

A Journey 541

Chapter 541 When We Settle Down

[Hemera & Talila's POV]

Confusion marked their expressions when the two elves looked at the town, but they were not bothered and pressed forward.

Hemera thought to herself. 'There's something dark about this place, but I must study it to learn more.'

When entering the town, she observed the surroundings and remarked, "The streets aren't overgrown, which is peculiar."

The mixed elf nodded and got her bow ready as they walked further into the town. The buildings looked abandoned as the windows were blacked out.

Hemera's keen eyes swept across the abandoned town, and a sense of dread settled in her chest.

As they strolled through the once-bustling marketplace, she couldn't help but notice the remains of life that had withered away.

Stalls that once showcased all types of goods now stood covered in dust, the wares they once held long forgotten.

The air, thick with the ghosts of commerce, whispered tales of a time when laughter and barter filled the streets.

Her gaze shifted to a row of wooden planters that had once cradled lively greenery. Now, they stood rotten as silent witnesses to the passage of time.

Once bursting with life, the plants had succumbed to neglect, their leaves now brittle and brown.

Hemera reached out to touch one, which crumbled to dust at her fingertips. Unable to spot a single soul, the two ladies took a break.

After doing that, the two continued walking until they found a relatively intact bench and settled down, exchanging glances that mirrored their confusion.

Talila, with her bow resting beside her, couldn't shake off the feeling that they were being watched, which crept them out.

The stillness was creepy, broken only by the creaking of old timbers and the distant rustle of leaves in the wind.

A chill ran down their spines as they tried to ignore the uneasy feeling. The old, rundown houses that looked empty now revealed people coming out.

Figures appeared, their thin faces showing a mix of surprise and curiosity as they cautiously walked into the open.

Talila's eyes widened, and she exchanged a stunned glance with Hemera. The town, once seemingly abandoned, now teemed with life.

The mixed elf thought to herself. 'What is happening? Why is there people all of a sudden.'

A moment ago, they were alone in a ghost town; now, it came alive with activity. Talila's usually composed expression twisted into bewilderment.

She fumbled for words, unable to speak due to the shock of witnessing a deserted town coming alive with hidden people.

Hemera, too, couldn't hide her surprise. The aunt and niece exchanged glances again, silently agreeing they had stumbled upon something weird.

The two walked into the town square, and the people cleared out. Confusion lingered as the two elves strolled along.

As they were walking, they saw a wild red blur heading straight for them, catching Talila's attention.

She squinted, ready to unleash an arrow, only to spot pointed ears and fiery red hair. She recognized the incoming menace and braced herself.

Before they knew it, Sera crashed into them like a happy comet. Wrapping herself around Hemera, the red-haired whirlwind gave the sun elf a bear hug, lifting her off the ground.

While laughing, the mixed elf watched, catching Sera's attention. She put Hemera down and focused on the giggling Talila, with a mischievous glint in her ruby-red eyes.

Anticipating the oncoming hug, Talila swiftly sidestepped to avoid it. Much to her surprise, she found herself ensnared in the unexpectedly strong grip of the dragon girl.

Sera, not one to let go of an opportunity for a good hug, tightened her embrace with a mischievous grin.

"Gotcha!" she exclaimed, squeezing Talila in a bear hug. In acknowledgment of the futility of escape, Talila surrendered to her fate with a dramatic sigh.

She declared in mock defeat, "Alright, you win. Hug away, mighty dragon girl."

Taking full advantage of the green light, Sera went all out. She spun Talila around, lifted her off the ground, and threw a few twirls.

The dragon girl's laughter filled the air as she enjoyed the impromptu hugging carnival. Talila, despite her initial resistance, couldn't help but join in the laughter.

Both elves thought it was easier to accept the dragon girl's hugs and enjoy the ride. Once Sera was done, she put the dizzy elf down.lights

Talila wobbled as she held her head and groaned, causing Hemera to giggle. While that was happening, Sera started firing nonstop questions at them.

Following that, Hemera spotted Nefertiti, Hecate, and Teuila approaching them. When the two elves spotted them, warm smiles appeared on their faces.

Hemera hugged everyone, even getting a surprise hug from Nefertiti. Teuila was the first to speak, saying, "Hemi and Sera, it's really good to see you both. Let's go back to the house and meet Kelia."

After the greeting was done, Teuila led the five girls to Kelia's house, and as they walked through the town, Hemera noticed the townspeople staring at them.

When seeing this, Sera rolled her eyes, couldn't hold back her annoyance, and let out a threatening growl.

