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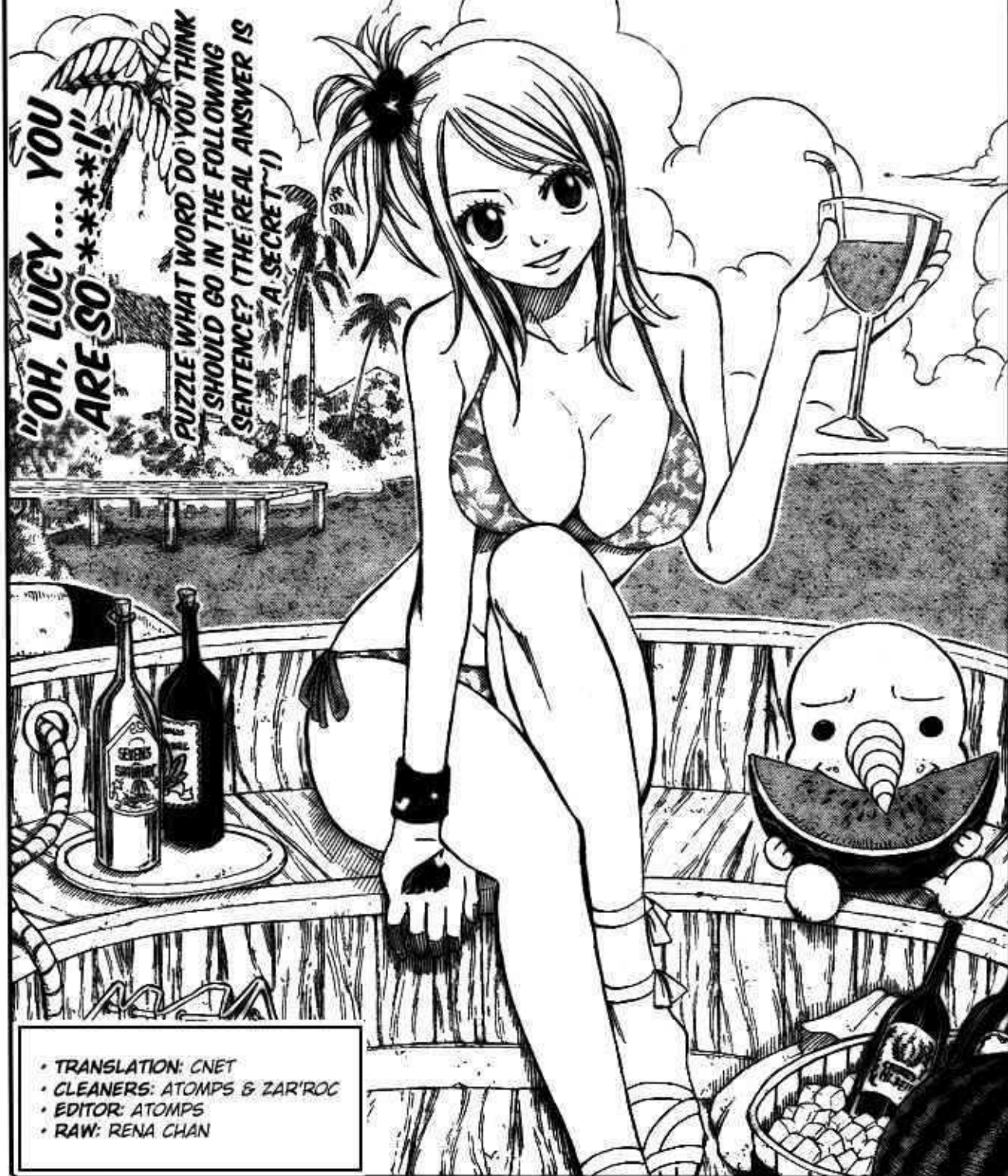
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FAIRY TAIL

フェアリーテイル



HIRO MASHIMA

CHAPTER 101: THE RED LAND IN A FRENZY



NATSU!! LUCY'S WEARING A MAID OUTFIT AND SHE'S SINGING AND DANCING FOR EVERYONE!

...I'D JUST BE PISSED OFF IF THAT MANAGED TO WAKE HIM UP...

YEAH, SERIOUSLY... HE HAS BEEN SLEEPING FOR THREE DAYS STRAIGHT NOW...

...IS THIS GUY REALLY OKAY?

WITH THE FIGHTING OVER, IT'S TIME FOR A LITTLE R&R FOR THE FAIRIES! LET'S ALL HOPE THAT THIS PEACE CAN GO ON FOREVER, NOT JUST FOR A BRIEF INSTANT!!



NOT THAT IT COULD HAVE BEEN HELPED UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES, BUT THAT MUST HAVE BEEN HIS EQUIVALENT OF EATING POISON.

OH, JUST LET HIM REST A LITTLE LONGER.



WHOO~

NO GRINNING IN YOUR SLEEP!!!



DON'T YOU EVER DO A THING LIKE THAT AGAIN!!!

HO-NESTLY ...

...ARE YOU REALLY ONE TO TALK...?



OH YEAH, HE ATE THE AETHERION, RIGHT? THIS GUY GETS MORE AND MORE LIKE A MONSTER EVERY DAY...



OH, C'MON... HOW MANY TIMES HAVE YOU GOTTA SAY THAT?

