

A Journey 511

Chapter 511 All Eight Girls

Archer stared at the elf and started laughing, which caught the man off guard. Not long after that, he calmed down and asked. "Is that what they're calling me now? It's a good name."

The stall owner observed him, his eyes filled with amusement, before breaking into laughter. "So, you're him, huh? The infamous White Prince. Is it true that you've kidnapped twenty princesses and collected them?"

He couldn't help but join in the laughter at the outrageous claim. Archer shook his head in amusement. "No, no, no. It's not twenty princesses. Just ten, my maid who's been with me since I was very young and a general of the Dawnbreaker Legion.

Archer chuckled to himself, contemplating the considerable number of women in his life. He continued, "I still have to tell two kings I've claimed their daughters. It's a busy schedule, you know?"

The stall owner continued to chuckle, shaking his head. "Well, you seem more harmless than the tales suggest. Your food will be done soon, White Prince."

He nodded at the elf, who asked another question. "Why so many women? Isn't one enough."

As the lively banter between them stopped, he leaned back in the chair, his attention turning to the bustling street again.

Archer watched Starfall City come to life, and his attention was drawn to a regiment of soldiers marching with discipline down the cobbled street.

The morning sun caught the gleam of their armor, casting a radiant sheen over their formation.

The steady beat of their boots reverberated against the stone. Archer observed their disciplined march and asked the elf, "Have there been more patrols than usual?"

"Yes, young master. Security has been heightened since the recent attacks." The older elf responded.

That's when he saw wagons rolling down the street loaded with various goods and merchandise.

The wheels creaked slightly as they navigated the uneven terrain and were guided by skilled merchants. Amidst the organized chaos, ordinary citizens of the city moved with purpose.

Some hurriedly made their way to workshops, their tools in hand, while others carried bundles of goods for the day's trade.

The street resonated with a harmonious blend of footsteps, greetings, and occasional laughter, forming a daily life symphony.

Rising higher in the sky, the morning sun bathed the scene in a warm, golden glow. The air was crisp, and the city seemed to come alive under the gentle touch of the sunlight.

As Archer sat there, he continued to smell the food the elf was cooking and grew hungry, even though he had eaten breakfast.

While sitting there, he got a message from Ella through the bracelet, telling him that Nefertiti and Talila were still sleeping.

He told the half-elf that it was best to leave them in bed as they were ravaged last night and needed the rest.

Archer's answer caused her to giggle, and she told him they were still in the bath and wouldn't be ready for a little while.

Soon after, the stall owner spoke tiredly, "White Prince, your food is done."

Turning to the old elf who wiped sweat off his forehead, Archer stood up and approached the pile of food.

Archer gave thanks and started storing the hot meals in his Item Box. That's when a beautiful smell of the meat-filled roll filled the air as he took it in hand.

He left the stall behind after bidding farewell to the old elf. Wandering through the lively city streets, Archer felt the vibrant pulse of Starfall City.

People bustled about, engaged in their daily routines as he walked deeper into the city. The sounds of people gradually faded, replaced by the gentle murmur of flowing water.

Archer followed the sound until he emerged onto the banks of a large river. The morning sun reflected off the water's surface, glowing the scene gently.

He discovered a rare, quiet corner in the bustling city and seized the opportunity to find a suitable place to sit.

The area was surrounded by trees and had benches facing the river with a water fountain in the middle.

It surprised him that such a place was hidden away in the city. That's when he thought to himself. 'It's like the parks in London back on Earth.'

Settling down, he took a bite of the delicious meat-filled roll, savoring its delicious and slightly sweet flavor.

He enjoyed his meal and watched the peaceful passage of ships sailing through the water.

Lost in his thoughts, he found peace enjoying a roll by the river. While sitting there, he realized he had a date with Llynial and Hemera after classes.

Deciding to take the wood elf to the market he had seen before. Archer started to think about a plan for Hemera and decided to take her to the Solaris Empire for their date.

Archer wanted to try sun elf food and knew she would know where to go. After planning that, he thought to himself. 'Why do I eat so much? Is it because I'm a dragon?'

He shrugged and stopped thinking about it. While he was finishing the meat roll, a massive ship sailed by.

As Archer continued to enjoy his riverside perch, he was drawn to a ship appearing on the horizon.

It was sailing down the river. It was a colossal ship, its sheer size dominating the river. The ship was a marvel of engineering, with an imposing silhouette that commanded respect.

Its deck boasted mana cannons typically used on city walls, each one a declaration of the ship's formidable offensive power.

The dark metal cannons stood out against the wooden structure, imparting elegance and power to the massive ship.

Soldiers, dressed in matching grey uniforms, moved around the deck working while others stood at the cannons, keeping watch.

The ship seemed alive with activity as crew members attended to various tasks, adjusting sails, maintaining equipment, and ensuring the ship's smooth progress down the river.

The hum of mana-powered engines echoed softly, a harmonious backdrop to the bustling scene.

Archer marveled at the fusion of magic and engineering that powered it. As it sailed past the little park he was in, he couldn't help but appreciate the craftsmanship.

Elaborate carvings adorned the ship's hull, depicting mythical creatures from the sea. Archer recognized a beast that looked like a Kraken.

Red and gold banners with a picture of a giant bear fluttered in the wind, displaying sigils that hinted at the ship's origin.

From the books Archer read, he knew the banners were from the Novgorod Empire on the central continent.

Archer stood up from the bench, leaving behind the lively morning sounds as he headed west towards the College of Magic.

After a twenty-minute walk, he reached the western gate and exited, making his way to class. During his journey, he saw other students also walking along the road.

Conversations buzzed around him, snippets of discussions about spells and magical creatures.

Passing through the college entrance, Archer found himself on the main path leading directly to the main building.

Towering spires and grand structures loomed ahead, each housing a different magic subject and classrooms.

Archer spotted the girls waiting outside the entrance, and Nala and Sera were the first to notice him.

A smile lit up the redhead's face as she hurried toward him, launching herself at Archer. He caught the enthusiastic dragon girl.

Her silly embrace made him laugh. Archer leaned down and kissed Sera. Her happiness was evident as she hugged him even tighter.

Once he did that, the others walked over to him and greeted him with a kiss each before Ella spoke. "What class do you have first?"

"Combat Magic," Archer answered the half-elf with a smile. Each girl told him their classes before bidding him farewell as they headed to their lessons.

The day passed swiftly, filled with Archer absorbing the basic knowledge of various subjects.

While what he learned was beneficial to him. Now, Archer was seated in the dining room as he looked around.

Archer's eyes scanned his surroundings. Elaborate artwork adorned the walls, showing people the talent of previous college students.

Several long, polished wooden tables stretched across the hall with enough room for hundreds of students to sit down.

Intricately carved chairs surrounded them. Archer noticed a warm glow of magical lamps illuminating the dining hall, casting a soft and inviting light.

Crystal chandeliers hung from the ceiling, refracting the light in dazzling patterns. He sat alone at the expansive dining table, a momentary solitude in the bustling hall.

Soon, all eight girls joined him, their smiles lighting up the hall. The group grew as Lioran took a seat when he appeared in the hall.

The lion sisters Leonora and Nalika trailed behind him. Laughter and friendly banter filled the air as they discussed their day, exchanging stories about their classes.

After that, Archer, Teuila, and Nala said their goodbyes and went to look for Zarina so they could do more quests for the Adventure class.

Chapter 512 Goblins

Archer decided to wait until the rest of the girls were in their classes before leaving to complete the quests.

He told Teuila and Nala, who happily agreed, and they went to sit down again, which earned them looks from the other students, but they didn't care.

The three returned to the group, settling back into their seats amidst curious glances from the others.

Teuila, sensing the unspoken question in the air, spoke with a mischievous twinkle in her eye. "Hey, everyone. Archer wanted to spend more time with us ladies, and I thought it was a good idea."

The others exchanged amused glances and a few playful smirks, but they were happy he wanted to spend more time with them.

Sera, who was sitting across from Archer, chuckled. "Oh, is that it? Here, we thought you found some secret treasure or something."

He grinned and shrugged. "Nah, I just wanted to hang out with everyone longer."

Teuila added with a playful smirk, "And we couldn't resist the chance to have the mighty white dragon grace our humble gathering."

That's when Archer turned to Llyniel, who was quiet and only replied when the others spoke to her.

He smiled before commenting in a loving tone. "Llyn and Hemi. Today is your date; tomorrow will be Halime's and Talila's if she wakes up."

When the girls heard this, they just stared at him. Sera spoke with a giggle, jokingly saying, "She was visited by a big evil dragon in the night and ravaged until she couldn't fight back. Of course, she'd be sleeping still."

Archer laughed when he heard Sera's comment, which made them all laugh as most agreed, apart from Halime and Llyniel, whose faces went red.

The group kept chatting until the bell rang, and one by one, each girl gave Archer a farewell kiss. When the chatter settled, only Archer, Teuila, and Nala remained.

As they stood up, Lioran approached with a smile. "Hey Arch! We didn't get to hang out. Do you want to join us after classes?"

Archer nodded. "Sure thing, Lioran. I'll join, but I'll bring Llyniel. I'm planning to take each girl on a date."

Lioran's face lit up before he spoke. "Meet me and the girls at Imperial Ivory Inn. It's in the noble quarter, next to the river's north bank."

After speaking, the lion boy wandered out of the dining room to class, followed by Nalika and Leonora.

Once they were gone, he summoned a Treesym. The fluffy flying cat flew through the portal and landed on Archer's shoulder before rubbing its head against his.

He stroked the little beast and spoke. "Hey, little guy, could you find someone for me?"

The flying cat nodded its little head before Archer used Mana Manipulation to show it a picture of the redhead.

