick. At the same time, because of Alfonzo's rough treatment of her breasts, Yoruichi could not help but moan in response. On top of that, as Alfonzo got more excited, his dick slid across more and more of her tongue with every thrust. And Yoruichi responded by craning her head so that by the time Alfonzo was fully thrusting, the entirety of the head of his dick disappeared into her mouth with every thrust.

"Mmm~~~!" Yoruichi's excited moans sounded repeatedly.

Finally, after about ten minutes, Alfonzo reached his limit. Yet, instead of pushing his dick into her mouth as Yoruichi expected, he pulled back.

"Ah~~~!" Alfonzo grunted as he stroked his dick until he sprayed his cum all over Yoruichi's breasts, neck, chin, and lips.

"Mmm~~~!" Yoruichi moaned as she stuck her tongue out and licked up as much of Alfonzo's cum as she could. She then looked up and made eye contact with him as she continued. "I hope that's not all."

"Not even close." Alfonzo replied with a grin.

Then, before Yoruichi could react, Alfonzo flipped her over without removing the restraints. He then raised her hips, forcing her up onto her knees. Yet, with her arms still chained to the bedframe, she was unable to support her upper body.

Gush!

"Ahn~~~~~!"

But before she could say anything about that, Yoruichi moaned loudly as Alfonzo plunged deep inside of her.

"Fuck!" Yoruichi screamed as Alfonzo pounded into her. "Yes! Fuck me! Ahn~~~~~!"

Smack!

"Ahh!" Yoruichi screamed once again as Alfonzo slapped her ass.

"What's the magic word?" Alfonzo asked with a slightly sadistic smile on his face.

"Please!" Yoruichi replied loudly. "Please, fuck me!"

"Good girl." Alfonzo replied as he yanked Yoruichi up by the base of her ponytail. He then reached around and roughly fondled her breasts with his other hand as he continued to pound into her like he had something against her.

Like that, Alfonzo pounded Yoruichi roughly, leading to her having an orgasm every three or four minutes. Yet, instead of giving her time to recover from each orgasm, Alfonzo just continued to pound away with reckless abandon.

"Oh, God!" Yoruichi screamed as her eyes rolled up into her head after nearly twenty minutes of being pounded from behind. "I'm cumming again! Ahh~~~~~!"

"Ah, fuck!" Alfonzo grunted. "I'm cumming, too."

Just as his words ended, while Yoruichi was convulsing from another orgasm, Alfonzo shot deep inside of Yoruichi, causing her orgasm to intensify.

Meanwhile, Retsu, who came to see Alfonzo after breakfast, was standing outside of the bedroom door listening to the symphony of pleasurable sounds. While she did so, there was quite the dark expression on her face. Though, there was no killing intent to be seen in her eyes.

"I don't know why, but I really don't like this." Retsu muttered quietly so that she would not accidentally be heard from the inside of the room. "Although my life belongs to him, I know that I am not his woman. So, there was no reason for him to invite me to his bed. Still, I don't like this. It looks like I will have to find a way to remedy this feeling."

Despite saying all that, Retsu made no moves to leave and plan to rectify the situation as she suggested. Instead, she leaned closer to the door, eventually placing her ear against it. Meanwhile, she subconsciously ran her hands across her body in a clumsy manner, as she had felt the need to comfort herself very few times over her long life. She did leave just as Alfonzo and Yoruichi finished, though. Like Yoruichi, she still needed to make preparations for the trip back to Mermaid Heel.

"I doubt we'll be leaving until tomorrow, however." Retsu said as she walked back towards the guest room she was staying in. "Yoruichi probably won't be in any shape to return today. Not after all of that."

Chapter 807: The Tartaros Subjugation Begins

Just as Retsu expected, Yoruichi, after her morning with Alfonzo, was too tired to travel when noon came around. So, the two decided to stay another day. Then, they left right after breakfast.

As for Alfonzo and the ladies of Fairy Tail, they headed to the guild for training after Retsu and Yoruichi rode off on Retsu's motorcycle. Then, after their training ended, while the ladies headed to the first floor to hang out with the other members of the guild, Alfonzo headed up to Mavis' office to discuss the attack strategy against Tartaros.

"So, that unpleasant woman is finally gone, is she?" Irene asked with a smirk.

"Is that why you haven't been by in the last couple of days?" Alfonzo asked while lightly shaking his head.

"Would you rather have your house destroyed thanks to the aftermath of a disagreement?" Irene shot back.

"Not that I think either of you is strong enough to do that." Alfonzo muttered.

In response, Irene narrowed her eyes while she stared at Alfonzo. From the glint in her eyes, Alfonzo was certain that Irene took that as a challenge. Luckily, Mavis spoke up before Irene could say anything about it.

"More importantly, we need to make plans for the attack on Tartaros' base." Mavis said in a solemn tone. "Do you think we should ask for help from the other guilds in the guild alliance?"

'Good job, Master Mavis.' Alfonzo thought to himself as he turned his attention towards Mavis. 'Hopefully, Irene will forget about trying to destroy my house.'

["Yeah, but how do you think she'll react when she finds out that Retsu is coming to live with you once the matters with Mermaid Heel are settled?"] Bedlam asked in a tone filled with schadenfreude. ["She might end up destroying the house, and it won't be because of some kind of challenge."]

'Ugh! Don't remind me.' Alfonzo groaned internally. 'I'll get to reinforcing the whole house as soon as I get back.'

"Honestly, I don't think that will be necessary." Alfonzo replied while mentally noting the tasks he needed to complete after returning to the Mansion on the Lake. "Right now, we don't know exactly where their base is located. I only have a direction. So, having them follow us from a distance won't work. I doubt they wanna possibly traverse the entire continent to help us contain the damage."

"I suppose you're right." Mavis replied. "Well then, we should decide which of our wizards will come along with you on this mission."

"I'll leave that up to you, Master." Alfonzo replied. "But, if possible, can you leave Natsu out of this? Actually, leave Gajeel out, too. I really don't want the Blackbird smelling like vomit."

"We could just have Wendy come along with you to alleviate that issue, couldn't we?" Mavis asked.

"Yeah, that would work." Alfonzo replied.

"So, what's the real reason you want to leave them out?" Irene asked in an amused tone.

"Because they don't know how to sit in one place." Alfonzo grumbled. "Plus, they both challenge me to fights too damn much. I'm sick of dealing with their shit."

Mavis and Irene could not help laughing at Alfonzo's disgruntled expression.