The unsuspecting people hastily scattered like leaves in the wind, startled by the unexpected sound.

Once she did that, a smile appeared, but Teuila quickly pinched her side, causing the dragon girl to jump.

Sera turned to her, giving a dramatic rub to her side. "Why are you doing that, Teu? It's mean."

"Don't call me Teu. Also don't scare the people until Archer, Nala, and Llyniel make their way here. Somethings off with them." Teuila answered while watching their surroundings.

The six girls arrived at a house on the town's edge. The structure appeared somewhat isolated, causing Talila to look around with curiosity etched across her face.

She raised an inquisitive eyebrow and asked, "Why is this lone house here?"

Before anyone could respond, a voice emerged from nearby, "They believe I'm cursed and that I brought them here. It doesn't make sense because I can barely use magic, let alone transport a town."

The aunt and niece turned to see a white-haired older woman smiling at them before introducing herself. "I'm Kelia. Before this happened, I was one of the town's hunters, but the light will go soon, so come inside."

"It's a fake sun!" Sera exclaimed, catching everyone but Hemera off guard.

Hemera shook her head before explaining. "She means that whoever controls this place has somehow created a day and night cycle. I can only guess that the light allows the creatures to rest while they hunt at night."

The four girls and older woman looked at the Hemera and Talila, and Sera spoke excitedly. "I flew above the forest and saw it. I bet it was a powerful mage who created it."

Nefertiti said in a playful tone, "So they're day-haters and night-lovers? Are we dealing with vampires here or what?"

Everyone giggled when they heard the succubus. Kelia quickly rushed them inside so they could talk while drinking some tea.

After entering the house, she told them to sit down while she made them some tea. Hemera felt a sense of satisfaction at its cleanliness.

The sun elf turned to Nefertiti and asked, "Why is it so clean here? I assume the other townspeople don't bother with cleaning."

Nefertiti nodded, "She loves to clean. I even thought about asking her to be a maid when Archer finally settles into a home."

"That's a good idea, considering I don't sense any malice or deceit from her." Teuila said.

All six girls nodded in agreement and wanted to ask the older woman to join them when they left this cursed place.

Once agreed on, Kelia returned to the living room carrying a tray with a worn metal teapot and seven cups.

She put it on the table between the sofas and poured the tea. Hemera stood up and started to help as she introduced herself. "I'm Hemera Wyldheart. It's nice to meet you, Kelia."

The older woman smiled warmly, her gaze sweeping over each girl. "Nice to meet you, Hemera. I must admit, all you ladies are truly beautiful. Your husband is a fortunate man."

Upon hearing this, everyone smiled. Sera said, "Thank you, and no luck is involved. We were meant to be together. It's fate's decision, and she spoke by bringing us together."

Kelia nodded and had a look of sadness that caught everyone's attention. No one wanted to speak, but Sera broke the silence. "Why are you sad?"

In response, the older woman summoned a smile, though it carried the weight of memories too painful to hide fully.

With a voice etched in sorrow, Kelia began to share the tragic chapter of her life. "I was married just a year before the incident. When the town first appeared here, my husband and I remained here and not move into town. However, when the creatures descended, he was among the first to be taken. Yet, every night since then, his mutated form returns to me, a haunting presence that refuses to be forgotten."

When the woman's heartbreaking story was told, sympathy welled up among the girls.

Teuila looked at Kelia and asked, "If our husband says it's okay, would you want to be our head maid when we settle down?"

Chapter 542 Arvadoril City

Archer led the girls through the mist-covered forest, and as they walked, he summoned dozens of Shadowspawn and ordered them to scout out the forest.

When he did that, Nala asked with a curious voice as her gaze was fixed on him. "Why are you doing that, husband?"

He turned to face Nala with a grin before answering. "I've sent them to scout the forest, to find the others and any treasure that might increase my horde."

After speaking, the lioness smiled before kissing him on the cheek before guarding the rear.

As the trio entered the forest, a tall, humanoid shadow emerged from the darkness, which scared the two girls.

The shadowy silhouette vanished after bowing to Archer before its eerie, unnatural voice. "A large city is close by, veiled within the very bosom of this forest. A trove of treasures beyond the bounds of your most fevered dreams beckons. Yet, be warned, for it lies ensconced within a nest of myriad, untold beasts mater."

Once the creature finished its monologue, greed overtook him, and his violet eyes sparkled with pure greed as he thought, 'Well, isn't this a ticket to becoming the wealthiest dragon in Thrylos?'

