As a prince of the neighboring kingdom, Jacob was invited to the neighboring kingdom and ally. Cipher, the kingdom’s guardian and Jake’s personal protector, came with him too, or at least a portion of him did, given that the sentient orange good could be at a million places at once.

 He was 14 and the newly adopted son of the King and Queen, Thunder, and Luna, and he was still used to the new life. Before his adoption, he was an orphan trying to survive in the wilderness, only for fate to have him stumble into meeting the Royal Family.

 In the morning, Princess Faith had flown him to the Imperial Palace, and it was then that he saw Empress Mala for the first time. She was gorgeous. A naga draped in a coat of glittering malachite scales and adorned in patterns of darker green. Her emerald eyes seemed to hypnotize him the moment their eyes met.

 Dinner with the Empress and all her regents and leaders came at last. A nervous feeling filled Jake’s chest, for as a prince, he represented his father and mother and would be around so many important strangers. Cipher did give him console and support, and one of the head servants, an anthropomorphic white and black fox by the Kasumi he had made friends with, accompanied him through the palace.

 “There is something I should warn you, your Highness,” Kasumi said as they walked. “Well, maybe not warn, but foretell. This is more of a dinner of pleasure than sustenance.”

 “What do you mean? And can you please stop referring to me as ‘your Highness?’ I like going by Jake.” The prince said, wearing a fancy suit for formal occasions that he constantly fidgeted with out of discomfort, especially with the collar.

 “Sorry, I’m just not used to be so casual with guests, especially those of royalty. But yes, so later in dinner, several servants will come and offer themselves as food for everyone.”

 Jake stopped walking. “What?”

 “I know, it’s bizarre, but it’s what you might say a tradition here. Those eaten only spend the night in their masters’ bellies and are released the next day.”

 Jake wasn’t too reeled in shock. He had been eaten plenty of times, and that was by his family. It had been mostly dragons that had done it, but he had rarely seen an anthro do it. “So, what should I do?”

 “Nothing,” Kasumi replied, assuring him. “Her Empress wanted me to tell you in advance. She says that your presence at dinner is not required but would very well be appreciated.”

 When dinner came, it took place in the great hall after sunset. The room was ornate with green stone and shiny metals. Pillars stood on the sides of the room, running across the length. At the end of the hall were stained glass windows of the most marvelous work of art he had ever seen. The table at the middle spanned to the edge of the room, where Mala’s seat at the head was captured in the rainbow light coming through the glass. The surface width was several times his height, and some plates took four people to carry, with a cornucopia of various foods, from stacks of fruit to entire cooked animals.

 It was not the most massive abundance of food Jake had seen, as a dragon’s feast required a country’s supply of food.

 Anthros of every kind imaginable was there, with the occasional human. Being around different species was something he was used to, and welcomed, but he was still a boy, and most anthros were taller than an adult human. He was the shortest person in the room.

 The question of why this nerved him ran through his head. He lived with dragons! Beings that can crush entire cities beneath their heels! Everyone in the room, him included, was an insect in comparison! So why was he afraid?

 A massive hand gently pulled his side to something warm and squishy. Jake immediately recognized the unique touch and feel of Cipher and looked up to the right side to see the snakehead looking down at him with a smile.

 Cipher never needed a defined physical form, but he liked to have one and never chose something simple. His preferred form was exotic at best. It consisted of a snake’s head, connected to the main body, a long serpentine neck, with a round body with a bulk sagging down his front. His legs were bent like the rear ones of a dog or any other feral creature, with large feet that had only three pointy toes. Behind him, a tail pointed up, making the shape of a J and thick enough it appeared to consist half of his body’s mass. The arms were perhaps the strangest of all, for the had no elbow joint, able to move like the appendage of an octopus, and widened into large hands.

 Jake always wondered why Cipher chose that specific form. It was so… unusual for any manner of creature. But over time, Jake began to realize it was meant for him. Whenever the prince needed a comforting hug, Cipher’s arms or his thick tail would encompass nearly the entirety of his body, and the long neck would allow the head to rest atop his own. The vast bulk was to allow his body to fit inside whenever Jake needed a place to sleep, and at times the belly itself would become a mouth, snagging him with a frog’s tongue to bring him straight into his jelly home.