When the Tressym saw the image, it meowed before flying off and out of one of the dining room windows.

Teuil, Nala, and all the other students who saw this watched Archer with wide eyes, but he chuckled before leaving the hall.

The three made their way to the front entrance, and when they got there, Archer pulled out the piece of paper to check what quests the four could do now.

Archer chose two that would be fun because there might be some treasure.

[Goblin Extermination: Clear an area infested with goblins located north of Crossroad City]

[Wendigo Threat: Track and eliminate a perilous beast lurking in the Eldertree Grove]

After waiting a while, they heard distant meows and looked over to see the Treesyms flying next to Zarina, who looked at the fluffy cat with wide eyes.

When Archer saw this, he chuckled along with Teuila and Nala. The redhead arrived not long after the Treesyms returned to the domain.

Once she was here, he asked the three girls. "Okay, so we can do a Goblin Extermination and Wendigo Hunt. Which beasts do you girls want to fight?"

There was an instant answer. "Goblins!"

Archer was taken aback by their reaction, which showed on his face, causing Nala to explain. "You see, Goblins are easy compared to Wendigos. They are sneaky creatures and love to hide."

He nodded with a smile but shrugged. "I have many ways to deal with the things, so there's no issue. We can leave now if you three are ready?"

Nala and Teuila smiled while Zarina nodded her head. But she looked around and asked with a curious voice. "Where is Talila? Shouldn't she be here?"

Archer chuckled when he remembered the sleeping elf. He was about to speak, but Nala explained with a smile. "Well, she was visited by a certain dragon last night, and it caused her to be tired and needed a day to recover."

Upon hearing this, Zarina's cheeks flushed crimson as her hair. Archer couldn't help but burst into laughter, but the girl's response was swift. "Let's go."

After the redhead calmed down, he cast Gate to the town Eldoria and told them to stay there until he opened another portal.

The three girls agreed as he stepped through the portal and appeared outside the town. Archer summoned his wings and took off toward Crossroad City.

It took him a little while to get there as it was miles away, but when he arrived, he descended and cast Gate again.

After waiting a few seconds, the three girls stepped through the portal. Teuila was looking around alongside Zarina, but Nala was excited as she bounced around.

When she got close to him, Archer grabbed her tail, which caused Nala to scream out as she spun around with narrowed eyes.

But after seeing it was him, she latched onto him like a koala, which reminded him of Sera. The lion girl spoke with a grin. "When can we mate, my dragon? I want to see what the others say is true."

Archer smiled after hearing this and spoke with a smile. "Your turn is after Llyniel."

Nala got excited and nodded. Once that was said, the other two girls approached them before Teuila spoke. "What's the plan? Use the cats again?"

A grin played on his lips as he shook his head, summoning Shadowspawn, which materialized into eerie shadow creatures.

He ordered them to find the goblin camps in the Shadowleaf Forest and return to him as quickly as possible.

Once he was done with giving out orders, he used Mana Manipulation to create chairs for them.

Archer settled into a chair, patiently awaiting the Shadowspawn. The atmosphere crackled with otherworldly energy as Teuila and Nala joined him.

As they started to relax, Zarina observed the trio and couldn't help but shake her head, disbelief in her expression.

Not much time passed as the Shadowspawn reported back to him and showed him three large goblin camps.

That's when he jumped off the chair, scaring the three girls who looked at him with curious eyes as he spoke. "Found them. Let's get ready."

They all nodded and started to follow him into the forest as he dismissed the Shadowspawn once their task was completed.

The Shadowleaf Forest was so quiet that it crept the three girls as Archer led them deeper into the enigmatic realm.

Towering trees cast long shadows that seemed to dance with a life of their own, and the rustling leaves whispered secrets.

Archer, clad in dark attire that blended seamlessly with the forest's shadows, surveyed the surroundings keenly.

Teuila, her sword at the ready, and Nala, her movements fluid and catlike, followed closely behind.

Zarina, the elemental mage, got ready to start casting spells at any enemies that appeared from the bushes.

As they ventured further, the distant murmur of a goblin camp reached their ears. Archer raised a hand, signaling the group to slow down.

The forest floor was littered with vibrant foliage, creating a mosaic of colors beneath their feet.

They approached the outskirts of the goblin camp, hidden by the dense foliage. Archer turned to the group, his eyes locking onto each of the three girls.

"We've reached the first goblin camp. Teuila, Nala, you two will rush in and take out the goblins with your swords. Zarina, cover them with your magic and I'll keep watch. Let's make quick work of this."

Teuila's grin widened, and she adjusted the grip on her sword. Nala, her blue eyes gleaming with excitement, nodded in agreement.

With a focused expression, Zarina nodded, her hands glowing with mana. The four moved forward cautiously until they reached the edge of the camp.

He remained at the outskirts, blending into the shadows, ready to jump in if anything happened to them.

As Teuila and Nala infiltrated the camp, the goblins, caught off guard, scrambled in confusion.

Teuila's blade violently danced through the air, striking down goblins with swift strokes. Nala moved like a phantom, her agility allowing her to navigate the chaos effortlessly.

Meanwhile, Zarina stepped forward, her eyes ablaze with magic. She raised her hands, conjuring flames that streaked toward the goblins, incinerating them in their path.

Water magic followed suit, manifesting in torrential blasts that engulfed the remaining foes.

Chapter 513 Scared Chickens

The combination of swordplay and magic created a beautiful scene of destruction for Archer, who was watching with glowing eyes.

Every goblin in the camp was killed in the assault. From the outskirts, Archer picked off any stragglers with his Element Bolts, ensuring that the beasts didn't get away.

As the last echoes of battle faded, the four regrouped at the camp's center, surrounded by the aftermath of their efficient onslaught.

Once they were there, he summoned the Stone Men and told them to loot the camp, and not long after that, they returned with a chest, which he threw into his Item box.

His eyes met each of the girls. "Good work. Let's press on. There's more to be done in Shadowleaf Forest."

They ventured deeper into the forest with renewed excitement, ready to face the challenges.

Guiding them through the dense forest, Archer brought the group to the final two goblin camps, swiftly dismantling the remnants of the enemy forces.

With a nod from Archer, the Stone Men entered the camps to scour for anything of value.

In no time, the Stone Men uncovered three chests brimming with coins. Driven by an undeniable greed, Archer wasted no time stashing away the newfound wealth.

The three girls, amused by Archer's unapologetic enthusiasm for the spoils, exchanged giggles at his greed.

As the group stood amidst the old goblin camp in the Shadowleaf Forest, Archer turned to the three girls. "Alright, wait here. I'm going to Eldertree Grove to teleport you three. It won't take long, so be ready."

The three girls nodded in unison, each understanding their role in this quest. Archer stepped back, his form dissolving into the shadowy wings of a majestic raven.

With a flap of his wings, he took to the sky, disappearing into the distance, and soon came to a massive forest that stretched to the Bloodmoon Peak Mountains.

Archer descended to the ground and cast Gate so the girls could come here, which they did instantly.

He summoned some Tressyms and ordered them to find the Wendigos as the three approached him.

Teuila spoke with a curious voice. "How are you going to hunt these beasts, Darling? They are tough."

Nala and Zarina agreed, but Archer just chuckled before speaking. "Well, they are known to ambush their prey and swarm them, but how can they swarm someone who can summon millions of beasts?"

Teuila and Nala laughed while Zarina looked confused until the blue-haired girl spoke. "You will see during the hunt."

She nodded, and the group entered the forest while waiting for the Tressyms to return.

[Ella, Hemera and Sera's POV]

Ella was sitting in Magic Fundamentals, learning the best way to cast spells, which she already knew.

She was with Hemera, who was happily taking notes, and Sera, sleeping on the desk while letting out little snores.

The half-elf looked at her and shook her head with a smile as she brushed a lock of hair from the girl's face.

That's when one of the girls turned around and spoke with a smile as she asked. "Where is your fiancée? Is he not in this class with you?"

Ella shook her head before answering. "No, he is currently in the Quest and Adventure class with the others."

The girl smiled before one of the boys spoke, and Ella sensed the jealousy in his voice. "Why does he have so many girls? He isn't ten enough, yet he still has more princesses flocking to him."

Before she could answer, they heard a giggle as Sera woke up, looked at the boy, and answered with a grin. "Because he can? And it's not ten. It's twelve now if you include Nala and Halime."

The boy got frustrated, but another girl spoke up with a smug smile. "Well, I've heard Nala is already engaged, and Halime would be given away for free due to the curse. Then you have Maeve Avaloch, whose father engaged her to a Novgorod Prince. So the pervy dragon can't get all the girls he's interested in."

When Sera heard this, she bellowed. "Say that again bitch! I dare you!"

The first girl who spoke tried to stop the mouthy girl. "Tarinne, shut up before you make things worse!"

But Tarinne grinned before she spoke again and sealed her fate. "That murderous dragon won't be able to corrupt any more princesses like he's done. I've heard the rumors about how he's a butcher. I don't see how you girls are with him. It's disgusting."

Sera was known for her playful behavior, but she was very protective over Archer, whom she loved dearly, so when she heard Tarinne's words, she stiffened in her seat.

Her ruby-red eyes, usually filled with mischief, now blazed with different intensity. When the girl insulted Archer, it struck a chord, awakening a simmering anger within her.

Without warning, Sera shot up from her chair, the scraping of wood against the floor echoing through the room.lights

Her movements were swift as she lunged towards Tarinne. A collective gasp filled the classroom as Sera's hand snaked into her hair, seizing a fistful with a relentless grip.

Tarinne's eyes widened in surprise and pain as Sera, fueled by an unexpected surge of rage, delivered a forceful punch to her mouth.