Archer shook his head before giving the Shadowspawn another order. "Thank you. Now, get back to searching. I want even more treasure."

When the shadow creature heard this, it bowed before vanishing into the darkness, leaving the lioness and wood elf puzzled.

He turned to the watching girls and explained in an excited voice. "You can think of them as soldiers. They use my mana to manifest into the real world and treat me like their master, so that's good."

They nodded when hearing his explanation, and the three continued walking in the direction the shadow creature pointed.

After walking for an hour, they came to a river, but across from that, he saw the top of a building covered in vines.

When Archer pointed it out to Nala and Llyniel, they smiled before looking for a way across the river. But no one spotted anything, so he grabbed the two by the waist and cast Blink.

The three vanished from the spot only to appear on the opposite side. The lioness smiled silly while Llyniel looked in amazement as she took in the landscape.

Nala looked around and shook her head before commenting with a big smile. "I swear your magic is a straight-up cheat and shouldn't exist. Most people would feel the mana loss when teleporting with two people, but not you."

Archer grinned. "Well, you have an amazing husband who is very skilled in magic."

When the lioness heard this, she laughed while Llyniel spoke beside him. "Your whole existence is impossible. You're living mana, and do you know what that means?"

He shrugged and wanted to hear her explanation. "Tell me my wood elf. I want to hear your point of view."

Llyniel nodded and added, "In my kingdom, we think of white dragons as living mana with a body and a brain. They have access to unlimited mana, which the world allows, and I'm sure she'll help you on your journey. Maybe she even wants to meet you."

When Archer heard this, he grinned before shaking his head. "Sounds about right. Let's continue my beauties."

The trio continued and crossed through a dense bunch of trees to step out and see a massive city stretching into the distance.

Nala was the first to rush forward, followed by Archer, and when she arrived there, she thought to herself. "What is this place? I've never seen a city like this."

Llyniel stopped next to him, and her eyes widened as she mumbled. "It's Arvandoril. How can this be possible? It's just a legend."

Archer, intrigued by her reaction, asked while he put his hand on the small of her back in comfort. "What is it, Llyn? Why does this place seem to surprise you so much?"

The wood elf took a deep breath before telling them the tale she had heard all her life. "Arvandoril wasn't just a legendary city; it was an ancient high elf civilization that thrived over a thousand years ago. The tales spoke of its power, its knowledge, and its beauty. But, Arch, it fell."

She paused, letting the weight of her words sink in. Archer and Nala exchanged glances, their curiosity piqued.

Llyniel continued, her gaze fixed on the distant spires of the city. "A swarm of creatures, a force of darkness, descended upon it. We believed those tales were scary bedtime stories passed down through generations to keep us in check. But now, seeing this city before us, I can't longer deny the truth."

Archer asked with a curious voice. "Creatures? What kind?"

The elf shook her head before answering, "The stories were vague, as if the details were intentionally changed over time. All we knew was that the city was lost, its inhabitants scattered or destroyed. We thought it was a cautionary tale, but it's not."lights

With a sigh, he shared his perspective. "Knowing the Swarm's influence over this place and finding the city here, it appears some form of magic brought it here. Perhaps the citizens who were still within the city at that moment were captured by the Ratlings and transformed into ghouls."

After speaking, they made their way toward the city, hoping to find the treasure that it hid, but as they got closer.

Archer got a bad feeling but continued forward. As they drew nearer, the forest seemed to dominate the once-grand structures.

Vines clung to walls, and roots snaked through cracked pavements, nature reclaiming what had been taken from it.

Nala, Archer, and Llyniel stepped onto the aged streets, their eyes scanning the run-down buildings.

Despite the splendor of the ancient architecture, an unsettling stillness hung in the air. The only sounds were the distant creaking of swaying branches and the gentle rustling of leaves.

Archer exchanged glances with the two girls, a shared understanding that this city held secrets long buried beneath layers of time and overgrowth.

He gestured for them to follow as they ventured further into the heart of Arvandoril. Once bustling with life, the streets were now empty.

The trio passed buildings with carvings now weathered and partially obscured by ivy. Broken windows revealed interiors covered in dust.

As they walked, the silence deepened, with only the swaying of plants and the occasional flutter of birds from the forest breaking the stillness.

Archer saw a city square coming up, so he summoned the Shadowspawn and ordered them to loot the city and bring him everything.

With that, the Shadowspawn vanished. He smiled excitedly as all they had to do was wait. He looked around the place and walked toward their waiting place.

