

● DRAGON BALLS ●

Chapter 1: Hunt for the Dragon Balls (Babunia Saga)

Kazakhstan "Cruel Nature"

5th Arc

As darkness falls, Jacob and Pola begin to start feeling the tiredness and exhaustion creeping up on them. Pola suggests to Jacob that they should land and take a quick rest, considering how important it is that they stay focused during their mission. However, Jacob soon admits that he does not know how to actually accomplish this, and begins to grow more concerned. Jacob attempts to try and control the flying bathtub in this dire situation, but quickly finds himself struggling. His tail begins to move in multiple directions, causing annoyance to Pola. Pola, in an attempt to rectify the situation, grabs Jacob's tail, causing the paralysis to him, but as a consequence, they eventually lose control and end up crashing onto the ground below.

"What the fuck, dude?" - Pola shouted.

"Why did you grab my tail?" - Jacob shouted too.

"I wouldn't have to do that if you did not shove it into my face." - Pola shouted again.

"I didn't have control over it. I was too busy trying to control the bathtub." - Jacob answered it

Mid-way through their conversation, their attention is suddenly drawn to the sounds and howling of animals from nearby. Pola attempts to establish contact and communication with the animals, while Jacob imitates their sounds almost perfectly. From the shadows, a figure emerges, which turns out to be nobody other than Frederick Furry, who played "Freddy Fazbear" in a movie "Five Scary Nights".

"Hur, hur, hur hur, hur." - Frederick said calmly.

"Jacob let's go, this asshole definitely skipped his latest shrink appointment" - Pola said trying to persuade Jacob to flee from the bear man.

Pola's survival instincts kick in and the Witcher immediately starts fleeing away. Jacob, on the other hand, doesn't seem to care about the situation, and approaches Frederick with a bright smile.

"Good evening, Mr. Bear, what brings you here?" - Jacob asks politely.

"I heard a loud crash in my vicinity and came to check it out, hur. Is everything alright here, hur?" - Frederick asked Jacob.

"Well, we're mainly hungry, hehe." - Jacob smirks.

"As for food, I've eaten everything I had, but I can offer you shelter for the night, hur." - Frederick said and led our duo towards his little house.

Along the way, Pola was on high alert, making sure to keep an eye on Jacob's safety. Along the way, the bear kept warning Jacob that they should keep it down and remain silent, as there were numerous dangerous and deadly creatures lurking in the forest around them. The bear pointed to numerous traps and unusual entities that Mother Nature had left in the vicinity in order to make his point clearer.

Frederick continues to drone on and on about the wilderness and his film career, paying minimal attention to Jacob, while Pola follows the bear and the young monkey boy and encounters a variety of different traps left behind by the forest at night.

Frederick points to the lake nearby, saying it's the best spot for fish and animals in the area. Jacob's eyes light up at the chance for food, and he quickly scampers off towards the lake, without either of the two noticing where he has gone. Frederick continues his statements about the lake, saying that although it provides excellent fishing and hunting conditions, the fish there can be highly dangerous during the night.

The sound of the mysterious and powerful howl rings through the air, causing Frederick to quickly turn around and realize that Jacob had strayed away from him. This causes him to panic and immediately run back to his house, while Pola also hears the howl and notices that the bear has made a quick escape, without Jacob in sight. Pola, seeing this as sufficient evidence that the bear had bad intentions, runs after him, in order to find out where he is going, and most likely to see what he has done to Jacob.

Frederick successfully reaches his residence and is about to shut the door, when Pola manages to catch him in time, grabbing him by the wall and asking him what he had done to Jacob. The bear tries to explain himself, claiming that he didn't do anything and that they all must keep it down and be quiet, otherwise something terrible will happen to them.

"At night, not only nature changes, but also some animals, hur. One of them is a specific type of wolf that doesn't differ from ordinary wolves during the day, but at night, they transform into aggressive werewolves, hur. It was one of them who killed my wife, Frenni, hur." - Frederick said.