"As true as that may be, they are some of our strongest wizards." Mavis replied while getting her laughter under control. "So, there's no reason to leave them behind on this mission."

"*Sigh* Fine... You're the guild master." Alfonzo said as he flopped down on the couch next to Irene and lay his head on her thighs. "Either way, we'll need at least a week before I'm ready to go. I need to build some WMDs for this trip."

"WMDs?" Mavis asked curiously.

Irene, while running her fingers between Alfonzo's dreadlocks, also looked at him with curiosity after hearing the unfamiliar term.

"Weapons of mass destruction." Alfonzo replied with a grin. "Honestly, I'd rather not even have to fight Tartaros again. If possible, I just wanna remove them, their base, and all the surrounding land from the map all in one strike."

In response, Mavis and Irene could only stare at Alfonzo blankly. From what they knew of Alfonzo, he was against using overwhelming force that could cause so much collateral damage. But to hear him talk about destroying Tartaros' base and the surrounding area, they found it hard to fathom those words would come out of his mouth.

"Well, you are a member of Fairy Tail, after all." Mavis said while smiling wryly. "So, the thought of destroying any and everything probably crosses your mind a lot."

Irene nodded in agreement with Mavis' assessment. Meanwhile, Alfonzo, with his head still resting on Irene's lap, could feel his eyebrows twitching in irritation.

'What does she mean I must think about destroying any and everything a lot?' Alfonzo asked himself indignantly. 'The only reason I would ever say anything like that is because I know the Tartaros base is located on a floating island. So, the collateral damage would be a lot less than what the rest of the guild tends to do, okay?'

["Yeah, but you can't say that."] Bedlam replied with a chuckle. ["Otherwise, you'd have to answer a shit ton of questions about why you know that."]

'I know...' Alfonzo replied as his expression morphed into a pout.

Seeing the pout on Alfonzo's face, Mavis and Irene started laughing again. Irene even took the opportunity to pinch his puffed out cheeks with glee.

August 16, x791.

After that, a week passed quickly. During that time, Amar'e turned four years old, and his party went off without a hitch. On top of that, Alfonzo, Mavis, and Irene met every day after training. During these meetings, they discussed who would accompany Alfonzo on the mission to eliminate Tartaros. And in the end, they decided to send nine of their S-Class wizards on this mission.

The list consisted of Alfonzo, Laxus, Fried, Alzack, Gray, Erza, Mirajane, Natsu, and Gajeel. They would also bring Wendy along to keep Natsu and Gajeel in fighting shape while they were traveling aboard the Blackbird.

On top of that, Alfonzo, Mavis, and Irene decided on a date for the mission to eliminate Tartaros. And as it just so happened, it would commence tomorrow. So, while most of the members were getting in as much training as they could before departure, Alfonzo was in the hangar under the Mansion on the Lake fitting the new armaments he created onto the Blackbird.

Unfortunately, many of the S-Class wizards who were not chosen to go on this mission were unhappy about being skipped over. And as it just so happened, most of those who were displeased lived in the Mansion on the Lake.

Meaning, despite the fact that he had work to finish, Alfonzo was being bombarded with complaints about not getting a chance to fight.

"Come on, Fonzie~~~!" Cana whined from nearby as Alfonzo floated a thermite missile into place below one of the Blackbird's wings. "Why can't I come with you? I didn't get to fight the demons at all when they showed up~~~!"

"You should take that up with Master Mavis." Alfonzo replied without even looking in his second wife's direction. "Well, either her or Irene. They were the ones responsible for the lineup this time. I was just there so that I could come up with a strategy once I knew who would be coming with me."

While Cana was not above questioning Mavis about her decisions, albeit in a much more polite way than she would with Makarov and Ur, the thought of questioning Irene made Cana shudder.

"No way am I questioning that sadistic woman." Cana said resolutely. "I've never gotten on her bad side before... And there's a damn good reason for that. And I have no intention of starting now."

'Sometimes, Ireen's reputation is a Godsend.' Alfonzo thought to himself. 'The fact that she used to be such a sadist makes most of the girls not even want to cross her. But if they knew that was only an act at this point, I wonder how Irene would react. Maybe she would go back to be that sadistic to make people stop bothering her. Hmm... I'm kinda curious to find out.'

"Anyway, the fun fight you're expecting probably won't happen." Alfonzo said as he got the missile connected to the launcher. He then patted another missile that was lying next to him on the hangar's floor. "With these babies, I wouldn't be surprised if only one or two of the Demon Gates were alive after they go off. Then, it will just be a bunch of us ganging up on a few. Is that really the kinda fight you wanna be part of?"

Looking back over his shoulder after speaking, Alfonzo saw Cana frowning. And thanks to how long he's known her, he knew exactly what that frown meant. Currently, Cana was fighting with herself. On one hand, she really wanted to fight against Tartaros, the guild full of demons who attacked their home only a little over a week ago. But on the other, she was not all that interested in ganging up on the members of the Dark Guild who were fortunate, or unfortunate depending on how you looked at it, enough to survive Alfonzo's initial attack.

After nearly a minute of silence that allowed Alfonzo to load the second thermite missile onto the Blackbird, Cana came to a decision.

Actually, a decision would be inaccurate. Instead, Cana decided that she was done trying to decide. So, she just stopped thinking about it.

"Whatever..." Cana muttered in a disgruntled tone. "But after you get back, we're going on a quest together. And we're gonna fight something S-Class in difficulty, got it?"

"Yes, ma'am." Alfonzo replied, raising his right hand in a salute after the second missile was firmly attached to the Blackbird. "While I'm gone, you take your time finding the perfect quest. Then, we'll get going after I have a day to rest. You okay with that?"

"Good." Cana replied with a nod. "And you better not forget. Otherwise, you won't like the consequences."

Cana punctuated her threat by shaking her right hand, which would have been both cuter and more threatening had she not been holding a nearly empty bottle of vodka. She then dashed forward and planted a quick kiss on Alfonzo's cheek before turning around and walking away towards the elevator like she just won a debate, her hips swaying the way Alfonzo liked for good measure.

Meanwhile, Alfonzo, who had started to levitate an oversized railgun shell, completely paused what he was doing to watch her leave.

"Yeah, I hate to see her go..." Alfonzo muttered quietly while his eyes focused on Cana's swaying hips. "But watching her leave isn't so bad."

Shaking his head, Alfonzo turned back to the task at hand. Unfortunately, while he was finishing the preparations for departure, Cana was not the only one who tried to convince him to take them with her, as Ultear, Sun, Marin, Saeko, and Rika also tried everything from guilt-tripping to seduction to get him to bring them along. But Alfonzo's response of "ask Mavis and Irene, and if they agree, I'd be happy to take you," stopped them dead in their tracks.