They settled on a broken stone bench surrounded by the creepy remains of a once-thriving civilization.

Archer reached into his Item Box and took out some chocolate before offering some to Nala and Llyniel with a grin. "Anyone up for a sweet treat?"

They savored the unexpected delight amid the mysterious city. The taste of chocolate mingled with the ancient air.

His Aura Detector picked up on multiple pings as they ate, closing in on them fast, and guessed it was the ghouls again.

Without warning, he transformed into his shadow form and covered the shocked girls. After doing that, tall ghouls jumped off the roofs and landed with a loud crash.

When Archer saw this, he smiled as his shadows acted like black flames around him. His shadows rushed forward and swallowed the creatures who tried to fight back but couldn't hurt something they couldn't touch.

Archer tore them apart with ease while eating their hearts to get the bonus, but he flung the lifeless bodies into a building with a splat. While he was doing this, Nala and Llynriel felt like they were in a sea of fluffiness, which caused them to grow tired.

They soon fell asleep, making Archer laugh as he finished the last ghoul. When he was done, he decided to stay in his shadow form so they could sleep peacefully.

Archer materialized into his usual size but kept the shadows that cloaked him. He went to sit down again to wait for the Shadowspawn. He realized they were taking time, so he summoned dozens of Stone Men and ordered them to help the shadow creatures.

They rushed off, causing Archer to chuckle, but he got comfortable to wait. While lying there, he fell asleep as well.

He was fine due to his body being made out of shadow and the girls deep inside him sleeping like babies. Soon after that, the first Shadowspawn and Stone Men returned. They dumped chests full of old gold coins.

This continued for hours as the mountain of chests and barrels of gems stacked. Archer looked at it with a smile before raising his hand and storing it all in his Item Box.

When he did that, he felt a heavy feeling hit him. They realized that the new treasures and buildings he stored before were nearly overwhelming his storage.

But with a shrug, he stored all the stuff they brought. Archer decided to organize it when he got out of this place.

Chapter 543 Resilient

[Ella, Leira and Halime's POV]

Once their lessons were over, the trio left the college and went to the city to get something to eat.

While walking down the street, Leira turned to Ella and asked worriedly. "Do you think they're okay?"

The half-elf nodded with a smile before answering in a concerned voice. "They should be okay, but we don't know until Archer contacts us."

Leira sighed but didn't say anything else until Halime spoke. "I'm sure they'll be alright. They are with him after all, and he won't hurt them."

The two worried girls calmed down, but that's when Ella quickly reacted and cast an Earth Shield that stopped a surprise attack.

When the other two saw this, they reacted instantly and got ready to cast magic.

Once the attacks stopped, they looked in the attacker's direction and saw over a dozen people covered in black standing there.

They got worried, but soon, shock took over as the snake girl stepped forward.

Halime, typically the trio's quieter and more reserved member, took a step forward, her yellow eyes narrowing in determination.

The air crackled with an unexpected mana as she raised her hands.

Ella and Leira exchanged surprised glances, unaccustomed to witnessing such a display of magic from their usually calm companion.

As the attackers in black advanced menacingly, Halime's hands pulsed with a dark, poisonous aura.

A low hum emanated from her as she unleashed a series of Poison Blasts, each one more potent than the last. The spell surged from her fingertips, leaving a trail of toxic mist in its wake.

Ella and Leira watched in awe and disbelief as the blasts hit their targets with precision, causing the assailants to recoil in agony.

The attackers, caught off guard by this sudden and formidable counterattack, staggered backward.

Before Ella and Leira could respond, four men appeared before them. When Leira saw this, she relaxed as they were her imperial and Halime royal guards.

One of the men started casting a spell that covered the street they were on in darkness. After doing that, two men vanished, appeared behind the attackers, and unsheathed their swords.

With lightning-fast speed, they struck out at the unknown assailants. When Leira and Halime saw this, smiles appeared on their faces as they recognized their guardians.

The two girls were relieved when they knew help had arrived, but Ella was confused.

Leira turned to her with a smile before explaining. "Three of the guards are mine. Father assigns them to me when I'm not in the domain."

Ella nodded to the cat girl before they watched the fight as the first guard made his move.

The first guardian, a towering figure with a shield adorned with the imperial crest, stepped forward.

He deflected an incoming attack with a swift swing, providing cover for the second guardian.

This one, agile and swift, gracefully danced through the chaos, parrying blows with a gleaming sword.

Meanwhile, the third guardian, a master of defense magic, created a barrier of protective magic around the three girls.

