

“So, there I was... staring into that scary monster’s wide open maw! The blood of its former prey shimmered red on its beak in the darkness of this very lake! I didn’t have much time left before I ran out of breath and my arsenal was limited! Its hundred, **NO**, thousand tentacles thrashed through the water, ready to pull Carrot and me into the abyss any second now! I knew that I had to do something!”

A cozy campfire crackled at the shores of a pristine lake. The steep red cliffs and waterfalls surrounding the lake didn’t lose in beauty even at night. In fact, the far away silver light of the stars and the moon in the sky reflecting in the crystal clear surface of the water only made the entire place more serene than it was in broad daylight. The air was filled with the alluring smell of fried squid that watered the mouth of every living creature on this island. Thanks to the overwhelming presence of most of the people around however, every predator stayed as far away from the campsite as possible!

"But then I had an idea! A last second effort to save Carrot! Something that very well could have cost me my very own life if things hadn't worked out the way they did! But I said to myself that I **HAD** to do it! That there’s no other way out of this situation and that it was the only way for me to save us both! Or... at least only one of us...”

“A- and then?” Chopper asked, despite already having heard the story in its rushed down (and way more accurate) version earlier that day. The young reindeer swayed from side to side, back and forth as it listened to the exaggerated tale of his friend. His hooved feet clopped against the tree that Zoro cut down earlier for them all to sit on. “What happened next???”

“Be careful what you wish for, Chopper! What I’m about to say is not for everybody! Some people went mad with fear and respect for my deeds just by hearing me whisper about them!”

“**NOOO!!!** Please, you need to tell us! C’mon!” Luffy chimed in. Just like the crew’s doctor, he was at the edge of his seat and eagerly listened to the lurid tale of their friend, “I wanna know how it ends!” He jumped up and down as best as he could between Vivi and Rebecca. “I need to know!”

The two princesses each snuggled against one of the strawhat wearing captain’s muscular arms, claiming it for themselves, as they listened to the fabulous story. Arabasta’s princess caressed Karoo’s chin while leaning her face against Luffy’s shoulder. Rebecca meanwhile, more opportunistic, pulled his arm deep inside her cleavage as she hugged herself against him. Both of them wore fairly provocative clothes that highlighted their ample bosoms and hourglass figures, with Rebecca going with a pink off-shoulder dress that matched the color of her hair beautifully, while Vivi wore a dark green top with a very deep V-neck that left her flat stomach completely exposed. However, even with them dressed so lightly and them clinging to Luffy like that, the captain didn’t seem to show any physical reactions whatsoever.

Arching his back, the storyteller laughed into the clear night sky. “**HAHAHAHAHAHAHA!!!!** If you’re all insistent, then I can hardly let you down, my beloved fans!” He then went on to clear his throat loudly, “**AHEM!!** Well, there I was, so very close to the beast’s slimy face, even underwater I could smell the foul stench of the many helpless creatures it ate before

already! I reached into my trusty satchel and finally pulled out what I was looking for; my Imp- **REJECT** Dial! I pressed it against the monster's beak and activated it!"

"Chtchtchtcht!" Luffy's and Chopper's teeth shivered loudly as they followed each of the sniper's movements with an obsessed intensity. It was as if he had captured them with just his words alone and now painted a picture of his own interpretation of the events earlier that day in the canvas of their mindscape!

He then jumped up from his seat, "And then... **BOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOMMM!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**" The dark skinned man roared into the silence of the night, his arms spread out wide on either side of his body to emphasize the effect the Dial had, at least in his mind. "Only thanks to my herculean strength I didn't lose my arm that moment! I managed to grab Carrot in the nick of time before the recoil of my devilish weapon pushed me out of the lake again!" He boasted, flexing his semi-visible muscles for emphasis in the atmospheric light of the campfire behind him. "We shot out of the water like rockets with mach 1,000 and safely landed in one of the bushes around here! Afterwards, I simply jumped back into that unassuming looking lake to pull that beast out for us to feast on!"