Earth Land, Ishgar, Bosco, Cube.

August 17, x791.

Shortly before noon of the following day, the demons of Tartaros were piloting the Cube towards Fiore. Their objective, to take revenge of Fairy Tail for causing their plans to fail time and time again. However, the two highest ranking members of the guild, Mard Geer, the guild master, and Kyôka, the leader of the Nine Demon Gates, were having a discussion in Mard Geer's throne room.

Though, calling it a discussion would not be completely accurate. Instead, it was more like a hearing or interrogation, as Mard Geer, to anyone who knew him, was clearly unhappy about how things were going at the moment.

"Can you tell me why Tempester and Seilah have yet to return?" Mard Geer, sitting atop his throne with his right elbow on its arm rest while he rested his head in his hand, asked in a deceptively calm tone.

"I'm not sure about Tempester's situation, my Lord." Kyôka replied calmly. "As for Seilah, I believe she fell victim to the She-Devil of Fairy Tail, Maryjane Strauss-Marcus. That woman uses [Take Over Magic]. And she specializes in what she calls [Satan Soul Take Overs], which are simply demon [Take Overs]."

On a side note, Mirajane did not only [Take Over] Seilah. She also took over Tempester, which Alfonzo presented to her shortly after he returned from Hargeon with Lucy and Brandish. But the members of Tartaros had no way of knowing that at this point.

"I see." Mard Geer replied as his power began to leak due to his anger. "So, rather than dead, she has been trapped inside a disgusting human vessel and is being forced to give her power to that human woman?"

"That is one way to look at it, I suppose." Kyôka replied, her tone shaking thanks to the pressure from Mard Geer's aura.

"Then, the solution is simple." Mard Geer declared as he stood up from his throne. "We just have to kill that woman. When we do, Seilah's soul will be collected, and she will be reborn here on the Cube."

Though it was clear Mard Geer was proud of his plan, the pressure he released only increased, almost forcing Kyôka onto her knees. Clearly, coming up with a solution did not make his mood better in the slightest.

"Then, I will kill her over and over again until I'm satisfied." Mard Geer continued, a sadistic smile spreading across his face. "She needs to be punished for such a disgrace. Hmph! She's lucky she's one of Lord Zeref's creations. Otherwise---"

Boom~~~~~!

However, before Mard Geer could finish, the castle that acted as Tartaros' base shook. Yet, little did Mard Geer or Kyôka know, it was not just the castle, but the entire Cube, that was shaking thanks to an attack that no one expected.

Chapter 808: Blackbird: Full Bombardment

Having just crossed the border between Fiore and Bosco, the selected members of Fairy Tail, Alfonzo, Laxus, Fried, Alzack, Gray, Erza, Mirajane, Natsu, who brought along his partner, Happy, and Gajeel, who also brought his Exceed partner, Panther Lily with him, as well as Wendy and Carla, with Wendy tasked with casting her spell, Troia], on Natsu and Gajeel to keep them in fighting shape, were aboard the Blackbird, making their way in the direction where Riot could sense Jackal.

"Alfonzo, how much longer till we get there?" Laxus, seated in the copilot's seat, asked with his hands cupping the back of his head.

"Good God, would you please shut the fuck up already." Alfonzo replied in an annoyed tone. "Not even Amar'e asks, 'are we there yet?' as often as you do. We just reached the border, and I don't know how far away they are. So, I have no fucking idea when we'll be there."

Frowning in response, Laxus opted to stay quiet. Because although he knew that Alfonzo was annoyed with his questions, he also understood that he was not the only one who Alfonzo was annoyed with.

Ever since the Blackbird took off, Natsu had been running around, wanting to touch everything. And when he was told no, he would ask all sorts of questions about it, only to forget the answers a few minutes later. As a result, Alfonzo had answered the same questions more than a few times.

Then, there was Gajeel, who was staring at the exposed metal parts of the airship and drooling. And whenever Alfonzo sensed that the Iron Dragon Slayer was about to try and sneak a bite, he would send a chunk of metal flying at him. However, he could not use too much force, just in case he somehow missed and it punched a hole in the walls of the ship.

Next there was Fried. And although the green-haired wizard was not doing anything particularly annoying, Alfonzo was definitely feeling antsy with him standing behind him all the time. Though, that was mostly unintentional. Fried was not just standing behind Alfonzo for the hell of it. Rather, he was standing behind and to the left of Laxus, the perfect position to receive any orders. Unfortunately, behind and to the left of Laxus was right behind the pilot's seat. And having someone just standing behind him was starting to get on Alfonzo's nerves.

Gray was just up to his usual antics, clothed one second, stripped down to his boxers in the next. And although Alfonzo had gotten used to this little idiosyncrasy over the years, he still was not a fan of seeing it. However, there was one time that Gray even stripped out of his boxers, and had Erza not saved him, Juvia would have been royally pissed off at Alfonzo when she found out that Gray was no longer capable of having children after he sent a chunk of metal flying a little harder than he meant to from all the stress.

As for the other seven, Alfonzo had no issue with them. Alzack was chatting with Mirajane about her experiences when it came to raising a child. Meanwhile, Erza and Panther Lily were discussing swordsmanship quite passionately. IN fact, if there was more space, Alfonzo was sure that they would be sparring at this very moment. Then there was Wendy, who, just as asked, was keeping the [Troia] spell active on Natsu and Gajeel... Oh, and she was keeping it active on herself, as well. You know...? Since she was also a Dragon Slayer. Lastly, Happy and Carla were off in their own, pink, world, whispering sweet nothings to each other.

"Um... Laxus, can I ask you a question?" Wendy asked in her characteristically quiet tone.

"Hmm? What's up, Pipsqueak?" Laxus asked, curious to know what Wendy wanted to talk to him about since they did not really interact much.

"You're a Dragon Slayer, too." Wendy said while curiously tilting her head. "So, why don't you get motion sickness?"

"Because I'm just built different." Laxus replied with extreme confidence.

"Yeah, right." Alfonzo said, shooting back immediately. "You did a good job with your makeup, though. Can't even tell how pale you are underneath. But the slight shaking of your hands and the tremors in your voice are enough to give you away, though."

"Wha-Wha-What are you talking about?" Laxus asked, a bit of panic leaking into his tone. He then lurched forward and covered his mouth. "Urgh!"