The impact resonated through the room, the sound of the hit mingling with the shocked gasps of the girl's friends.

Sera's expression remained hardened as she held onto Tarinne's hair, who was reeling from the unexpected assault.

The room was once filled with students chatting, but now they witnessed a fight, but it wasn't a fight as Sera kept punching Tarinne.

Sera pulled the girl down to the ground, climbed on top of her, and kept hitting her until blood started gushing out.

Suddenly, the Professor burst into the room and hurried to intervene, but a blinding light prevented her from moving.

All eyes turned upwards to find Hemera standing there, her hand aimed towards the Professor.

The sun elf gave everyone a stern warning. "She insulted our husband, so this is what she deserves. Archer doesn't go around bragging or bullying people, even though he could, but he remains peaceful."

Every student nodded like a scared chicken, making the elf smile. While this was happening, Ella kept watch over Sera.

She wanted to ensure that Sera wouldn't kill the girl who insulted their fiancée. After a little while, the girl stopped wailing.

Sera wasn't stopped, but soon, a noise was heard, and the dragon girl was lifted into the air.

Ella concentrated, and Ophelia appeared with a frown, her voice stern. "What's happening here? Why is there a half-dead student and an enraged dragon?"

Hemera, always composed, stepped forward gracefully. "The girl continued to insult Archer, and you know Sera is deeply connected to him. When Tarinne said those things about him, she couldn't control her anger."

Ophelia sighed to herself before mumbling something to herself. "Why did I accept dragons into the college this year."

She thought no one could hear her, but Ella did, and she chuckled, causing the Headmistress to look at her. "What's so funny?"

Ella shook her head and answered. "Well, you know dragons are very possessive and will react to the slightest insult."

Ophelia sighed deeply, her expression a mix of weariness and disappointment, as she addressed Ella, Sera, and Hemera. "Come to my office. All of you."

Ella, Sera, and Hemera exchanged glances, understanding the gravity of the situation. Without a word, they gathered their belongings and made their way out of the classroom.

The hallways seemed unusually quiet as they moved towards Ophelia's office, the weight of the impending conversation hanging over them like a heavy cloud.

As they walked towards the headmistress's office, the gravity of the situation weighed heavily on their minds.

In a collective decision, they reached for their magical communication bracelets, each adorned with a unique gem connecting them to Archer.

The atmosphere was tense as they sent a message, recounting what had happened, the conflict with Tarinne, and the intervention by Ophelia.

The silence that followed seemed to stretch into an eternity until, finally, a warm voice resonated through the enchanted bracelets.

Archer's laughter echoed through the magical connection, breaking the tension that had gripped the girls.

Once he calmed down, they heard him speak. "Don't worry about it, my beauties. I will visit this human girl's family and show them how generous I am."

When they heard his answer, they all laughed and calmed down, thanks to Archer.

"Okay, ladies. I have to go. We are hunting some Wendigos at the moment." He spoke before the connection was cut.

In an instant, Ophelia materialized seemingly out of thin air, her presence making the three girls jump in surprise.

The headmistress stood before them with an air of authority. Her eyes focused on each of them.

"Startled you, did I?" she remarked, a subtle hint of amusement. "Well, let's not keep this discussion waiting. Enter the office; we have matters to address."

With that, Ophelia gestured towards the door, and the girls exchanged glances before cautiously entering the office.

Chapter 514 Wendigo

Not long after entering the forest, Archer and the girls stopped when they saw the Tressyms returning through the trees.

The flying cats flew in a circle around him while letting out meows before they started showing him where the Wendigos were.

Archer learned that the creatures were heading toward them, a revelation that made his face smile.

No longer needing to search for them, he swiftly turned and cast a Cosmic Shield around the three ladies.

The sudden shield puzzled them, causing Teuila to ask, "What are you doing, Arch?"

Turning back with a smile, he replied, "They're already hunting us. The cats saw them heading in our direction."

Zarina stiffened up while Nala started looking around as she sniffed the air and recoiled. "Archie! They're close, so be careful!"

The dense forest enveloped everything in shadows as he walked away from the girls, the leaves crunching beneath his boots.

The air was thick with an eerie stillness, broken only by the distant calls of beasts deeper in the forest.

Suddenly, without warning, a sinister figure emerged from the underbrush. A Wendigo, its form twisted and grotesque, swiftly lunged at him.

Its hollow eyes glinted in the sunlight as it aimed to strike. Archer quickly sidestepped the creature's attack, the chilling breeze of its near-miss grazing against him.

Fueled by feral hunger, the Wendigo crashed into the foliage with a guttural snarl, its claws raking through the air where he once stood.

The first Wendigo tried to surprise him but failed. This got the attention of the others, and soon more of them came out of the dark, all heading towards Archer.

With a confident grin, he danced through the onslaught of attacks, dodging each lunging creature with a combination of agility and excitement.

The dark forest became a battleground, the Wendigo's snarls and the rustling of leaves creating a creepy symphony.

As one of the creatures lunged towards him, Archer smoothly sidestepped its claws, his movements flowing with effortless grace.

His grin widened with each successful dodge. The excitement built up so much that Archer's violet eyes were glowing.

The Wendigos, frustrated by their inability to catch their prey, growled with increasing aggression.

Archer seized the opportunity daringly when two Wendigos attacked simultaneously while he stood there with a smile.

With a spin, he avoided their claws, and then, in a flash of movement, he reached out and grabbed one of them by the neck.

The Wendigo struggled against Archer's grip while letting out eerie screams reverberating through the forest.

The other creatures, momentarily stopping their attack as they looked at their companion in distress, hesitated before resuming their attack.

Not bothered by the chaos, he kept a firm hold on the struggling Wendigo. He used the creature as a shield to fend off the next wave of attacks.

Archer wasn't bothered by the squirming in his grasp. He swung it like a horrible flesh flail with a wicked grin, using its thrashing body as a weapon against its kin.

The others stopped moving and were taken aback by the unexpected events, watched in confusion as the creature became the instrument of their deaths.

He whipped the flailing Wendigo through the air, its unearthly shrieks now accompanied by sickening thuds as its contorted form collided with its brethren.

Each swing sent them sprawling, their gnarled bodies colliding with trees and underbrush.

The forest echoed with the impacts and the disturbed growls of the Wendigos as they were sent flying through the air like creepy projectiles.

Fueled by excitement, Archer continued to wield the creature in his hand like a grim weapon of death.

He spun to create a chaotic whirlwind of violence using the captured creepy humanoid. The ghastly forms of the other Wendigos were decimated as they were hit.

The forest became a surreal spectacle of flailing limbs and twisted bodies as Archer masterfully wielded his improvised weapon.

With each swing of the captured Wendigo against its kin, the creatures were sent crashing to the ground, disoriented and incapacitated.

As the final swing sent the last of the Wendigos scurrying backward, Archer looked at the aftermath, still holding the now limp and lifeless creature.

The eerie silence that settled over the forest was broken only by the distant rustling of leaves and the echo of his breathing.

Archer crushed the beast's neck and threw its lifeless body to the ground. After doing that, he walked over to the other downed creatures.

He used his tail to pierce the heads of the remaining Wendigos. Once that was done, he summoned the Stone Men and ordered them to loot the hearts.

After doing that, he turned around to see the three girls staring at him with wide eyes, causing him to laugh.

Archer made his way over to them and dismissed the shield as Teuila asked. "That was different, Darling. I didn't expect you to do that."

The other two nodded in agreement, which made him laugh before he explained. "It was random. I didn't plan to do it."

Before anyone could speak, Nala spoke with a big smile. "I love it, Archie! You used that vile creature as a weapon."

Archer laughed when he heard the lion girl's words before he approached her and kissed her.

Once he was done speaking, he continued with his Wendigo hunt, but this time, he cast Shadowspawn and ordered them to capture all the creatures.

The Shadows split into groups and rushed through the forest, searching for them. He watched this with a grin and found it funny.

The four continued walking through the forest while looking for a place to relax. Archer found a clearing nearby and led the three ladies there to relax.

When he sat down, he looked up and noticed the morning sun was still there. The sunlight filtered through the treetops, casting a warm glow on the ground. Surrounding them.

The chirping of birds harmonized with the distant roars of wild beasts. While standing in the clearing, he took in the scent of the trees and earth.

However, cutting through the wholesome aroma and the foul odor of the nearby Wendigos, an unpleasant stench overwhelmed his senses.

Archer shook his head and started looking at the girls. Zarina sat on a nearby log and looked all around, a constant sense of alertness etched across her features.

In a quiet moment, Archer's gaze shifted to her. She was wearing black mage robes. Her short red hair framed her face, reaching just under her ears, and her eyes held a captivating depth.

Her attire was simple, and the robes showed off her natural features, her hair standing against the dark fabric and eyes of a deeper shade of blue than the other girls.

On the other hand, Teuila was leaning against a tree with her eyes closed as she sharpened her sword with deliberate strokes.

The rhythmic sound of the blade against the whetstone punctuated the clearing, creating a soothing counterpoint to the distant calls of wildlife.

Archer's eyes lit up with a grin as he gazed at his ocean princess. Her ponytailed blue hair caught his attention immediately.

It swung side to side in the breeze. She wore her trusty adventurer's armor, giving her the defense to fight against beasts during the quests.

However, Archer noticed that the armor tightly hugged her curvy body, struggling to contain her large boobs that threatened to spill out.

He watched her for a little longer before turning to the Nala, nestled on a moss-covered rock, and brushing her wild, dirty blonde locks.

Archer thought to himself. 'I love her wild hair. It's so fluffy.'

Nala's hair was a tangle of wild and fluffy strands, yet despite its untamed appearance, it held a natural beauty.

