

The Swap Meet

Irbisgreif

for Khloe

Description

IN return for taking me along on a very fun escape room, I ended up owing a piece of work to Khloe. Given the nature of his interests, I checked that this idea would be up his alley. I was correct.

I included a few friends who like these sorts of things in the fun, to provide extra people for the story to make the final swapfest more interesting. Everyone gets to be Khloe!

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GREEN pom bouncing, Irbis pulled his namazu friend along with him into his lab. “Yeah, I have got this thing figured out, kupo. It copies a mind across perfectly. So I can be a nama and you can be a moogle for a bit!”

Gyozori looked over the pair of helmets, squeaking with every step she took. “That sounds fun. Yes, yes.”

The moogle pushes the namazu into one spot, putting the helmet on her, then steps into the other and puts the helmet on. “Now, we need to get someone else when it’s time

to switch back. If we don’t, it’ll mind-wipe us, kupo.”

The namazu nods and smiles, waiting for the device to activate. Irbis looks over the device and tilts his head. “Odd, kupo. It seems someone ran it once already. Strange indeed, kupo.”

“Please, just switch us. Yes, yes.”

Irbis chuckled and reached down, pressing the button.

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INVARIABLY, each and every step was a squeak, which had taken Irbis some time to get used to in the new namazu body. Still, he squeaked along, enjoying the different perspective of being a cute catfish. Gyozori had taken his body out to try floating and flying, so Irbis had decided to try out a different set of taste buds. It turned out that burgers had quite a different flavour for a fish.

The namazu snacked on their fries, but could not help but notice when their friend Aira arrived at the same diner. Chuckling, the namazu finished their last fry and walked up to the blue fox.

"Hello, kupo!"

Aira looked down at the catfish. "Did you just kupo at me?"

The catfish waved back, laughing, "Yeah, kupo! It's me, Irbis! You gotta see this, come with me to my lab!"

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TWISTING about, Aira looked over the namazu body, flexing and letting it squeak as he tried it out. His old body, with Irbis inside, smiled at him and tested out making and unmaking the blue fox's fancy leaves.

"So that's how you do it, kupo."

Aira looked at himself and chuckled, "Yeah. And I better avoid our Buizel friend."

The fox nodded at the namazu in full agreement. "Yeah, don't get my friend's body eaten, please. But yeah, go try it out. I wanna try these leaves on a few folks."

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GRINNING, Aira looked down at the espeon walking along the street. He had enjoyed being a namazu for a bit, but the slick skin wasn't the best. Aira wanted something with fur, and a cute Espeon would be perfect!

As the Espeon passed unknowing under the tree he was hiding in, the little fox-brained Namazu dropped down from the tree right on top of them. Myr yelped when the weight of a crazy catfish forced them flat onto the ground, struggling to get back up and get free of their assailant. However, it proved to be useless, and soon Myr found

themselves sitting in a strange lab nearby, with a helmet on their head.

The namazu in front of them chuckled and shifted, ringing its bell, and the next thing Myr knew, they were a lot more slimy than an espeon is supposed to be.

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OPENING the door to the lab and pulling the mimiga along, the moogle chuckled. Motioning to the promised machine in all its unimposing glory, they let the mimiga consider what was about to happen.

"We will have lots of fun when we swap. Yes, yes."

The mimiga looked at the moogle, "You really are Gyzori, aren't you."

The moogle pushed Loppy into one of the stands, nodding. "Of course I am. I told you we swapped. I am Gyzori. Yes, yes."

Loppy looked out as the moogle fit both of the helmets. "It's weird to see a moogle that doesn't say kupo."

With a press of a button, Loppy was a moogle that did not say kupo.

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OVER the past few hours, the incorporeal starclaw had watched the people coming and going from the lab with interest. It did not take long to figure out that the people were going in with one personality and coming out with other ones. It did not take long either to figure out how that was happening once the ghost watched the interior.

With their interest piqued, the starclaw followed the humming blue fox into the lab, careful not to draw their attention.

Irbis smiled from inside Aira's body, clearly satisfied with wherever he had gone with the fox's leafy powers.

"Now, things will start to get out of hand, kupo. I need to get everyone back here to swap back."

