

Chapter 02 – Small fries

After deflecting the bullet that was flying directly toward him, Katzix began climbing down from the bell tower and headed directly toward courtyard to deal with the intruders. As he was running toward the camp area in the courtyard, a familiar voice called out to him

“Yo! Katz!” Katzix turned to face whoever it was that shouted to find Junon waving at him. The “Big Brother” of the guild was hanging around by the campsite and his gangs like usual. Katzix waved back as Junon walked toward him.

“The camp sure is busy at this time of the night” Junon remarked as he looked around. Everyone was running toward the center of the courtyard with weapons in-hand.

“Some were actually foolish enough to attack us... nya.”

“Guess we’re lucky to have a daefi that loves to hang around by the rooftop by himself to keep watch for us.”

“It was by sheer luck that I managed to spot them nya. We can talk later. Let’s just get a move on. It’s us that have to deal with the intruders since everyone but Sean is away nya.”

Having said that, Katzix directed his attention toward the ring Junon was wearing on his left hand on his ring finger. The black diamond ring was actually one of the relics given to them by Sean after they accepted the job to raid the caravan. Katzix was also given one, but he decided to leave it alone because it gave him a weird vibe. His intuition told him to stay away from it.

Junon, on the other hand, was happy with it. The ring, when activated, granted him power that allowed him to finally fight on par with his best friend. He used to be nothing but a punching bag that people loved. Being able to fight alongside his companions to the fullest made him very happy.

“Junya..”

“Hm?”

“... Avoid using that power if you can. Nya...”

Junon could sense that Katzix was very worried just from the tone of his voice. Katzix had always been looking after him.

“Don’t worry about me, buddy”

The two made their way to the courtyard. A lone figure was watching them the very room near the top of the Richtofen Castle.

“Soon, the fruit will ripen” Said the figure as he put on his green hat and began making his way to source of the commotion as well.

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"Here, have a fist!" Volfram charged right toward the clueless thief that came out of the tent that he crashed into with Enfys, knocking him out before he could react. The others, seeing the attack, hesitated before charging.

"Yargh!" shouted one of them as he ran in with a sword and swung it right at Volfram.

"Iron Fist..." Volfram said as he grabbed on to the sword with his left hand and completely shattered it. He then grabbed the thief that rushed on to him and threw him right back into the crowd. *"Take your shits back!"* Volfram shouted.

In the middle of all this commotion, some members began grabbing onto their bows and throwing knives instead, hoping to take care of the wolf that was tearing through their friend from afar.

"Nope!" Enfys was already there to cover for the range attack. With his bow in hand, he quickly shot the knives that were flying toward his friend as he rushed toward the backline. With great speed, he leaped right toward the one with bow, span to build up force and chained it with an axe kick to the head, knocking him out instantly. Using the force from the axe kick, he jumped backward to dodge the incoming attack before firing his bow once more to intercept the incoming projectile.

Bang!

The support from Gwenette came in and shot the one that was about to slash Enfys from behind, knocking the sword away.

"Thanks!" Enfys shouted as he turned around for a quick round kick before slightly backing off to where Volfram.

"Remind me again why we agreed to only knock them out and not just slit their throat? It's making my life too hard." Enfys asked as he dodged the arrow that was flying toward him by side stepping a little to the left, span as if he was dancing in the middle of all the battle and ending it with a round kick to the one charging toward him.

"Because SHE wanted them to join this side if possible, and killing any of them will likely make them bear grudges." Volfram answered as he shattered yet another sword and punched the enemy in the face.

"This is dumb!" Enfys exclaimed as a whole group of enemies charged in with spears in hand and from all direction. Both Volfram and Enfys jumped into the air to avoid the attack and landed on the tips right at the center. *"We've only knocked out, like, 6 of them or something."* Enfys complained as Volfram jumped out to deal with the opposite direction. Gwenette quickly sniped yet another archer for Enfys to rush in. The team was working in a perfect Sync. Volfram and Enfys dealt with the front line while Gwenette was dealing with the back line with Liel buffs to keep Volfram and Enfys in shape for as long as possible. At this pace, they could probably pull off the 4-to-30.

"THAT'S ENOUGH!" A loud shout came from the group of enemies. The fight halted.

"Big brother!" The group of thieves shouted as they made way for a rather buffed and tall saetra to walk through.

"Bro! Help us!" The small fries begged as they pointed toward Enfys and Volfram.

"The fingers. Rude!" Enfys shouted as he pointed back at those that were pointing at him.

"This is as far as you two will go!" The buffed Saetra pointed and shouted at both Enfys and Volfram. *"For attacking my brothers, you shall be punished!"* He shouted as he pointed toward the sky. The small fries all jumped up and cheered him. *"Big brother! Big brother! Big brother!"*

While Enfys and Volfram were distracted by the noisy performance, another figure sneaked his way through the crowd and approached Enfys from behind for a surprise attack.

"Enfys! Behind you!" Liel who was observing from afar with Gwenette quickly shouted when the enemy appeared on her scanner.

"!!!" As he responded to the warning, Enfys quickly turned around to see a blue daefi charging in for a kill with his knife from the blind spot. With the hand blade on his right arm, Enfys parried the incoming blow. The blue daefi, reacting to his prey's reaction, swiftly recovered from the parry by spinning around using the gained momentum and continuing his attack with a low slash using the force from the spin.

"Shit, I can't block that in time. Should I jump to avoid that? Why the fuck is Volfy only watching and not helping me?" the thought went through as Enfys tried to come up with the right answer to this aggression. Unlike the small fries, this one was really fast.

