

97 - Best Partner

Source: [Crunchyroll](#)

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Timer:

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(Please feel free to edit the speaker names if incomplete or inaccurate. Names are handled on a best-effort basis depending on the info on the source file. Dialogue is left as is.)

[00:09] ---

This feels great...

[00:13] ---

There's nothing like relaxing
in your own home...

[00:16] ---

Nice place you got here.

[00:18] ---

Isn't it?

[00:20] ---

Maybe I should live here, too...

[01:55] ---

Lucy, you don't have any booze? Seriously?

[01:58] ---

This is *my* house!

[02:01] ---

Her name is Cana Alberona.

[02:03] ---

Among the members of her generation,
she's been in Fairy Tail the longest.

[02:12] ---

What's wrong? You seem down...

[02:17] ---

Uh, it's nothing, really...

[02:21] ---

Do you usually take baths together?

[02:23] ---

Do you usually stroll into
other people's houses?

[02:28] ---

Did you and your dad patch
things up after that?

[02:32] ---

Uh, I'm not really sure...

[02:35] ---

I suppose you could say that.

[02:37] ---

Well, we haven't exactly kept in touch.

[02:45] ---

What?

[02:46] ---

If you're worried about something, I'll lend an ear...

[02:51] ---

I'm thinking of quitting the guild.

[03:01] ---

Best Partner.

[03:05] ---

Cheers!

[03:08] ---

And that's what happened, Mira-san!

[03:10] ---

Cana didn't even tell me why! What's up with her?

[03:17] ---

It's fine. Cana always says that around this time.

[03:23] ---

Around this time?

[03:26] ---

Pretty soon it'll be 6 months since I joined Fairy Tail.

[03:32] ---

I had no idea there was such a big event at the end of each year.

[03:40] ---

Work, work!

[03:41] ---

Aye, sir!

[03:43] ---

Hey! If you're going on a job, take me!

[03:45] ---

Sorry, but I'll be going alone for now!

[03:48] ---

We'll hang out with you when we get back!

[03:51] ---

Watch where you're running, you hothead!

[03:53] ---

And you're in my way, Fruit of the Gloom!

[03:56] ---

Do the two of you have time to be fighting?

[03:59] ---

You've got a point!

[04:00] ---

I'm back!

[04:01] ---

Welcome back, Gray. And your clothes?

[04:02] ---

There's no time for that!

This is my next job!

[04:05] ---

Got it. Have a nice day.

[04:07] ---

You're going right back out?

[04:09] ---

I'm going out on this job!

[04:10] ---

Okay. Have a nice day.

[04:12] ---

Work, work!

[04:13] ---

I'm going on this one!

[04:14] ---

And I'm on this one!

[04:16] ---

I totally had my eyes on that one first!

[04:17] ---

As if! The one who takes
the flier gets the job!

[04:18] ---

Team Shadow Gear's on their
own during this time!

[04:23] ---

What the hell is this?

[04:24] ---

You'll know pretty soon.

[04:28] ---

You can predict the future?

[04:30] ---

Yes. Remember what the Queen said?

[04:32] ---

I also have the power to see the future.

[04:36] ---

Now that I consciously realize it,
I'm able to control it a little.

[04:40] ---

That's amazing, Carla!

[04:42] ---

So tell me, who will I marry in the future?

[04:45] ---

I can't see that far into the future.

[04:50] ---

Let me see...

[04:52] ---

For example... You see Macao over there?

[04:55] ---

Pretty soon Wakaba will come over and they'll start talking about the young people in the guild.

[04:59] ---

gulp

[05:01] ---

Yo, Macao.

[05:02] ---

Hey there!

[05:03] ---

Wow, he really came, Carla!

[05:06] ---

Shh! The real part comes now.

[05:08] ---

It's that time of year again, you know?

[05:10] ---

Sure brings back memories...

[05:12] ---

Back when we were younger...

[05:14] ---

We sure had that passion, you know?

[05:16] ---

But the young'uns these days are incredible!

[05:20] ---

Such fine asses!

[05:21] ---

You're the ass!

[05:22] ---

Oh, more a breast man, are we?

[05:23] ---

I got kids, buddy.