I REALLY... JUST DON'T KNOW WHAT I CAN SAY...

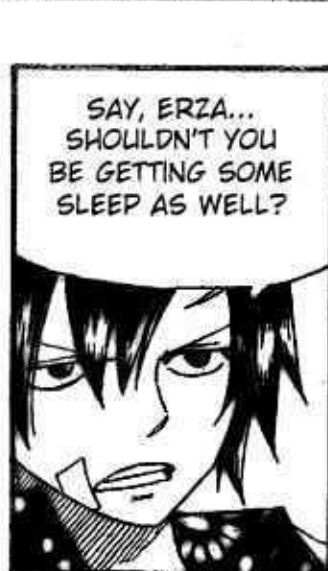
I CAUSED SO MUCH TROUBLE TO ALL OF YOU IN THIS INCIDENT...



LLUVIA?
OH, SHE'S
HEADED
BACK
ALREADY.

COME TO THINK
OF IT... WHAT
HAPPENED TO
THAT ELEMENT
FOUR GIRL?

SHE SAID SHE
WANTED TO
JOIN FAIRY
TAIL AS SOON
AS POSSIBLE,
SO SHE
RAN OFF TO
FIND THE
OL' MASTER.



SAY, ERZA...
SHOULDN'T YOU
BE GETTING SOME
SLEEP AS WELL?



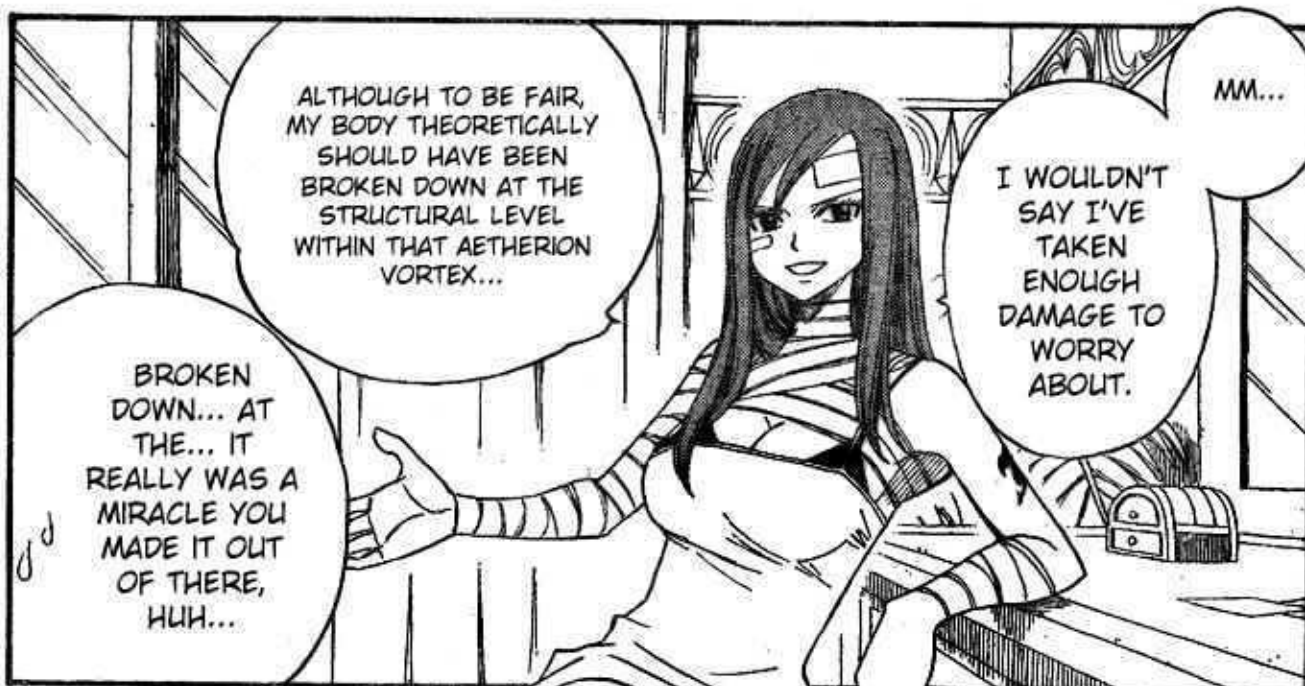
AYE?

...WAIT,
WHAT
ARE YOU
DOING?!!!

YEAH, THAT
GIRL SURE
HAS A LOT
OF GET-
UP-AND-GO
IN HER...



I SEE... I HEAR
SHE'S HELPED US
OUT A LOT, SO I
WOULD HAVE LIKED
TO BE THERE TO
BACK HER UP, BUT...



ALTHOUGH TO BE FAIR,
MY BODY THEORETICALLY
SHOULD HAVE BEEN
BROKEN DOWN AT THE
STRUCTURAL LEVEL
WITHIN THAT AETHERION
VORTEX...

MM...

I WOULDN'T
SAY I'VE
TAKEN
ENOUGH
DAMAGE TO
WORRY
ABOUT.

BROKEN
DOWN... AT
THE... IT
REALLY WAS A
MIRACLE YOU
MADE IT OUT
OF THERE,
HUH...

WELL, I GUESS
THAT'S JUST LIKE
YOU, THOUGH, ERZA.
NOT LIKE THAT DUM-
BASS WHO GOES
AROUND EATING
POISON AND DROPPING
HALF-DEAD.