"Laxus! Hold on!" Fried cried frantically as he jumped forward to try and comfort Laxus.

Unfortunately, with Alfonzo calling him out and pointing out that he was wearing makeup to cover his paleness from the motion sickness, Laxus lost the concentration he was using to hold down his upset stomach. As a result, he started dry heaving, which worried Fried to no end.

["Yeah, can't nobody tell me that mother fucker wouldn't bend over and take it if Laxus asked him to."] Bedlam said while shaking his head in Alfonzo's inner world.

While Alfonzo was smirking at Laxus, who had been trying to play it cool, Alzack, Gray, Erza, Mirajane, Wendy, Carla, and Panther Lily were all thoroughly surprised. As for Natsu and Happy, they were rolling on the floor while hysterically laughing at Laxus' misfortune, with Natsu laughing especially hard. As for Gajeel, he was also chuckling at Laxus' misfortune. But he was mainly trying to use the uproar to sneak a bite of the metal that went into the airship's construction... again.

"Gajeel, if you don't keep your mouth away from my ship, I promise you, I'll find a way to shut it permanently. Then, you'll never be able to eat metal ever again." Alfonzo threatened coldly without even looking back at Gajeel.

"Huh? What are you talking about, Alfonzo?" Gajeel, after quickly leaning away from the interior wall of the Blackbird, said while sounding overly suspicious. "I would never try to eat your airship. I was just... Uh... admiring the craftsmanship. Yeah! That's it. Your truly an artisan when it comes to creating things like this."

"I'm actually more surprised that Gajeel used a word like artisan in the right context than I am at the fact that he backpedaled the way he did." Mirajane said with mock confusion on her face.

"That's because if he couldn't eat metal, I doubt there would be much point in living for Gajeel." Panther Lily added.

"But if Alfonzo shut his mouth permanently, metal wouldn't be the only thing he couldn't eat." Gray pointed out.

"Gray, please put your clothes back on." Erza said calmly. She then raised her right fist as she continued. "Or perhaps you'd like me to help you remember that stripping in front of others is rather rude?"

"No, I'm good." Gray replied while quickly running around to pick up his discarded clothing.

"*Sigh* With all of you acting like this, it's no wonder that Alfonzo seems so annoyed." Carla said while shaking her head tiredly. "I'm not even the pilot, and I wanna throw most of them out without even stopping to land first."

Like that, two hours passed with the atmosphere changing very little. Though, Wendy did end up casting [Troia] on Laxus, as well. Even so, he denied the fact that he even needed her help until the end.

"Hey, what is that?" Natsu, who had been pestering Alfonzo to teach him how to pilot the Blackbird, asked while pointing out the windshield with his eyes squinted.

"Hmm?" Laxus hummed as he, too, squinted his eyes and looked where Natsu was pointing. "Is that... a floating cube?"

"That's what it looks like." Alfonzo replied as he used [Electromagnetism Magic] to project radio waves to act as a radar. "Looks like we've reached our destination. Everyone, prepare for battle."

With Alfonzo's announcement, all the playing around in the Blackbird ended. Then, all the Fairy Tail wizards approached the cockpit and looked through the front windshield.

"Amazing." Wendy muttered while looking at the floating cube-shaped island.

"Alfonzo, do you think you could build something like that?" Erza asked. "Living on an island like that would be quite magical."

"Probably." Alfonzo replied casually. "It would take a lot of work and resources, though. And I doubt finding that many resources would be easy. And the only easy way isn't possible."

"What do you mean?" Fried asked curiously. "What is this 'easy way' you speak of?"

"Taking the resources from that island." Alfonzo said as he pointed at the Cube.

"Why isn't that possible?" Gray asked curiously.

Gray wasn't the only one who was curious to hear the answer to that question. Because the only people present who knew the plan of attack were Alfonzo and Erza. Though explaining the battle plan was a common thing, Fairy Tail was different. Most of the time, they did not follow any kind of plan when heading into battle, as seen by how they all separate and go their own way during the Grand Magic Game event in the Grand magic Games.

"Well, that's actually quite simple." Alfonzo said as he started operating the instruments on the control panel. A moment later, after pausing to build suspense, Alfonzo smiled as he raised a hand. "Because after today, that thing will no longer exist. Now, watch and be amazed. Releasing payload!"

With that, Alfonzo flipped the switches that controlled the prepared thermite missiles. At the same time, he channeled his [Electromagnetism Magic] into the console, which traveled through the wiring and created an electromagnetic field around the large railgun shells hanging under the wings.

"Fire~~~~~!" Alfonzo shouted.

With that, six thermite missiles were fired, each aimed at the center of the one of the six faces of the Cube. At the same time, electromagnetic fields around the railgun shells continued to charge. Then, just before the six missiles made impact, the two shells were fired, as well.

Boom~~~~~!

In the next instant, six thermite missiles plunged into the waters of the cube before igniting. When they did, they immediately evaporated a large amount of the surrounding water, causing six massive steam explosions that ravaged the floating cube-shaped island. with the effects spreading continuously.

Yet, before all the water on the Cube could evaporate and cause even more damage, the two railgun shells were fired. Then, in less time than it took to blink, they slammed into the castle housing most of Tartaros.

Boom~~~~~!

However, when those last two projectiles landed, they did not just destroy their target. Rather, they continued onwards after causing the entire castle to implode, traveling through the rest of the Cube,

striking its core, and exiting from the opposite side before destroying a mountain that was in the path of their flight.

"What the hell?" Laxus asked dumbfoundedly with his eyes wide open.

"So scary..." Wendy whimpered after seeing the level of destruction on display.

"The destructive power is quite impressive." Erza said calmly while nodding her head.

Most of the others in the cockpit were too shocked to comment. However, there were a few who had something to say.

"Alfonzo, how do you expect me to use [Take Over] if you completely destroy everything?" Mirajane asked sternly while resting her hands on her hips in irritation.

"Hey! I would get in big trouble if I blew up everything like that!" Natsu shouted indignantly. "So, why is it okay when you do it?"

"Sorry, Mira." Alfonzo said in a cold tone. "But it couldn't be helped."

Hearing Alfonzo's cold tone, everyone turned to look at him.

"Those mother fuckers made a big mistake when they attacked us last week." Alfonzo continued, his tone growing colder with every word. "Attacking us at the restaurant would have been fine. Hell, I would have been angry but understood the attack on the guild hall, too. But attacking our house... The house where our kids were... Nah, fuck that. When you put my kids in danger, this is what happens. I make everything you have, and everything you are, disappear. And for their sakes, I hope that they were all incinerated by that attack. Because if anyone of them survived... They're all gonna wish they did by the time I'm done with them."