[05:25] ---

I don't go 'round starin' at girls' rears!

[05:27] ---

What about their feet?

[05:28] ---

Man, could I take a bite out of...

[05:30] ---

Those could step on me any time!

[05:32] ---

W-Wow...

[05:34] ---

You were totally spot on!

[05:36] ---

The conversation was disgusting, however.

[05:37] ---

I'm sorry I went and predicted that...

[05:40] ---

Even so, that's amazing, Carla!

[05:42] ---

Yup, yup!

[05:43] ---

Anyway, I still can't control it perfectly.

[05:50] ---

H-Hey, that's dangerous-kina.

[05:57] ---

That's enough.

[06:01] ---

I can only stay in my original
body for a short time, I see.

[06:04] ---

But you are really something.
Your swordsmanship is superb.

[06:08] ---

Oh, hardly... I suppose I should
say "as expected from Erza."

[06:11] ---

How 'bout that, Erza?

[06:13] ---

That's how awesome Lily is!

[06:16] ---

So this is the power of what they
label S Class in this guild?

[06:23] ---

There are people who are
working their butts off,

[06:26] ---

but there are people who
are just doing the usual,

[06:28] ---

so I have no idea what exactly....

[06:30] ---

You'll know tomorrow.

[06:34] ---

Then, the next day.

[06:37] ---

Almost all of the guild members
have assembled here at Fairy Tail.

[06:43] ---

What's all the commotion about?

[06:45] ---

Beats me.

[06:46] ---

I heard that the Master has
an important announcement!

[06:49] ---

I'm not interested.

[06:51] ---

Finally! I'm so nervous...

[06:54] ---

We worked really hard, Al.

[06:57] ---

Don't worry.

[06:59] ---

Natsu, you can't even keep still!

[07:01] ---

This anticipation... That's a Man!

[07:07] ---

Finally, I'll know the secret!

[07:09] ---

Juvia's heart is aflutter...

[07:12] ---

...every time I look at Gray-sama...

[07:14] ---

How about you just go home?

[07:20] ---

Master!

[07:22] ---

We've been waiting!

[07:24] ---

Tell us already!

[07:25] ---

Tell us?

[07:26] ---

Tell us what-kina?

[07:30] ---

Fairy Tail! As we have
done since days long past,

[07:33] ---

I will now announce the participants in this
year's S Class Wizard Advancement Exam!

[07:40] ---

S Class Wizard Advancement Exam?!

[07:44] ---

I'm all fired up!

[07:46] ---

Everyone, quiet down!

[07:49] ---

The Master isn't finished speaking yet.

[07:53] ---

This year's exam will
take place on Tenroujima!

SIGN Note: Tenroujima = Heaven Wolf Island

[07:58] ---

It is holy ground for our guild.

[08:03] ---

So, what kind of test is it?

[08:05] ---

It changes each year, actually.

[08:07] ---

But it's always something extremely hard.

[08:09] ---

I mean, anyone who passes gets to
be an S Class wizard, after all!

[08:13] ---

Each of your powers, hearts, and souls...

[08:18] ---

I have judged them all this past year...

[08:21] ---

There will be eight participants!

[08:25] ---

Natsu Dragneel!

[08:27] ---

All right!

[08:28] ---

Good for you, Natsu!

[08:31] ---

Gray Fullbuster!

[08:33] ---

Finally, the time has come...

[08:36] ---

Juvia Lockser!

[08:38] ---

Huh? Juvia is participating?

[08:41] ---

Elfman!

[08:43] ---

Those who are Men, should become S Class!

[08:45] ---

Good luck, Elf-niichan!

[08:48] ---

Cana, Alberona!

[08:53] ---

Fried Justine!

[08:55] ---

To follow in Laxus's footsteps...

[08:58] ---

Levy McGarden!

[09:00] ---

Finally, I...

[09:02] ---

Levy's time has come!

[09:05] ---

Mest Gryder!

[09:08] ---

Mest!

[09:08] ---

He came close last year...

[09:11] ---

This year's no good, either?

[09:13] ---

There's always next year, right?

[09:16] ---

Natsu's finally in this year.

[09:18] ---

So is Gray!

[09:19] ---

This is gonna be good.