BUT RIGHT
NOW... I'M
JUST HAPPY TO
BE ALIVE...

TO TELL THE
TRUTH... I STILL
DON'T REALLY
UNDERSTAND
WHAT
HAPPENED IN
THERE.



I SAID
"MAN, YOU
SURE HAVE
A HEALTHY
DIET!",
DUMMY~!



HE
WOKE
UP~!!!



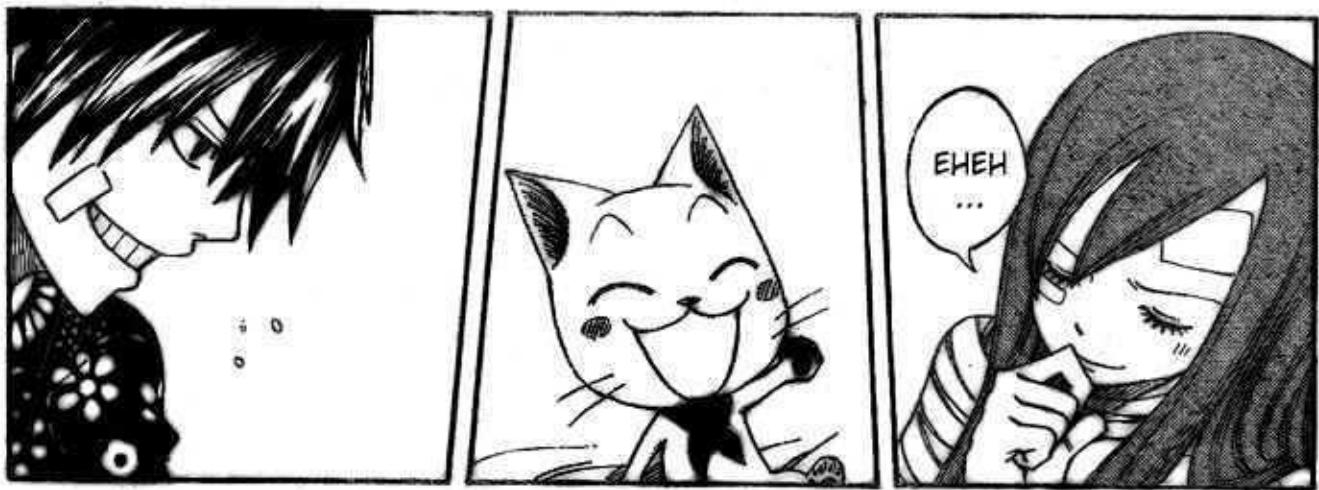
WHAT
DID
YOU
JUST
SAY?!!!
GRAAAAY
!!!

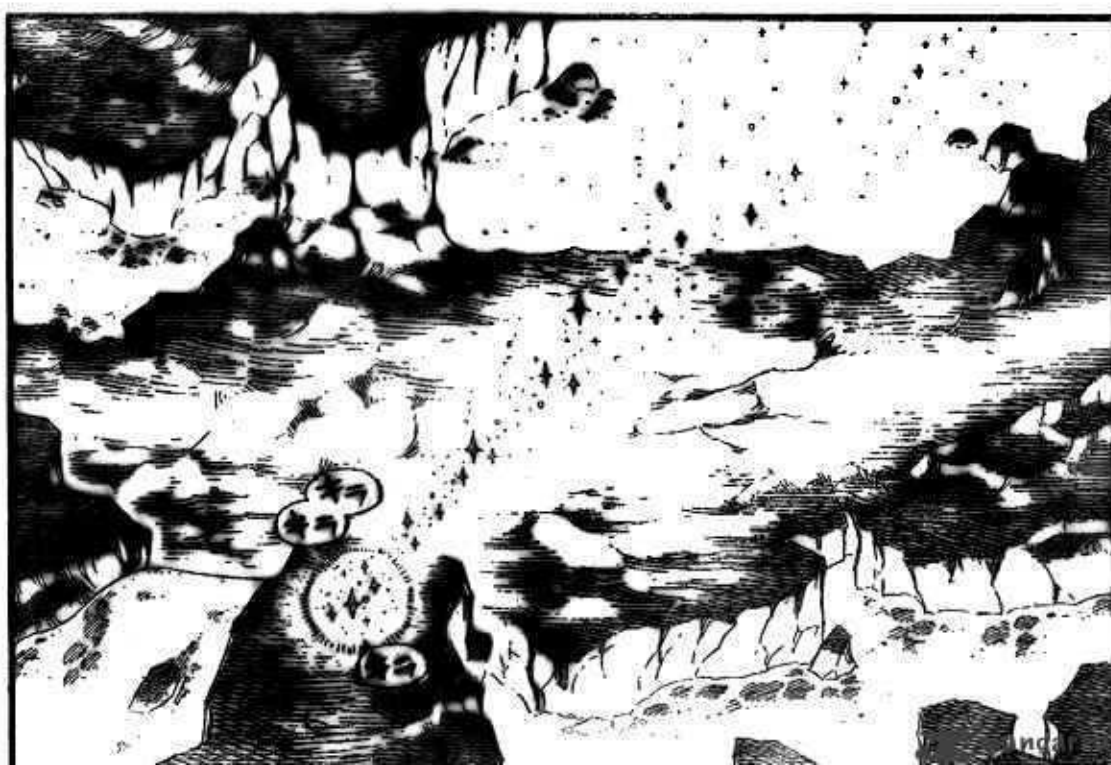
NNN-
NNGH
HHHH
HHHH
HHHH
HHHH
....!!!