"**WOHOOO!!!!**" both eager listeners clapped their hands in excitement! Their eyes sparkled like stars as tears of liquid awesomeness streamed down their cheeks. "That was... sooo... **COOOOOL!!!**"

"Hehehehehe!! Say my name!" demanded the silhouetted figure in front of them as it struck a pose, pointing one hand straight at the sky, pointing at the very moon above them.

"**GOD USOPP!!!!!!**"

Usopp grinned, "That's right!" He reaffirmed while rubbing the underside of his large nose. "Remember it well!"

For a long while, Usopp simply stood there at the center of their campsite and waited for the applause to die down. While not as entranced and captivated by his story as Luffy and Chopper, even Vivi and Rebecca, who accompanied them for a good week now, applauded his master-storytelling as well. He panted and sweated as if he just finished two consecutive marathons around the entire island. He didn't freeze though; the crackling flames behind him kept him warm. Once his audience finally calmed down as well, Usopp reached for his wooden mug of ale and downed the entire content in one gulp to help his sore throat.

"Very cool story, Usopp." Sanji remarked from behind the enormous grill that Franky had built for him in order to prepare the giant squid. "Since you're so brave now, why don't you take those two plates and bring them over to Robin-chwan and Carrot-chan?! They must be starving, being all alone on the Sunny without me around!"

"Jinbe-san too!" Brook added. The afro-wearing skeleton bit down on a fried tentacle, the sauce that Sanji served it with running down his white jawbone thanks to his messy way of eating.

“Eh? Oh, yes! Of course!” the long-nosed man remembered. Sweating profusely, he then reached for the two plates that Sanji had filled to the brim with dried squid and steamed fruits from the trees around them, “But, **UUUUGH...!!**” He suddenly fell to his knees, his legs and arms trembling like leaves in the wind. “I think I... **URK...** I got the ‘if-I-go-through-the-jungle-now-I’ll-die-disease’! It’s... **URK**, probably best if you ask Zoro instead!”

“That stupid mosshead?!” just like Usopp intended, Sanji’s irritation shifted away from him and towards the crew’s resident swordsman, “If I give the food to him, my dear ladies on the ship will starve for real!” He then trailed off as a thought occurred to him. “Then again, I might be able to get rid of that idiot for good that way!”

“Screw you, you bastard!” Zoro shot back from the other end of the campfire. Despite being in a heated argument with Nami at the moment, the green haired man’s ears were naturally tuned to hear whenever Sanji talked trash about him!

Nami sighed, “Stop fighting you two! I’ll go and bring them the food.” She then decided as she pushed herself up from the tree trunk she sat on. Due to the island’s naturally very hot temperatures, the buxom orangette had no problems wearing nothing but a stars-and-stripes patterned bikini top and way too short crop shorts that clung to her shapely ass and thicc thighs like a second layer of skin.

“Oh no, you don’t!” before Nami could even take one step towards Sanji, Zoro had stood up as well and blocked her path, “We’re not done talking yet!” He told her sternly.

“Yes we are!” countered Nami. Walking around the green haired swordsman, she then continued. “And I’ve told you that you don’t have to worry about a single thing! You’re way too paranoid!”

“Nami, I warn you! If this little harem you came up with will distract Luffy too much, or if it impacts our journey in any negative way, I’ll end it immediately!” He warned her again. His one open eye glowed dangerously red in the dark night. “I’ll throw each of those girls overboard if I have to!”

“Yeah, yeah! I heard you!” Nami brushed his concerns to the side. She only felt marginally threatened by his words. Under his rough shell, Zoro was a big softie after all and would never leave anyone behind. Still, she knew that she couldn’t go overboard with it, that much was clear!

Picking up a mocha colored leather jacket with frills at its sleeves and putting it on, Nami then asked Franky for the keys for the Kurosai FR-U IV. She didn’t pull the zipper all the way up though, instead letting her bikini top still be clearly visible as she finished her look with a helmet of the same color as the jacket and in the shape of an armadillo. Franky threw the key over to Nami, who caught them with ease before walking over to Sanji.

