

Intermission 1 – Furniture

It was just another day in Elysian, the Capital of Light, where our lovely team of heroes have absolutely nothing to do. Ever since they were recruited and the team was formed, the group now occupied a white 2-storey brick house in the eastern district of Elysian, where the commoners resided.

Gwenette Soufflant, the team redheaded human sniper, left very early in the morning. The other three were gathered in the living room as they waited for Gwenette to come back.

Enfys Ellezard, the purple lizard member from the Eckgo tribe was sitting on the floor in the center of room, searching through a big box of toys for something to play with. As he picked one up, he would just throw them back into the box because most of them were kids' toys. "There's no treasure in this box at all" he complained as he searched for something fun.

"You're over 20 and searching through a box of kids' toys for something fun. Good luck with that" Volfram Silverfang, the wolf-man sitting on the couch with a bluish silver fur from the Fowl tribe remarked as he flipped through another page of the action magazine he was reading.

"How many times have you finished that magazine so far?" Enfys asked as he picked up a box of Uno cards from the box.

"Don't know. I lost count." Volfram replied as he flipped through another page.

"Then drop it and let's play a game of Uno instead. Liel, want to join?" Enfys said as he turned toward Liel, the team's Alfium tech support who was working right behind the counter on a program of her.

"I'm sorry Enfys, but I'm kind of busy." Liel replied as she typed down another line of code onto her screen. "This will be useful to help us with our financial problem in the future."

"Fine" Enfys said as he signed. "Okay V-"

"No" Volfram quickly replied as he began to lie down on the couch.

"I will play by myself then"

"How exactly do you play a game of Uno by yourself?"

"It's simple. I will play a game-of-3, against myself." Enfys replied as he began shuffling the deck. "You know what they say! 'Master yourself, master the enemies' "

"And how exactly will you beat yourself if you know the exact cards on the opponents' hand?"

"No need to worry about that. I have a poor memory for this kind of stuffs anyway. I will probably forget what card I have without looking at it all the time"

"Glad to have someone like you leading the team" Volfram said in a rather sarcastic tone as he flipped through another page of the magazine. Enfys began handing out seven cards to each "player" and started the game off by drawing a blue four.

"Aha! Blue." Enfys shouted as he threw a blue two right on top of the blue four. Afterward, he put the cards he had left back on the ground, face down, before he switched over to the player-2 position and got into character.

"So Liel, any idea when Gwenette will be back soon?" Volfram, bored of the magazine, asked as he put the magazine down on the couch.

"It is likely that she will back soon, considering that she said she will likely be back in less than 2 hours" Liel replied before she got back to working on the program again.

"It was just as I calculated. A blue five. Take this! Yellow five!" Enfys continued to play by himself.

"I still don't get how it's possible for our financial state to be this bad though." Volfram wondered as he looked around the house. "We live in a 2-storey house, loaded with furniture. Heck, it even has an underground floor with a shooting ground, a small lab and a conference room!"

"They were provided by Lumitia. We're poor because we haven't had a single job coming our way yet, and that none of us took on any extra jobs." Liel took her face off the screen for a little break as she replied. "That's why I'm working on this right now, to help us keep track of easy jobs that we can take to get us out of this state. I'm connecting the database right into the heart of the Guild's headquarter so we are notified of jobs before they are even posted on the quest board." She explained.

"I-I'm so sorry, senpai! Yellow skip!" This time, Enfys even tried to pretend to sound like one of those shy and innocent cute girl as he gently placed the card on top of the yellow five..

"Can't we just sell some of the furniture that we don't use around here?" Volfram pointed to one of the painting on the wall. "That looks expensive, and it's not ours, and I don't like it."

"I don't think Lumitia will like that." Liel replied. "This house really isn't ours. We're just borrowing it."

"Ch-, I'm going to get you back for this later." Enfys continued to play by himself as player-1.

"What happened to the former team anyway?" Volfram asked. As he waited for the answer, he took a look at what Enfys was doing, pretending to be player-2.

"All according to plan. Yellow draw two! Take that!" Enfys slammed the card right on top of the Yellow skip with a smirk on his face. He seems to be enjoying this a little too much.

"From what I could gather, they were all killed while exploring a dungeon." Liel replied as she went back to looking at her computer screen again, scrolling around for the file containing the information on the former group.

"Any idea what their little party were like?" Volfram asked when suddenly

“HAHAHA! you think you can stop me? You insolent fools have no chance of winning anyway. DRAW-FOUR! GREEN!” Enfys shouted as he threw a draw-four card on to the top of the deck.

Annoyed, Volfram crumpled a small piece of paper into a ball and threw it at Enfys, making him jumped a little from the surprise “Oi! Oi! What with the sudden change in Player-3 character?” Volfram asked. “Don’t tell me you forgot the character this fast.”

“Ahaha no.... yes. So?” Enfys got up and threw the ball of paper back at Volfram, which he easily caught in the air, before he took a seat on the couch next to the annoyed wolf.

“You’re not going to clean that up?” Volfram pointed at the Uno cards that were scattered all over the ground.

“Maybe later” Enfys said as he turned to face Liel. “So about that former team thingamajinga...”

“Oh, yes. Well, apparently it was a team of 3 warriors and 1 ranger. They we-“ Before Liel could finish reading the paragraph, Enfys interrupted her.

“3 Warriors and 1 ranger. So it was just a shitty team comp, probably full of scrubs.”

“You being an Agilis make our comp rather shitty though.” Volfram remarked.

“But I’m not just any Agilis. I’m OUR Agilis” Enfys said as he smiled.

“And also our useless idiot.”

“Idiot or not I can beat your ass if I want to.” Enfys said as he stood up and looked down at Volfram

“Wanna have a go then?” Volfram also got up and looked right into Enfys’s bright purple eyes, while avoiding the pointy horn of his.

“And as they exchanged the gaze between each other. They could feel a surge of emotion flowing into them. And then they k-“

“Okay, Liel. Stop.” Both Enfy and Volfram interrupted Liel before she could finish her random bromance statement.

Knock knock “Ahem”

The three turned toward the entrance to see that Gwenette had already returned and was casually enjoying the daily dose of nonsense. “Am I interrupting something? Anyway, we got a job.” She said as she threw a brown folder onto the counter in front of Liel. “Serious one, directly from Lumitia herself. Pack your stuffs now. We’re leaving in an hour if we want to get to our destination by night time. And by the way...” Gwenette turned to face the scatter Uno cards on the floor and pointed toward it. “Whoever is responsible for that better start cleaning now”