While most of those on the Blackbird shivered at the frigid temperature of Alfonzo's words and vowed to never do anything that might even accidentally cause harm to Amar'e, Bianca, and Calvin, Alzack, Mirajane, and Natsu, the other parents on the airship, nodded their heads in agreement.

"Oh, and what do you know?" Alfonzo said, a malicious smile spreading across his face. "There are actually some survivors. Let's see... One... Two... Three... Four... Five of them... And one of them has a huge magic power signature. Looks like we'll be able to have a little fun then."

Chapter 809: Oh, Shit... Completely Forgot About Him...

After the Cube's core was destroyed and the rest of the island was blown up in a steam explosion, the entire Cube fell from the sky. And to the onlookers, it looked as if it was falling in slow motion. Though, in reality, it did not take very long for the floating island's remains to hit the ground.

Boom~~~~~!

And when they did, the loud collision echoed throughout the area, alerting all the nearby cities, towns, and villages. In fact, the shockwave from the collision caused minor damage to the closer settlements.

Yet, to four of the five survivors of the sneak attack, Mard Geer, Kyôka, Jackal, and Ezel, it seemed as if everything happened in an instant. One moment, they were plotting their revenge against Fairy Tail.

Then, in the next instant, all sounds were replaced by the sounds of explosions, their footing practically vanished when the castle was destroyed, and they found themselves buried in rubble as they fell from high up in the sky.

Even so, the four previously mentioned Etherious managed to survive it all. On top of that, there was one other demon, though not a demon at birth, that survived, as well.

Crumble!

Several minutes after the Cube fell to the ground, a hand with an odd pigment, a stone-like grey, blunged upwards from a pile of rubble. Shortly afterwards, that hand pulled out the rest of a body with the same pigment and covered in tattoos that concentrated heavily on the left side of its torso. On top of that, this figure sported a long white beard, white hair, and blackened eyes.

"What just happened?" The figure, Jiemma Orland, former master of the Sabertooth guild, asked while trying to shake off the ringing in his ears, which were now long and pointed like those of elves.

After shaking off the lingering ringing in his ears, Jiemma looked down and checked the status of his body. He then sighed in resignation when he saw his body that had been changed by demonic transformation after joining Tartaros. Luckily, he was not too injured in the explosion with only a few flesh wounds.

A moment later, Jiemma looked around to take in the devastation. And when he saw the remnants of the castle among the rubble, he took a sharp breath while his eyes opened wide in disbelief.

"Just what could have done this?" Jiemma asked dumbfoundedly. "Did the Magic Council somehow find Tartaros' base and fire the Etherion? No, after what happened with the Tower of Heaven, there's no way they would have done that without sending out a notice to all of Ishgar. But if they didn't do it, then what could have caused this?"

Shaking his head once again, Jiemma's eyes were filled with a sense of liberation.

"No, that doesn't matter." Jiemma muttered to himself. "With Tartaros destroyed, I'm finally free. Now, I can disappear and begin plotting my revenge on that woman from Fairy Tail. Also, I'll make my disappointment of a daughter realize the mistake she made by disobeying me."

Boom~~~~~!

"Damn it! Just wait until I find who did this!" Jackal shouted after blowing away the rubble that landed on him. "When I find out, I'm gonna find everything and everyone they hold dear. Then, I'm gonna make them watch as I blow it all up one by one!"

Shing! *Shing!* *Shing!* *Shing!* *Shing!*

"Not if I find them first." Ezel replied, sounding utterly infuriated. "I'll slice them and everyone they hold dear into bite-sized pieces."

Yet, as if to mock Jiemma's newfound sense of freedom, Jackal exploded the rubble that buried him. Shortly after that, Ezel sliced his way out of his own pile of rubble.

"*Sigh* I guess I'm not free, after all." Jiemma muttered to himself as he started walking towards Jackal and Ezel. "Even so, getting revenge will be much easier with those two, at least."

After getting within speaking range, Jiemma raised his voice as he addressed Jackal and Ezel.

"Lord Jackal, Lord Ezel, I'm glad to see that you're both unharmed." Jiemma said in a deferential tone.

Hearing the voice, both Jackal and Ezel turned in its direction. However, when they saw that it was Jiemma, just a worthless, former human, their gazes turned dismissive.

"Go look around and see if anyone else survived." Jackal said while shooving Jiemma away. "Make yourself useful."

"Yes, Lord Jackal." Jiemma replied while bowing his head as he gritted his teeth at the disregard.

Then, before either Jackal or Ezel could find any hints of his anger, Jiemma quickly turned around and started walking towards the many piles of rubble strewn around the area.

Boom!

Yet, before Jiemma could get too far, the left side of his torso was incinerated. However, he did not even realize something was wrong until he saw and heard a pile of rubble explode while an orange streak of superheated air was visible coming from his left side.

"Huh?" Jiemma intoned in confusion as he tracked the trail of superheated air back towards its source. "What happened to my body? It wasn't like... this... before..."

Thud!

Then, with his voice getting weaker and weaker with each spoken word, Jiemma collapsed, dead before he even hit the ground.

The newly deceased Jiemma was not the only one surprised by the explosion and streak of superheated air. Jackal and Ezel were just as surprised when they saw and heard it. Though, they seemed to be completely unconcerned by Jiemma's death. And when they finally found the source of the superheated air, they both widened their eyes in surprise.

And the reason for that was simple. At the end of the streak of superheated air, a man they were both familiar with shimmered into view. But what really surprised them was the black airship that shimmered into view shortly afterwards. Adding to that, they also saw several of the most powerful members of the guild they wanted revenge on stepping down from the airship, as well.

"It's you!" Jackal shouted upon seeing the man who defeated him almost two weeks ago. "I'll kill you!"

Boom!

In the next instant, Jackal threw himself forward, an explosion sending him forward at high speed.

"[Fire Dragon's Roar]."

"Iron Dragon's Roar]."

"Lightning Dragon's Roar]."

Yet, before Jackal could cover even half the distance, Natsu, Gajeel, and Laxus all cast their breath attacks. And Jackal's path just so happened to lead him directly into the spot where the three spells collided.

Boom~~~~!

"Ahh~~~~! Damn it!" Jackal roared as the three [Roar] spells sent him flying.

"Well, I guess the three of you can handle him." Alfonzo said nonchalantly.

"Hell yeah!" Natsu shouted as he dashed forward.

