



Once upon a time...

A ghost hovered toward Falco, he let out a symphony of screeching noises from his mouth. The ghost plugged her ears and drifted away. Ahimsa nervously said, "If one of them manages to possess us, we will become cursed, and trapped in here for eternity, to where even the portal being reopened won't allow us to escape."

Ahimsa built a bubble of ice around the three. Falco let out a high pitched squeal that caused the ice to vibrate and begin melting into water. Ghosts began surrounding the ice bubble. Once the bubble broke they would be overwhelmed with ghosts. Soon the bubble had completely melted. Fifty ghosts quickly invaded their space. They specifically targeted a single target, Falco. He let go a flurry of sounds but they just went through the ghosts. Ahimsa screamed. She shot out a big amount of ice, ignoring the ghost about to consume her. The ghost grabbed her hand and started pulling her into him. She screamed again. Flowious yelled, "Ahimsa!"

He grabbed her and tried to pull her away from her captor. Soon the air within a hundred feet started getting sucked in towards Flowious. The ghosts started getting pulled away from Falco as if a giant vacuum was inside of Flowious. The ghost who held Ahimsa clenched tighter and tried harder now to possess her. Flowious put out his right hand and braced it with his left. Snow began to drizzle out, then hail, and then he shot ice. He opened his mouth and let out a screech. It wasn't high enough frequency to melt the ice. Flowious demanded, "Falco, help me save Ahimsa."

Falco let out a much higher pitched screech and the ice burst into water. The ghost was hit and turned to green vapor. Ahimsa hugged Flowious and Falco and said, "Thank-you, both of you, for saving me."

Flowious clutched her like he never wanted to let her go. Falco asked, "How did you unlock your true potential?"

Flowious replied, "I feel like I love Ahimsa loud and proud and my heart no longer hurts. My feelings for her are what held me back."

Ahimsa drifted over to Flowious and closed her eyes and kissed him on the lips. Falco smiled, relieved to see Flowious happy. Soon a circular opening appeared in the Cursed Realm. The three could go through it and they reappeared with Krispal in someone's dojo. Falco asked, "Give me the load down, Krispy Kreme fella."

Krispal replied, "The giant has passed out."

The four climbed onto the roof of the dojo and looked at the knocked-out action figure. The sun was setting and Daant was covered in light from the hall of mirrors that hit glass prisms throughout the town, making it glow a rainbow of colors.

Diyi ran over to Genin's body. Ikkan's Ninja clan didn't even try to stop him. Undead X made his horse kick and cantered away, his tribe slowly left with him, leaving Zincy and Kahn behind.

Zoro ordered, "Sarcea, go after them, we need that tranquilizer."

Sarcea floated after the Ronin Indians. Blaze walked to Diyi and apologized, "I am so sorry."

Zincy, who looked like a disaster, ran to her dead child. Kahn nervously put a hand on her shoulder, she shook it off. Kahn asked, "Diyi, do you still have the Rosebriar Tea?"

Diyi replied, "I do. It is our last hope."

Zoro asked Diyi, "What does the Rosebriar Tea do?"

Diyi solemnly replied, "It allows one to bring someone dead back from the Departed Realm. It is rare, as it requires an entire century bloom flower to craft."

Sensei Sage yelled, "Diyi, I know you are desperate, but the Rosebriar Tea is not an option!"

Zoro asked, "Why not?"

Sage screamed, "Using it grows terrible vines with briars on them. It will consume all of Daant!"

Isabelle added, "There are so many people in Daant right now. Using it now will kill thousands.

Diyi, you can't."

Zoro added to that, "Thousands of members of the Daant house live in Daant. They may have been the last house founded but they are not least."

Diyi replied, "They are not my family, Genin was. She was the pride and joy of all of us. Her branch came from my trunk, her being gone is like a piece of me being gone. I can never accept such an innocent baby being killed. Please, let me."

Sage argued, "Never do a courtesy if it hurts people down the line."

Diyi reached into a fanny pack and pulled out a bag of tea leaves. He mixed it with some water from a canteen and lit a few twigs under the teapot. The fire glowed bright in the nighttime air.

Zoro shot light from her fingers at Diyi's eyes. He couldn't see through this light, so he let out a blind punch. It almost hit Zoro but Ahimsa shot ice at her feet, causing her to slip out of the way. Krispal asked, "What did we miss? I see you managed to knock down the giant."