 Jake smiled. No matter what uncomfortable circumstance he was in, Cipher made everything better. Every time. Despite the blessings it brought, a human boy becoming the prince of dragons had its fair share of stress and discomfort. It was adventurous, but at times so bizarre, it shook him to his core. One of those times, it was first meeting Cipher. When he first laid eyes on the sentient goo, it was as if seeing a creature that shouldn’t exist, bringing a sliver of fear out from Jake. But all that changed in an instance when the guardian gave Jake the comforting action of a hug. From that moment, the kingdom’s guardian also became the guardian of the young prince.

 Jake smiled back at the goo lizard. The two made the long trek alongside the table, eventually reaching their seats close to the table’s head, where guests of honor and Mala’s closest subordinates sat.

 There were no chairs, but cushions that a person was free to sit on however they liked, without the restrictions of formality. Cipher knelt on the pillow to Jake’s right before Jake himself kneeled. Not long after, a green anthropomorphic alligator bearing a considerable size and a massive bulk in his middle plopped down onto the cushion next to him, creating a loud thud that nearby people could feel beneath their feet, but paid no attention to it. Another reptile, a lizard but with no less size or bulk than the gator, with grey and blue scales, sat next to his companion, creating another thud.

 The two rumbled deliciously and drooled in excess, clearly impatient as their eyes darted to and from the selections of meat in from of them.

 Not long later, everyone had seated, and the servants stood by, ready for their next tasks.

 Mala rose from the bundle of her tail, and every eye in the room gazed upon her.

 “Tonight, is the full moon, the moon of feasting and gluttony. Tonight, we celebrate our coexistence, the satisfaction of our instincts without harm, and every being in the Empire may glut themselves and sleep comfortably on this night. The halls of every manor and castle have opened their doors, giving all a feast and shelter. As a gesture of coexistence and trust, our neighboring nation as graced us with the presence of its guardian, and new prince.”

 Jake suddenly felt tense as the eyes of everyone in the room glanced at him. Cipher brought some looks, but the guardian was old news compared to the prince. Silently, he cursed his title, for he cared little for the mass attention of a crowd. He had gotten used to the eyes of his parents’ table, but these were strangers. As much as he wanted to avoid eye contact with anyone, he couldn’t, for that meant staring at the ground or ceiling, so he kept his eyes on Mala.

 Something changed in her expression, and Jake knew she had figured out his discomfort of attention.

She raised a goblet of wine, bringing the gazes of the room back to her. “To prosperity!”

Everyone, Cipher included, except for Jake, rose their glasses. “To prosperity!”

Then, the feast began.

Jake could not tell when anyone had started eating, for when he looked around, everyone already had enough food on their plates to feed several families and were still adding more. Spittle of food flew onto Jake from his left, coming from the two reptiles who were ravenously chowing down meat from their bones.

Not everyone was so… barbaric. A few guests, mostly those who lacked predatory features, used their utensils to cut up the small servings of food they gathered, as those next to them were eating with their hands.

But what truly surprised him, were that the servants had joined in, eating as if they were the ones they served. No-one stopped them.

He looked to Cipher for advice on what he should do but saw that the goo was also indulging himself! It surprised him because Cipher rarely ate any food, and the only reason he’d do it was for the pleasure, for the goo could taste with the senses he put on his form’s tongue. Already, the giant bulge of a cooked animal ran down the neck, making an opaque shadow in the orange jelly.

Then he looked at Jake. “Eat.” A side hug from the goo lizard comforted Jake, but less compared to the miraculous effects it usually had in putting him at ease. “You can eat whatever you like, whichever way you want to, but eat something, because I don’t want you going to bed hungry tonight.” Cipher brought some meat and an apple onto Jake’s plate.