"I really don't like working with Salamander." Gajeel said dismissively.

"Stop complaining." Laxus replied. "Otherwise, you won't even get a chance to act."

Zap!

In the next instant, Laxus took on his [Lightning Form] and vanished from where he stood.

"Hey!" Gajeel shouted. "I didn't say I wouldn't go! Wait for me!"

Then, Gajeel took off running after Natsu and Laxus.

Meanwhile, Ezel, after seeing that Retsu was not with the wizards of Fairy Tail, breathed a sigh of relief. Then he smiled maliciously at the remaining Fairy Tail wizards.

"You all made a huge mistake." Ezel said, brandishing his arms like swords. "I'll enjoy cutting you to shreds."

"I think not." Fried replied while writing magical characters on his chest with his left index finger while holding his [Soul Armament], Thoth, in his right hand. "[Overwrite, Thoth]. [Dark Ecriture: Wings]. [Dark Ecriture: Darkness]."

With his three chants, Fried was engulfed by a column of [Darkness Magic]. When he was once again revealed, his form, as well as Thoth's, had both changed. Now, instead of a handsome, green haired man carrying a normal longsword, Fried was taller, had grey skin, and looked quite demonic. Meanwhile, there was not much change to Thoth's appearance. The only visible change was the eye that appeared on the base of its blade.

This new eye, which had a purple iris and a black sclera, closely resembled Fried's right eye, the magic eye that allowed him to write runes in the air, amplified the power of his magic eye to the point that he could inscribe runes without moving his hand or sword.

"[Requip: Ataraxia Armor]." Erza chanted.

In the next instant, a flash of light blurred past Fried towards Ezel. When the light faded, Erza was no longer wearing her [Heart Kreuz Armor]. Instead, she donned a beautiful, yet revealing white gown with a flared hem, a red and gold collar tied together with a red ribbon, a red and gold belt resembling an obi, a pair of red and gold, knee-high, high heeled boots, and a number of swords fitted into a frame attached to the back that resembled wings.

"I guess I'll go, too." Gray added as he stepped forward.

Unsurprisingly, when Gray stepped forward, the shirt he had been wearing was nowhere to be seen. However, without any clothing covering his upper body, the mark of a Devil Slayer that he inherited from his father, Silver, was visible on his right arm. On top of that, it was spreading to cover most of his torso and part of his face.

"Ice Devil's Rage]." Gray chanted before taking a deep breath.

Making sure that Erza was not in the line of fire, Gray exhaled a large blast of cold air, ice, and snow towards Ezel, forcing him to split his focus from just dealing with Erza, who was approaching at high speed.

"Well, with the three of them working together, there should be no problem dealing with that guy." Alfonzo said as he glanced at Fried, Gray, and Erza starting their battle with Ezel. He then turned towards another pile of rubble in the distance. "So, how long are you two planning to nap over there?"

"I was not napping, actually." A male voice, sounding both arrogant and completely infuriated, said from beneath the pile of rubble Alfonzo was looking at. "I was just curious to know how you planned to deal with those two."

"I see." Alfonzo replied nonchalantly. "And here I thought you were trying to hide because you were scared of getting your ass kicked. Not that I could blame you if you were."

"You're overthinking it." The voice replied casually.

Boom!

In the next instant, magic power surged from beneath the rubble, sending all the stone and debris flying in all directions.

Now, with the rubble cleared, two figures could be seen in the newly cleared space, one of which, Alfonzo had seen almost ten days ago. The other, though he had never seen him in person, Alfonzo could easily recognize from his meta knowledge.

"Oh, what did you say your name was last time?" Alfonzo asked while glancing at Kyôka. "Oh, right, I think one of those three you came with to kill me in Hargeon said your name was Kyôka. Well, it's nice to see you again. How have you been? I hope death wasn't too hard on you. But judging from how you look, I guess it wasn't that bad."

Alfonzo's blatant mockery made Kyôka grit her teeth in anger. However, instead of charging forward like Jackal and Ezel, she turned to look at the other Etherious, Mard Geer.

"Lord Mard Geer, please allow me to kill that insolent human and present his head to you." Kyôka said while bowing politely.

"No." Mard Geer replied without even looking at Kyôka. "That human is mine. I'll leave is remaining comrades to you."

With that said, Mard Geer took a step forward. However, before he moved to engage Alfonzo, he spoke to Kyôka once again.

"Oh, and should you disgrace yourself once again..." Mard Geer said, his tone dropping ominously low. "Then, you'd better pray those humans manage to kill you. Because if you survive after failing me once again... Believe me when I say, you will NOT like the consequences."

Kyôka could not help shivering at the threat she just heard from Mard Geer. Even so, she showed no signs of fear in her expression as she fell to one knee and bowed behind him.

"He really must not like you very much, huh?" Mirajane asked as she stepped towards Kyôka. "Well, don't worry, you won't have to deal with the consequences of your failure. Because the only way you'll leave here without dying is if you become a part of my [Take Over Magic]. [Take Over Magic: Mirajane Seilah]."

Flash!

A moment later, after Mirajane was engulfed in the light of her magic power, she reappeared, her appearance having changed completely. Now, thanks to using the [Take Over] she gained from consuming Seilah, Mirajane looked almost exactly like the late Etherious, with the addition of her distinctive upward-pointing ponytail.

"Don't hog all the fun for yourself, Mira." Alzack, wearing a black outfit with a red trench coat, a pair of pistols holstered at his waist, and a greatsword on his back, said as he moved to stand next to Mirajane. "I didn't come all the way out here for nothing, you know?"

Alzack then reached up and gripped the hilt of the greatsword, which was somehow hanging from his back without a sheath of some kind. This greatsword looked relatively simple. However, there were a few things that made it stand out. For one, there were two notches on either side of the double-edged blade near the tip. Also, there were seven spikes protruding from the pommel.

"Now, [Make it Stylish, Dante]." Alzack said, chanting his [Soul Armament's] release command.

In the next instant, the greatsword, Dante, was covered in a blackish-red light. And once the light faded, its form had changed completely.

Now, the blade was no longer silvery and metallic. Instead, it looked as if it were made of solidified lava. There also appeared to be claws running along its length while the handguard looked like talons of some kind while a red jewel adorned its pommel.

"Well, now that we're all ready, why don't we take this fight elsewhere?" Mirajane asked calmly. "I'm sure neither of us wants to get caught up in their fight, right?"

Without responding to Mirajane's questions, Kyôka took off in a direction away from Mard Geer and the two other fights that were going on. Naturally, after exchanging glances, Alzack and Mirajane followed her.

