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It all happened so fast for Shuichi Iguchi, a member of the League of Villains going by the name of Spinner. One minute he was walking down the street, the next he ends up getting kidnapped and knocked out by somebody the moment he steps right next to an alleyway. The reptilian man never had the chance to either yell out a scream or even fight back. It was that quick.

The last thing he sees before blacking out from the chloroform filled rag covering his mouth is what look to be a clown’s smiling face looking down at him.

When he comes to, the reptilian villain looks around the room he finds himself in.

“What the...? Where am I? How did I get here?” he mutters aloud to himself. What he finds in the room he’s currently in, are what appears to be circus themed stuff. Given how whoever kidnapped him and brought him here was a clown of all things, it kind of makes sense.

As soon as he finishes looking around the room, Shuichi looks at the ropes tying him up. Briefly moving his hands in the binds, he stops and concludes that whoever did this must be really good at tying knots.

But who was it that brought him here, and why?

“Oh goody goody, you’re awake,” a somewhat shrill sounding voice says. Looking up to who the owner of the voice was, Shuichi realizes that it’s the clown that he saw in the alleyway. While he may have recognized the large painted smile on the clown’s face, the reptilian villain didn’t get the chance to get a full clear view of him.

What he sees is a clown that appears to be in his late twenties to early thirties, although his actual age isn’t clear. The clown looks to have red curly hair, with a large blue and red painted smile on his face. The clown nose he’s got is red with a black spiral on it. And his uniform is a red and blue striped shirt and black puffy pants. But what’s strange about the clown’s attire is that he appears to be barefoot. No clown shoes anywhere in sight.

‘Okay, that is just weird,’ the Hero Killer fanboy mentally remarks. ‘But then again, I have seen a few villains walk about without wearing any kind of footwear at all so that should be no surprise.’

“So did you have a nice nap?” the clown asks.

Dumbfounded at the question, Shuichi replies with a “Uh... yeah, I guess. Where am I?”

The clown, in response, smiles widely before answering. “My home of course. I brought you here so that we could have some fun together, you and I~ Oh, goodness me! Where are my manners? My name is Podo. What’s yours, my little lizard friend?”

“S-Shuichi Iguchi,” the reptilian man replies. “But I also go by the name of Spinner.”

Now that the introductions are over, the two men look at each other for what may feel like minutes when it is actually seconds before one of them would have to break the silence. And the one to do that would be the one currently bound up in rope.

“Has anyone ever told you that you look reaaallly cute, Shuichi?” the clown asks in what would sound like a flirtatiously teasing tone.

“I, uh, I... M-maybe.” The Hero Killer fanboy stammers out, a big blush covering his reptilian face while looking in every direction but the clown’s. “A g-girl I encountered once said something like that to me when we first met. But I, uh, wasn’t honestly sure if I would be considered cute.”

While Shuichi was distracted due to the question that was asked of him, Podo walks right to where the former’s bound feet are. In a span of seven seconds, the clown has managed to remove the reptilian fanboy’s shoes and socks. In another five, Podo shifts his position so that his large bare feet are right in front of his captive’s feet. Before Shuichi could even get a chance to react, both pairs of feet are pressed up against each other.

“W-w-what are you doing?! Cut it out!!” Shuichi calls out as he watches the clown perform his little game of footsies. With his feet tied together, it would be rather difficult for the Hero Killer fanboy to move them away from the clown. He then feels something happening to him as the clown continues rubbing his pasty, pale white feet against his reptilian ones.

‘What’s going on?’ he thinks, alarmed. ‘My head’s getting fuzzy. Getting harder to think... clearly.’

Unbeknownst to the reptilian member of the League of Villains, Podo has an ability that lets him control someone’s mind. This ability is done through a variety of ways, including using his feet to perform footsies with his captured victim. He rubs his soles against theirs to make the victim fall more and more under his control. Everything about that person, such as their memories, emotions, personality traits, etc., become erased completely the moment Podo interlocks his toes between the victims'.

Speaking of the clown, he watches as his captive’s lizard-like face changes expression. It goes from alarmed at what is apparently happening to him, to becoming as blank as a slate.

Even more bizarrely was what is also happening to Shuichi’s clothes. His jeans change into puffy clown pants with green and pink vertical stripes adorning them. Next his light blue hoodie and black leather jacket both slowly fade into a light green and black horizontal striped long sleeve shirt.

At the same time, clown makeup starts showing up upon his face. It’s almost as if some invisible hand is applying it without anyone noticing. His reptilian face is painted white, with a large black smile painted on his lips and green footprints popping up on his cheeks.

“Alright, time for the finishing touches,” Podo says.

He goes and interlocks his toes with Shuichi’s, thereby completing the mental wipe. Once that happens, the reptilian villain would now fall under the clown’s complete control.

Shuichi’s eyes, which were usually red, have now become a blank white. No trace of a pupil anywhere, at all.

All of the reptilian villain’s memories, along with everything else that makes him who he is, have now been completely erased.

“Perfect. Now for the finishing touches,” Podo says, admiring his handiwork. Reaching into his pocket, he pulls out a red clown nose with a light pink spiral on it.

Without any further delay, the clown places the clown nose on the tip of his reptilian captive’s. The moment the clown nose is put on, said captive’s blank white eyes turn into the exact same light pink as the spiral. With that, the clownification process is complete.