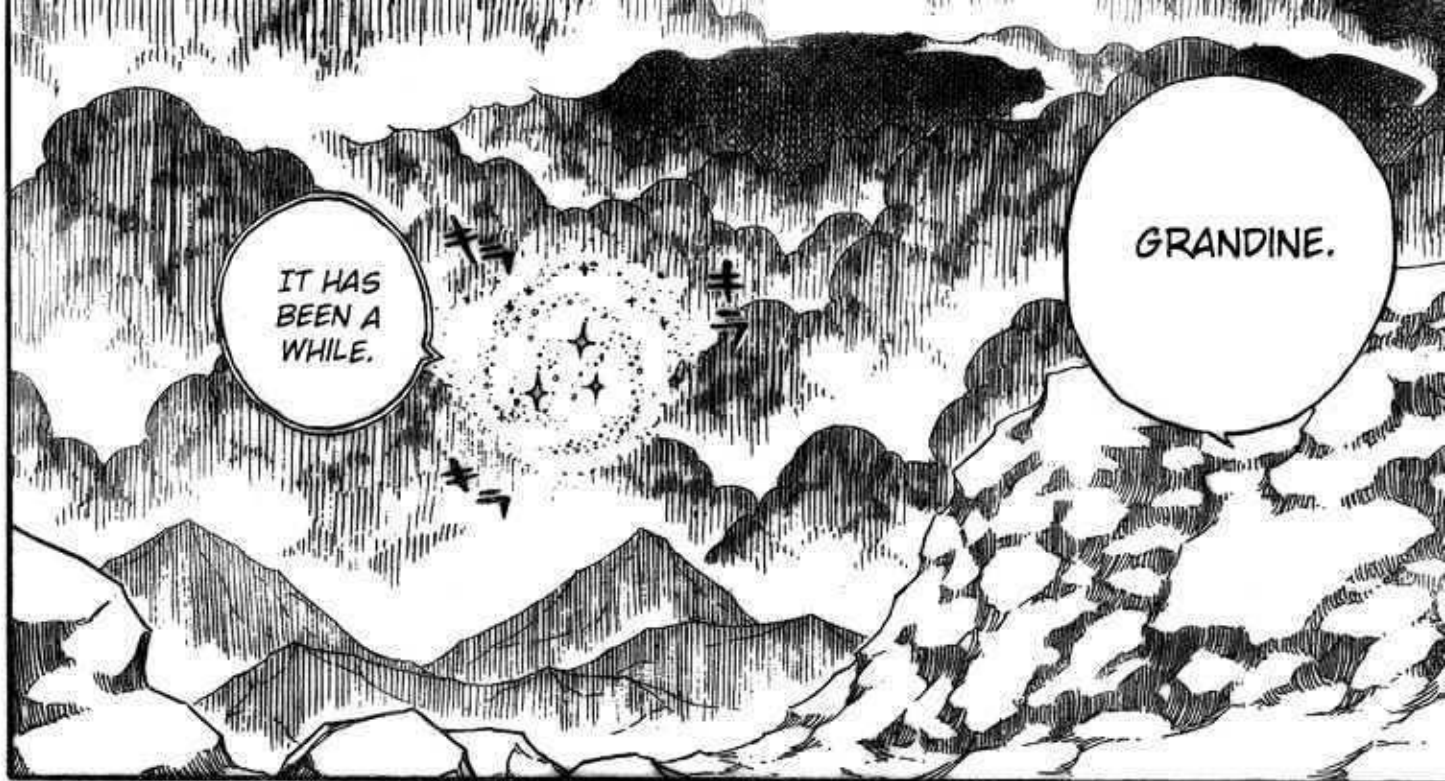


SO ARE YOU THE
EATER OR THE
EATEN, HUH?
MAKE YOUR MIND
UP, YOU FOOD-
CYCLE-DUMBASS!

COME TO
THINK OF IT,
YOU ENDED UP
AS FOOD FOR
THAT FUKU-
ROU PUNK,
TOO,
DIDN'T'CHA!







IT HAS
BEEN A
WHILE.

GRANDINE.



LEAVE THIS
PLACE IM-
MEDIATELY,
GRANDINE.

BUT FOR YOU
TO BE HERE...
I HAVE FOR-
BIDDEN ALL
INTERFEREN-
CE.