But Enfys too was a fast one. *"Let's try this then!"* He thought to himself as he reacted to his opponent who leaned down for a quick slash at his leg, with his knee aiming directly for the head, fighting aggression with aggression. His opponent showed a surprise expression on his face before stopping his attack to avoid the incoming flying knee strike. With his attack halted, the daefi backed off and returned to his friend's side. The Saetra boss was rather surprised.

"Wow Katz, someone was able to react to your attack."

The daefi did not response but looked right at Enfys with a very sharp gaze. Enfys was complaining that his friend did not help him.

"What the fuck, Volfy?" Enfys shouted in anger. *"Why didn't you lend me a hand?"*

"Because I believed in you. I know that you can deal with that by yourself." Volfram replied. He was trying to hide his smirk after saying that.

"Yes, I truly you were being honest just now you lying faggit piece of shit." Enfys did not buy it.

"Suit yourself" Volfram brushed off Enfys as he looked toward the Daefi. *"So, that's the daefi you were warning us about eh, Gwen?"* He said as he folded his arm.

"Yes. I hope you took some note while Enfys was dealing with him."

"Yeah, he sure gave Enfys a trouble."

"That was a sneak attack, it doesn't count." Enfys interrupted the conversation. **"HEY, YOU. THAT WON'T WORK AGAIN!"** He shouted as he pointed toward the daefi.

"Can it, Enfys. So with the bosses here, what now?" Volfram asked.

"I don't know but I'm getting the daefi." Enfys answered as he looked at the blue daefi and leaned a bit toward Volfram. *"I'm going to make him pay for that and I could feel it..... He's a Waifu material."*

"Liel's bad side must be rubbing on to you." Volfram rolled his eyes as he said that.

"What bad side? You are perfectly right, Enfys! I could feel that too" Liel joined in, shouting excitedly.

"Are you done with your pointless chatter, nya?" The daefi finally spoke, with his knife pointing toward Enfys and Volfram.

"Oh god, why?" Enfys held his mouth when the daefi nya'd.

"So, who are you two supposed to be and what do you want anyway?" Volfram asked, slightly annoyed by what his lizard teammate was doing.

"I am Junon Cloakfelt, one of the three guild founders." The saetra was the first to reply.

"...Katzix Nimblefeet Nya." The daefi soon followed.

"Enfys Ellezard, leader of team Gine."

"Volfram Silverfang, the one better suited as the leader of team Gine."

"You want to pick a fight with me now?"

"Let's do it right after this then, little shit!"

"You're on, fucker. So, what do Nya want?... Oh god, I really can't do this" Enfys was blushing again by how cute the Nya expression was with Katzix there.

"We're going to offer you a choice here. You see, our brothers here don't like you for what you did. They pretty much demand your blood now. However, we like our brothers alive more than dead. We can either turn this into a bloodbath, or just end it between the four of us." Junon spoke.

"Call off your sniper, nya." Katzix demanded.

"...Very well then. Gwenette, you heard what they said" Enfys went back to acting like an actual leader again.

"You sure about this, Enfys?" Gwenette asked.

"We can't trust them to stick to a 2 v 2 though."

"We can. I can feel it." Enfys said as he looked straight right into the daefi's and the saetra's eyes. *"Well, if they cheat, you can switch to actual ammunition this time."*

"...Very well then." Gwenette put down her gun.

"Enfys. Volfram. Keep in mind that the protections and boons will persist for quite a while. Please stay out of danger when they run out." Liel added

"It's okay, we won't lose." Enfys said before he cut off his communication. *"So, how will we do this 2 v 2 thing?"* Enfys asked.

With that surprise attack, Katzix was able to evaluate his foes. From observing the fight on the way here, the wolf was slow but his strikes were very strong. The lizard, on the other hand, was weaker but much swifter and less predictable. He didn't expect the lizard to fight back when he went in again with a low slash, hoping for the lizard to react by jumping away to avoid the feint so he could continue the attack into one of his signature moves. From his past spars with Junon, Junon wouldn't stand a chance against someone just as fast as him. Junon was after all, more of the guild's punching bag that protected and cared for his friends and companions. Junon would stand a much better chance against the wolf who was just as slow as him. Katzix would have to deal with the lizard as fast possible to help Junon out later. When it comes to speed, Katzix did not plan on losing.

"Junon, you deal with the wolf. I'm dealing with the lizard nya." Katzix said as he began stepped a bit to the side, to make room for the other pair to fight.

"Leave it to us, my brothers! I'm hoping for a fair 2 v 2 so do not interrupt us." Junon shouted. The small fries, hearing the command, laid down their weapon and backed off, forming a huge circle around the campsite for the duel.

"Go, big brother!"

"You can do it!"

"ANIKI! ANIKI!"

The small fries continued cheering for their leader.

"Pay back time!" Enfys lifted his hand up as if he was really happy he got to fight with Katzix. Following the same direction as Katzix, he began stepping to the side as well.

"I guess I have to thank you for not killing any of them, nya. Before we start, do tell why exactly you are attacking us, nya."

"Well, if I have to say it..." Enfys folded his arm as if he was thinking of the proper answer. As he let go, he gave the reply. *"Mother is not pleased."*

Right after answer was given, Enfys quickly took out his bow and fired three quick magic arrows directly toward Katzix, only for them to all of them to be deflected.

"Very well then. Rest in pieces, nya." Katzix said as he rushed right in. The other side too began rushing toward each other. The clash between power and speed began.