Jake took his fork and knife and began cutting the steak Cipher had given him. Consistently, he was distracted by the activity, slightly wishing he could join in the energy, but was too shy.

All of a sudden, the thick tail of the gator sitting next to him wrapped around his waist and whisked him off the floor. He was placed in the small space between the reptiles, and they looked at the prince wedged between them with grins.

“Hello, you shy thing.” The gator spoke in a deep voice, sounding teasing.

“You looked a little timid,” The lizard joined in the patronizing joke. “So, we thought we’d help bring you out of your shell!”

The two rotated and scooted a little closer. That way, Jake was squeezed between the scales of fat bellies. He blushed, unsure of what to do or even how to feel in his predicament. He… liked it. His free hand was able to rub the blue gut of the lizard, slowly and unsurely.

The oppressors made a chuckling noise, causing vibrations to flow from their bellies to Jake.

“Someone’s a gut lover~.” The gator teased, pushing Jake a little more. Then he grabbed another selection of meat and began munching on it. The lizard started doing the same.

It wasn’t long before the entire table was picked clean of food, with nothing but dirty plates, bones with tiny bits of meat still attached, the cores of fruits, and a few sleeping guests.

Jake was laying atop the belly of the lizard he had just befriended. Beneath him came gurgles and groans of the gut, packed with the mush of eaten food.

“BEEEUUUURRROOOPPPEE!!!” The lizard belched loudly, spraying some spittle straight up like a fountain with barely any water. “Oh… it’s already done?” He sounded disappointed. “Of course, it’s always after that fills me up.

The only one still eating was Mala. She pulled the tip of the fork from her lips after biting on the last of her meal. A napkin cleaned her lips, and she rose. “Sound the trumpets! The true feast begins!”

A band trumpets could be heard blaring nearby, sounding throughout the land. Towns repeated the noise, causing a chain that would go through every city until the entire Empire got the message.

The lizard placed his hand on Jake’s shoulder, and the human looked straight into his crimson eyes.

The pink tongue licked the reptiles muzzle, then it snaked out to Jake, licking his cheek. “I’m gonna save you for last, little prince~.” Suddenly, he shot out his tongue to his left and snagged a cat servant right before another predator grabbed him. The cat watched on helplessly, but smiling, as the tongue suspended him above the drooling maw. It lowered him, and when the head reached the throat, the lizard wasted no time gulping the kitty down.

Glurks and other slick sounding noises came from the lizard. The tongue coiled up the cat’s body, binding him and allowing a smooth consumption of the prey. Wiggles created more fleshy noises and lumps within the bulging neck that Jake found himself staring at.

Then, the legs enter the throat, and after a quick tease of tasting, a final gulp had the feet share the fate of the rest of the body.

The belly beneath Jake swelled and grew with its new occupant. The prince felt around and… he could feel him moving in there! The hand on his back pressed him into the squishy orb, compacting the cat with the food inside.

“MUCH MORE FILLING!” The reptile exclaimed loudly. Another belch ensued, even louder than the one before, barraged Jake right in the face.

It reeked of food and cat, but it wasn’t bad, surprisingly. Jake gave something that was a cross between a smile and a cringe.

“Oh, I know that look. You’re enjoying this~.”

Jake looked away, unable to say anything.

“Don’t try that with me now~.” A devious grin appeared on the muzzle of the lizard. “Jaws! Get over here!”

The gator from before looked towards his friend, half a smaller lizard in his mouth, and in his arms, he held an anthro wolf with a sagging belly, clearly with someone inside. Jaws stomped over. “Yeah?”

“I got an idea… the young prince is afraid of admitting his love for guts! Let’s try what we did before again, just more persuasive~…”

They both grinned with a look that made Jake worry about what they had in mind for him.

The lizard stood up, keeping Jake afloat and pressed against his belly. The two walked until their bellies connected, squishing Jake between them yet again.

Jake blushed; his whole face turned red, feeling the prey within each belly. It was so different when anthros ate compared to dragons and other monstrous ferals. The size difference was small and made it, so their guts always grew and sagged massively!