The fox looked up as the helmet fell on their head. "Kupo?"

"Sorry, I've been thinking of trying to be corporeal again for a while, dear. I'll give your body back."

Irbis looked over as the blue fox wandered out. "Wait! That one isn't even mine, kupo!"

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DARKNESS was beginning to fall as Aira, enjoying the psychic abilities of their new espeon body. However, with the rarity of humans in this area, Aira could not help but follow along when he encountered one.

Aira also could not help but think that the human should be something fuzzier, to fit in better here with everyone else. Normally, he would have no way to do that, but as he began approaching the person and preparing a charming wave of psychic energy, he smiled.

Today, today he had a way to do make exactly that happen.

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SIGHING and motioning to the machine, the ghostly starclaw looked at his body,

currently occupied by poor Loppy. "So yes, I meant to swap with one person, but then I swapped with someone, and they swapped with someone, and then they swapped with someone again... and that's why you're in a moogle's body right now, kupo."

Loppy nodded, giggling. "Yeah, but it's been fun being a moogle. Did you know how stretchy your—"

Irbis cut off the mimiga in his body. "Yes, I'm quite aware of how that all stretches, kupo. But we need to get things back to normal."

The dragon looks at the machine, "It is all getting out of control. There's a namazu running around trying to stuff itself into pokeballs. I'm a ghost, kupo. Somebody found an espeon that swears it was human and begged not to be put in a pokeball again because it's scary. A ghost is running around putting leaves on people and telling them to do lewd things in public. There's a human mechanic that doesn't know any mechanics but sure knows how to attract every predator in a 30 mile radius. And last, but not least, we have Gyzori in your body who has been hitting up every brothel in town. As an employee."

He looks over at the moogle. "Kupopo... you did quite a bit with my body too."

Carefully, he dropped a helmet on the moogle, while floating into position himself.

"We're going to get everything back to normal, okay?"

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CIPHER was enjoying being corporeal again, and the additional features of the leaf power his body had come with was proving quite fun itself. He had just finished with a cute bunny couple at the diner near the lab, and was walking down the sidewalk, eyeing his next target, when a moogle stepped in his way.

"Hello, kupo. Have you been enjoying Aira's body?"

The fox looked over the moogle. "Uh, what?"

Irbis smiled, "You took that body from me, but I'd like it back. This one is corporeal. I know you've liked the leaves, but I have moogle dance magic!"

The blue fox looked unconvinced. "Listen, darling, I'm having a—"

"I'll give you a surprise if you come swap with me, kupo."

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ROUNDING out the group, Irbis sighed. It had taken a while to track down every single swapped body and jam a magic leaf onto their forehead to convince them to come, but he had managed to do it.

He looked over at the two-tailed fuche and the fellow moogle he'd called over to help him. "Okay, kupo, what we're going to have to do is follow a really simple formula, okay?"

Khloe looked at the blue fox, "Yeah, well what is it, Math-kupo."

Irbis sighed at the joke. "Easy. We're going to line everyone up with each person facing the body they want to go in, that'll

make a circle. After that, Erakir will swap with my body, then Khloe, you do the heavy lifting.

Erakir interrupted, "Why do I swap with your body, I don't want to be a different moogle."

Irbis glared "Because, kupo, we're doing this via a formula. This machine has to be managed a certain way."

After the two stopped giggling about something, Irbis motioned to the machine, "Kupopo, it's simple. Erakir swaps with my body, then Khloe swaps with whoever I'm facing. Khloe's body goes around the circle, swapping with everyone until it gets to me again. Then Erakir swaps with whoever I'm facing and the end result is everyone is back in their own body, kupo."

The fuche agreed that it sounded simple. "And that's it, kupo?"

Irbis glared at Khloe. "Stop making fun of me, kupo. And yeah, that's it, we just swap you two and then everyone is back to normal and I can work out a better version of this machine. This one is all bent out of shape now. Totally fried."

