



Once upon a time...

after a day of hiking Sensei Sage's Clan arrived at the Beast Mountain's base. It was eight-hundred feet of vertical climbing. Falco reminded them, "OK, let's be vigilant. This mountain likes to take what it can grab from you."

Fremt questioned, "It is very opportunistic. Did I use that word right?"

Zoro robotically replied, "Correct usage."

Sarcea was glad Fremt knew a vocabular library outside of funny ones. Fremt, in an alien voice, exclaimed, "Oh, yeah I'm learnderid."

Zoro smartly asked, "Virgil can climb it, why doesn't he just climb it instead of us?"

Virgil, cautious, replied, "I am afraid no one can climb it today. The wind is too strong near the top, you could get blown off."

Ahimsa aggressively argued, "No, we have to. Blaze is in danger."

Bamf sternly added, "Zoro said Blaze has until Friday night to live. It is Wednesday. We have to climb it, dammit."

Virgil patiently accepted, "I can't stop you. But when one of you gets hurt, I hope you remember me for being correct through it all."

Then ten Ninja wannabes dropped their backpacks and walked to the rock face. Isabella took a long anxious look at the eight-hundred foot vertical climb. A rock protruded out of the cliff

edge the right height to put her foot on. Krispal looked at his rock face. He yelled at it, "Come on. I want to be the only one to get to the top. Give me a ladder."

He smirked when he finished yelling at it, which didn't give him anything to grab hold of.

Flowious got in a fighting stance. He commanded, "OK rock face, give me a ladder, or else."

A foothold fissure appeared to use as a foothold which Flowious nonchalantly used. Ahimsa felt numb to the core thinking of Blaze almost being dead. A foothold and a handhold shook their way out of the rock face. Diptidulla thought, "I am going to climb this." Nothing happened, until a small rock came out by her foot. Bamf confidently commented, "How hard can this be? If all of these Clan Members can do it, I should be able to."

Nothing happened. Bamf angrily tried to punch his rock face, but he managed to slam his fist to a stop before it hit the rocks. He thought, "Come on, I am Waraxe Bamf. A great strong Viking. I should be able to do this!"

His anger caused a handhold to appear. With one arm, he hoisted himself up and jumped his foot onto it. His cousin was breathing a lot heavier. Falco had no trouble getting foot and hand holds, his problem was he was conflicted over using them. He thought, "What if I get high up and fall, I'll die. I'm a coward. Father always called me girly, and now I am showing it. He was angry at me for not being tough enough to fight the crocodile. I won't be like my Grandfather. A come home late and drunk Malgarson, too cowardice to face the real world."

Falco started quickly climbing the mountain face. Zoro orthodoxly sat down and meditated.

She purposely thought of things that were depressing: that everyone dies at some point, the gearbox of the world doesn't allow any gear to spin more powerful than the gears that spin it,

that it is impossible for figurekind to gain anything without losing something also prized. She realized there was no source without a source. She began to fill with depression at these thoughts. A foothold appeared. She stepped on it. Sarcea didn't get any holds at first. She began to imagine how upset her mother would be at letting another Clan Member die. Soon some footholds slid out. Fremt said to the rock face, "Okay, rocky-rocky-rock."

He gave a sly smile at his joke which didn't allow any rocks to protrude. The elf and alien would have to stay at the base of Beast Mountain. Flowious was the first to turn back. He thought about how slow Ahimsa was going and how bad he was for being so competitive with her. Before he realized it, he had lost all his holds. He began a freefall. Ahimsa shot an ice slide for him to slide down. Flowious jumped off the slide back onto the wall. He admitted, "That was close."

Ahimsa asked, "Aren't you going to thank me?"

Flowious accepted, "Not bad. You're great with ice."

He smiled at her. She didn't flinch. He admitted, "I know that breakfast wasn't for you."

He then revealed, "I am going to go back now before I fall off. You're actually not all that bad."

Ahimsa chuckled, "Actually?"

His sister was the next to go. She smiled at the thought of being the only one to reach the top. She too went into a freefall. Before hitting the bottom, she shot wind which cushioned her fall. The short while in flying made a pine needle shoot at her and pierce her ear. She chuckled and said, "I had been meaning to get my ears pierced." Zoro's machine-like meditated sorrow could

not hold up to organic sorrow. She filled with peace midway up and lost her grip. She admitted, "I don't think I have enough to make it to the top. I am turning around."

Sarcea was doing quite well, with plenty of holding point, until she remembered her stepmother telling her not to climb too high because she might hurt herself. She announced, "I am turning around too. This is dangerous."

Only Ahimsa, Falco, Isabelle, and Bamf were remaining. Falco looked down at how high he was. His feet began to tremble with fear. A staircase appeared out of the rock with how afraid he was. Ahimsa shouted, "Falco, you have done enough, go down. You did your best."