A calm yet authoritative voice echoed in their minds, "Stay close. You're under our protection."

The fourth guardian, a rogue-like figure with dual blades, moved with incredible agility. He quickly killed a few attackers who attempted to flank from the shadows.

His movements were like a lethal dance, leaving no room for the attackers to regroup.

In moments, the tide of the battle turned. The attackers, outnumbered and outmatched, began to retreat.

However, they were not happy with repelling the threat. The guardians wanted to kill them, so they didn't come back.

The fast one pursued the retreating assailants, swiftly killing them with skilled strikes. The guardians regrouped in front of the trio, with the street now clear.

The leader with the imperial crest turned towards them, his expression stern yet protective.

"You three," he declared, "come with us to the palace. Your safety is our priority."

Leira nodded with a sense of relief. The three girls walked behind the guardians on the empty street. Their footsteps blended with the fading noises from the earlier clash.

The three girls were escorted to the palace, and as they walked, one of the guardians here to protect Halime pulled a hood off.lights

She was a dark-skinned older woman with blonde hair and beautiful snake-green eyes. Ella and Leira saw pretty green scales that poked out of her collar.

When the snake girl saw this, her eyes widened as she spoke. "Damla?"

Damla grinned as she addressed Halime, "Greetings, Princess. Your father entrusted me with your protection, but you seem to have a talent for disappearing. We've been having quite the challenge finding you."

Halime chuckled and was about to explain when the first guardian interjected during their stroll, "She's with the lad. Rumors say he has his own realm they all retreat to. Our services are typically required when all the ladies are at the College Of Magic or in the city."

They grew curious when Leria and Ella heard this, so the cat girl asked. "What ladies do you protect?"

Upon hearing this, the leader of the guardians responded, "The emperor has tasked us with safeguarding all the girls of the boy. He understands that any harm coming to them would unleash the wrath of a furious dragon upon the empire."

After speaking, they continued walking, and Ella noticed the imperial and royal guards seamlessly forming a protective circle around them.

The guard led them to the fort that housed the elevator to the floating island and stepped in.

They were let through by the guard and stepped onto it. Ella and Halime looked around in wonder as they shot up.

Soon, they arrived, saw another fort, and walked through it until they stepped into a beautiful snow-covered garden.

Ella marveled at the sight. "I never thought flowers could look even more beautiful with a layer of snow. It's like a magical winter wonderland."

Halime, usually reserved, couldn't help but smile at the enchanting scene. "Indeed. Nature's beauty knows no bounds, especially in the palace gardens."

The soft crunch of snow beneath their boots accompanied their conversation as they continued walking.

Snow-laden flowers seemed to twinkle as if adorned with nature's jewels. As they strolled through the gardens, Halime was looking around in marvel, but soon they arrived at the entrance.

A maid stood outside waiting for them and took over to guide them. The guardians said their goodbyes before heading off somewhere.

Before Halime's guardian left, she handed over something and spoke. "Princess, this communication device will keep us in contact."

The snake girl nodded with a smile as she said farewell to her guardian answered. "Thank you, Damla. I will see you soon."

The older woman nodded before catching up with the others as the maid led them inside.

She led them through the palace corridors and soon came to the emperor's study. When they arrived, the maid knocked on the door, and a loud voice was heard. "Come in!"

She opened the door, and the three girls entered to see Emperor Osoric and Empress Chloe sitting there.

The two looked up, and big smiles appeared as Chloe stood up. "Sit down, ladies."

Ells, Leira, and Halime took their seats as Osoric began to speak. "Archer has gone missing in the Western Wilds, but I have confidence the lad is fine; he's resilient, after all."

After speaking, the emperor leaned back in his ornate chair, his gaze steady as he observed the trio of Ells, Leira, and Halime.

"Before we delve further into Archer's situation, there's an important matter I wish to discuss," Osoric began, his voice carrying the weight of authority.

"As you're well aware, the safety of Archer's ladies is important to me. To that end, I've taken additional measures to ensure your well-being."

"I have assigned two imperial guards to each of Archer's chosen companions," Osoric announced, his eyes resting on Ells, Leira, and Halime.

"Their primary responsibility is your protection, and they will accompany you when you're not in Archer's domain. Consider them your loyal guardians, sworn to defend you with their lives."

When the three heard this, they smiled, but Ella asked. "Why would you assign me a guard? I'm a maid, not a princess."

Osoric turned his attention to the half-elf with a smile before answering honestly. "You may be a maid, but not to him. You're someone special, and if anything were to happen to you like today, he would go on a rampage and destroy everything."