[09:20] ---

Everyone looks rarin' to go!

[09:22] ---

Wow! S Class wizards, huh?

[09:25] ---

One day, I'll also...

[09:28] ---

I see... So everyone was trying
their best so they'd get chosen.

[09:34] ---

Do your best, everyone!

[09:36] ---

Huh?

[09:39] ---

Oh yeah... Could this be the reason
she wants to quit the guild?

[09:44] ---

This time, only one of you will pass.

[09:49] ---

The exam will take place in a week,

[09:52] ---

so each of you, prepare yourselves!

[09:54] ---

Just one-kina?

[09:56] ---

Is the frontrunner Fried?

[09:57] ---

Mest, obviously.

[09:58] ---

Natsu and Gray are there, too!

[10:00] ---

W-Why aren't I included?

[10:03] ---

Even Juvia is, so...

[10:05] ---

I've heard about your
reputation in the guild.

[10:08] ---

Doesn't seem like you're trusted.

[10:10] ---

Uh, no! I mean, I can't
tell you why, but I'm not!

[10:15] ---

I wanna explain but I can't!

[10:16] ---

And there's also Erza...

[10:19] ---

You're not ready.

[10:20] ---

Damn you!

[10:22] ---

Honestly... Such a fuss all the time.

[10:28] ---

What's the matter, Carla?

[10:30] ---

N-Nothing...

[10:32] ---

What was that, just for a moment...

[10:52] ---

Who?

[10:55] ---

I didn't know yet.

[10:58] ---

An unexpected something would
be joining in for this event...

[11:03] ---

[11:11] ---

As this is the first time for some of you, let me explain the rules.

[11:17] ---

Each of the eight selected participants, please select a partner within the week of preparation.

[11:23] ---

Partner?

[11:25] ---

It's a contest between two-person teams.

[11:28] ---

This exam tests your bonds with your friends.

[11:31] ---

There are two rules for the partners you can choose.

[11:34] ---

One: They must be a member of Fairy Tail.

[11:37] ---

Two: You cannot partner with S Class wizards.

[11:42] ---

In other words, you can't form a team with Erza, Mirajane, or Gildarts.

[11:48] ---

Being with Erza-san would make you far too powerful, after all.

[11:52] ---

The contents of the exam itself will be announced once you arrive at Tenroujima.

[11:57] ---

But this time, Erza will be blocking your progress.

[12:02] ---

I'll also help out to get in your way!

[12:07] ---

D-Don't tell me... You can't become S Class without defeating Erza and Mira-san?!

[12:12] ---

Well, I'm sure they'll hold back a little, but...

[12:15] ---

Now you see what I meant by "hard"?

[12:18] ---

No complaining!

[12:19] ---

All S Class wizards have gone through the same path...

[12:24] ---

H-Hold on a second...

[12:26] ---

Don't tell me...

[12:27] ---

You're gonna participate too, Gildarts?!

[12:29] ---

Don't be happy about that!

[12:32] ---

The eight selected participants and their chosen partners will assemble at Hargeon Port in one week.

[12:39] ---

That is all!

[12:44] ---

This year's gonna be tougher than ever.

[12:47] ---

I'm surprised that it's the first time for all of you.

[12:51] ---

I'm fired up!

[12:52] ---

I'm gonna become S Class for sure!

[12:55] ---

The path to becoming S Class just got farther away for Elfman the Man!

[12:59] ---

Everyone seems to be having a rough time.

[13:01] ---

Good luck, everyone!

[13:03] ---

Let's do our best.

[13:05] ---

Leave it to me!

[13:07] ---

I'm sure Laxus would be pleased if he comes back to see you've become an S Class wizard.

[13:13] ---

And the rank of the Raijinshuu will shoot up!

[13:17] ---

So Fried's partner is going to be Bickslow...

[13:21] ---

They seem like a powerful team, sure.

[13:23] ---

She seems skeptical!

[13:26] ---

So then, has everyone decided on their partners?

[13:30] ---

I'm partnering with Happy, of course.

[13:31] ---

Aye!

[13:33] ---

Happy?! That's not fair!

[13:34] ---

If the exam is a race, then
flying would make it a breeze!

[13:39] ---

What's wrong with that?