Isabella insisted, "We need everyone to try to make it to the top, that way one of us does."

Falco began to climb the stairs. He felt like he was a Royal Samurai for Shogun Honourous, brave and willing to make any sacrifice for the good figures of the Central Shoguntu. The staircase began rumbling into the cliff side. Falco ran to the edge and forced himself to think of falling. A tiny sliver of the staircase remained out, which Falco nudged the very edge of his feet along. Bamf was climbing the fastest, determined to be the first to the top. He was the mightiest in the clan and was going to make it for sure. Isabelle turned around, proud of all she had accomplished. Without any warning, her hand and feet holds disappeared into the cliffside. She had gone into an uncontrolled fall. She blasted a jet of water at the ground. It was the most water she had ever generated. Diptidulla shot wind to block an onslaught of pine needles. Isabella was physically exhausted; she began to wildly massage her muscles. Falco was a great rock climber and had the most to hold onto, but Bamf was more fired up, moving

faster, and had super-strength, which helped his speed. Bamf reached the top and yelled down, "I made it."

Falco peacefully replied, "Good, I am going to climb down."

Ahimsa smiled at the thought of Falco being at ease enough to turn around. Soon she was going in an uncontrolled fall. She made sheets of ice protrude out of the rocks face to slow her as she shattered through them. Bamf looked at the peak and saw a giant building. It was a glass dome, like a greenhouse, but was massive. Inside were all sorts of trees with all sorts of connections. At certain parts, there were fruits for different people, and fruits bugs had infested for the dead. He stepped inside the greenhouse. He took out a piece of paper and a pencil and looked for the Fun Dashouse House's tree. There were about a thousand different trunks of trees. He read each of their engravings on the bases of the trunks until he found one labeled Fun Dashouse Diyi. He carefully began making a list of all the members. This whole process took a few hours. At last he had a list of all the members, he counted three-hundred-seventy-one members. Rereading it allowed him to see a name he first overlooked, Vagus Scaranalui. Bamf realized this was the Superior Fuhrer of the Viking Empire. It was nightfall by the time Bamf finished climbing down. Everyone eagerly nourished him as he showed them the list, with Vagus Scaranalui circled.

Vagus entered his barrack of the flagship of the ironclad Viking Navy. A servant asked him, "Should I get you anything, your superior sir?"

Vagus replied, "Some privacy would be nice."

The servant left and locked the door behind him. Vagus was a middle-aged man, with a balding head, and a huge anger. Vagus took out a hammer and pulled nails out from the floorboard. He lifted the piece of wood and pulled out a shell phone. It was a conch shell that transmitted sound back and forth with a complimentary shell phone. He spoke into it, "I am alone."

A voice on the other end screeched, "Thank you."

Another figure teleported into the room. Vagus held up a candle to the floating skeleton with a black cloak and scythe. Vagus said, "Okay, Grim Reaper. Let's talk."

The Grim Reaper said, "I am Obsessa-Muladhara. My three siblings and I are the four children of the Overlord."

Vagus asked, "Who?"

Obsessa-Muladhara replied, "The source of all evil and darkness. He bestowed each of us control over a piece of evil. The four ancient evils live inside of us."

The skeleton then asked, "Have you thought about my allegiance?"

The Superior Dictator replied, "Yes. The sacred protector will certainly not approve of the Dragon Viking Empire invading the Central Shoguntu."

The Grim Reaper asked, "But do you want to expand?"

Vagus replied, "Duh. Those other Shoguntus look at me like I am an idiot. They laugh and laugh at me when I am not joking. They think my navy isn't afraid of me and smile when they see me. They think I am some nice little boy with a clueless smile who speaks of doing what is right. I'll

show them I am superior and bad to the bone. Soon all of Ninjago will cower in my superiority. Frown when they see me because they know they will never be as superior."

Obsessa-Muladhara asked, "And what about the sacred protector?"

Vagus replied, "I will task a squadron of elite officers to stop him. In return you will be an ally in my conquest."

Obsessa-Muladhara grew very angry. He screeched and inched closer to Vagus. "The sacred protector will take more than that to stop! You don't fear me, do you?"

Vagus said, "I would rather look inferior by dying to a god than look inferior by yielding. People will understand if a god kills me."

The Grim Reaper revealed, "Fine. I won't obsess you. You are already under my control. My brother Obsessa-Manipura is inside you."

Vagus said, "You mean he is who has made me so self-conscious."

Obsessa-Muldhara replied, "Yes. He can leave you and you will lose all your vigilance."

Dumbfounded, Vagus said, "You mean, I will become content with my own stupidity. I will be a fruit-cake."

Obsessa-Muladhara asked, "Will you give me more troops?"

Vagus said, "Yes. I will give you the Dragon Fighters."