Ella nodded with a small smile. "Thank you, your Majesty."

Osoric was about to reply until Chloe interrupted. "You're welcome, little El. After all, we're family now."

She looked at Leira, whose cheeks were turning red, and continued. "We'll announce the engagement alongside the other rulers when Frostwinter Festival begins, which is merely weeks away."

After speaking, the emperor looked at the quiet snake girl who wasn't speaking. "Your Father and Mother will also be here. They want to meet Archer."

Chapter 544 Nightstalkers

Archer, Llynriel, and Nala continued with their traveling while being careful. The three walked along a cluttered road.

The wood elf looked around and, with a solemn voice, spoke. "The stories said that the city was lively and full of life, but now look at it. It's stuck in an underground lair of some creatures who use it as a breeding ground."

After she stopped speaking, Archer heard something close by and cast an Element Bolt from the light element.

He sent it flying toward the sound and heard a spalt, which shocked the two girls, who turned to get ready to fight.

But they saw nothing. Nala turned to him and asked confusedly, "What happened? What's out there?"

"There's something out there. I'll be right back." He answered the lion girl before casting Shadow Shroud.

Archer's body changed into a shadow and vanished from the spot, but he didn't forget about protecting the girls.

He moved through the shadows, causing his violet eyes to glow as he approached a dead body, and what he saw took him by surprise.

It was the same humanoid but was slimmer and taller. The creature had elf ears and long hair, but they were twisted into something different.

Archer picked the corpse up to get a closer look. A sickly odor emanated from his mouth, a scent of rotting flesh clinging to the jagged edges of his teeth.

Long and dagger-like, the claws protruded from his fingertips, ready to carve through the fabric of reality itself.

He knew the Swarm was experimenting with the humanoids they captured, but what bamboozled him was how many they had.

Archer shook his head and stopped thinking as a creature lunged at him from the shadows, but he smiled as he grabbed the thing by the neck with a dark tendril.

It wrapped around the thing and held it still. When he did this, Archer scanned the creature to see if anything was different.

[Nightstalker]

[Rank D]

When Archer saw this, he sighed before casting Soul Sunder and ripped away the creature's soul.

He ate it and gained its memories. Archer saw the creature hunting around the city when groups of people appeared.

This continued for years as the Swarm soldiers would return and take hundreds before vanishing.

The creatures allowed the Nightstalkers to procreate so the Swarm could have their army of flesh-devouring humanoids like the rest.

But soon after, Archer saw the memories before they were experimented on and saw the labs the victims were dragged to.

He witnessed the strange concoctions the weird Ratlings injected into their bodies, which morphed them into the Nightstalkers.

After witnessing that, he saw the life of a blacksmith working in Arvandoril City. The elf was very busy taking orders and running his shop.

He had a beautiful wife and several children. Archer watched all this like a movie as his shadows created a safe space for him.

But everything changed once Goldenfall (Autumn) ended and the creatures appeared. Ratlings poured out of holes in the ground that opened throughout the city.

The elf quickly closed his shop and gathered up his family before trying to escape the city due to the bad feeling he got.

Archer watched the man veer onto the wrong street. Soon after, he saw even more humanoids emerge and capture the family, holding them captive.

Once he saw this, he tuned out of the memories and discarded them before killing the creature, putting it out of its misery.

After that was done, Archer sensed hundreds of pings heading in his direction. He smiled before dismissing his shadow form.

He whispered to himself. "Draconis."

Archer's wings, claws, teeth, and even more scales covered his body before the Nightstalkers appeared.

They surrounded him before one of them lunged forward, but he used his tail to slap the creature back into the crowd.

It crashed into the others and caused havoc as the rest of the Nightstalkers went for him, but Archer used his wings to block all the attacks.

Archer counter-attacked using his claws, tail, and dragon fire. The violet flames washed over the creatures.

They were burned to ash and floated away in the breeze, and before long, the last Nightstalker dropped to the ground with his head on the other side of the street.

Once that was done, he tried to open a portal to the domain, and to his surprise, it opened, and he wondered what had happened.lights

When Archer saw this, it shocked him before he closed it and checked his Item Box to see how many hearts he had collected.

He noticed he had over eight hundred and wanted to eat them. With a smile, he spoke. "Draco."

Nala and Llynriel were not far away, relaxing in the shadow dome until it allowed them to see the bright white light.

The bright faded only to see a massive white dragon standing over the city. Nala was wide-eyed as she loved seeing his dragon form.