Being a lion demi-human, her behavior, reminiscent of a lioness, made perfect sense to him, and he loved that about her.

The wind made her hair dance, giving her an effortlessly wild charm. Archer continued looking at her, captivated by the beauty before him.

Her face is illuminated by sunlight filtering through the trees. The lion girl's features were delicate yet strong, and her eyes were a stunning shade of blue like an ocean.

As she continued to brush her hair, Archer's gaze shifted to notice her sharp canines whenever she opened her mouth.

Her lion ears perked up at every little sound around her. She was also wearing leather adventurer's armor like Teuila.

The armor hugged her curves, blending strength with femininity effortlessly. Archer liked the mix — a formidable warrior with a graceful figure.

He shook his head and stopped looking at the girls before he sensed the Shadowspawn were starting to return.

They were dragging struggling Wendigos behind them, but he quickly killed them before pulling their hearts out.

Once Archer did that, the Stone Men returned with the hearts looted from the previous fight and gave them to him, which he stored in his Item Box.

After a brief wait, even more Shadowspawn emerged from the forest's depths, bringing a horde of Wendigos to chase after them, which was pointless.

Chapter 515 I've Sent Out The Cats

Archer, sensing the approaching danger, swiftly sprang into action. He unleashed a barrage of Element Bolts, his magic slicing through the forest's darkness.

The deadly dance unfolded as the Wendigos closed in. Their grotesque forms met with the swiftness of Archer's spells.

Each Bolt was made from a different element that burned, shocked, or poisoned the creatures.

The forest echoed with the anguished cries of the Wendigos, their numbers dwindling under Archer's magic.

The Shadowspawn's attempt to bolster their forces proved futile in the face of Archer's prowess as he emerged victorious against the encroaching darkness.

He went around and collected the hearts of the creatures before turning to the girls, who were now grouped up, getting ready to fight.

Archer looked up and spoke with a smile. "We got enough time to do another quest if you ladies want to?"

All three girls agreed and wanted to deal with the orc menace plaguing the villages along the coast opposite the Shadowleaf Forest.

When Archer heard this, he smiled and told them to wait here as he dismissed the Stone Men before casting Gate.

He stepped through and appeared in the familiar forest before summoning his wings and taking off.

The forest stretched beneath Archer as he soared through the sky, the rhythmic beat of his wings echoing in the stillness.

Below, the dense canopy of forest sprawled like a vast tapestry of emerald, interrupted only by occasional clearings and the glimmer of winding rivers.

The air was crisp, and the distant sounds of wildlife created a serene symphony. Archer finally saw clusters of villages appear on the other side of the forest.

His sharp eyes scanned the landscape, each settlement a humble farming village. The people below went about their daily lives without a care.

Archer stopped flying before he started scanning the land until he identified the largest village.

He angled his descent towards it, spotting the settlement on the Star River's banks. Archer landed with a thud before dismissing his wings.

That's when he saw farmers in the distance tending to cattle who stopped to stare at him, but he ignored them and opened a portal to the domain.

Archer called for his scouts again, and the Tressyms appeared and wanted pets from him, which he happily gave before they flew off to find the orcs.

While they did that, he walked down a path next to the river and found a bench. He sat down and cast Gate.

When the violet portal appeared, the three girls stepped through while looking around at the scenery.

Nala spoke while looking at the river. "Your spell is so helpful it would take us days to get here, and the far-away quests would be impossible."

Archer nodded, addressing the girls, "I've sent out the cats. They'll return shortly but join me in waiting."

He gestured towards a bench, and the three sat down, gazing at the serene river. After about ten minutes, the flying cats returned.

They pointed out the location of the orcs, revealing that the beasts were close to the group.

Archer and the girls started to walk through the villages in the direction of Shadowleaf Forest.

The air carried the soothing scent of earth and the gentle rustle of leaves. Villagers went about their daily routines, tending to fields and livestock.

The scene seemed to paint a picture of peace amid the natural beauty of the surroundings.

As they strolled, they witnessed farmers working diligently, guiding cattle across snowy fields. The rhythmic hum of village life surrounded them, creating a comforting atmosphere.

Archer couldn't help but appreciate the simple life of these communities. They were secluded from the rest of the world, with only a few roads connecting them to the outside.

However, the tranquility was abruptly shattered when, in the distance, a group of orcs charged toward a lone house.

The peaceful atmosphere shifted to one of urgency. Archer's eyes narrowed as he saw the chaotic scene unfolding ahead.

He quickened his pace without a word, and the girls followed suit. The orcs, a brutish and menacing horde, seemed intent on causing havoc.

The distant cries of scared farmers reached their ears, causing them to run faster. As they drew closer, the group spotted the orcs circling the house.

Having abandoned their tasks, the farmers gathered in anxious clusters, their faces etched with fear.

Archer turned to the lion girl and spoke with a grin. "Kill them, my lioness."

Nala nodded, excitement lighting up her eyes. Without hesitation, she took off with astonishing speed, a blur of motion streaking toward the approaching orcs.

The lion girl closed the distance, and she unsheathed her sword, catching the glint of sunlight.

In a mesmerizing display of skill and speed, Nala engaged the orcs. Her every movement was perfect, proof of her warrior instincts.

The sword sliced through the air, a gleaming arc that left no room for the orcs to counter.

Nala moved among them with fluid grace, a whirlwind of lethal strikes. Her lioness agility made her effortlessly evade their attacks, and her responses were swift and decisive.

The orcs, caught off guard by her sudden attack, could not mount a defense. Each swing of her sword was a testament to her mastery, as the orcs fell individually.

Nala's movements were an elegant, deadly, and harmonious blend of skill and instinct. The air echoed with the clash of steel, punctuated by the roars of defeated orcs.

She stood amidst the fallen foes in moments, her sword gleaming with the orc blood.

The threat to the village had been dealt with, and the onlookers, both villagers and her companions, witnessed her prowess with a mix of awe and gratitude.

With a satisfied nod, Nala sheathed her sword, the adrenaline-fueled intensity in her eyes gradually giving way to a sense of calm.

The village, spared from the orc menace, stood in appreciation of the girl who had defended them with skill and ferocity.

As the aftermath of Nala's swift and decisive confrontation with the initial orc threat settled, a sudden rustling in the surrounding foliage indicated that the danger was far from over.

More orcs emerged from the shadows and brandished their crude weapons. Archer, Teuila, and Nala recognizing the renewed threat, seamlessly shifted into action.

Teuila, her eyes ablaze with determination, drew her sword with a fluid motion. Beside her, Nala, still charged with the energy of her previous battle, unsheathed her blade.

The two warriors moved as one, a synchronized dance of deadly prowess. While they did this, Zarina cast spells into groups of orcs.

With a shared understanding, the three girls engaged the oncoming orcs with a flurry of precise strikes and well-coordinated maneuvers.

Teuila's sword whirred through the air, each swing a testament to her agility and combat finesse. Nala displayed a combination of strength and grace.

Her swordplay was a symphony of calculated slashes and evasive movements as she effortlessly moved through the chaos of battle.

A clash of steel and the roars of the orcs reverberated through the air as Teuila and Nala met the new threat head-on.

The orcs, caught off guard by the ferocity of their attackers, struggled to mount an effective defense.

In a matter of moments, the combined efforts of Teuila and Nala proved victorious. The orcs, thwarted by the skillful swordplay of the two warriors, lay defeated on the ground.

The village, once again, was spared from the immediate danger. Teuila and Nala, their swords still gleaming from the battle, shared a nod of acknowledgment.

Archer watched the three girls with pride in his eyes but noticed the redhead looking tired, so he threw her a mana potion.

Zarina caught it and gave him a small smile, but he soon summoned the Stone Men and ordered them to collect the orcs' hearts and bodies.

The Stone Men rushed off to complete his orders as Nala and Teuile approached him. He saw sweat running down Nala's face.

Teuila smiled at him, but Archer cast Aurora Healing on the two, which made them feel refreshed.

Nala stepped forward and gave him a kiss, followed by Teuila. Not long after that, the Stone Men returned and threw the bodies down.

Archer smiled before storing the orc bodies and hearts in his Item Box before stretching. The girls brushed the dirt off them before Teuila stepped forward.

With a smile, she spoke to the group. "We need to head back to college. I think classes will start soon."

Everyone agreed, causing Archer to open a Gate to the college grounds. The four stepped through to hear the bell going off.

When they arrived, Zarina said bye to the three and walked off to her class while Teuila and Nala jumped on him.

The two girls kissed him before Teuila spoke. "We'll see you after classes, Darling."

The lion girl nodded her head with a big smile before leaving with the ocean princess, leaving him alone in the college gardens.

Archer remembered that he had Magical Creature Study and made his way there.

Chapter 516 You're A Natural At This

When he arrived at the garden, he saw Ella, Halime, Sera, Hemera, and Leira sitting at a table, which they saved a spot for him.

Archer walked over to them and greeted each one with a kiss on the forehead before sitting down.

As he did, Ella spoke to him with a smile. "Hey, Arch. How were your quests? How many have you done so far?"

"We've completed five so far. It was good we cleared out some orcs, goblins, and wendigos, which were creepy. They made my skin crawl." He answered.

The four girls laughed, but Sera asked in a curious voice. "What's a wendigo?"

Halime shifted her gaze, revealing her yellow snake eyes, and explained to the dragon girl. "They are eerie humans who skulk in forests and abandoned towns. According to the books, they were once ordinary people, but their transformation occurred after resorting to cannibalism and feasting on human flesh during hard times."

Archer's curiosity was piqued, but before he could say anything, Professor Summerwild interjected, "Wendigos are both dreadful and captivating beings. My former mentor once kept one in captivity, providing a fascinating opportunity for study. They typically shun the light but venture into it when the need to hunt arises."