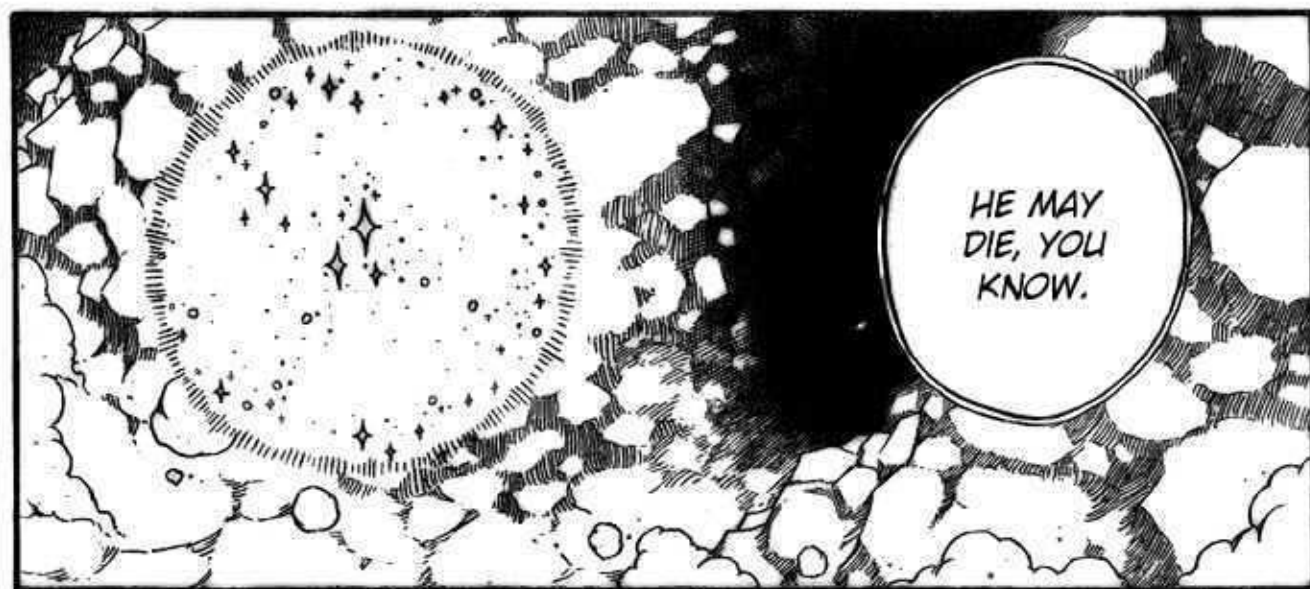


THAT
CHILD... HE
TRULY DOES
TAKE
EVERYTHING
TO EXCESS.




WELL, I
JUST HA-
PPENED TO
SENSE YOU
NEARBY.

TN: JUST IN CASE BY SOME MINISCULE CHANCE THEY'RE NOT TALKING ABOUT NATSU, I SHOULD PROBABLY MENTION THAT NO GENDER HAS ACTUALLY BEEN GIVEN TO THE "CHILD" THEY'RE TALKING ABOUT ~ ~ I SHOULD PROBABLY ALSO MENTION THAT GRANDINE SOUNDS LIKE A WOMAN.






**DO YOU
MEAN TO
ANGER
THE ONE
AND
ONLY
IGNEEL?
!!!!**



ALL THAT IS
LEFT FOR US IS
TO BELIEVE IN
THE HUMANS'
OWN POWER...



YOU'RE RIGHT,
OF COURSE...
WORRY AS WE
MIGHT, THERE
IS NOTHING
THAT WE
CAN DO.

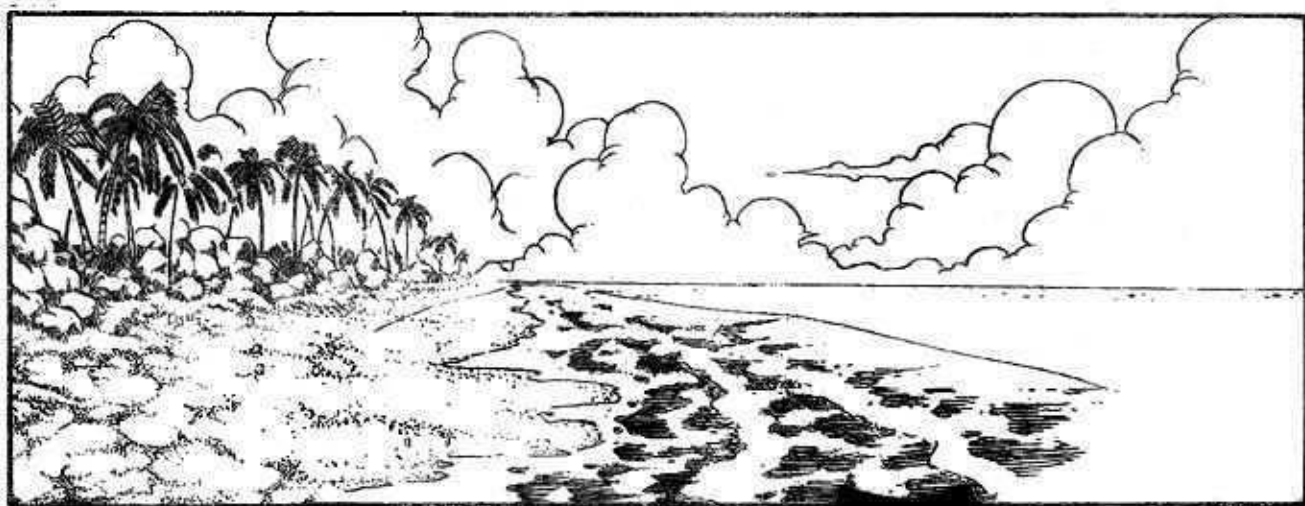


AND
ZEREF
.....

WELL, LET
US LEAVE
THAT FOR
THE
MOMENT.

IGNEEL.

I LOOK
FORWARD TO
THE DAY WE
MEET AT THE
DRAGON KING
FEAST.