"I don't know where Jacob is, but as long as he doesn't draw attention to himself, he should be okay, hur." - Frederick added.

Pola's rage intensifies at Jacob for daring to go alone, and despite her desire to lend him aid, she hesitates to do so due to the risk that it could lead to her own demise. She can only hope that the words of Frederick are true, and that Jacob will be safe.

After running to the lake, Jacob takes advantage of the calm atmosphere and quiet setting to start fishing. He uses his monkey tail as a fishing rod, and casts it into the water. His tail's swirling movements are very successful in attracting fish, and he soon manages to catch one. Jacob, pleased with himself for his successful fishing venture, is happily unaware of the mysterious werewolves hidden amongst the trees, waiting for the perfect moment to ambush him.

The young monkey boy puts his tail back into the water as a fishing rod, which is a signal for the werewolves to attack him, as they slowly creep towards him, and prepare to launch themselves at him unexpectedly. To their surprise, in the middle of this, something powerful suddenly grabs a hold of Jacob's tail from out of the water, and hoists the entire length of it upwards. To Jacob and werewolves surprise, the object that grabbed his tail was an enormous fish, much larger than even Frederick's own house. The werewolves are bewildered by the whole situation, while Jacob is ecstatic.

"Aww, yeeeah!" - Jacob screams with excitement and leaps with tremendous force onto the fish above him.

Jacob, upon the impact, jumps above the oversized fish, not allowing this advantage to go to waste, he uses this momentum to deliver a powerful kick, which he delivers straight down on the fish. His kick causes the big fish to plummet down to the ground with an incredible force. Witnessing this spectacle, the confused and terrified werewolves cannot believe the immense power presented to them by the young monkey boy and attempt to take their leave, even though he remained unaware of their presence altogether.

Overjoyed with his successful catch, and suffering from hunger, Jacob grabs the regular fish with him and begins dragging the massive fish behind him in the direction of where he assumes Frederick and Pola might be. After traveling for a decent distance, he eventually manages to arrive at Frederick's house, as he drags his large catch alongside him.

Pola exits the house swiftly, with the intent to protect both herself and Frederick from the supposed werewolves that he had mentioned previously. Upon seeing the massive fish that Jacob is pulling, she is taken aback. Her expectation of werewolves was replaced with a sense of confusion and surprise as she watched the young monkey boy pull a colossal fish right in front of her.

"Where the fuck were you?" - Pola shouted to Jacob.

"What? We were hungry, so I caught us something to eat. I've got this huge one, and under my arm, I've got a regular one too." - Jacob replied to Pola, showing his caught food.

"You little- ehh, anyway, this big fish will be enough for both of us." - Pola said, pointing out that they wouldn't need that normal-sized fish.

Frederick is surprised that Pola didn't think about the fact that he might be hungry too, but he's too scared to even speak up.

"Seriously? Well, alright." - Jacob takes the regular fish in both of his hands, says to it - "Bye-bye, little fish." - and throws the long-dead fish back into the lake very far. Pola and Frederick stumble comically.

Both Pola and Jacob prepare a campfire and meals, as they prepare to cook and enjoy the fish that he had caught. Frederick, meanwhile, is still keeping a low profile within his house, still shaken by the whole werewolf scenario. Pola feels uneasy about lighting it in the middle of the night, but the fact that Jacob returned whole and healthy might suggest that there are no werewolves around.

Both Jacob and Pola sit by the campfire, patiently waiting for the large fish that he had dragged to cook.

"How did you catch those fish without using a fishing rod?" - Pola asked.

"I used my tail instead of a fishing rod, because it works practically the same way." - Jacob replied, although his answer made Pola slightly disgusted with the fish.

"It took me a while to figure it out, but through trial and error, I managed to make it work." - Jacob added.

After a while, the fish is finally ready to eat and both of them start eating and continue their conversation.

"Pola, what are your plans once we collect all the dragon balls?" - Jacob asked.

"I don't know, maybe I'll do something else than just chasing after a kid. Or perhaps I'll finally delve into hunting the way it's meant to be in my profession." - Pola responded, also asking Jacob the same question.