He turned to the older woman, who was smiling as she continued. "There are many creatures that lurk in the dark corners of the land."

She continued talking. "During my journey here, we were attacked by cannibal tribes that roam the Murkwood Swamp. It was daunting, but the guards were skilled."

Following the professor's instructions, the students were told to retrieve their beasts and stay seated.

Then, Archer opened a portal and summoned Juno, the owlbear. In the ensuing moment, a ball of fluff emerged from the portal, finding its place on Archer's lap.

Simultaneously, he conjured the Astral Serpent gracefully slithered out of the same mystical gateway.

The snake climbed up his body and wrapped around his neck before speaking in a quiet voice that only he could hear. "Can I stay with you? You left me in that place for a while."

Archer nodded as he stroked the little snake before replying. "Yeah, I haven't got any battles planned so you can hang out for a while."

As he spoke to the snake, Juno climbed onto his lap and started nibbling his neck, which caused him to shiver.

The four girls laughed as Hemera spoke. "Why are you speaking to the snake? What does she want?"

Archer stroked the owlbear, who loved the attention, before replying to the sun elf. "She wants to stay around my neck. I left her in the treehouse until now."

Everyone smiled as they got up to retrieve their creatures. All the girls went to get theirs while Archer waited behind.

He looked down at the fluffy owlbear who was sitting on his lap with a happy look on her face as he stroked her.

One by one, the girls returned, and Archer looked at Halime, who looked like she was thinking about something.

So he asked with a concerned voice. "What's up, Hali?"

The snake girl looked up and smiled before answering. "I was just thinking of an island that's on the east coast of the Nagendra Kingdom,"

Archer asked. "What is this island you speak of?"

With a quiet, almost haunting voice, Halime began, "There's a forsaken island off Nagendra's eastern coast, a place steeped in dark history and forgotten tales. Long ago, it was home to two thriving human kingdoms, flourishing in prosperity and unity."

Her eyes reflected the flickering flames as she continued, "But as fate would have it, foul magic crept into the hearts of the rulers. The kingdoms, once wealthy and alive, succumbed to the dark forces that twisted their very essence."

Halime's words hung in the air, creating a moment of suspense around the table. The crackling of the flames seemed to sync with the rhythm of her storytelling.

The snake girl continued. "The evil magic cursed the once proud citizens, their bodies morphing into hideous forms. Twisted by the foul sorcery, they became eerie humanoids, their minds consumed by a hunger for human flesh."

She looked at Archer and finished explaining. "Now, anyone who dares to step foot on that accursed island is met with the haunting gaze of these creatures, forever bound to roam the land they once called home."

Upon hearing this, Archer's curiosity was piqued, and he inquired, "Why are so many islands succumbing to such fate? I already possess one. Why are they becoming infested with transformed humanoids?"

Leira took the initiative to respond, stating, "The rumors suggest that an unknown force targeted them due to their isolation from the mainland. Father dispatched soldiers to investigate some of these islands, but either they discovered nothing or were met with aggression from the former inhabitants."

Archer nodded, a seed of curiosity planted in his mind about those mysterious islands, a place he wished to explore someday.

Nevertheless, he shook his head, refocusing on Professor Summerwild's class.

"Good morning, students!" She greeted them with a warm smile. "I hope your creatures are settling in well. Now, before we delve into our studies, an essential aspect of your journey often goes overlooked."

She gestured toward the creatures perched, slithering, or resting near each student. Juno was sitting in Archer's lap, and the snake wrapped around his neck.

"It's not enough to have these companions by your side merely as tools for battle," Professor Summerwild continued, her eyes twinkling with wisdom. "Each of these creatures is a unique entity, and fostering a bond with them can be as rewarding as any quest you embark upon."

Archer listened as his beasts glanced up at him as if they understood the importance of the professor's words.

"To truly harness their potential, you must spend time getting to know them—understand their quirks, their fears, and their strengths. Only then can you unlock the true depths of your partnership," the professor explained.

She took a moment to let the weight of her words settle before proceeding, "I urge all of you to invest meaningful time with your creatures beyond our training sessions. The headmistress believes students should take them once classes finish."

The Professor stroked a creature that flew up to her before continuing. "Understand their habits and preferences. But above all, forge a strong connection with them. It will undoubtedly enhance your teamwork and make you a formidable force."

As the students exchanged glances and nodded in agreement, Professor Summerwild finished, "Now, to aid you in this endeavor, I recommend a visit to the library. There, you'll find a wealth of knowledge on magical creatures and their care."

Everyone nodded and started paying attention to their creatures. Archer was stroking Juno, who was rolling around on his lap.

While he was doing that, the four girls were pampering their creatures. Ella stroked the little white Aetherwing standing before her, chirping.

Sera was tickling the Drakeling she chose, who was wiggling around, trying to escape from her, but Archer could see the little beast was enjoying it.

Archer turned to Leira, who was stroking the Thunderfeline and acting like a house cat as it just sat there enjoying the pampering.

He turned to Halime, who was talking to the Venomshade in an unknown language, who was curled around her arm.

While those three were doing that, Hemera talked to her Dawnfeather, who listened to every word she said.

When Archer saw this, he thought to himself. 'That bird is really intelligent. It looks like a student listening to a teacher.'

A contented purr-like sound emanated from the owlbear as he stroked Juno's feathers after he stopped thinking to himself.

The gentle bear nestled in his lap, clearly enjoying the attention. Archer's fingers traced her feathers, and he marveled at the softness beneath his touch.

"Hey there, Juno," Archer whispered with a smile, his eyes reflecting his genuine affection for his little bear. "You like that, huh?"

She tilted her head in response, her large eyes blinking slowly as if in approval. The owlbear's cute noises continued a mix of soft hoots and endearing chirps that echoed in the serene garden.

He chuckled, "You're such a softie, right?"

Getting closer, Archer skillfully navigated through the feathers around Juno's neck. The owlbear's eyes gently closed.

As Archer ventured into uncharted territory, his fingers unearthed a tender spot beneath Juno's ear.

The owlbear's immediate reaction was a harmonious chorus of delighted coos and joyful hoots resonating through the garden.

Professor Summerwild approached with an expansive smile, her voice radiating happiness. "Archer, you're a natural at this. I can see that little Juno is absolutely reveling in the pampering, and she's clearly quite thrilled. It's remarkable, especially considering owlbears are typically known for their ferocity – not the easiest creatures to approach."

Archer smiled as he stroked Juno before talking. "I can understand them and know what they want, making it easy for me to care for them."

The older woman nodded in agreement, her smile widening as she continued, "My husband is the same. All sorts of creatures flock to him like he's a haven. It makes me jealous."

Chapter 517 Your Company Is Always Welcome

Archer laughed at the Professor's comment before answering. "Well, some people are just a natural. It can't be helped."

He stroked the little snake, who rubbed her head against his cheek. After that, the class continued for an hour until the bell rang.

When Archer heard that, he opened a portal and sent Juno back into the domain after kissing her beak, which pleased the little owlbear.

She vanished into it before he stood up and stretched. Ella followed suit and asked. "What's your last three classes?"

Archer scratched his head before responding with a smile, "Magic Fundamentals, Combat Magic, and Spellcraft. What about you, my lovely half-elf?"

"Healing and Restoration, Anti-Magic Defense, and Elemental Affinities and Mana Control," she answered, gently placing the Aetherwing on her shoulder.

Each girl took their turn answering as part of the group.

"History & Geopolitics, Combat Magic, and Spellcraft," Sera spoke with a smile, springing to her feet.

Archer then turned to Leira, who smiled before sharing her classes, "Combat Magic, Spellcraft, and Magic Fundamentals."

"Anti-Magic Defense, Curses, and Spellcraft," Hemera spoke while affectionately stroking her Dawnfeather.

That's when he turned his attention to the snake girl, her yellow eyes fixed on him. She grinned widely before stating, "History & Geopolitics, Combat Magic, and Spellcraft."

Archer smiled at the group with their little creatures on their shoulders, but Ella walked over to him and asked. "Can we create an area for the little beasts in the domain?"

"I think it's a great idea." He agreed.

Archer quickly opened a portal to the domain when all the students left the beast class. He looked at each girl and asked. "Ready?"

Ella, Halime, Sera, Leira, and Hemera exchanged glances before nodding in unison. The little magical creatures perched on their shoulders or hovered nearby, seemingly excited.

He stepped through the portal, appeared in a clearing close to the treehouse, and closed his eyes.

Archer started imagining homes for the five little creatures. After ten minutes of draining his mana, it was complete.

The five girls standing behind him were shaking their heads, which caused him to laugh before speaking. "It's done, little ones. Find a place to call home, and the ladies can summon you whenever they want."

Ella's Aetherwing, a small and ethereal creature with delicate wings, soared through the air until it found a snug branch on a tree, the leaves shimmering in the sunlight.

The little white bird settled down, using its beak to arrange the magical foliage, creating a cozy nest that seamlessly blended with the surroundings.

Sera's Drakeling, a playful and mischievous creature, scurried across the magical terrain. Its scales glinted with various colors as it burrowed under the roots of a large tree.

With swift movements, it fashioned a hidden nest, its tail playfully flicking as it settled into its subterranean home.

Hemera's Dawnfeather, a majestic creature with beautiful orange and red feathers, gracefully flew toward a towering tree.

It found a sturdy perch at the top, overlooking the magical domain. It carefully arranged leaves and feathers to create a nest, the tree becoming its residence.

Leira's Thunderfeline, a creature radiating strength and agility, prowled through the enchanted foliage.

The little cat discovered a thick bush with sturdy branches, creating a shelter within the dense bush that would keep it hidden from the outside world.