“Please, be careful!” the blonde cook told her while handing her three plates that he put cling film over to prevent the food from spilling over during Nami’s drive through the jungle. “Who knows what kind of dangers lurk out there at night...”

Zoro sat down on the tree trunk again, "If you're too much of a chicken, maybe letting Usopp handle this delivery wouldn't be the worst idea." He grunted, already reaching for his gourd of sake.

A vein popped up on Sanji's forehead, "What did you just say, you simpleminded mosshead?!" He lit up his cigarette and walked around the grill that stood between him and the one-eyed swordsman. "You know what happens with cocky bastards who think they can mess with a cook, right?! They get their wings trimmed!"

"Is that supposed to be a threat!?" Zoro asked with a raised eyebrow. He put his thumb under the crossguard of his Wado Ichimonji and unsheathed it a bit. "You wanna fight?!"

"Idiots!" Nami groaned to herself in annoyance. She swung one of her legs over the seat of the giant motorcycle and put the key in it. Not in the mood for any of their childish bickering, she then drove a quick circle around the campsite before heading deep into the jungle and towards the Sunny.

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SPLAAASH!!!

Nami only had a split second to get into the Shark Submerge III before all hell broke loose! She hadn't even closed the hatch above her, when Shachi, Penguin, and Shyarly were already diving down into the blue water, closely followed by Jinbe.

"Carrot, watch out!!" Sanji called out. He jumped in front of her and raised his leg, coating it with Armament Haki to block an incoming strike from Wire's trident. The boat ended up rocking back and forth from the impact as Wire pressed on forward. "Y'know, I already anticipated something like this, but right from the beginning...?!" the blonde man grinned, his lower leg grinding against the metal that connected the three prongs of the red weapon.

"Hmph!" Wire's face didn't move one bit as he pushed forward a bit more. "You expect fair play where there's none to be found!" He then suddenly let himself fall back. With Sanji still pressing forward and unable to stop his own momentum, he let the Straw Hat's cook lose balance and delivered a quick kick against his ribs.

"Ngh!" the kick didn't hurt Sanji though, but still managed to send him over the edge of the boat and into the water.

Wire turned his head towards Page One. "You know what to do!" with deadly precision and strength, he then threw his trident at Sanji. Only at the last second was Sanji able to kick the pointy weapon away.

As Wire was about to jump after Sanji, Carrot herself jumped at him, blue electricity sparking around her hands. "Aren't you forgetting someone? **Eleclaw!**"

But before the attack could land, Page One jumped from the Kid Pirates' boat over towards Carrot. Midfly, he transformed into his Human-Beast form and slammed his dinosaur tail into the white Mink's exposed stomach, sending her also flying into the waves. "You can count on me!"

Alongside Marguerite, Wire then quickly gave chase to the others, who already had a pretty good head start. They dove past the submarine with Nami in it and towards where Jinbe was currently fighting against both Shachi and Penguin at once. Three hidden Visual Transponder Snails recorded the ongoing underwater brawl, which then got projected on the sails of the three anchored pirate ships, keeping the spectators up to date with what was going on.

"Y'know, I still don't get why they took a Devil Fruit user with them..." Hakugan mused. The masked helmsman scratched the back of his head in thought. "He's just a liability to them."

Usopp chuckled nervously, for he knew what Page One was capable of. "You have no idea!"

As if he heard them, the purple haired man jumped off the boat. Instead of dropping into the water though he ended up standing on top of it. The eyes of almost every single spectator popped out of their heads as they saw a weird kind of sweat running down his skin in large rivers and covering the water.

"Is that... oil?" Franky asked, to which Usopp replied with a shaking nod.

Remembering his own encounter with the former Tobiroppo back on Onigashima all too well, Usopp already had a pretty good guess at what he had planned next. "That's how this kind of dinosaur hunted in the past." He explained simply.