"And that just leaves you and me." Alfonzo said with a smile. "This should be fun. I just hope you don't disappoint me."

"Um... What about us?" Wendy asked from the ramp leading to the Blackbird's cabin with Happy, Carla, and Panther Lily standing nearby.

"You can just enjoy the show from there." Alfonzo replied with a wave. "I've already activated the barrier. So, you'll be safe. Well, unless he can output something stronger than my strongest attack while in [Bankai], anyway."

"Are you inferring that you are more powerful than I am?" Mard Geer asked, his tone deceptively calm.

"Oh, you're pissed, aren't you?" Alfonzo asked, seeing right through Mard Geer's tone. "Well, considering how superior you see yourself to us humans, that makes sense. But the only thing I'll say is that there's only one way to find out. So, let's get this shit started."

Chapter 810: Two Down, Two to Go... Right?

"Damn it!" Jackal shouted as he was sent flying by the explosion caused by the three [Dragon's Roars].
"I'll blow you all to smithereens! Just you wait!"

"Yeah, that's not gonna happen!" Gajeel shouted as he dashed in from in front of Jackal. "[Iron Dragon's Sword]."

With that, Gajeel drew Metalicana from his back and slashed at Jackals' chest.

Reacting quickly, Jackal covered his arms and hands with his [Bomb Curse] and blocked the blow.

Crack!

Boom~~~~~!

While Jackal was once again sent flying by the power behind Gajeel's blow, he also set off an explosion that completely engulfed the Iron Dragon Slayer. On top of that, with his magic power coating his arms,

he took very little damage from the blow. Though, he was certain that one of his forearms had fractured. Though, that was a small price to pay to get rid of one of Fairy Tail's strongest wizards.

Slurp~~~~~!

"Hahaha!" Jackal, despite flying through the air uncontrollably, laughed loudly in triumph while ignoring the strange slurping sound he could hear from the direction of his explosion. "And that's why you foolish humans should have just known your place and let yourselves be crushed under foot!"

Zap!

"You talk too much." Laxus, flashing in the path of Jackal's flight, said coldly. "And you're too damn loud. So, why don't you shut up for a second? [Lightning Dragon's Heavenward Halberd]."

Like Gajeel, when Laxus appeared, he also drew his [Soul Armament], Elexion, and swung it at Jackal. However, instead of sending him flying in the opposite direction, he swung his halberd upwards, sending Jackal flying into the air.

"Ahh~~~~! Damn you!" Jackal shouted as he reoriented himself near the peak of his flight and aimed his hands at Laxus on the ground. "You'll pay for that!"

"Hey! Salamander! What the hell are you doing?" Gajeel, no longer engulfed in flames and donning his [Iron Dragon Scales], shouted.

"Huh?" Jackal, surprised to hear the voice of someone he thought should have been dead, turned to look in the voice's direction. "How is this possible? You should be little more than charred pieces of flesh at this point!"

"Do you really think your little explosions are strong enough to break the scales of an Iron Dragon?" Gajeel asked in a smug tone.

"We'll just have to put that to the test, then!" Jackal shouted angrily as he turned his hands towards Gajeel instead.

"Not so fast!" Natsu, falling from above Jackal, shouted with his right hand reeled back and wreathed in flames. "[Burn Everything, Igneel]. [Fire Dragon King's Destruction Fist]!"

{A/N: I forgot Natsu's release command and somehow the file I had with all the release commands got corrupted. So, if anyone remembers it, let me know.}

"What!?" Jackal shouted in surprise as he turned his head to look behind him.

When he did, the only thing Jackal saw was a fist flying towards him engulfed in extremely intense flames.

"My fire can even burn explosions!" Natsu shouted just as his fist slammed into Jackal's face.

Boom~~~~~!

With that, the flames around Natsu's fist rapidly combusted when they interacted with Jackal's [Bomb Curse]. At the same time, Jackal, burned and smoking, was sent hurdling towards the ground at high speed.

"[Bow Before the King of Lightning, Elexion]." Laxus chanted as his halberd's staff split in the middle, a chain connected the two sides, and a second head appeared on its butt end. "Lightning Dragon King's Lightning Chain]."

Boom~~~~~!

Then, just as Jackal slammed into the ground, kicking up a cloud of dust and debris, Laxus hurled the two ends of his chain halberd into the dust cloud. With the chain extending in both directions, Laxus felt it when the chain wrapped around the figure in the cloud. And when the hooks at the head of each halberd sank into the figure's, Jackal's, flesh, he sent a surge of lightning through the chain, whose center he held in his hands.

"Ahh~~~~~!" Jackal screamed from the pain of having his flesh pierced while being electrocuted. "[Explosion]! [Explosion]! [Explosion]!"

*Boom~~~~~! *Boom~~~~~! *Boom~~~~~!*

With Jackal's screams, he set off several massive explosions. In fact, the explosions were so powerful that Laxus was forced to release him from Elexion's grasp.

"Damn... Just how did Alfonzo and Elicia deal with this guy so easily?" Laxus asked angrily.

"It doesn't matter!" Gajeel shouted as he rushed forward. "[Crush Them with Claws and Fangs of Iron, Metalicana]. [Iron Dragon Incarnation]."

Like Laxus, Gajeel's weapon transformed as he spoke his release command allowed, the blade of his bastard sword gaining saw-like serrations. On top of that, they began to roar as they rotated around the edge of the blade. Meanwhile, an iron armor that resembled a small Metalicana materialized around Gajeel. And when it was complete, Gajeel flapped the wings on the back of the armor as his speed increased explosively. Then, with his blade leveled at Jackal, who he could sense thanks to Magic Power Detection, he charged into the aftermath of the explosions.

Splatter!

A moment later, a blur rushed out of the smoke before slamming into a pile of rubble. When it did, the blur was revealed to be Gajeel pinning Jackal to the rubble with his sword, serrated edge spinning, stabbed through his abdomen.

"Damn... you..." Jackal said weakly as he reached out for Gajeel's head with his hands.

"Hmph!" Gajeel only snorted while watching the hands of the Etherious inching towards his face.

"[Fire Dragon King's Roar]."

"[Lightning Dragon King's Roar]."

"Looks like that's the end." Gajeel said with a sneer as he pulled his sword out of Jackal's abdomen before jumping back.

In the next instant, torrents of fire and lightning slammed into Jackal and the pile of rubble he was slumped against.

"Damn you~~~~~!"

