

Filling Up on Friends

By: IndigoRho

The gaming center at the Emerald Shores Arcade was almost pitch black, lit only by the glow of television screens and scattered neon lights. A cacophony of buzzers, overdramatic announcers, virtual bullets, and excited cheers filled the spacious room as every manner of video game was enjoyed by patrons. Amidst the chaos was a pair of friends winding down after a long workday, both happy to be starting their weekends wailing on each other in their favorite fighting game.

August—a lion with black fur and a white mane—was wiggling in his beanbag chair as he tried to keep up with his opponent. “I’ve got this! I’ve got this!”

“Saying it won’t make it real!” Kai, the eastern dragon/koi hybrid beside him laughed. The lights in the room reflected off his white scales and horns, unlike August who simply blended into the darkness.

Kai’s words ended up being prophetic, as a few seconds later he succeeded in knocking off the last bit of August’s health, securing victory against the lion.

“Damn, I was really close!” August insisted. “I think I’m almost at the point where I can trade off wins with ya.” He sighed and leaned back into the beanbag. “Well I’d love to get another game in and prove I’m right, but I’ve gotta grab something to eat before I head home.”

Kai looked about to agree until a sly grin grew across his face. “*Or* we could up the stakes for one last match, winner eats loser? I’m pretty hungry myself, and the looming threat of being dinner might actually improve your game,” the koi dragon teased.

While August knew his friend was hoping for an easy meal and future bragging rights, he couldn’t resist the chance to possibly turn the tables on him. “Bold words for someone who’s gonna spend the night as lion pudge. You’re on!”

“Hah!” Hope you didn’t have any plans for tomorrow, cause *I’m* the one leaving here full, dude,” Kai answered back.

With plenty of friendly smack-talk a new bout was set-up, each player picking the character they were best at. Though getting eaten and digested wasn’t necessarily *fun*, it also wasn’t any worse than a mild inconvenience. Whoever ended up as food would simply re-form after half a day or so, good as new. August and Kai had consumed each other quite often in the past, usually as the result of goofy bets just like the one they were about to engage in, so the outcome wasn’t likely to end in any bad blood.

August started the first round off aggressively, catching Kai off-guard and gaining a solid lead that he managed to maintain throughout. Despite a respectable attempt to catch up Kai ended the round with a loss, leading to plenty of boasting from his feline friend. Kai didn’t let the loss shake him, though, and went into the next fight intent on showing August their difference in skill. The koi dragon proved victorious in the much-closer round. Both friends took a moment to rest before the start of the final round, the one which would decide who’d become a willing, overindulgent meal for the other. They put their all into the abnormally high-stakes game, and while they were fairly evenly matched, only one could win.

August nearly leaped from his beanbag once the word “Victory” flashed across the screen and Kai’s fighter fell. Even he hadn’t been a hundred percent sure of his chances against the koi dragon, but his risk was about to pay off wonderfully.

To his credit Kai took the loss amicably. “I was just joking about you playing better under pressure, you didn’t have to prove me right!” he chuckled.

“Well you can think about that mistake while you’re swaying from my waistline,” August said as he stood up, licking his lips as dramatically as he could.

Kai set aside his controller and stood as well. “Moping in a gut’s not my style. Also there’s no way I’m stripping down in here so you’re getting me clothing and all.” The koi dragon dug deep into his

bag and pulled out a pair of large corks, which he proceeded to impale on his horns.

"Honestly can't believe you just carry those around with you all the time," August laughed. "You expect to end up as dinner that often?"

"They're supposed to be for *my* meals." Kai rolled his eyes. "They just happen to also come in handy when things go south and I don't want to deal with someone trying to saw my damn horns off!"

"But they make such wonderful trophies, Kai. I've got like a whole drawer of them at home." The lion grinned.

Kai snorted, giving his friend a playful punch in the arm. "Remind me to steal some of those back next time you show off your collection. Though more importantly, are you gonna eat more or what?"

"Someone's certainly eager to be food! Haven't gotten to enjoy hearty seafood in a while, so this is gonna be lovely." August rested his paws on Kai's shoulders and grinned.

As the koi dragon stood patiently waiting, August opened his maw wide before gently closing it around most of Kai's snout. The dragon resisted the natural instinct to struggle and pull away from danger, instead taking solace in the fact his friend would have to work to gulp down his horns. A second and third swallow managed to take in the rest of Kai's head, horns and fin included, but there was still quite a bit to consume. His jaws stretched over the shoulders and he pinned Kai's arms to his sides, taking deep gulps as he feasted on his begrudgingly willing meal.

Within the greedy lion Kai winced as the tight walls of the gullet slathered him in saliva as he was pulled deeper and deeper. When his snout finally lurched into the stomach he gasped for air, thankful for even the terrible, stale stuff lingering inside. August's flat middle ballooned outwards as the lion started to empty into it, the thankfully snap-on buttons of his vest coming undone in a line to the sound of a barrage of *clacks!* Though his undershirt collar was extra-stretchy the rest of it was not, so his black belly was swiftly exposed, wobbling back and forth as Kai fought to stay comfortable during his descent.