Once Jake was squished, Jaws began consuming the prey, who once thought he was a pred. The lizard, whose name was still unknown to Jake, shot out his tongue and grabbed another victim, this time a bird species servant.

Jake was speechless. He was between two enormous anthros eating others whole; their squirming guts pressed against his front and back.

They each slurped down their meals and looked down right at him. Their bellies expanded, squishing him even more than their new occupants. They were almost drowning him with their own fat.

“Well?” The lizard interrogated him. “Ready to admit it?”

“Okay!” Jake confessed. “I kinda like this…” His voice drooped in volume as he turned shyer than ever.

Both predators laughed triumphantly, giving a final press forward in unison.

“You guys, stop teasing him!” Kasumi chimed in, sporting a massive midriff for obvious reasons.

“You want to help squish him, Kassie?” Jaws said as he pushed a little. “I got plenty of room~.”

“If you won’t eat him, I will.” The fox poked the bulge she had with a finger. “You and Granite are not the only ones with room~.”

The predators laughed hysterically. The lizard, Granite, scooped Jake up with an arm.

“You can have this boy when you’re both in my belly!” Granite opened his maw in front of Jake, giving the prince a good view of where he was about to go…

Suddenly, his journey derailed when the index finger and thumb of a giant, orange hand plucked Jake from the lizard’s grasp.

Cipher had grown to massive size in the short time that had passed. He was about the size of a tiny house, which was still small to the proportions of the great hall. All he was doing was lying on his back, leisurely picking up his prince.

“The prince is under my care.” Cipher brought Jake just above his head. “Therefore, I cannot allow out of my watch~.” Those words were not spoken from a figure of authority, but from someone who cherished the closeness of… ahem… *‘friendship…’*

Granite was about to protest, but stopped himself in the nick of time, remembering who exactly he was talking to. A fit of frustrated anger burned in him, seeing the goo guardian drop the boy into his maw, swallow and lick his lips. He hated having a meal taken right out of his hands!

Cipher knew he was ticking the lizard off, and he rubbed it in. A finger caressed the bulge running down the formed neck, one time giving a teasing glance to the lizard.

That was the last straw, and there were very few to begin with. “Give him back! That was my meal!” He shouted out, and then regret showed on his face.

Cipher stared straight at him this time, sporting a foreboding grin. Most of the remaining people in the room ceased their consumption and watched with interest.

“Well, if you want him so badly, you can join him!” The guardian exclaimed in delight, plucking the lizard off the ground by the tail. He hoisted him above his abdomen, which then split open into the shape of a mouth.

Granite didn’t like being the one eaten, and his struggles showed it all. It was humiliating for him to be the one eaten at the end of the full moon feast.

But Cipher was the apex predator of apex predators. The predator of the world. Some wondered if he could grow enough to swallow the world if he were to choose. All came to either fear him or thank his benevolence.

A release of his grip, the smack of the belly jowls, and Granite was gone.

“AND YOU!” Cipher looked at Jaws. “You both are practically the same mind,” the gator was helpless as Cipher picked him up as well. “So, it’s only fitting you share the punishment.” With that said, another high ranking, gluttonous official disappeared.

While the two reptiles attempted to escape their squishy room, angry at the aspect of being prey for once, Jake was in a separate room, right above them and able to hear their yelling.

“You didn’t have to do that, you know?” Jake said with a smile, leaning close against the wall.

A few tendrils emerged from the goo and hugged him tenderly. “True, but I couldn’t help it. Don’t worry, you’ll be with them soon enough, so I won’t spoil your fun.”

“This is great, you know that? Thanks for coming with me.”

“Anytime, my prince.” The tendrils squeezed tighter. “Nothing’s better than being with you.”

“Do you really mean that?” Jake asked, actually a bit skeptical, since Cipher had countless tasks he was committing to simultaneously and ignoring the fact Cipher called him a prince.

“Of course I do.” A small snakehead formed above Jake and laid itself compassionately onto him. “Every day’s an adventure with you. For example, getting eaten alive by hungry lizards!”