Having witnessed the scene, the pair observed with anticipation, curious to discover his course of action.

High above the sprawling city, Archer's massive dragon eyes scanned the labyrinth of streets and buildings below.

The air crackled with an unsettling energy as he saw the presence of the creepy Nightstalkers lurking in the shadows.

A low growl rumbled deep within him. His eyes glowed with an otherworldly violet light as he decided that the only way to purge the city of this menace was to burn it.

Taking a deep breath, he drew in the cool night air, filling his lungs with a potent mixture of mystic energy.

The city trembled beneath him as the dragon prepared to unleash his wrath. A surge of flames erupted from him, swirling with an intensity that seemed to beat back the darkness.

The flames rained like torrential rain, engulfing the city in an ethereal inferno. The Nightstalkers writhed in agony as the searing blaze consumed them.

Once proud and now tainted, the buildings succumbed to his fiery breath, crumbling into ashes that drifted away on the wind.

The violet flames painted the underground city, casting an eerie glow that mesmerized the two girls watching the scene.

Archer's eyes gleamed as he purged the city of the horrifying creatures that had infested its streets.

His roar echoed through the burning expanse, declaring vengeance and cleansing. The city was now burning.

Archer glanced skyward and conjured all eight hundred hearts, which descended into his waiting maw.

Consuming the hearts, he felt a rush of experiences flooding him as he ate. After doing that, he returned to his humanoid form.

When Archer was on the street, he returned to the girls while checking his new status.

[Exp: 1185000/4000000] [Status Points: 0>800] [Level Up: 613>614] [Mana: 659690>678690] [Dragons Domain: 5>6] [Analyze: 6>7] [Anti-Magic: 8>9] [Dragon Synergy: 1>2]

Once Archer checked his status, he saw that he had eight hundred status points and decided to save them for a while.

He walked for ten minutes and came across the shadow shield. Archer dismissed it to see the two girls relaxing, but Nala stared at him with glowing blue eyes.

The lioness rushed over to him and started getting excited over his dragon form and how strong he was.

While she was doing this, a sad Llyniel walked up to the two and looked upset. Archer spoke to Nala. "Give me a second, my lioness. We'll catch up with you."

She nodded before rushing off with a big smile on her face. Archer turned to the wood elf and asked in a concerned voice. "What's wrong, my elf?"

When the elf heard this, she started to talk. "It's horrible. The people here are trapped and are in pain. Nature told me they want to die but can't."

After speaking, Archer smiled brightly, which caught her off guard and offended, but what he said next shocked her. "Oh, Llyniel. They are all resting now. My flames turned them to ash and set them free."

He got closer, scooped her into a big hug, and leaned down to whisper in her ear. "Don't worry, they are happy now."

Llyniel smiled before nodding her head. "Thank you, husband. That was kind of you to do."

Archer was about to speak, but she closed the gap between them. In a surprising yet tender gesture, Llyniel reached up and gently pressed her lips against his.

They shared a sweet kiss that made time feel like it stopped. Archer was surprised at first but then kissed her back warmly.

After the kiss, Llyniel smiled happily, and he playfully kissed her nose. They continued their journey, the sweet moment hanging in the air before they moved on.

The two caught up to Nala, standing by a collapsed stall covered in dust and cobwebs while the surroundings were the same.

Archer got close and spoke in a quiet voice. "What's up?"

Nala quickly answered while looking around. "Somethings here, and it's angry. I can feel it."

Chapter 545 Blightfang

Archer looked around the area but couldn't see anything until something massive moved in the distance to hide behind a building.

He moved Llynriel and Nala back before asking. "You two cover me. Something is hiding from us, and it's very big."

The two girls nodded before Archer stepped forward and summoned the Tressyms. Once they appeared, he ordered them to find any enemies.

But he also ordered them to be careful. When Nala saw this, her eyes widened before she quickly spoke to him with surprise in her voice. "You can access the domain?"

He smiled before answering. "Yeah, I figured it out earlier. Do you two want to return there while I find the others? Because I summon them to me or the domain. The Swarms magic must be blocking them."

When Nala and Llynriel heard this, they shook their heads, and the lion girl declared as she puffed out her chest. "No, we're staying with you, husband."

The wood elf nodded with a smile. "We won't leave you, Arch."

Archer beamed and hugged the two girls as he thought to himself. 'They are so brave. I'm a lucky dragon.'

Once he was done with that, he stepped forward as acid flew toward him and thought to himself.