There were plenty of witnesses to the public consumption, but most who caught a glimpse of the meal returned to their business without a second thought. Vore was common, after all, and with no real consequences to the act there was no reason to treat the occurrence as any stranger than a regular conversation. Still, August wasn't in the mood to prolong his feast. As Kai's butt passed his lips he started trying to angle the koi dragon upwards, wanting all the aid gravity could provide. His gut bounced around more frequently from the aggressive swallows, Kai letting out a few muffled complaints as he was tossed within.

Once August had reached Kai's knees he was free to move his paws right to his swollen belly, gleefully rubbing and toying with it while he continued gulping down his friend. While the lion was generally slim and athletic—a boon to his active lifestyle—he genuinely enjoyed the sensation of getting big, which vore provided in spades. His tail flailed around wildly as he grew more excited about finishing his meal, Kai reduced to a pair of wiggling sneakers and the tip of a tail. Even after he closed his jaws shut around the last of Kai he needed a few more swallows to seal him away completely, his middle bouncing heavily in victory.

August revealed a goofy grin and moaned faintly, patting his bulging gut over and over. Swallowing Kai whole had been understandably exhausting, but the now-full August didn't want to rest for fear of passing out completely into a food coma. Staying active was the best way for him to stay conscious, so the lion sluggishly grabbed his and Kai's bags and waddled slowly towards the Arcade's exit.

Sliding past the Friday night crowds was a hassle, especially considering his engorged middle, but thankfully most were eager to stay clear of the clearly voracious lion. August smiled at every predator he passed, even bumping bellies with a thicker panther who'd enjoyed a sizable meal of his own. He could *feel* Kai grumbling about the rough treatment, but the place was far too noisy for his muffled voice to be heard by anyone. As he went he made sure to gulp down plenty of fresh air for his meal,

ensuring Kai remained fully awake for a while longer.

As August waddled by the bar a devilish idea came to mind. Kai didn't show any concern when the bouncing abruptly stopped, though his ears perked up when he swore he heard the word “digestion” coming from his friend's not-so-distant mouth. Curled up in the tight confines of the wet stomach, the koi dragon slowly began to wonder why August was remaining still for so long, and why it sounded like he was buying something. The answer to his questions came in the form of a cold liquid pouring onto his head and down his neck, causing Kai to spasm slightly at the unexpected sensation. There was an overwhelmingly minty aroma to the drink August had consumed, and even in the darkness Kai knew exactly what had happened.

“Oh c'mon dude, did you seriously just drink a digestion suppressant!” Kai yelled from within, thumping on the slick stomach walls in protest. Suppressants could neutralize stomach acids for hours at a time depending on the dose, perfect for those wanting to enjoy endosoma—or preds desiring to tease their prey.

A small burp escaped August's lips and he chuckled as his belly grew feisty. This time he'd heard his meal loud and clear. “I just wanted to hang out some more that's all. There's worse places to hang out than a good friend's stomach.”

“Not that many!” Kai frowned, despite the fact August had no way of knowing. “And you know I'd rather get digested than spend the night forced to play belly jail!”

“I like to think of it as more of a belly hotel, honestly,” August shrugged. “Anyway, our bet didn't say anything about having to gurgle the loser right away, so you should probably just get comfortable and enjoy the VIP room I've provided.”

Though Kai knew there wasn't much he could do now that he was sealed within the lion, he didn't want to make his friend's trip home *too* comfortable. August took the sporadic shaking of his middle with stride, teasing his meal with plenty of tightening belches as he trudged out of the Arcade leisurely. Being outside meant there were even more witnesses to his voracious victory over Kai, and August aggressively basked in his glory by sticking out his distended gut and constantly patting the shifting bulges of his middle.

He'd lick his lips in an over-exaggerated manner and ramble aloud about how delicious the koi dragon had been, how much flab he would end up as, how he'd need to start eating fish on a weekly basis from then on. Anyone brave enough to get a closer look was encouraged to prod his belly to feel the meal within, too. August could be a bit of an exhibitionist when given the chance, especially if he was big for one reason or another. Kai was well aware of his friend's tendencies, and while he helped the goat indulge in them quite frequently he wasn't nearly as fond of being the focus himself. He was in for a *long* night...

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A wobbly stroll and a tight bus ride later, and August was unlocking the door to his apartment, his Kai-stuffed belly pressed against the wood. The koi dragon hadn't calmed down much, though August adored the squirms of meals so he didn't care much.

“I'm home hon!” August announced as he pushed the door open with his gut, flicking off his sneakers after a few failed attempts and entering the living room.

On the couch was an orange-striped zebra just wearing shorts, his doughy belly exposed. He smiled wide once he spotted his feline boyfriend's shifting middle. “No wonder you were late, you were busy sneaking in an early dinner. Who's the lucky snack?”

“Kai got cocky and made a bet, Rho, so now he's our guest for the night.” August said, shaking the bulge made by the koi dragon for emphasis.