Sliding on top of the special oil he secreted, Page One quickly spread the film of oil over the entire stretch of water around the boats. "Hehehe! Good luck getting your precious treasure to your boats now!" He boasted with a laugh as he ignited a lighter and threw it on the oil.

FWOOOOOOOSH!!!

Within a second, the entire oil burst into flames, quickly devouring the wooden rowing boats of the Straw Hats and the Heart Pirates, while leaving the metal plated one of the Kid Pirates completely unscathed. The former Beast Pirates officer then turned his fierce gaze at the Thousand Sunny and the Polar Tang. "Time to make sure you're completely out of this game!"

Unaware of what was happening on the water, Nami cheered loudly from inside the submarine as she dived deeper, **"And we're off already, folks! Looks like the Heart Pirates are able to keep up with former Warlord of the Sea, Jinbe, even underwater!"**

“YEAH!!! GO SHACHI!!! GO PENGUIN!!!” the other members of the Heart Pirates cheered for their friends, who somehow managed to drive Jinbe away from one of the highly sought after treasure chests. Both of them had transparent bubbles around their heads, which allowed them to speak and breath effortlessly underwater.

Narrowly avoiding the bright red shining and hot end of Penguin’s Thermo-Staff by ducking and swimming underneath it, Jinbe tried to get a hit on the black haired man, only to get cut off by a quick strike from Shachi. “Tsk! I’d respect your agility in the water if it weren’t so irritating and inconvenient. It’s not often that I find someone who can keep up with me down here!” the blue skinned Fish-Man said with unreserved pride in his voice. “But I have a duty towards my captain, so I can’t allow myself to falter for even a second!”

“Noble!” remarked Penguin. The very end of the Thermo-Staff in his hands began to glow in a freezing cold blue light that quickly turned into a pumpkin sized ball. “Allow me to repay your honor by showing you the full strength of the North Blue! **Negative 100°C Blue Homerun!**”

With a quick swing, Penguin launched the ball of sheer cold straight at Jinbe. **“HRGH!!!”** still distracted by Shachi, Jinbe took the full blast of the attack at his chest, which triggered a small explosion that separated the Heart Pirates from their adversary. Most of Jinbe’s upper body ended up encased in a thick star shaped block of ice that effectively restricted his every movement and prevented him from chasing after Shachi and Penguin right away.

‘Carrot, go and look after Jinbe, I’ll handle these two!’ **Blue Walk!** but before the two Heart Pirates could capitalize on their brief success over Jinbe, Sanji already aimed straight at them. As he jumped through the water, his right foot lit up in bright red flames. **‘Collier Strike!’** Penguin screamed in pain as Sanji hit him directly in the neck. Flames burst out of his body as he was sent flying back fifty feet by the force behind Sanji’s kick! Immediately turning his attention towards Shachi, Sanji kicked himself a bit higher and aimed a roundhouse kick at his chest. **‘Flanchet...’**

“Tsk! You...” Shachi readied his sword. The ocean itself seemed to bend around the blade as he covered it with Armament Haki. **“Suiryū...”**

“Halt!” right as their attacks were about to collide, Shyarly appeared between them with stretched out arms. Seeing her beautiful, almost completely naked body and hearing her angelic voice was enough to make Sanji stop dead in his tracks.

“OoooOOH!! Beautiful lady!!!” Sanji exclaimed loudly, with bubbles rising from his mouth as he ended up swallowing a bunch of water in the same breath, and a beating heart for an eye. Blood gushed out of his nose and turned the water around him red at the sight of her pale boobs so close to her face.

Shachi had a slightly harder time stopping his attack, his katana only coming to a halt a couple centimeters away from Shyarly’s neck. “What’s wrong with you, Madam?! Do you have a death wish or something?!”

'HAH!!? How dare you threaten a lovely lady such as her!?' Sanji thought at his opponent with a vein popping on his forehead.