Not a second later, the floor gave way, and Jake fell downward. It ended with the slap of a belly. The prince looked up and saw the drooling face of Jaws.

“He landed on me, so I get him.” The gator said with a smug tone.

A pair of hands forcibly, but gently stripped his shirt off, then gripped Jake by the waist, and he was carried toward the open maw. Slimy muscles glistening in orange-tinted light filled his vision before a total blackout came in. Squelches and other wet noises filled his ears as the mouth went into overdrive, tasting every bit of him. Jake laughed, tickled by the ravenous gator’s tongue. Then, a forceful contraction latched onto his head and pulled him down, wedging his shoulders into the throat. Vibrations coursed throughout his body from the pleasurable rumblings of his predator.

More and more of Jake got sucked down into the gullet in periodic swallows, each bridged apart by a moment of tasting until the prince was waist up in gator flesh. His pants were already soaked in the excess drool. Now that his pants were the only thing Jaws could taste, the glutton sped up the ingestion, making a series of mighty gulps that pulled Jake down in bounds.

**GULP! GLURK! GLUNK!**

The last thing outside the gator was the bare feet, and Jaws especially took his time with these. A ticklish spot, Jake bucked and squirmed, the struggle only visible from the throbbing on the gator’s neck. The esophagus held him in place firmly, until at last, the head tilted upward and gave one last swallow.

A moment later, Jake’s head squeezed through the ring into the belly already full of two other prey, or three if you counted the one the wolf had eaten before the gator had gotten the better of him. A small pool of gruel laid at the bottom and Jake did his best to ignore the slop of dinner as best he could.

There were greetings, chatting, surviving the squishing torment Jaws put them through, and finally dozing off.

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 Jake and the rest of his fellow belly occupants woke up to the walls squeezing in on them. Jake was pulled upward through the way he was forced down, and his predator let him slide onto his arms.

 “Her Majesty wants to see you, so you get off easy.” Jaws grinned, licking the leftover taste of royalty off his lips.

 He set the boy gently onto a couch, right next to Granite, whom Jake only just noticed was there. The lizard was still fat and bloated, but his belly was still with sleeping prey.

 Jake reckoned it was the middle of the night, with how sleepy he was he could doze off at any time. His body fell against Granite’s, almost downright collapsing onto it, using the belly as a pillow, to which the reptile enjoyed, covering Jake’s other side with an arm. It was like laying against a warm marshmallow…

 “Now, now…” A familiar female voice spoke soothingly. “You’ll be able to sleep plenty soon.”

 Jake creaked his eyelids open enough to see Kasumi smiling down at him.

 “We need to get you bathed and dressed.”

 “Don’t want to…” Jake replied sleepily.

 Kasumi wouldn’t have it, and picked him up in her arms. From there, she carried him to the bath, bathed him, got him dressed in a comfy night robe, and guided him to Mala’s chambers once he was awake enough, then left him there without so much as an explanation on what to do.

When Jake arrived at Mala’s room, the giant doors were closed shut, and no one was there. Fear of disturbing her, but even greater fear of not wanting to keep her waiting, Jake opened the door to a creak. Every light in the room was out, except for a few crystals that glowed green, only lighting tiny amounts of the room.

“Empress, are you inside?” He called out quietly and politely.

“Yes, please come to me.” The naga replied from the darkness.

“Okay,” Replied the prince as he closed the door behind in, putting himself into darkness. “But I can’t see you.”

“Then I will come to you.” She answered, emitted the sound of scales sliding across the sleek marble floor.

Jake watched her eyes move closer and closer; her features visual for brief moments in the jade light. They stopped, and a moment later, a warm appendage began coiling up his legs, moving past his waist and binding his arms. Two gentle hands pulled him by the back of the head and neck, to Mala.

“I’m sorry for disturbing your rest, but I haven’t gotten a chance to even speak to you,” Mala whispered, as if others were in the room, sleeping. “And I wanted to make sure you were happy.”