[13:40] ---

I don't mind, myself.

[13:43] ---

Because if it comes down to
fighting, you'll be in trouble.

[13:45] ---

Gray, that's just mean.

[13:48] ---

I'm gonna make Natsu an
S Class wizard, for sure!

[13:52] ---

I'm not holding back, even on my friends.

[13:56] ---

And so...

[13:57] ---

...we can't hang around here!

[13:59] ---

Time to train!

[13:59] ---

Aye, sir!

[14:03] ---

So in the two years I've been gone, Natsu's
good enough to take the S Class exam, huh?

[14:13] ---

Natsu thinks that he'll be able to meet
Igneel if he becomes a great wizard.

[14:19] ---

He feels twice as strong about
this exam as most people.

[14:22] ---

I see.

[14:24] ---

Good luck, Natsu!

[14:28] ---

Um... Juvia would like to
withdraw from this exam...

[14:32] ---

Why?

[14:33] ---

Because...

[14:37] ---

What was that?

[14:39] ---

Because, Juvia...

[14:44] ---

She says she wants to be your partner.

[14:47] ---

See?! You're totally gunning for him, Lucy!

[14:49] ---

No, I'm not!

[14:50] ---

Gray-sama... Are you planning
on partnering with Lucy?!

[14:54] ---

Sorry, but I've already
decided on my partner.

[14:59] ---

Long time no see, everyone.

[15:00] ---

Hold on!

[15:02] ---

Loke?

[15:03] ---

We promised a year ago.

[15:06] ---

Lucy... Sorry, but I'll be lifting our
contract during the period of the exam.

[15:11] ---

There's no need to worry.

[15:13] ---

I traveled through the gate
with my own magic power.

[15:17] ---

So I won't use up your magic power.

[15:20] ---

What...

[15:22] ---

What a free Spirit, indeed!

[15:27] ---

It's trainin' time, hooboy!

[15:28] ---

Hooboy!

[15:30] ---

Um, but...

[15:31] ---

What should we do?

[15:33] ---

Snow's falling, so it's gotta be that!

[15:35] ---

Yeah, that!

[15:39] ---

Special Training Regimen #1:

[15:41] ---

Stop giant boulders with your body,
and build up that defensive strength!

[15:44] ---

Hold on a sec!

[15:46] ---

But are you technically a
member of the guild, Loke?

[15:53] ---

I am still a Fairy Tail wizard.

[15:56] ---

With pride in my guild, I will
make Gray an S Class wizard.

[16:00] ---

I'm countin' on ya!

[16:02] ---

Leave it to me.

[16:03] ---

Were those two always so close?

[16:06] ---

And there you go. You'd better
give me your best shot.

[16:09] ---

Let's have a passionate
battle, just like old times!

[16:13] ---

Passionate...

[16:16] ---

A passionate battle...

[16:18] ---

Um, Ma'am...

[16:20] ---

I'll partner with Juvia.

[16:21] ---

You're serious, Lisanna?!

[16:23] ---

I got along great with Edolas's Juvia.

[16:26] ---

And the Juvia over here is kind of cute!

[16:29] ---

Lisanna-san...

[16:31] ---

It's decided!

[16:32] ---

Don't tell me... She's
also after Gray-sama...

[16:35] ---

How obsessed can you get?!

[16:37] ---

Wait, Lisanna!

[16:39] ---

Then what will I do for my partner?!

[16:42] ---

Oh? But you've been getting a passionate
stare down for a while now...

[16:49] ---

Looks like she's pissed that Fried
chose Bickslow as his partner.

[16:54] ---

Evergreen?

[16:57] ---

Elf-niichan?

[16:59] ---

Passionate stare? More like
one that turns you to stone...

[17:04] ---

And then...

[17:06] ---

Special Training Regimen #15:
Increase your lower leg strength!

[17:10] ---

Natsu, are you okay?

[17:12] ---

I'm not done yet!

[17:14] ---

Special Training Regimen #16!

[17:18] ---

I'll be heading to Tenroujima first.

[17:21] ---

I'll be waiting for you, Natsu.

[17:23] ---

I'll blow away Erza, and
Mira, and Gildarts...

[17:28] ---

...and become an S Class wizard, Happy!