"We have a problem." Shyarly pointed towards a group of six treasure chests inside the bubbles she could create with her pipe. The bubbles were floating right in front of the Polar Tang, underneath the now bright orange and red lit ocean by the brightly burning waves above. "We won't be able to get anything on board like this!"

"That's gotta be the handiwork of the Kid Pirates!" Shachi surmised.

Coughing loudly after the kick to his neck, Penguin swam up to their level. There was a burnt footprint where Sanji had hit him, but he otherwise seemed fine. "I'll take care of it. Make sure that the others won't catch up to us!"

With a speed that rivaled that of a Fish-Man, Penguin then swam up towards the surface. *'No, you don't!'* Sanji thought as he gave chase after the other pirate. His path was soon cut off though as he ended up jumping face-first into Shyarly's tits. "Uffff!!"

The mermaid's supernatural speed underwater, which was unmatched by any other living creature, allowed her to easily catch up with the blonde Straw Hat. "And where do you think you're going, cook-chan~?" She asked sultrily, licking her lips as she hugged her arms around the much smaller man. "Leaving so soon??! You could break a woman's heart like that, you know!"

"HMMMMPH??" Sanji groaned against Shyarly's tits as she pressed them harder against his face. He didn't even try to fight her embrace though! His morals and lust for the female touch were stronger than his desire to keep fighting!

"Sanji! What the hell are you doing??! You're supposed to get us all their loot, not fool around like some moron!!" Nami complained inside the submarine as she made her way around the other people in the water, her words broadcasted for all the people on the spectator stands to hear. Noticing her faux pas and clear impartial comment, she quickly cleared her throat. **"Ahem! I mean, it sure seems as if things start to heat up here! The Heart Pirates make good use of their underwater advantage, but is that enough for them to claim victory!!?"**

"Oh my! You're looking a bit red here." She pointed out, rubbing her body against him with all the grace and elegance of a dancer. "Am I really leaving you that breathless?" Shyarly teased with a playful giggle that made Sanji's cock grow even bigger inside his speedo. The black haired mermaid could feel his throbbing erection against her stomach. "Ara ara~!! What an eager little boy you are~! Here, let me help you with that!"

"MMH?" Sanji's eye widened as the shark mermaid blew into her pipe, prompting a bubble with a weird gas inside to come out of the other end. The bubble quickly enveloped Sanji's head, similarly to the bubbles around Shachi and Penguin's heads. "What is this? Feels... weird...!"

“Mmmh~! You will find out soon enough!” purred Shyarly. She smiled as his eye got glazed with lust as he inhaled the breathable gas inside. “Just take deep breaths and succumb to this **Dream Fog** for me!”

“Dream... Fog...?” Sanji echoed drunkenly. A silly grin spread across his face as his erection suddenly **RIPPED** through his speedo! “Aaaaahh...!!!”

“There you are~!” Shyarly hungrily licked her lips again at the feeling of his massive meat now rubbing against her stomach. “Just ease your mind, relax, and let me handle everything! Close your eyes and give in to the pleasure!” She whispered hoarsely as she moved downwards, dragging her tits over his shoulders and chest until his dick was firmly nestled between them. “There you go~! You’re doing so well for me, I think you deserve a little treat. You would like that, wouldn’t you?!”

With his breathing now completely even and all thoughts of his actual mission vanishing from his mind, Sanji only nodded. ‘*Damnit! Need... to fight...! But feels...*’ his lecherous grin only got wider as the pale woman began squeezing her big tits around his cock. She knew exactly what she was doing, massaging his entire length without actually moving her tits up and down, her boobs were *that* big! ‘*Feels... GOOD!!*’

“Good job, Madam!” Shachi complimented his teammate. With Sanji’s back towards him and his mind occupied, the orange haired man readied his sword once again. “**Suiryū...**” the water around his katana bent to his will again as he covered it with Armament Haki. He then perked up and, instead of delivering a quick strike on Sanji’s back, turned around. “**Closed Sound Gate!**”