“I am happy…” Jake was so sleepy he mumbled as he spoke.

“I’m glad~.” Mala slithered back to her bed, carrying him. Once she laid down, she nuzzled Jake’s forehead. “You’re just a sleepy boy, aren’t you?”

“It’s the middle of the night…” Jake mumbled.

Mala chuckled. “Yes, it is late for a young one such as yourself~. I wanted to ask you if you would like to sleep in my belly~?”

“Mmmm… yes…” Jake smiled, finding the warmth of her green scales so soothing, and wondering how that warmth would feel like inside her.

“That’s it…” Mala opened her jaws, the flesh of her flash a green just like her scales. Gently, she put her mouth over Jake’s head and swallowed. Each pulse of her throat was soft and slow, deliberately gentle for the human.

Completely relaxing, Jake allowed Mala to swallow him, enjoying the feeling of the Empress’s throat. Her hands and coils steadily pushed him up into her maw, the flesh sliding over his skin as he bent forward to fit into her neck. Eventually, his entire body became wet and warm, sent down a constricting but gentle tube. Almost no time later, his head entered her upper stomach, and he winded up in a fetal position.

“So sweet~… figuratively and literally~… as to be expected of a child of Luna~.” Mala’s hand glided over her belly, keeping it at her prey’s head. “You’re very blessed to belong to her~.”

Jake’s smile grew even wider. He knew that already, more than anyone else. The last thing he heard before falling asleep was Mala’s voice.

“Rest my young prince~… my belly will always be there for you~.”

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 Jake woke up to the light of the rising sun. He was surrounded by warmth as if cradled by a mother. A substance covered his body that clung to his skin and soaked into his clothes, making them damp and warm. He realized he rested against the Empress herself, Mala. She lay on her bed, hugging his head and shoulder to her chest, keeping her chin against his head. The tip of her tail had wrapped itself around him up to his chest.

 Wait… this was the Empress! He shouldn’t be doing this with her!

 “Shhhh… be at ease, young prince…” Her words were spoken soothingly as she hugged him tighter to prevent his escape. “I do not mind this. As a matter of fact, I enjoy it.”

 Something about her voice alone calmed him down, and Jake began snuggling up to her.

 It aroused a chuckle from the serpent. “I rather enjoyed last night and hope to do it again soon. Would you like that?”

 “I would,” Jake spoke, a little in a sleepy bliss. “It was very nice to be eaten by you.”

 “You cute thing. You enjoy it so much, don’t you? I take it your family does it to you?”

 “All the time. It shows how much they love me.”

 “I ought to have you on the dinner table next time.” The Empress smirked.

 “Sounds fun. Can I be on your plate?”

 She giggled. “You can be on whoever’s plate you like, even mine~.” Her hand moved to her abdomen. “I’ll even save you for last so you can have a tummy all for yourself!” She cooed playfully into his ear.

 “The Imperial belly…” He giggled.

 Mala gave her own giggle at his joke. “Now, I have things to do, and I would love to tuck you in again, but I think you’d like it more to explore the palace, so I’ll hand you off to someone else. I don’t want you to be trapped with me all day.”

 “Can I ask you something?”

 “Anything.”

 “The feast, how can you afford to do something that big every month?”

 “The Empire is rich with fertility, as our stores are always full, and a small farmer can’t make a living with so many crops in the market. Magic runs deep through the earth here, strengthening the plants and animals, including the crops we grow and the livestock we raise. If it wasn’t for the feast, most of my people could barely make a penny out on the fields.”

Jake understood the more there was of something, the less it was valued. Only the wealthiest of farmers had enough land and produce to make money from farming.

 Mala reached for a bell hanging near her bed and rung it gently. Almost immediately, one of the doors opened, and Kasumi entered quietly.

 “Yes, my Empress?” She bowed.

 “Take him,” She looked at Jake. “Tuck him away and go to your quarters. When he is ready, show him the palace and our people. Give him a day to remember.”