I SHOULD
APOLOGISE
TO YOU.

OH, NO... I'M
THE ONE WHO
DIDN'T MANAGE
TO DO AN-
YTHING FOR
EIGHT WHOLE
YEARS...



I'M
SORRY,
ER-
CHAN...

UH... SO,
YEAH... I'M
REAL
SORRY,
ERZA.



IF I HAD ONLY
MANAGED TO
DO SOMETHING
SOONER, THEN
SHIMON...


I CAN'T
JUST FALL
BACK ON
EXCUSES
LIKE THAT
AT THIS
POINT...



YEAH, BUT
YOU WERE
BEING
THREATENED
BY GÉRARD...

YOU HAD TO
STAY AWAY
FROM US, TO
PROTECT US
FROM HIM!





AND THE STEP
WE TAKE
TODAY WILL BE
THE STEP THAT
TAKES US ON
TO TOMO-
RROW.

WE MUST
TURN THE
PAST INTO
THE FUTURE
AND WALK
ONWARDS.



WHAT ARE
WE ALL
GOING TO DO
FROM NOW
ON...?

"THE
STEP
WE
TAKE
TODAY"
...



I'M SURE
EVERYONE
WILL WELCO-
ME YOU WITH
OPEN ARMS.

IF YOU HAVE
NOWHERE TO
GO, YOU CAN
ALL JUST COME
TO FAIRY TAIL.

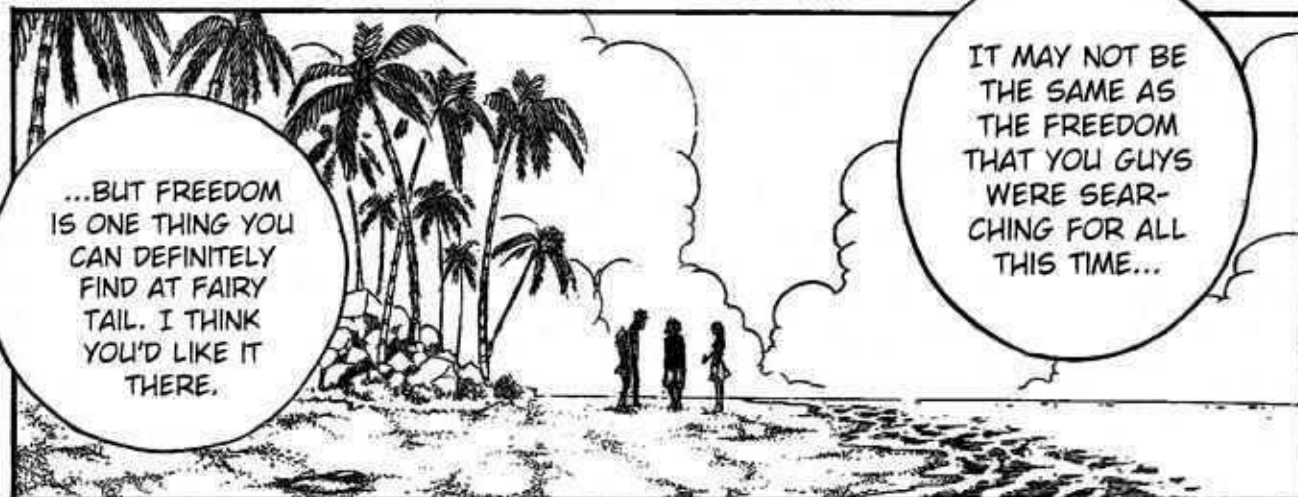


MYAA?!

FAIRY
TAIL?!!

US, GO
THERE
?!!

!!



...BUT FREEDOM IS ONE THING YOU CAN DEFINITELY FIND AT FAIRY TAIL. I THINK YOU'D LIKE IT THERE.

IT MAY NOT BE THE SAME AS THE FREEDOM THAT YOU GUYS WERE SEARCHING FOR ALL THIS TIME...



BESIDES, I'D LOVE TO BE ABLE TO STAY WITH YOU GUYS FOREVER.



IT'S THE MOST UPBEAT GUILD IN THE WORLD~!!

YOU KNOW, SALAMANDER WAS SAYING EXACTLY THE SAME THING!!!