As soon as that is done, Podo then gets to untying the bindings on his newest assistant. Just so that he wouldn’t get confused about what is happening.

The now completely clowned Shuichi looks around the room before his confused gaze is set on Podo. He smiles happily upon seeing him.

“Mister Podo how are you?” he happily greets.

The older clown gives a smile of his own at his new assistant, before replying. “Hunky dorey, thank you. I also came to see if you’re doing okay. Let me see your feet for a bit, will ya?”

The recently turned clown eagerly does as he’s told, showing off his scaly soles for his master. This is usually done to test the obedience of Podo’s new clown assistants, which always works.

“Good. Very good,” Podo mutters to himself, clearly amused by what he is seeing. “Alrighty then, Migale. Why don’t we start with a trick, shall we? See if you can jump up and stick on the ceiling.”

The newly named Migale, without hesitating, obeys the order and performs the aforementioned trick. He jumps up and sticks his feet on the ceiling. With his Quirk, the reptilian clown clings onto the hard surface.

“Ta-da!” Migale calls out, smiling cheekily as he looks down at his master.

In return, the older of the two clowns claps his hands in amusement. Clearly impressed by the trick his new assistant has done. Given how he’s been in the entertainment business far longer, he knows when to be impressed. Especially in the day and age they’re both living in right now.

“Well done,” Podo compliments. “So far, so good.”

Migale releases the hold on the ceiling and lands on the floor, in front of his master. “Thank you, Mister Podo,” he says. “I was hoping to practice it for the big show you’ll be hosting soon.”

Podo pats his lizard-like assistant’s head, like how one does to a dog for good behavior. He even laughs rather loudly for a few seconds before taking a deep breath.

“I know you were,” he says. “But I think we need to get a few more volunteers to help us out with our act. You know how it is.”

With that said, the two barefoot clowns walk out of the room and head over to the main lobby of the surprisingly spacious tent that they’re in. The younger of the two looks around the lobby, seeing that there are a dozen or so other clowns doing work on the set for the aforementioned show coming soon. Some of the clowns looked to be in the age range of six to eight, meaning that they’ve been recruited before Migale.

A few of the older clowns, by the looks of their large heights, obviously have gigantification quirks. They’ve been using them to help out with the construction work for some of the more risk-taking acts for the upcoming show.

Unbeknownst to Migale, one of those gigantifying users, one possessing a head resembling either a horse or shark, was the giant villain rampaging through Tatooin Station before being taken down by Mount Lady. Apparently, he managed to either escape the authorities or was let out for good behavior. Either way, he ended up getting abducted by Podo before he turned into a clown by the latter.

The question of why Podo decided to go after him has no clear answer. Not that it matters right now.

The former giant villain, going by the name of Dilata, notices Podo and Migale standing at the entrance while he’s carrying a bundle of large pillars of wood. He happens to be wearing a light blue pair of pants with white spots and a black and brown striped shirt. The spiral on his clown nose is a peach color.

“Hey Mister Podo, what’s up?” Dilata happily asks. He then gives the bundle of wood to one of the other gigantification users, before heading over to his master and new fellow recruit.

“Just wanted to make sure that things around here are going great, as usual, Dilata,” Podo answers. “I even told our new recruit here, Migale, that we might need a few more volunteers so that we can get started without a hitch.”

As soon as that small conversation is done, the two clown assistants introduce themselves to one another before getting to work. Podo, on the other hand, heads over to an office of his. He reaches inside a desk drawer and pulls out what is revealed to be photos. The contents of these photos appear to be students from U.A. High’s Class 1-A, particularly Rikido Sato, Koji Koda, Mezo Shoji and Fumikage Tokoyami.

‘Hmm. What to do? What to do?’ the clown thinks to himself. He looks at each of the boys in the photos, almost as if contemplating who to choose. ‘Should I get this cutie? Or this one? Maybe this one? I can’t seem to make up my mind!’

Sometime before coming after the former member of the League of Villains, Podo had a few of his more agile and stealthier assistants go and search for potential recruits for his show. When they came back with the results he needed, he immediately got to work sorting them out. As soon as his eyes caught sight of the above four photos, he knew that he needed those four boys.

Only problem for him now is who among them would the first to take.

Without a doubt he may need Sato as a strong man (once he gets himself a large bundle of sugar into his body), Koda for taking care of the animals, and Shoji and Tokoyami for the additional help their quirks provide. How exactly to get them is simple though. Sneak into an alleyway, large bush, or whatever hiding place is available depending on where they go, wait for the target to pass by, and before they can get a chance to react, knock them out with a chloroform rag and then bring them to his home. Once the clown has brought them to his home, he gets to hypnotize and transform them into another one of his assistants.

“Might as well as choose who goes first,” Podo says, coming up with a solution to his predicament. “Eeny, meeny, miny moe.”

His finger then stops on the photo of Shoji, making him the first one to go after. He repeats the game to find who goes after. The photo of Koda is next, followed by Sato and finally Tokoyami.

“Goody. Now that that’s settled, better get started,” Podo declares cheerfully.

With that little business taken care of, the enigmatic clown gets preparations done for the recruitment process. He grabs a few things before heading out into the city streets, being careful so as to avoid any prying eyes that might catch him in the act. And if there’s one thing he is good at, surprisingly so for someone like him, is that he can be very stealthy and sneaky.

Once those boys are made into clowns, the show would finally begin. And it would be one where no one would ever, ever forget.