Danju began breathing heavier and soon was back on his feet. Diyi heard him stand up and yelled, "Danju, prevent them from stopping me resurrecting Genin."

Danju swatted Sage's Ninja clan out of the way and they landed against the wall of the Forbidden City. Wu ordered, "Krispal, get Bamf."

Krispal asked, "What? He is protecting Shogun Honourous."

Zoro added, "Wu is right. We need everyone. If we all shoot in the same spot we might be able to knock him out."

Krispal asked, "What about the Shogun? Um, I'm asking for a friend."

Falco said, "The Shogun won't be Shogun of anything if we can't stop Diyi from finishing that tea. This is what Honourous would want."

Krispal disappeared into the nighttime shadows.

Vines started growing out of the teapot. Diyi could see again and was dodging them. One wrapped around Zincy and began tightening on her arm. Soon her arm piece was ripped off.

Kahn grabbed his wife and ran. The vines grew into the dojos on the other side of the field. Diyi was building a new body for Genin. He placed a right leg onto a waist piece and then a left leg.

Soon Bamf ran up to the rest of Sage's Ninja Clan. Honourous was with him and had a crossbow.

Fremt yelled, "Aim for his solar plexus!"

Earth, lightning, fire, ice, wind, water, and sound hit the action figure. Flowious shot ice and it barely collided with the target, as he wasn't as strong as the Master of Ice. Honourous, shot an arrow and it expertly landed on target. Danju screamed. He got down on his knees as he moaned loudly with pain. Sarcea arrived, floating the giant blowpipe behind her. She, Zoro and Krispal blew into it. A dart shot out and landed on his neck. He fainted once more. The clan ran as fast as they could back to where Diyi and the teapot was. Diyi was just about to put the head on Genin and bring her back to life when a vine grabbed his head and pulled it. He tried his hardest to complete Genin but his own head piece was ripped off before he could finish. His body collapsed to the ground, motionless. The teapot shattered into pieces and vines shot out in every direction. The clan used their elements to protect them but the vines were also racing deeper into the city. A vine wrapped around Zoro, who was defenseless with light. Blaze shot fire and freed her. A vine marched toward Honourous. Bamf shot out a mound of earth that blocked it. Wu did his best to defend himself, with his katana, but he was soon surrounded. Ahimsa shouted, "Wu!"

Wu felt himself get surrounded in a cocoon of vines. He couldn't move, like he was in a block of ice. As much as he wanted to, he couldn't slice his katana to free himself. He felt just as motionless as when he was sick. Again, he felt so afraid, cautious, heavy, and no option seemed to fit what he wanted. He heard a voice call from within the vines, "Do."

Wu tried to move. It called again, "Do."

Wu shouted, "Father!"

It was his father's voice. It replied, "Go ninja go!"

He sighed, "Goodbye father, rest in peace."

His body turned back into his Shinto form. He wore the transparent white cloth, and panda mask. Wu, intangible, ghosted out of the cocoon. He turned back into human form and collapsed on the ground. Daant was almost completely engulfed in vines. Wu ran over to the broken teapot and saw, in the middle of it, a flower. Inside the flower he saw Genin almost completely put back together. He broke apart Genin into all her pieces and the vines began to retreat. They almost completely went away, but before disappearing back into the Departed Realm Wu's father's pieces appeared. Wu ignored them and all the vines, except the one with the flower, disappeared. Zoro ran over to Wu and said, "A Century Bloom Flower."

Wu said, "It must have been created when I chose not to resurrect my father."

Sage stated, "If you chose to save your father- Daant would have no tomorrow! If you decide based on light, bravery, hope, and spirit you will always make the right decision, unlike if you decide based on darkness, cowardice, and fear, you will always make the wrong decision. You have light inside of you and now Daant has changed around you. You were not destroyed by your father's loss. You created Daant's tomorrow because your own spirit was indestructible. You were light as a sylph and phased through the vines. You are just as spirited as Fremt and Krispal now. Just as they have been in their spirit form all their lives, you have now connected to yours. You have found an indestructible spirit inside of you."

Wu walked over to his clan and was surrounded in embracement.

At sunrise Danju rumbled, he stood back up. Danju asked, "What happened, where's Diyi?"

Wu told him, "Danju, the fight is over. Diyi is now in the Departed Realm."

Danju asked, "What should I do?"

Wu replied, "We will find you some healing tea. Then you will respect that we still have a dart that works against you. You will treat figures, no matter the house, how you would want to be treated."

Danju nodded in agreement.