Swinging his sword around in a circular motion, the ocean followed the direction of the blade and created a shield made out of water for him. A shockwave echoed through the water as Shachi’s shield blocked Wire’s incoming attack. “Tsk!” the tired looking man clicked with his tongue after his sneak attack didn’t work. Not wanting to let his opponent try any counter moves, Wire pulled his trident back, only to deliver a flurry of thrusts that created the illusion of hundreds of tridents at once jabbing at Shachi. ‘*Dirty Diabolo!*’

“Hngh?!” at first, Shachi was caught off-guard by the continuous attack. He had to use his sword to try to block and intercept the countless thrusts. Over time however, he grew used to the pattern, and started to dodge the gradually slowing attacks. It was obvious that Wire wasn’t used to fighting underwater. At least not like Shachi was! “What’s the matter? Giving up already? But we just started. **Suiryū - Strict Flower Fall!**”

Capitalizing on his advantage, Shachi had gotten closer and closer towards Wire. Then, with a quick downward slash, he sent the much taller man crashing down towards the ocean floor. With his special sword technique, he had created an entire waterfall out of the ocean’s currents and forced Wire down with it! Muddy smoke rose up as Wire crashed through a boulder and created a flower-shaped crater upon crashing onto the groundground!

Before Shachi could focus back on his original target again however, something hit him straight in the chest. “**Sea Drum!**” shouted Jinbe after having broken free from his icy predicament. The shockwaves created by his advanced Fish-Man Karate techniques

vibrated through everyone's body. The huge blue skinned Fish-Man swam close to the sea floor in search for any treasure chests. "Sanji, get a hold of yourself! We're not finished here yet!"

Behind Jinbe, Marguerite swung her green snake like a whip at Carrot as the two women fought over two other treasure chests. Despite having grown up and learned to fight in the deep jungles of Amazon Lily, Marguerite was surprisingly swift underwater as well, in no small thanks due to her snake being adept at moving both on land and in any kind of aquatic terrain with ease. Whenever it seemed as if Carrot was getting too far away and out of range, Marguerite simply held on to Naga's tail and let her carry her with her.

It almost looked like a dance as the two blonde's fought for supremacy over two treasure chests, with Carrot using minor electrical shocks whenever she swatted Naga's face away. The fact that they were in the ocean, and not in a smaller body of water like a lake, allowed her to make better use of her Electro abilities without endangering herself or her teammates. She managed to successfully grab the snake by the head after narrowly avoiding getting bitten by it.

Yanking on the snake with all her might, Carrot pulled Marguerite through the water, delivering a quick and powerful strike into the other blonde's stomach with her knee. "UGGH!!" Marguerite gasped in pain as a small bolt of electricity coursed through her body and shot out of her back again!

In an attempt to seize the opportunity, Carrot wanted to let go of the snake to go after the treasure chests, only for the snake to quickly coil around her arm. With surprising strength, considering the snake's rather small body, it forced Carrot's hands behind her back and tied them together there.

Marguerite took a quick look at her snake's efforts and nodded. *'Good job, Naga. Keep her occupied while I get those chests.'* oxygen was running thin, but she didn't dare to get back up empty handed!

As Carrot struggled against her restraints, Marguerite dove down and picked up one of the two chests. **"The Kid Pirates team continues with gathering more treasure chests."** Nami commented energetically, although there was a clear hint of aggravation in her voice as well. **"We have a tie between the Kid and the Heart Pirates, due to Page One managing to fish out three of the chests that Madam Shyarly had left up there before Penguin's intervention. If the Straw Hats don't get off of their asses, it seems as though they might lose this... and who knows what punishment they will receive from their captain if they end up disappointing him!"**

The dangerously low voice in the navigator's voice prompted Jinbe and Carrot to fight even harder. With some minor usage of Electro, Carrot was able to stun the binding snake long enough to slip out of her bondage in order to look for more treasure chests. Jinbe, having found one already, lifted it on his shoulder and grabbed the water tight. "Ocean Current Shoulder Throw!"