 Kasumi couldn’t stop her from smiling. “Yes, my Empress.” She took Jacob from the grasp of Mala and rubbed her cheek against his. “You cute little thing, ready for me to tuck you away~?”

 The boy nodded, sleepy while he put his arms over her shoulders.

 Kasumi licked his face, causing giggles. She slipped her jaws over his visage, her throat stretching to fit him. Gulps and swallows sounded, her throat by far the smallest Jake had yet experienced. Her licks were soft and gentle, a caress around his entire body. Upon slurping the feet down, Kasumi sighed and placed her hands on her abdomen, cherishing its contents. “I’ll take good care of him, my Empress.”

 Mala watched Kasumi exit her chambers, smiling. A sense of envy grew within her, but the right kind, at Luna, to have adopted such a sweet child into her family.

 \*Next month\*

 Jake was smiling. A month ago, he was a nervous, shy boy visiting a new kingdom, and now he was a returned guest with excitement on what was about to come. This time, he sat right next to Mala at the head of the table, as per her promise a month ago. The Empress returned his smile and winked.

 Everyone from last time was present, except for Cipher, as he had chosen to sit this one out as a means of showing his trust of Jake to Mala. Jaws and Granite were drooling their mouths out at the food in front of them, giving some glances to Jake. Mala saw this and knew of the ambitions those two had. Kasumi was the servant closest to them, standing behind Jake with a smile.

It happened just like last time. The speech, the trumpets, the feast, and this time Jake fed himself full. Then soon, Mala declared the true feast.

 Right when those words were said, a tail belonging to a particular lizard only a few seats away snagged Jake’s foot and pulled him away. In a few seconds, Granite would have the young prince in his clutches again, soon to send him to his belly and leave Jaws angry. Mala wouldn’t have this, and her tail had grabbed Jake before he got far. She yanked him free and got him into a bundle in front of her.

 “Wait here, sweetie~.” She gave him a quick peck on the cheek. “Try not to get eaten. I’m going to teach those two a lesson~.” The Empress slithered off, leaving Jake by his lonesome at the head of the table in predatory chaos.

 Granite didn’t have any time to react as his Empress circled him and bound him within her coils. She towered over him. “Oh, Granite, you knew Jake was mine~.” The snake brought a hand under his chin. “You do realize, whether you do manage to eat him or not, you’ve made yourself my meal?” The Imperial maw labored open, making popping sounds as the jaw detached from the skull.

 Granite stared at the green flesh. He was not one for being eaten himself, and Mala was more than capable of swallowing him despite their relative sizes.

 No longer a lady, and now a hungry predator, Mala lunged her body forward, engulfing her subject’s head, and swiftly moving past his shoulder. Her maw yawned to massive proportions to fit the lizard, the size difference hardly obstructing her. The jaw had to detach entirely from her skull, cheeks stretching vastly. Just like how the feral snakes in the world ate things several times their size, Mala swallowed the gluttonous lizard whole. Her chest lay flat on the ground, her bones and organs moving out of the way to avoid damage. It took a while, but at last, the tail was swallowed, and the subject ended up within her tail.

 With that all done, Mala sighed, stretching her arms and looked at Jake in her coils. “Such gluttons~. Going through the feast without eating one prey will teach him~.” Her arms picked Jake up from beneath the shoulders. “I was hoping it would be just you and me~.” She nuzzled his face, earning giggles from the prince. “But alas, we don’t always get what we want. Except you, my little morsel~!” Then, Mala once again opened her jaws. Playfully, she put them over the prince’s head, immediately swallowing gently. It was so easy, every pulse of the throat bringing large portions of Jake into her. At last, Mala closed her lips over Jake’s ankles and audibly slurped his feet down.

 The prince winded up curled into a ball in Mala’s upper belly, separate from Granite in her tail stomach. He relaxed as he felt her hands stroke his bulge, smoothly and gently. “Thank you, Mala…” He said, growing drowsy at the care he was receiving.

 “Feast or no feast, you are welcome within my palace at any time, my sweet prince.” Mala gave his head a caress. “Or in my belly.” The Empress giggled.