It skillfully wove leaves and twigs, fashioning a secure and camouflaged home. Halime's Venomshade slithered across the clearing.

The snake found a spot in the middle where the mana converged. It dug a hole in the ground swiftly, creating a secret lair that blended seamlessly with the mystical environment.

As the creatures set about creating their homes in Archer's forest, excitement and wonder filled the air.

The girls couldn't contain their joy as they observed their little companions showcasing their unique skills in nest-building.

They exchanged gleeful glances, their smiles reflecting the delight they felt watching their creatures make themselves home.

However, amidst the excitement, a note of concern entered the scene as Halime voiced a worry that lingered in her thoughts.

"How will they eat? There aren't many wild beasts," Halime expressed, her concern etched on her face.

Archer, ever the prepared dragon, had a solution. He confidently reached into his Item Box and pulled out a few orc bodies.

He swiftly began cutting them up so there would be five piles of meat. He cast Cleanse on himself before speaking to the little beasts. "Feast for everyone."

"Looks like our little friends won't go hungry in this magical domain."lights

Halime's face was relieved as Archer solved the food situation. Sensing the offering, the little beasts approached the orc meat with curiosity.

Each creature, in its unique way, interacted with the food, whether pecking at it, nibbling, or showing appreciation in their distinct manners.

Archer saw the beautiful Aetherwing, with its beak, carefully picking up a portion of the orc meat and gracefully taking flight.

Carrying the meat in its beak, the little bird soared to the snug branch it had chosen for its nest.

It arranged the orc meat within the magical foliage, creating a makeshift larder in its lofty abode.

The Drakeling gathered a portion of the orc meat in its claws. With a playful flick of its tail, it scurried back to its burrow under the large tree.

There, it tucked the meat into the depths of its nest, ensuring a hidden stash. When Archer saw this, he started laughing.

Halime asked with a curious voice. "Will they be safe here?"

Archer nodded. "Of course. It's my domain, and no beast or man will harm these little beasts that belong to you girls."

Once he finished speaking, he shut his eyes and created a protective wall circling the homes of the girl's magical creatures.

He skillfully made a wall using wood and earth to look like a natural barrier. It looked good and was strong.

When the group of ladies saw this, they all smiled, approached Archer, and gave him a kiss as a thank you.

Archer smiled before returning to the little beasts collecting their food. Hemera's Dawnfeather, regal and graceful, elegantly plucked a portion of orc meat with its beak.

Ascending to the top of the towering tree, the Dawnfeather carefully placed the offering within the intricately arranged leaves of its majestic nest, creating a high-altitude dining area.

Leira's Thunderfeline, agile and robust, dragged a portion of the orc meat to its shelter within the thick bush. It took the food to its bush home, hiding it in the leaves.

Halime's Venomshade wrapped around some orc meat and returned to its hidden spot in the clearing.

There, it carefully placed the food in the earthy space, making a secret stash once that was dealt with.

Archer opened a portal to the college so the girls could attend classes starting now. Each girl approached him, expressing gratitude and bidding him farewell with a gentle kiss.

Ella, Halime, Sera, Hemera, and Leira, one by one, shared a moment of affection with him, which they all loved.

After the heartfelt farewells, the girls stepped through the shimmering portal, leaving him alone amidst the forest.

He cast Gate, and a portal materialized before him, revealing a view of the abandoned village in the Western Wilds.

Its dilapidated structures and overgrown streets hinted at a history long forgotten. Just as he was about to step through, a gentle voice resonated in his mind through the bracelet.

It was Teuila, his ocean princess, her exotic voice asking sweetly, "Archer, can I accompany you?"

A soft smile played on Archer's lips as he responded, "Of course, my love. Your company is always welcome."

He summoned Teuila using the dragon tattoo, and she materialized beside him. She turned to him with a grin before sharing a kiss.

Archer returned the kiss before they separated and stepped through the portal. The couple reappeared in the village he and Halime were at before.

Teuila looked around with wide eyes. The jungle, however, seemed to have a life of its own, and he sensed it was alive.

Archer's keen eyes noticed an unusual movement in the foliage, as if the jungle was creeping toward them.

Vines slithered across the ground, reaching out as if trying to reclaim the territory. Archer looked around and remarked. "The jungle has grown even more. It wasn't like this before."

The encroaching vegetation now obscures the once-clear paths, creating an unsettling atmosphere.

Teuila frowned as she looked at the strange growth, her colorful eyes showing curiosity and caution. "It's like the land is alive and taking back what was lost," she thought out loud.

They kept exploring, moving through the thick vegetation. The jungle felt alive, reacting to their presence with an otherworldly energy.

Archer turned to Teuila and spoke, "Let's continue and see if we can find any treasure or unique beasts."

The blue-haired girl looked at him, nodding in agreement as the two ventured further into the jungle.

Chapter 518 I Am An Innocent Dragon

The air was thick with humidity as Archer and Teuila ventured deeper into the heart of the hot jungle where the snow couldn't touch the ground.

It melted before it touched the treetops and leaked onto the jungle floor, creating muddy puddles everywhere.

Vibrant, tropical foliage surrounded them, starkly contrasting the icy reputation of the season.

The usual blanket of snow that one would expect in Frostwinter was conspicuously absent, replaced by the rich greenery of a thriving jungle.

Teuila looked around, her eyes wide with astonishment. "I can't believe it. It's like we've stepped into a completely different world. I was expecting icy landscapes, but this jungle... it's so alive."

Archer chuckled the sound blending with the distant calls of exotic creatures. "Mana has its way of reshaping things."

They continued to stroll along a narrow path. Archer pointed out the colorful flowers that bloomed beside towering trees with vines cascading like living waterfalls.

Strange creatures flitted about, their iridescent wings catching the sunlight that filtered through the thick canopy.

As the couple proceeded on their journey, Archer's Aura Detector signaled the approach of three entities rushing toward them.

Instantly on alert, he cast Timewarp, manipulating the flow of time in their immediate vicinity.

The sudden change caused the oncoming beasts to slow down significantly as they leaped out of the underbrush.

Archer approached the mutated hyena-like beasts. Their bloodlust made them aggressive and unresponsive to reason.

He decapitated the creatures with a swift and precise movement. Teuila walked up behind him and patted him on the back as she spoke. "You used the time to kill them easier. You're cheating now, darling."

As they ventured deeper into the jungle. The vibrant colors of the foliage and the exotic sounds of unseen beasts surrounded them.

Archer's eyes sparkled with curiosity as their path led them through dense vegetation until, unexpectedly, the jungle yielded signs of a forgotten civilization.

His senses detected a change in the mana around them. As they rounded a bend, the vibrant greenery gave way to the remnants of a once-thriving city.

The sight took them both by surprise. The jungle had slowly reclaimed the stone structures, weaving its tendrils around them.

Archer's eyes widened in awe, and he turned to Teuila with a delighted grin as he remarked. "Well, this is unexpected."

The blue-haired girl looked at the structures that looked abandoned yesterday, but vines grew all over.

He stepped forward and used Aura Detector to scan the area, but something blocked him. After that, he got a bad feeling and grabbed Teuila by the arm.

Archer Blinked away from the city and turned to her. "Wait a second. I will message the other girls and tell them where we are."

After sharing his discovery, he activated the bracelet to communicate with the girls. "Me and Teuila stumbled upon an ancient city, and I thought I'd let you ladies know. Do any of you want to join me?"

"I'll come." Numerous voices chimed in, creating a moment of confusion.

Archer shook his head, deciding to summon everyone who spoke up. Seven girls materialized before him: Nefertiti, Hecate, Sera, Hemera, Llyniel, Talila, and Nala.

Their sudden appearance surprised him, but the absence of Ella, Leira, Sia, and Halime did not go unnoticed.

He quickly sends them a message and receives an instant reply. "We're staying behind to ensure we can come to your rescue if anything happens."

"Thank you, El. But are you sure you three don't want to come?" Archer asked.

Ella quickly answered. "It's fine, Arch. I'm enjoying classes and want to go to the library to learn more spells, and the other two will join me."

Archer smiled before informing the half-elf. "Give Hali a bracelet. It's In the cupboard in my bedroom. It's the same color as her eyes."

"Okay, I'll do that, husband, but be careful and stay safe," Ella spoke lovingly.

Ella got back to her classes after telling him she would see him soon, but that's when he got Sia's reply, and she told him that she was hunting bandits in the Crownlands.

After that, he approached the eight excited girls, who greeted him with kisses all over his face, which made him laugh.

Once Archer recovered from their affectionate onslaught, he spoke to them. "We have to be careful when exploring this city. No splitting up and no rushing off."

The girls nodded in agreement, and Archer led them into the ancient city. The worn cobblestone streets beneath their feet echoed the whispers of forgotten tales.

Dilapidated buildings surrounded them, remnants of a once-thriving civilization. They explored the city's winding alleys and crumbling structures.

But the void of significant findings perplexed them. Sensing the city's mana, Archer led them through what felt like a ghost town frozen in time.

As they delved deeper into the ruins, the atmosphere remained eerily silent. His Aura Detector scanned the surroundings, finding nothing.

The girls exchanged glances, puzzled by the city's absence of treasures or secrets. However, just as the disappointment settled in, Archer felt a sudden change in the mana around them.

The once dormant mana became chaotic and unpredictable. Archer halted, turning around to face the group, his brow furrowed in concern.

Before he could utter a word, an explosion erupted amid the group. The deafening explosion reverberated through the air as the blinding light faded.

Archer gradually regained awareness. When his senses returned, he found himself alone in an unfamiliar underground chamber.

The echoes of the explosion still lingered in the air, leaving an eerie silence in its wake. His eyes scanned the dark chamber, taking in the symbols on the walls.