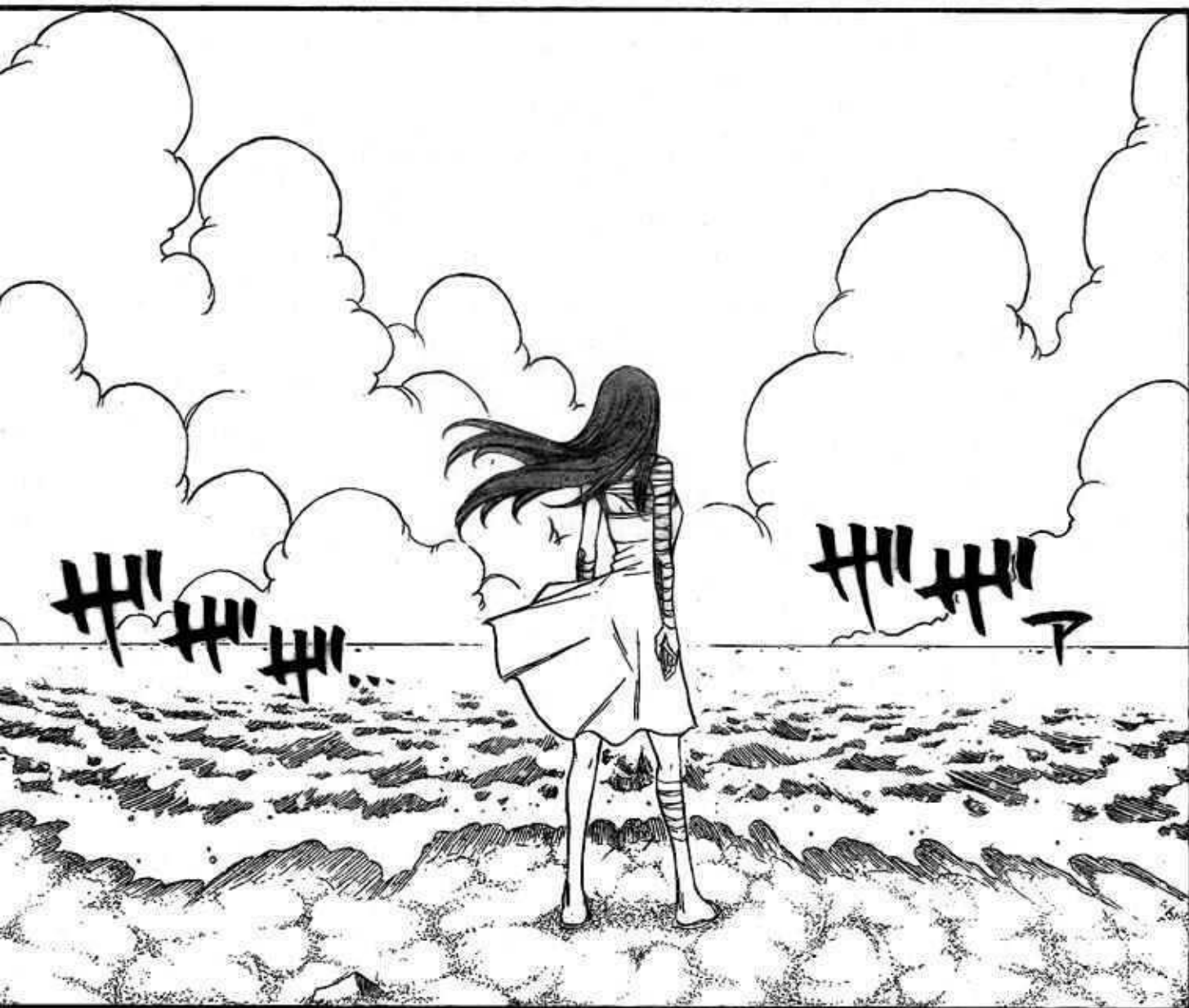
YOU'VE BECOME STRONG, ERZA...

I WANT TO BE FRIENDS WITH HAPPY-CHAN~!

YOU CAN INTRODUCE ME AS THE WORLD'S DANDIEST MAN.

I'VE GOT TO INTRODUCE ALL OF YOU PROPERLY TO NATSU.

NOW, THEN... LET'S HEAD BACK.



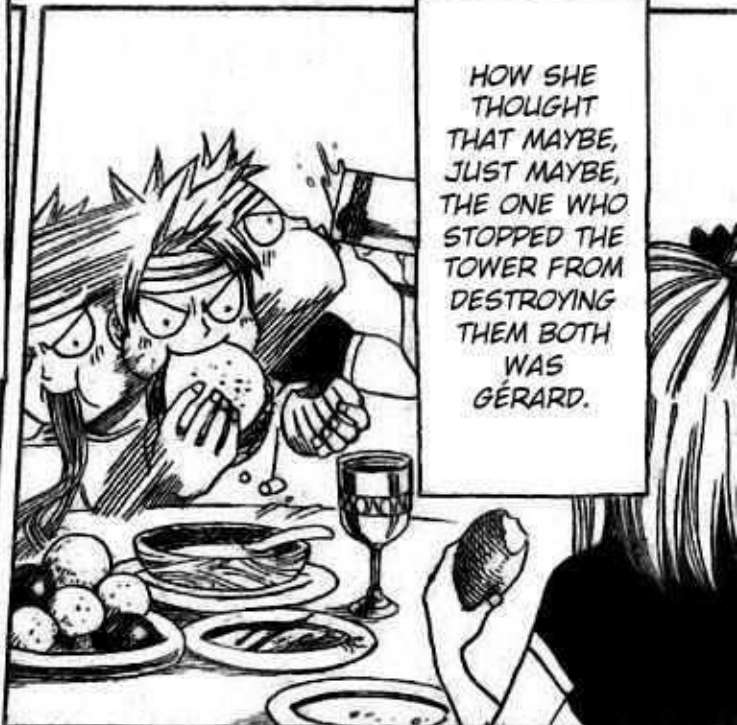


I WAS THE ONLY ONE ERZA QUIETLY TOLD ABOUT WHAT WENT THROUGH HER MIND AT THAT MOMENT.

AND SO HE FUSED WITH THE AETHERION IN ERZA'S PLACE, AND GUIDED THE MAGIC UP INTO THE SKY.

I'M SURE AT THAT MOMENT, GÉRARD WAS FREED FROM THE CONTROL OF ZEREF'S GHOST, AND RETURNED TO HIS OLD, KIND SELF.