"Hmm, I was thinking that once we gather most of them, we would probably run into Daniel sooner and reclaim the ball with two stars. But when do we have all of them?" - Jacob responds, genuinely thoughtful in his answer. - "Hmm, honestly, I'm not sure. I suppose we'll just leave them. Hehe." - Jacob continues with a smirk.

Pola is amused by Jacob's silliness, but they finally finish their meal. Pola and Jacob become sated from enjoying the delicious cooked fish, and having exhausted themselves from conversation, they decide to lay down for some much-needed rest inside of Frederick's house.

At the same time, Daniel is aboard a ship known as "The Black Pearl", as he travels through the Tyrrhenian Sea, on a journey that leads him from Italy towards Africa. The sky is a serene and clear one, with the sun setting slowly in the distance. According to his night-weather forecast, Daniel's internal system is projecting an impending tranquil voyage ahead, with calm waters and favorable conditions for them to enjoy, without any problems or setbacks whatsoever. Using his robotic arms, he aids the Captain Barbossa's crew in setting the sails and manning the ship, effectively earning him a spot amongst the group of men aboard the ship. The entire crew is then summoned for a feast on the ship, however, the only individual staying behind is Daniel, who has decided to stay out on the deck, while the rest of the crew boards the ship and engages in the gathering. Daniel gazes ahead with determination and focus while the rest of the crew eats their meal below deck.

The first individual to make their exit is the captain of the ship, Captain Barbossa. He then makes his way towards Daniel, and stands by his side, as captain gazes up at the night sky, while others are busy taking care of after dinner chores.

"Apple?" - Captain suddenly asks Daniel.

Daniel gazes at the apple within Barbossa's hand, and then back at the captain himself, while still maintaining his stoic facial expression. The captain questions himself at the unexpected no-response and walks towards the stern of the ship, muttering to himself - "Aye, weird one." The captain leaves, and Daniel continues to stare ahead.

After a few hours of rest, both Jacob and Pola awaken to find that the house is empty without Frederick residing in it. While Jacob believes that he probably left his home to obtain some fresh air from the outside, Pola expresses a bit of confusion over the situation, and thus proceeds to check to see if any items have gone missing, including the one dragon ball. After examining the circumstances, nothing appears to be missing, but Pola still remains cautious and vigilant.

As the sun rises over the horizon, the surroundings become illuminated and vivid, displaying vibrant colors that are quite appealing and inviting, especially when compared to the bleak and terrifying nature of the place at night. After taking a moment to freshen up and revitalize themselves, both Jacob and Pola then come into contact with a newly-arrived Frederick once more, who makes his appearance with a portion of food, despite the fact that they had already feasted on the large fish that Jacob had caught the night before. While Jacob enjoyed his portion of the meal, Pola proceeded to consume it cautiously, while keeping her distrust towards the bear. Persuaded by Jacob, they decided to take some food

with them for the journey. Once all the preparations were done, Jacob then bid his farewell to Frederick with gratitude, and with Pola they headed towards the abandoned bathtub.

Jacob, during their voyage back to the bathtub, immersed himself in the sight of the surrounding daytime nature, while Pola felt embarrassed that the trail leading them to Frederick's home was so straightforward, yet she struggled with various traps during the night. Upon arriving at the bathtub, both Pola and Jacob were surprised to see the clear indication of a path that had been created by the bathtub as it had landed, while trampling the grass beneath it. Together, Jacob and Pola pulled out the bathtub and placed it in the perfect spot for takeoff.