[17:30] ---

Aye, sir!

[17:32] ---

Levy was chosen!

[17:33] ---

Amazing! You might become an S class wizard.

[17:36] ---

So, you'll be partnering
with me, of course, right?

[17:38] ---

Don't be silly, she's partnering with me!

[17:39] ---

I'm the faster runner!

[17:40] ---

My magic is suited for battle!

[17:42] ---

Anyway, you just want to
be together with Levy!

[17:45] ---

Same for you!

[17:47] ---

If you really wanna be an S Class
wizard, then I'll lend you a hand.

[17:52] ---

Gajeel!

[17:53] ---

I just have to blow away any
guys who get in your way, right?

[17:57] ---

But I've got a small body, and I'm
not really good for anything...

[18:02] ---

I might lose right away.

[18:04] ---

Don't go sounding so weak
before it's even started, man!

[18:07] ---

Hey! Let me down!

[18:09] ---

I'm gonna make you big time.

[18:35] ---

What's wrong, Carla?

[18:37] ---

You've been quiet ever since this morning.

[18:40] ---

It's just... I have a bad feeling about this.

[18:44] ---

About this exam.

[18:46] ---

Don't participate, no matter what.

[18:49] ---

There's no one for me to
partner with, so no worries.

[18:53] ---

I wouldn't be so sure of that, Sky Maiden.

[18:57] ---

Um... And you are?

[19:01] ---

I am Mest.

[19:04] ---

Mystogan's apprentice.

[19:06] ---

Natsu, dinner's ready!

[19:11] ---

What's wrong, Natsu?

[19:15] ---

My chance has finally come around.

[19:18] ---

I'm gonna become S Class, no matter what.

[19:24] ---

Aye!

[19:29] ---

Snow! It snows in Magnolia, too!

[19:39] ---

That's no place to be dead drunk!

[19:44] ---

Man, what a lifesaver you are.

[19:47] ---

If no one had noticed me, I
would've been a goner there.

[19:50] ---

Sheesh... You've been acting weird, Cana.

[19:54] ---

I'm sure you heard from Mira.

[19:57] ---

I've got this complex about the S
Class Exam, or something like that.

[20:01] ---

Does this have something to do with you
saying you wanted to quit the guild?

[20:08] ---

This'll be the fifth time.

[20:11] ---

I've failed the test 4 times... I'm a
wizard who didn't live up to expectations.

[20:16] ---

Oh, is that it?

[20:19] ---

What does it matter how many times you fail?

[20:22] ---

I'm the first ever to fail four times.

[20:25] ---

So, I'm going to make this the last.

[20:29] ---

If I don't become S Class after
this, I'm leaving Fairy Tail.

[20:34] ---

Hey... You don't have to be so
hung up over being S Class...

[20:38] ---

I have to become S Class!

[20:44] ---

I have to...

[20:47] ---

...or I have no right to see that person.

[20:50] ---

I...

[21:22] ---

And there you have it.

[21:27] ---

If I don't become S Class this time...

[21:32] ---

...I'll leave the guild.

[21:35] ---

I've made up my mind.

[21:38] ---

I'll be your partner, Cana!

[21:41] ---

There's no way I'll let you quit the guild!

[21:43] ---

Because I'll make you
an S Class wizard, Cana!

[21:55] ---

Lucy...

[22:01] ---

Then, one week later, at Hargeon Port...

[22:13] ---

Each with their own feelings in their chests,
the day of the S Class Advancement Exam has come.

[23:56] ---

What's with the creepy face?

[23:58] ---

Wanna know?

[23:59] ---

Actually, I'm not that intere-

[24:00] ---

You see, my horoscope said that
today I have the best luck in love!

[24:04] ---

Cana told me my fortune!

[24:06] ---

So if I show everyone how awesome I
am during the exam, then Carla will...

[24:14] ---

Next time: Who's the One with the Good Luck?

[24:16] ---

For your information, Carla
isn't participating in the exam.

[24:19] ---

No!!

[24:22] ---

Waste of luck, Happy.

Revision #1

Created 2026-03-04 02:00:59 UTC by whimsee

Updated 2026-03-04 02:00:59 UTC by whimsee