HOW SHE THOUGHT THAT MAYBE, JUST MAYBE, THE ONE WHO STOPPED THE TOWER FROM DESTROYING THEM BOTH WAS GÉRARD.



IF I THINK OF IT LIKE THAT, EVERYTHING DOES SEEM TO FIT TOGETHER PRETTY NICELY.

AFTER ALL, HOW COULD NATSU HAVE FOUND ERZA AND BROUGHT HER BACK IF SHE'D BEEN BROKEN DOWN AT A STRUCTURAL LEVEL? AFTER ALL, HOW COULD NATSU HAVE FOUND ERZA AND BROUGHT HER BACK IF SHE'D BEEN BROKEN DOWN AT A STRUCTURAL LEVEL?

AND THAT'S WHY ERZA'S BODY WAS NEVER BROKEN DOWN IN THE FIRST PLACE.

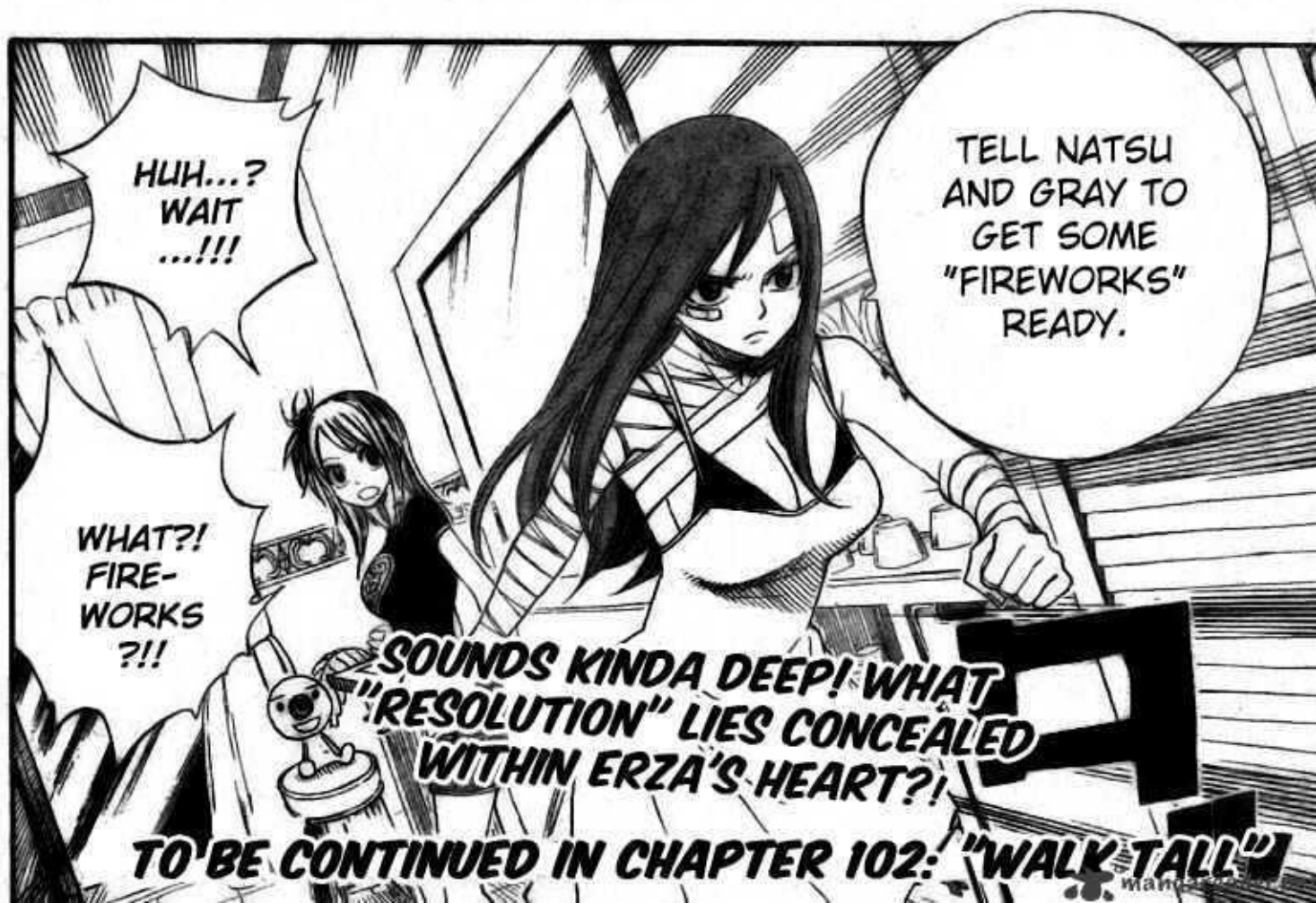


HE WAS
JUST ANO-
THER VICTIM
OF ZEREF'S
GHOST,
AFTER ALL.

...I KIND
OF FEEL
SORRY
FOR
HIM.

BUT IF GÉRARD
REALLY DID
TURN BACK TO
HIS OLD SELF
RIGHT THERE,
AT THE END...





**SOUNDS KINDA DEEP! WHAT
"RESOLUTION" LIES CONCEALED
WITHIN ERZA'S HEART?!**

TO BE CONTINUED IN CHAPTER 102: "WALK TALL"