An eerie mana filled the air, sending shivers down Archer's spine. He stood up from the cold, hard floor, realizing his girls were missing.

Panic briefly gripped him, but he pushed it aside, focusing on the task. Before him, four corridors led into the unknown depths of the underground chamber.

Before he could step, the sultry voice echoed in his mind, "My White Dragon, why do you always find yourself in trouble?"

Archer, feigning innocence, declared, "Tiamat, I am an innocent dragon. Cease slandering my good name, or I might have to unleash my fearsome tongue upon you."

"Ara Ara. How cheeky of you. Do you realize I can strike you down here and now?" Tiamat spoke.

He grinned and replied in a mischievous voice, "But you won't, my dear. I'm your husband, and you secretly adore my charming antics. In the dragon marriage contract, Clause 42, subsection B: 'Thou shalt not smite thy spouse for minor misdeeds.'"

In the delightful exchange, Tiamat teasingly warned him, "Darling, I could unleash divine fury upon you for your mischievous ways."

Archer, grinning mischievously, brushed it off, "Oh, Tiamat, you adore that I'm not only devastatingly handsome but also outrageously charming. It's all right there in my dragon charm manual

"Enough with your marriage contract and charm manual, you cheeky dragon! I come to warn you, and you turn it into your usual teasing. Can't you be a good boy and worship me?" Tiamat huffed teasingly, which only made him laugh.

After Archer stopped laughing, he retorted with equal playfulness, "You're not after my worship, woman. You want my love! Stop denying it, you lewd dragon goddess. I'll claim you, and soon you'll be moaning my name from beneath me as your legs shake."

When Tiamat heard this, she said, "You're the lewd dragon. No one would speak to a goddess like this, but here you are. Well, I'm here to warn you that you're trapped in the Aetheria Capital, which fell into darkness, forgotten by the world thousands of years ago. Don't worry; you're the only one alone while the girls are in pairs, but you must find them before the Swarm overwhelms them."

Archer's worry deepened as he questioned, "Swarm? They are here?"

"Yes. But deeper down, they already know you're here. Find the girls and navigate through the maze you're in. If I remember correctly, it used to be a mine, but all sorts of beasts took it over," Tiamat responded.

With gratitude, Archer spoke to Tiamat, "Thank you for the warning my future wife. I'll find the others and navigate through this maze. Wish me luck."

Tiamat's voice lingered, "Good luck, my White Dragon. May the winds of fortune guide you through the shadows."

Archer turned to the dimly lit chamber as the ethereal connection dissolved. The air felt heavy with the weight of ages.

The dust-covered surfaces told tales of a place untouched by the outside world for centuries.

His keen eyes scanned the surroundings, noticing the remnants of what seemed to be an abandoned mine.

Dilapidated wooden supports barely held up the low ceiling, and rusted mining tools lay forgotten in corners.

The air was thick with an earthy scent, and the occasional water drip echoed in the silence.

Chapter 519 Separated

Archer looked at the mines and wondered how it was still standing, but that's when he saw a weird white pillar running up the walls.

He noticed the chamber was dark but had no problem seeing anything, thanks to his dragon eyes.

The chamber was empty, so he approached the white pillar and poked it. When he did that, he felt a sticky substance and was baffled.

Archer shrugged before trying to cast Gate, which opened but instantly closed as something blocked it.

That's when he tried using the bracelet or dragon tattoos to summon the girls, but nothing. It didn't activate.

After that, he tried to teleport to the domain but wasn't allowed and thought about the time he was trapped in the Nether Realm.

Archer thinks it is the same thing and stops thinking about it as he walks down one of the tunnels, hoping to find the girls.

The ominous surroundings pressed in on him as he ventured further down the dark tunnel.

Aura Detector flared to life, emitting a series of rapid pings warning him about an incoming threat.

The unnerving sound of scuttling, reminiscent of many legs moving swiftly, echoed from the tunnel's depths, intensifying with each passing moment.

The sound got closer, and the dark tunnel ahead swarmed with beetle-like creatures on every surface.

Archer's eyes widened at the sight of the approaching horde, their dark carapaces reflecting the eerie glow of his violet eyes.

In response, a mischievous grin played on Archer's lips as he embraced the incoming challenge.

That's when he unleashed a barrage of Eldritch Blasts. The violet blasts streaked through the tunnel, illuminating the darkness as they met the approaching swarm of beetles head-on.

When the spell collided with the beasts, it created explosions of mana that sent shockwaves echoing through the confined space.

Archer skillfully aimed at the oncoming horde and spammed Eldritch Blasts, striking multiple targets.

The tunnel shook with the chaos of his attack, the beetles screeching and hissing as they met their demise.

Despite the overwhelming numbers, Archer stood his ground. The horde, though numerous, began to thin under the relentless barrage.

His grin persisted, a mixture of confidence and amusement as he continued to spam Eldritch Blast into the beetles.

The tunnel briefly quieted as the last beetles fell to his spell. The once bustling scuttling sounds were replaced by the fading echoes of the beetle's bodies sizzling.

Archer continued walking down the tunnel but didn't see anything else, so he checked his status.

[Experience: 2645000/4000000]

[Strength: 26700>26900]

[Constitution: 25200>25300]

[Stamina: 25700>26000]

[Intelligence: 25950>26050]

[Eldritch Blast: 9>10]

[Shadowspawn: 0>2]

[Timewarp: 0>3]

[Regeneration: 9>10]

[Draconic Synergy: 0>1]

Archer was happy with the status and continued walking down the tunnel. He walked for a while, not finding anyone or anything.

[Nala and Llynriel's POV]

Nala awoke in a tunnel, finding herself next to the unconscious wood elf. Shaking her head, she surveyed the darkness around her, but her lion eyes let her see clearly in the dim light.

Glancing down at the still-unconscious elf, she resolved to protect her, knowing that Archer cared for her.

She stood up and stretched her body and wondered where they were. Nala sniffed the air, trying to locate Archer, but couldn't smell him.

The lion girl tried to use the bracelet the girls told her about and sent mana into it, but it didn't work, which confused her.

As she was doing that, a groan could be heard, and Nala turned to Llyniel, who was waking up. The wood elf looked around and spoke in a groggy voice. "Where are we? Where's Arch?"

Nala chuckled before answering the girl. "We were separated. It looks like you and I until we find the others."

As Nala conversed with Llyniel, she suddenly darted to the side with agility, narrowly avoiding an arrow that whizzed past her head.

Turning swiftly, the lion girl spotted a horde of red-skinned goblins rushing toward them.

She readied herself for the impending fight while Llyniel, startled, stood up with a yelp as she observed the approaching creatures.

Nala spoke seriously, "Cast any spell you know that can help in this fight because I won't be enough to protect the both of us, elf."lights

Llyniel looked at her and nodded, taking a deep breath as she stepped forward. Starting a chant, the tunnel began to shake.

Suddenly, stones and lumps of compact dirt rained down. Observing the incoming projectiles, Nala stepped back as the wood elf directed them toward the oncoming beasts.

When the earth projectiles connected with the horde, they brought the front rank to the ground. That's when Nala laughed before rushing toward the goblins while laughing.

The red-skinned goblins charged relentlessly, their malicious intent unmistakable. Nala faced their onslaught with a smile and excitement.

In a display of speed, she leaped into the midst of the chaos, her sword gleaming in the dim tunnel light.

Nala moved with the fluidity of a lioness hunting her prey. She skillfully dodged the goblin's clumsy attacks, using her sword to deliver lethal blows.

Her maneuvers mirrored the dance of a lioness in pursuit, leaping and twirling with predatory finesse.

Meanwhile, Llyniel stood her ground, skillfully casting Earth Blasts as shields and weapons for the two of them.

Compact dirt and stones erupted from the ground, forming barriers that protected Nala from the relentless attacks of the charging goblins.

[Teuila & Sera's POV]

The two appeared in the air, and when they looked down, they saw water. Before Sera could start flying, they plummeted toward the surface.

They crashed into the water. The dragon girl flailed around like a fish out of water until Teuila grabbed her.

Holding her tight, she cast a spell that allowed her to breathe and see underwater. Sera opened her eyes, saw darkness below her, and she panicked.

Teuila sighed before speaking, "Stop flapping around like a fish. You'll be fine if you stay close to me."

As soon as the words left her mouth, she regretted it as the dragon girl clung to her like a baby monkey and refused to let go.

She shook her head, looking at her amusedly before flicking her forehead. "You silly dragon, stop acting so dramatic. It's not like you're going to drown."

"Shut up, Teuila. I'm a dragon, not a fish or sea serpent. How do you expect me to act when I'm suddenly dumped in cold water?" Sera snapped back, though she continued clinging onto the Aquarian.

As they floated in the water, Sera continued to rant about being a soaking wet dragon, her words pouring out in a continuous stream.

Clinging onto Teuila, she expressed her displeasure at the experience. Meanwhile, Teuila calmly looked around and commented, "This is very deep. It's like an underground sea."

However, Sera was too absorbed in her rant to pay much attention, and her words flowed on, oblivious to the aquatic surroundings Teuila observed.

"I can't believe I'm all wet! Dragons aren't supposed to get wet, you know? It's undignified, and my scales won't be the same for days. And my wings, oh, don't get me started on my wings. How am I supposed to fly with waterlogged wings? Ugh!"

Teuila listened with amusement and patience, occasionally looking around the underwater expanse.

They both tried teleporting the dragon tattoo to the domain, but it didn't work, which baffled the ocean princess.

Sera's rants echoed through the submerged cavern. The redhead looked down at the darkness and bit Teuila when she saw how dark it was.

Her actions caused the blue-haired girl to scream out. "Ouch! Why are you biting me? Are you a wild beast?"