Jacob and Pola both get into the bathtub, with the expectation in their mind that they will shortly resume their adventure as usual. However, upon attempting to take off in the bathtub, the process seems to unexpectedly stall, as nothing happens, to their surprise. Pola reveals her suspicion about the situation while Jacob tries to coerce the bathtub into becoming airborne once again. They even attempt to communicate with the voice of divinity, hoping for any guidance on the matter, but regardless, the voice nor the bathtub does respond. While Pola considers seeking out another mode of transportation, due to the fact that the current form doesn't seem to be functioning properly, Jacob goes ahead and lightly touches the bathtub, in hopes of finding a solution. As Jacob touches a slightly different part of the bathtub, the plug shifts, and a television emerges from it. Unfortunately for Pola, the plug was situated right below her rear end, which results in the television emerging from beneath her own hindquarters, forcing Pola to be in an embarrassing position as a result of this unforeseen sequence of events. As the television launches Pola slightly upwards, which causes her to land on the grass, Jacob expresses his confusion and curiosity surrounding the strange black box, asking her to clarify what exactly it was.

Irritated, Pola kicks the bathtub and rubs her rear end before explaining to Jakob that the black box is a television and how it works. After receiving a thorough explanation regarding the concept, and basic functionality of the television, the two then proceed to attempt to power it on, utilizing the rear panel to do so, despite not having an actual remote for it. Although the reception is rather poor, a cooking show called "Cooking with Balls" is displayed, the title of which manages to catch Pola's attention, as she recalls the previous mention of balls from the divine voice. This prompts her to consider that the television might also be connected to that in some capacity as well. The host's name is written, but due to interference and other video issues, it's hard to read. Afterward, an attempt is made to

modify the screen inputs in order to potentially find something more viewable, however, the interference and other video issues continue to prevent them from doing so.

Upon Pola's successful alteration of the screen inputs, only a single one displays something worthwhile. The DISC-1 input shows a menu where they are able to view a movie, and Pola decides to begin playing the film. Afterwards, the movie screen displays a text that reads "The Bathtub Control Guide, created By Leon Da Vice", which both of them can read without any problem. While the film itself contains a number of segments that revolve around topics irrelevant to our pairing, it also does possess a section that contains information pertaining to the bathtub's capabilities and mechanics. Upon reaching that specific portion of the film, the purpose of the bathtub is discussed, with the main objective of it being a silly transport for divine beings.

Although in the case of such a being designating it to someone else, they would receive the capacity to manipulate the bathtub as well. Pola is able to establish a correlation between "divine designer" and the voice of divinity that they had heard during the previous encounter in Russia, which had also made a mention of "balls". Upon arriving at that realization, she then reasons that given that Jacob was present inside of the tub during the incident with the voice, it is probable that he acquired the ability to manipulate the bathtub as a result of that.

Video provides further details regarding the purpose and characteristics of the bathtub, Pola and Jacob are both able to grasp its functions, methods of control, and magical potential. Upon examination of these aspects, the revelation arises that the secret to successfully manipulating the bathtub, lies within the individual's mind and the purity or foolish intentions that they possess. In addition to this, the bathtub should never be used for evil purposes, which is why Jacob is the perfect candidate for it.

Taking full consideration of the gathered information, Jacob and Pola once again attempt to activate the sacred bathtub, with the young monkey boy getting inside of it and exerting a bit of mental focus on attempting to make it work. While the bathtub initially exhibits a slow response rate, it does seem to slowly respond to the attempts, which is a promising indicator. Eventually, after a period of time has elapsed, Jacob is finally able to exert some control over the bathtub, albeit, with some difficulty. This is, nevertheless, considered to be a decent indicator for our duo, and therefore, they can now set out on their journey.

While Jacob manages to attain more proficiency with the bathtub and its various controls, Pola retrieves the most vital items that they possess, and then gets onboard, as the two of them initiate their flight, continuing their

expedition towards the second dragon ball located at the north-east. During the flight, although the young monkey boy is still experiencing some difficulties with operating the bathtub correctly, he is indeed making gradual progress, and thus it is anticipated that further problems likely won't emerge in the near future.

With the presence of the sun providing an upbeat atmosphere and a much-needed upliftment to their mood, it appears that Jacob and Pola will have a positively fruitful adventure ahead of them. The seemingly bright and prosperous path that lies before them, however, their rival and opponent, Daniel, suddenly arrives at the shores of Tunisia, in Africa, and thus also takes a major step forward in his quest to obtain all the dragon balls.