

Fishing in the Pool

By: IndigoRho

For days the weather had been dreary and frigid, prompting most in Columbia City to simply stay at home rather than deal with the outdoors. However, some who didn't like being cooped up had instead opted to visit the gym with its comfortable heated interior. Kai and August were two such individuals, and amongst the few sitting by the pool. The friends were avid swimmers, welcoming the excuse to enjoy the water, though Kai's attention seemed to be elsewhere. A cross between a koi fish and an eastern dragon, the hybrid's white and blue scales were already dripping wet from a previous dip, his stomach growling faintly. August heard the complaint, and the black goat laughed and gave his friend a nudge in the side.

"Dude, did you manage to work up an appetite already?" August joked.

Kai barely responded, his eyes still locked on something across the way. "Skipped lunch, could *really* go for something filling right now."

August finally followed his friend's gaze, spotting an otter using the diving board, practically the only other person in the pool. "We could always just grab a burger next door ya know."

"Eh, I'm in the mood to fish." Kai grinned and slipped into the water before the goat could get another word in.

"He's waddling home if he can't fit in my car," August sighed as he shook his head, content to watch the show from a distance.

Meanwhile Kai was darting along the bottom of the pool, not once breaking the surface. His lean, serpentine body and the long fin that extended along his back from his head to his tail helped him excel at swimming, while a convenient set of gills made going for air unnecessary. Such advantages had always been great for his more athletic interests, and they were also incredibly useful for hunting prey. On the surface he could be easily overpowered by bulkier predators but underwater—underwater he had few equals. He could outswim and outlast them, capable of staying in the water for however long it took to subdue, swallow, and even digest a meal if the situation demanded so. Though he wasn't really an active predator himself, Kai still enjoyed the opportunity to stuff himself in his natural environment.

In a flash the koi dragon was at the deep end of the pool, standing on the bottom and eagerly eyeing the diving board above. Inevitably his prey would make another leap, and it'd be his last for sure. As expected the rippling reflection of the board grew more distorted, a brown shape coming into view. Kai bent his knees in preparation, before pushing hard off the pool's bottom the second he saw the otter break the water's surface. While the unlucky otter was just as at home in the pool as Kai, he was also caught completely off-guard, his eyes widening in fear as he saw the open maw of a dragon rushing at him.

The otter had no time to react, his webbed paws sliding right into Kai's mouth and down his throat horrifically fast, followed soon after by his arms and head as well. He thrashed about, but the torrent of water emptying into Kai's stomach helped propel him through the koi dragon's gullet like a water slide. Before the prey had even truly realized what was happening he was already waist-deep in the dragon. Kai's flat middle dramatically ballooned outward from otter and water, turning into a large wobbling sphere that was swelling by the second. The combined weights of the pair caused them to slowly sink, Kai coming to a rest in a sitting position as he continued to gorge.

Once the otter's head pushed into the small air pocket within the stomach he shouted in terror, paddling with his legs in a frantic attempt to escape his aquatic attacker; he was far too deep to succeed, though. Kai greedily gripped his bloated gut with both claws, feeling it stretch beneath his touch as it continued filling. Despite doing his best to stay in shape, the koi dragon still adored the sensation of being huge, if only temporarily. Eating others was the easiest way to accomplish that, and considerable amount of pool water that had poured in only enhanced the experience. The otter was barely

distinguishable inside his swollen belly, his struggles masked more and more by the water.

Barely a couple minutes had passed since the otter had dived into the pool, but he was already up to his knees in Kai, and vanishing fast. He faced no resistance on the journey down the koi dragon's throat, and it wasn't long before only his paws remained. They too were soon sealed away with a shove and a gulp, the otter emptying completely into the cramped pool that was Kai's stomach. There was very little air left inside Kai, and his unwilling meal had to fight to keep his head above the water, unable to see a thing.

Kai leaned back in bliss, smiling as he rubbed his jiggling gut. Consuming another person was tiring—even with how swiftly the otter had gone down—and Kai happily rested on the pool bottom as if he were on a lounge chair. Any other pred would've needed to rush to the surface to get fresh air, so Kai adored his ability to take underwater meals casually. He could float around and tease his meal for however long as he wanted, limited only his prey's dwindling oxygen supply. On rare occasions he'd been lucky enough to eat someone of another aquatic race, ensuring the fun only ended when *he* grew bored.

A few minutes after Kai had turned the diver into dinner, someone else jumped into the water above, Kai grinning as he realized August was swimming down to greet him. August breathed a mental sigh of relief as he spotted his friend safe and sound at the pool's bottom, his middle comically round. While the goat had plenty of faith in his friends predatory abilities, he could never truly brush away the fear something might finally go wrong and the dragon would end up a squirming bulge in another's gut. Checking in on him personally was the only way to alleviate the concern, and he'd also get a good excuse to play with Kai's belly.

August pushed his hooves right into Kai's gut, smirking as the koi dragon's cheeks puffed up and he let out a muffled belch. He knew Kai might linger forever in the pool if given the chance, but denying him the joy of a squirming meal might encourage him to leave early; otherwise August was just gonna abandon him and head home. Kai playfully swatted at the goat, trying and failing to stop him from provoking more depth-charge burps. The otter inside him was thrashing about more violently, likely realizing his air pocket was endangered. They peaked and faded, a few final convulses bringing Kai joy before the otter passed out for good.

By then August was nearly out of breath himself, so he hurried back to the surface. Kai reluctantly followed shortly after, his engorged belly hindering his speed considerably. He made sure to splash August once he rejoined him.

"You could've let me have a couple more minutes down there at least!" Kai laughed. "That otter felt crazy good, the perfect wiggler."

"Well I'm getting hungry myself, but unlike you I'd rather grab something a bit more sensible than my weight in stranger," August said. "I mean if you wanted to bus home *that* badly..."

Kai grimaced. "Busing on a full stomach's a pain. Always end up belly-bumping someone and there's never enough pred-friendly seats!"

"Then you've got nothing to complain about," August insisted. "Though I can't say the front seat of my car's gonna be much comfier ya water balloon."

"It'll be worth it to see the look on the face of the guy at the drive-through, let's get going." Kai smiled and started awkwardly swimming back to the stairs at the shallow end, his gurgling belly swaying beneath him with every stroke.