"Teuila! Teuila! What if there's something down there? I can't see a thing, and it's so deep! What if there are sea monsters or... or something worse? We could get lost forever!" Sera's panicked voice echoed through the watery expanse.

Teuila glanced down and sighed. "Sera, it's just the natural darkness of the underwater world. There's nothing to worry about. We have to swim down to reach wherever this leads."

[Nefertiti & Hecate's POV]

The two girls found themselves in a mysterious underground forest. Nefertiti sat up and surveyed her surroundings.

All she could see were dense trees stretching as far as her eyes could discern, leaving her puzzled about their location.

Nefertiti tried teleporting to the domain, but it didn't work, which annoyed her because it always worked when she tried it.

Spotting Hecate lying unconscious, she got to her feet and approached the moon elf. Crouching down, she called out, "Hecate, wake up! We've been separated from the others."

As Hecate regained her senses, she looked around the unfamiliar, creepy forest. The gnarled trees stretched endlessly into the darkness above.

The branches cast eerie shadows on the uneven ground, creating a creepy, depressive atmosphere that unsettled the entire place.

Nefertiti glanced around, her succubus instincts tingling with curiosity and wariness.

The dim light filtering through the twisted branches created a haunting ambiance, with unsettled whispers and rustling leaves adding to the mysterious aura.

"This place is... strange," Nefertiti commented, her gaze flickering between the tree trunks. "I've never seen anything like it. It's like a nightmare forest."

Hecate, now fully awake, surveyed their surroundings with wonder and concern. "Nightmare forest indeed. What happened? Where are the others?"

Nefertiti shook her head, expressing uncertainty. "I'm not sure. We were with the group one moment, and the next... here. We need to find the others and figure out where we are."

The moon elf agreed, and the two started searching for the others but soon stopped when Hecate heard something surrounding them.

Chapter 520 A Snapshot Frozen In Time

[Hemera & Talila's POV]

The last two girls were thrown into a tunnel similar to that of Archer, Nala, and Llyniel. When they woke up, Hemera grew confused as she looked around.

She found herself in a dimly lit tunnel, the air thick with a musty scent. Made from rough stone, the walls seemed to close in on her, creating an oppressive atmosphere.

The dirt floor beneath her feet was uneven and scattered with bones, telling a grim tale of what might have occurred in this forsaken place.

Hemera tried using the tattoo it bracelet to enter the domain but it didn't work and she wondered why and came to the conclusion that it must be the tunnels they're trapped in.

As she cautiously moved forward, her eyes flickering across the shadows, Hemera noticed that the bones differed.

Some appeared to belong to beasts, while others were humanoid. Leaving her wondering about the events that had unfolded in this desolate tunnel.

The occasional water drip echoed, emphasizing the unsettling silence that enveloped the tunnel.

Hemera looked at the dimly lit tunnel, taking in the eerie atmosphere and the scattered bones on the ground.

Her yellow eyes caught, and she saw Talila asleep nearby. Approaching softly, Hemera knelt beside her niece and gently shook her awake. "Wake up. We're not where we were before."

The mixed elf stirred, her eyes slowly opening. Confusion flickered across her face as she took in their surroundings. "What... Where are we?"

Hemera replied, "I don't know, but we need to figure it out. The others are probably scattered, too."

The two girls stood up, glancing around the tunnel once more. Hemera couldn't shake the feeling of being watched and the faint echoes of distant sounds.

Talila rubbed her eyes, trying to make sense of their situation. "Do you think the others are okay?"

Hemera nodded before answering. "We'll find them. But first, let's explore and see if we can discover anything about this place."

As they ventured deeper into the tunnel. Talila took out her bow and some arrows, catching Hemera's attention.

She smiled while getting ready to cast a spell at any minute. They continued like this until they came to a creepy chamber.

Hemera looked around and soon noticed the walls were covered in a sticky substance, which intrigued her.

But before she could study it, they heard a chittering sound from one of the tunnels. That's when a sudden noise caused the two girls to become alert and start watching the tunnel.

They froze, exchanging wary glances. The tunnel echoed with a growing noise. Soon, an unsettling sight emerged.

Creepy eight-legged creatures with segmented tails poised scuttled toward them. They were a mix of a spider and scorpion, their armored exoskeletons glistening in the dim light.

Without hesitation, Talila released a mana arrow, which streaked through the air, piercing it with a crack before striking the nearest scorpion-like beast.

It dropped to the ground with a thud, but that caused the others to react and charge forward with rage in their beady eyes.

When Hemera saw this, she started casting Sun Blasts at them. Explosions rang out everywhere as the spells connected.

As the beasts got closer, Hemera dodged the stinger when it shot toward her. While she did that, Talila used her speed to avoid pincers.

They faced the beasts in a fierce battle, dodging and weaving to avoid the menacing stingers and pincers.

Explosions echoed in the chamber as Hemera unleashed powerful Sun Blasts while Talila skillfully shot mana arrows at them.

The synchronized dance of their attacks and evasions demonstrated seamless coordination, each move calculated to avoid the lethal strikes of scorpion/spider-like beasts.

Soon, the fight ended as the last beast dropped to the ground. The two girls caught their breaths and continued down another tunnel.

[Back to Archer]

While the girls continued searching, Archer walked down the tunnel and stroked the little snake still wrapped around his neck.

The beast woke up with a hiss and looked around before speaking. "Where are we?"

He looked down and saw the small snake's white head looking around with a curious gaze in her violet eyes.

Archer answered with a smile. "I don't know. We were teleported ancient magic and appeared here."

That's when he thought to himself. 'I need to give her a name.'

He started thinking to himself and then came up with one. Archer spoke with a smile on his face. "Your name will be Zahara."

The little snake looked at him and gave him a happy hiss. After that, he ventured deeper into the tunnel.

The tunnel widened, revealing a massive underground city. The expansive space seemed endless, filled with the remnants of a forgotten civilization.

Archer noticed that the air was thick with the dust of ages, and his footsteps echoed softly against the ancient stones that paved the ground.

Dilapidated structures loomed like silent sentinels, remnants of a once-thriving civilization now frozen in the relentless grasp of time.

The city's skeletal remains whispered tales of an era long past, secrets buried beneath layers of history.

As Archer walked, he marveled at the architecture of a lost culture: crumbling spires and weathered statues.

Fragmented remnants of what might have been marketplaces or dwellings lay scattered throughout the expansive chamber.

Archer's keen senses absorbed the ambiance, sensing the echoes of life that once teemed through these streets.

The silence was broken only by his footsteps through civilization and its people forgotten by the world above.

Surveying the city's surroundings, Archer thought about its mysterious presence. Zahara hissed, drawing his attention to a distant crash.

Unable to detect anything with his Aura Detector, Archer felt uneasy. Another crash echoed behind him, unsettling him further.

Reacting quickly, he summoned Shadowspawn, summoning his shadowy entities to shield him.

The creatures merged with the shadows, vigilant in guarding him. Archer cautiously moved through the haunting streets of the ancient city, his steps echoing in the silence.

The dilapidated buildings loomed over him like silent sentinels, holding the secrets of a forgotten era.

As he delved deeper, a subtle feeling of being watched intensified. His instincts, finely tuned by countless adventures, warned him of a presence lingering in the shadows.

He stopped before turning around and was met with an unexpected sight—a rusty pot rolling along the ground with a faint clang.

Archer caught a glimmer of something unusual in the nearest building. As he approached, the thing became clearer.

A Dark and viscous sticky substance clung to the walls like a sinister web. He studied it with a furrowed brow, his senses tingling with caution.

He noticed it glistening eerily in the dim light, creating a stark contrast to the weathered stone of the building.

Archer reached out tentatively, running his fingers along the sticky residue, which felt strange.

It resembled sticky slime, and as he examined it, a sudden crash from behind prompted Zahara to alert him. "Something's here, master. They are surrounding us."

"I know. I can feel them," Archer responded.

The sound of scuttling reached his ears, causing him to summon his wings and take flight for a better view.

However, to his surprise, he collided with an unseen barrier as he flew above the underground city.

The unexpected obstruction left him puzzled. As Archer's senses remained heightened, he saw a dense fog enveloping the city below.

Puzzled by this sight, he descended and continued exploring on foot. Yet, as he approached the ground, an unsettling feeling crept over him, and he sensed a looming threat.

Reacting swiftly, Archer summoned a Cosmic Shield just in time for a bizarre humanoid creature to collide with it.

The creature resembled the ones in the account he read about Placidia. Realization dawned on Archer that these beings were likely connected to the Swarm.

He quickly cast the Crown of Stars, which instantly activated and started to shoot into the fog.

Archer kept casting the spell so it wouldn't run out. The violet motes took out many creatures that let out screeches as they started their attack.

Once the attack stopped, he examined the creatures. They were twisted beings, once resembling average humans, who had been mutated and turned into what they are now.

The figures had creepy, distorted features and emitted an eerie glow. Their movements were unnatural, and Archer could sense the dark energy surrounding them.

He sensed that they were marked by corruption. These twisted beings fixated on him with unsettling hunger.

Archer wondered if these creatures were the city's citizens who once called the city home when it fell.

But he shrugged and started walking while stroking Zahara, who was rubbing her head against his.

While he traveled through the city, he came to a large shop, which he spotted thanks to the sign above it.

Archer cautiously stepped into the old shop, his footsteps echoing in the silence that enveloped the place.

The thick layer of dust seemed to have settled on every surface, muffling remnants of life that once thrived within these walls.

Sunlight filtered through broken windows, casting a muted glow on the forgotten remnants of a bygone era.

Now decayed and withered, baskets lay scattered on the floor like the remnants of a lost market.