"Boom~~~~~!*

And with the power of Laxus' and Natsu's combined strength, Jackal, the rubble he was leaning against, and several yards of the surroundings were completely obliterated, leaving nothing but a smoldering crater in their place.

"Well... That was... underwhelming." Laxus said as he walked towards Gajeel.

"I thought he would be stronger." Gajeel replied as he dispelled the [Iron Dragon Incarnation] and resealed Metalicana.

"That's because Fairy Tail is the strongest!" Natsu shouted triumphantly as he approached the other two.

"Things wouldn't have been this easy if Alfonzo never created all those training chambers for the guild, though." Laxus pointed out. "Just imagine if we were as weak as the other versions of us we saw after the Grand Magic Games."

While Natsu wanted to deny Laxus' statement, claiming that it was because of the guild's hard work, he could not find the words to do so. Though, that did not really surprise anyone thanks to his universally understood low IQ. Even so, Natsu also knew that Laxus was right.

Gajeel also agreed. Not only had Alfonzo created the gravity training chambers. But he had also created the [Soul Armaments], which were able to push the wizards strengths to another level.

While pondering that, the three Dragon Slayers suddenly looked up towards the sky in the north where Bosco bordered Isvan after feeling a huge magic power fluctuation in the distance.

"What is that?" Natsu asked in a solemn tone.

"I don't know... It's outside of my MPD range." Laxus replied in a solemn tone of his own.

"Yeah..." Gajeel said in an equally solemn tone. "But whatever it is, it's bad news."

Going back a few moments, Fried, Gray, and Erza were engaging Ezel.

"[Dark Ecriture: Pain]." Fried chanted as Erza forced Ezel into Fried's line of sight.

"Argh!" Ezel roared as pain racked his entire body.

Even so, Ezel was not rendered incapacitated by the flood of pain. Instead, he swung his right arm at Erza, who was charging towards him to take advantage of his pain-filled state.

"[Otenta]." Ezel chanted, causing a concentrated slash formed from his curse power.

In response, Erza immediately stopped her approach and wrapped the wings of her [Ataraxia Armor] around herself, using them as a shield.

Shing!

The sound of the sharp energy grinding against the wings made from swords screeched across the area, the force of the blow pushing Erza backwards while her feet left trenches in the ground.

However, before she could be pushed too far back, Erza spun in place while extending her wings. As a result, Ezel's slash was sent flying in another direction while Erza managed to stop her momentum.

"What?" Ezel exclaimed in confusion.

However, before Ezel could begin questioning how it was possible that Erza was able to stop his attack, he felt the temperature around him beginning to drop drastically.

"[Ice Devil's Laughter]."

Hearing that chant, Ezel looked up to where he heard it coming from. When he did, he found Gray, who had leapt above his head, in midair with his arms spread and large shards of ice forming to either side of his outstretched arms.

"Do you think that will be enough to defeat me?" Ezel asked as he crossed his four arms in front of his chest. "No matter how cold or hard your ice is, I can cut through anything. [Onimaru]."

With that, Ezel swung his four arms in an X-pattern. As a result, he sent an X-shaped slash in Gray's direction, the arms of the X growing wider the further away from the center point they were, to clash with the ice shards Gray launched at him.

Boom!

The resulting collision caused both the curse power slash and the ice shards to explode, ice dust filling the air and refracting the light into an aurora. However, as beautiful as the sight was, the battle continued to rage on.

"[Requip: Black Wing Armor]." Erza chanted as she approached Ezel from his left. "[Black Wing: Moon Flash]."

"[Dark Ecriture: Destruction]." Fried, approaching from Ezel's other side, chanted with his sword drawn.

Noticing the attacks coming from each side, Ezel, though unable to bring as much force to bear as he would have liked, swung the arms on his left and right at Erza and Fried, respectively, gathering as much of his curse power on his arms as he could in such a short time.

Shing! x 2

In the next instant, both Fried and Erza flashed past Ezel, switching positions, both standing in their post attack postures. As for Ezel, he stood between the two wizards, one arm on each side of his torso having been severed.

Feeling the pain in his arms, Ezel did not have to look down to know they had been severed. On top of that, as he looked to either side, the two arms spinning through the air served as additional proof of his disarming.

"Argh~~~~~!" Ezel roared in both pain and anger after having his arms cut off.

Yet, before he could say anything, a surge of magic power drew his attention to the front.

"[Ice Devil's Resentment]." Gray said calmly as his surge in power reached its peak. "[Ice Blade: Seven Slice Dance]."

With the second chant, an [Ice-Make] spell, sharp ice blades formed on Gray's forearms. Then, he began to spin and swing his arms at high speed with the first five slashes, each a single, accurate slash, aimed at Ezel's four remaining limbs and his neck. Then, with both arms crossed over his head, Gray brought them down, slashing in an X-shape across the Etherious' chest.

"And that's done." Gray said calmly. "Let's go and see if anyone needs our help."

As he spoke, Gray turned away from Ezel, who was frozen in the position he had been in after his lower pair of arms were severed. Gray then started walking away at a leisurely pace.

Seeing how confidently Gray was leaving the battle, Fried and Erza exchanged glances. Then, they both reverted to their base forms before following behind him.

Crack!

After the trio took around a dozen steps away, the sound of cracking ice could be heard from where Ezel stood frozen. In the next instant, his arms fell away from his body. Shortly afterwards, his head slid off his neck. Then, his torso and legs, above the knee, fell backwards.

Shatter!

Finally, when Ezel's torso hit the ground, it divided into four pieces, divided by the X-shaped wound Gray left with his last two slashes. And if one were to take a closer look, they would see that all the cuts were completely smooth. On top of that, other than the stumps left by Fried and Erza, none of the other wounds were bleeding. Instead, it was easy to see that they were all frozen over.

Around the same time the pieces of Ezel hit the ground, Fried, Gray, and Erza all looked in the direction of the Bosco/Isvan border.

"Such immense magic power." Fried said breathlessly. "My Magic Power Detection doesn't reach far enough to identify it. Yet, I can feel just how overwhelming it is."

"Indeed." Erza replied, a grave expression on her face.

"But what in the world is it?" Gray asked solemnly.

"There's only one thing it could be..." Erza replied. "And I'm sure you both already know what that is. Anyway, let's hurry and bring all the battles to an end. We can't deal with that and the demons at the same time."

"There's no guarantee we can deal with that even if it's by itself." Fried replied. "But our chances are a lot better if it's alone."

And with that, Fried, Erza, and Gray rushed to assist the others before what they were sensing could enter their ranges of detailed detection.