A few interrogatives, and Irbis had the circle set up. The green-pommed moogle with a ghost's mind was facing the ghostly body with a mimiga driver. The ghostly body was staring at the cute, and now slutty, mimiga with a namazu in it. The mimiga was facing the namazu of course, which itself had a confused espeon's mind. The confused espeon was looking through a fish-eye lens at themselves, though the occupant was a terrified human. In front of the terrified human inside an espeon was a mischievous fox in

a human's body. That body and mind were facing the fox with Irbis inside, who was completing the circle by staring at the back of what should be his own green-pommed head.

With everything set, Irbis looked to Khloe and Erakir "Do you both understand what you have to do?"

The pair nodded and Erakir responded, "Yeah, we get it. Should be easy enough for us to do."

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UNDER the glow of LED tubes, the pair got to work swapping everyone back to where they ultimately belong. Erakir stood next to the other moogle body and frowned, "I wanted to be more than just different kinds of moogle."

Khloe set the helmets on the pair and swapped them, tapping both bodies to reassure them, then setting the helmet on his own head and onto the Ghostly body.

One zap later, and Loppy was enjoying the feel of a cute maidfuche's body, though they didn't get long before a ghostly hand swapped out a helmet and put them back in their own mimiga body, leaving Gyzori in Khloe's body.

The namazu giggled in there. "Not the most fun I've had in this body. Yes, yes." A ghostly hand set the helmet on her and the machine clicked again, leaving her back in her fishy shape.

"Espy! What is going on?" asked Myr, though just moments later they were no longer looking down a foxish muzzle, but

down the proper eeveelution one they were used to.

"Gah, why the heck am I turning into furries today!" cried poor Maribelle. Thankfully for her, she was soon back in her own body, fully normal again.

Aira's only thought before being put back in his proper body was "I am the wrong color, and what's with the extra tail and maid outfit?"

With Irbis in Khloe's body. He bowed to Erakir and Khloe (inside the ghostly form of Cipher) and set the helmet on his head. "Well, I guess everyone got to try being Khloe today for a few seconds. So that's neat, kupo."

With everyone back to the right body, except Khloe stuck in Cipher's body, Irbis put the helmet on Erakir and onto the ghost. "Okay, home stretch, everything will be back to normal soon."

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BOUNCING in place, Irbis seemed thrilled that everything was back to normal. He set the helmets on Khloe and Erakir with a chuckle and a kupo.

"Kupopopo, all we have to do now is flip you two and everything will be back to normal, then we can upgrade this machine and get it working better."

He gave each of the pair a hug. "Are you ready, kupo?"

Erakir nodded, "Yeah, kupo."

Irbis pressed the button, smiling. For some reason, the machine was humming, as if it was taking longer than normal to

swap the pair. When nothing happened, he tilted his head and waited for either Khloe or Erakir to say something.

“Guys?”

Gyozori chimed up from behind Irbis. “Uh... why did *Erakir* say kupo there. Shouldn’t that have been Khloe?”

Irbis looked at the namazu. “Yeah, but Khloe has been joking with me all day...”

That’s when it hit Irbis.

1. The machine *had been used* this morning before he and Gyozori had swapped.
2. *Khloe* had been saying kupo every sentence before the process began.
3. *Erakir* had not said kupo once until the pair had been swapped due to the formula.
4. Bodyswapping was *very* much something Khloe and Erakir liked.
5. Erakir and Khloe did not know that if you tried to swap two bodies back, it would mind-wipe both bodies.

Irbis looked at the moogles and the fuchs. He snapped his fingers in front of their faces. He shook the pair. Then he stared at the floor. Everyone else stared at the pair of mindless bodies, realizing that Erakir and Khloe were now gone, forever.

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SADLY, neither Erakir nor Khloe ever recovered, but it turned out that while their personalities and uniqueness were gone,

they still had all the knowledge and skills that the pair had before any swapping occurred. This made them still useful for the FFXIV raids, as they knew their rotations still. Unfortunately, the swap and share of information gave Erakir the habit of standing in AOE. More than a few wipes occurred because both of them were overly static casters.

The pair also, quite usefully, kept all of the useful maid knowledge that Khloe had. Irbis and Gyozori made a pretty penny by renting them out to locals as the cutest pair of maids and servants anyone could ever ask for. The most totally permissive pair, too. It turns out that it is easy to not have shame when you do not have a personality.

And if they have not died, then they are still living like that today!