“Thanks for being belly-filler Kai, it means I don't have to!” Rho laughed, jiggling as he did. August's gaze locked onto the bouncing pudge of his boyfriend, and despite having

overindulged for dinner he still found his mouth watering. There was just something so...so *right* about having the zebra in his stomach. He did his best to restrain himself—otherwise Rho would be stuck digesting every other day and August would be outright immobile—but sometimes the lion just *needed* to pounce atop his boyfriend and gobble him up. Tonight was quickly looking to be one of those times.

With purpose August slowly approached his boyfriend, belly swaying from side-to-side with every heavy step. Rho wasn't at all suspicious yet, simply expecting the lion to plop down beside him for some snuggling. Instead August lowered his wiggling gut right onto Rho's lap. The surprised zebra blushed and fidgeted as he was pinned by the weight of the koi dragon buried beneath black fur, still convinced he was merely being teased—a rather common occurrence. He reached his arms around August's middle and buried his muzzle in it, delighting in its girth and squirms. Kai protested the hugging and prodding, though his muffled voice was ignored.

“With how gluttonous you get it's a miracle you stay so thin!” Rho teased, unaware he was being eyed as the second course. “Course watching you get a little fatter now and then is always a delight.”

“Glad to hear,” August said, before releasing Rho and carefully dropping to his knees. “Cause that means you'll have no problem helping me add a few more pounds.”

The lion lifted his boyfriend's hooves and greedily slid them both into his maw, gulping them down with haste. Rho frowned but didn't put up anything other than a token resistance; if August wanted to eat him he'd *find* a way to eat him no matter what, and at least this time he wasn't being stuffed like a turkey beforehand. Not that he was necessarily opposed to the treatment. Soon his knees were sliding past August's lips, a pair of eager paws gripping his thighs and tugging him forwards. Slapping them away only seemed to make the lion more eager to consume him.

Deep within August, Kai was rather dismayed to feel a pair of hooves join him in his fleshy prison, and he made an immediate effort to push them right back up the gullet. August's gluttony was far stronger than the koi dragon's desire for privacy, though, and a few powerful gulps ensured Kai was busy shifting around to make room for his new guest. As the lion continued gorging his belly spread outward across the floor in all directions, getting bigger and bigger by the second. He moaned as he rose atop his bulging gut, craving to be overstuffed and immobile, to be absolutely full. Lions were king after all, so he deserved to indulge in his desires.

Rho giggled as his hooves were pinned to his sides and slurped up, August's maw beginning to stretch over his hefty middle. He could feel his pudge being squeezed and teased by the lion's jaws in between swallows. His belly was slathered in saliva for the trip down the gullet, ensuring he wouldn't be able to stall his descent in any manner. While in general Rho preferred to be the one doing the eating in such situations, he admittedly adored being consumed by his boyfriend, beaming at the fact his presence could inspire such gluttony in the lion.

“You're gonna get so plump after tonight!” Rho smiled as the rest of his gut vanished into August's throat. “I'll be able to use your little belly as a pillow, though I'm sure it'll need a bit more stuffing to be perfect.”

August mumbled something, but with his mouth full of zebra he was impossible to understand. Still, Rho knew he was likely trying to make *some* kind of snarky retort. While the lion wasn't against being fat he also tried to avoid getting massive too often. Unfortunately for him Rho was a terrible influence on his waistline, and excelled at escalating August's gluttony. Gobbling up multiple people in one sitting was how most of his out-of-control gaining sessions started, though in the heat of the moment he simply didn't care; he just wanted to be king.

Eager gulps took in Rho's moobs and shoulders, leaving only his round face on the outside. Rho twitched as he felt the lion's lips sliding around his head, sound muffled and light fading as he entered the mouth completely. Then the jaws shut tight. August took a final, big gulp, his paws following the journey of Rho's bulge as it fell into his stomach. He chuckled and moaned as his immense belly wobbled, the two friends within attempting to find a comfortable position pressed together.

“Ahhh, fish and zebra stewing in a lion gut, right—*braaaaaaap*—where they belong,” August gloated as he groped his bulging sides.

“You’re as full of yourself as you are of us!” Kai grumbled from within, squeezed between the soft walls of the stomach and Rho’s flabby middle.

Rho was far more amused than annoyed, even if his temporary home wasn’t very spacious.

“Don’t worry, Aug’s gonna be extra filling after this and he’ll be easier to catch, too!”

August bopped his belly with a paw. “Food’s not supposed to conspire against me, especially when we’re also dating!”

“I’m about ready to—*oof*—make you belch just so I can finally get some sleep!” Kai said while wiggling around as much as he could, forcing a burp from August in the process. “I need to start planning out my feline feast in the morning!”

“H-hey! You lost fair and—*uorrrrrrrp*—square, no plotting revenge!” August made an effort to swallow more fresh air, but his first course was exceptionally good at getting him to belch.

August would spend the rest of the evening wobbling atop his volatile middle, teasing and chatting with his tasty friends until he finally nodded off to digest them. In the morning the once-lithe lion would be considerably softer and plumper. He’d have to worry about digging out his larger clothing and resisting his stronger appetite, but most of all he’d have to keep an eye out for a koi dragon searching for a filling meal of his own...