But he cast Cosmic Shield, and the acid hit it and dissolved into nothing. Archer chuckled before scanning his surroundings.

After looking around, he spotted the invisible attacker and saw a large snake head the size of a house.

It had twisted black scales with a lime-green color that looked like poison. It had blood-red eyes that looked dead.

He studied the creature and realized that it was big. It reminded him of a big cobra but looked twisted by the same experiments the Nightstalkers had suffered.

The large creature was slithering around the buildings, and its bulky body smashed into others, causing them to collapse as they were on fire.

Archer could hear the thing moving with a loud slithering noise, which the girls soon heard and looked in the sound direction.

When he saw this, he pushed the two girls back into a doorway not far away as he spoke to them. "Be careful, it's a giant snake creature. Just watch and cheer me on."

Both girls nodded and heeded his warning as Archer walked toward it and whispered to himself. "Draco."

Shifting into his draconic form, he taunted the serpent, goading it into a lunging attack. In a thunderous collision, the two behemoths clashed.

He sank his teeth into the serpent's massive form, simultaneously raking its scaly body with his claws, eliciting a pained screech from the creature.

Archer hoped to overpower the Blightfang and tear it apart, giving him the win, but it wouldn't be easy for him.

Nala and Llyniel watched as the two giants fought throughout the city and crashed into buildings as they burned around them.

Not taking any chances with the girls, he cast Cosmic Shield around the two to keep them safe as rubble bounced off the violet barrier.

Once he did that, he flung the snake away and crashed into a dead-looking tree in the city's center. After doing that, he scanned the large creature.

[Blightfang]

[Rank: SS+]

'What do the Swarm do to these things.' He thought to himself.

After that, he charged forward, crushing buildings and shattering streets as he crashed into the Blightfang.

While he was fighting with the Blightfang, Nala, and Llyniel watched on with wide eyes as the two titans fought a savage battle.

'He's so strong.' Nala thought in excitement.

The lioness erupted in cheers every time his strikes found their mark, yet voiced her disapproval with boos when the tides turned.

Both girls bore witness to an underground clash, a battle of legendary proportions, destined to remain shrouded in secrecy from the outside world unless one of them records it.

Nala whipped out a recording crystal, ready to spill the tea to the rest of the girls and start a trade of Archer-related material.

However, their attention quickly shifted when they witnessed Archer's glittery red blood doing the tango with the snake's green acid-like blood.

It was like a bizarre chemistry experiment gone wrong, and for a moment, they were all caught in a sparkly, hypnotic trance.

Their reverie was cut short by a colossal crash, snapping them back to reality and causing them to continue watching the fight.

Archer's gleaming white claws tore through the Blightfang's black scales, spraying acid-like blood onto him that burned.lights

'Ouch, what is this stuff? Acid blood maybe.' He thought to himself.

But he ignored the stinging pain and continued to attack. Archer used his horns to stab into the snake's jaw, but the creature pulled back.

It used its tail to swing at Archer, catching him off guard as the muscular tail slammed into his body and sent him flying.

He crashed into loads of bodies before he stopped and shook his head before looking in the Blightfang's direction.

When Archer did that, he internally rambled. 'That thing is massive. Must be bigger than me.'

But he couldn't think anymore as the creature vanished, reappeared nearby, and lunged at him as its massive jaws opened.

Archer saw the thing's large teeth and jumped back before taking a deep breath. He released a stream of violet fire that hit the Blightfang directly in the face.

The flames washed over it, causing the creature to screech in pain, and Archer didn't let this opportunity go as he charged forward.

In a thunderous collision, he crashed headlong into the Blightfang, and the impact caused buildings to quake and rubble to cascade like a rain of destruction.

With a roar that echoed through the city, Archer sank his gleaming white fangs into the serpent's scaly neck below its monstrous head.

The Blightfang, caught off guard by the sudden assault, let out a deafening screech of pain as Archer's claws dug into its twisted, black scales.

His massive dragon head became a whirlwind of motion as he tore and shredded at the Blightfang's flesh.

Archer's strength and fury were a force to be reckoned with as he ripped through the serpent's defenses.

Each powerful thrash of his head sent fragments of scales and blood spraying into the air, creating a gruesome spectacle.

The relentless onslaught now overpowered the Blightfang. Nala and Llyniel, watching from a safe distance, were both in awe and terror at the savage display of power.

Archer's bravery was evident in every fierce movement as he fought to protect the girls he cared about.

He continued to tear into the Blightfang. The creature's once-

dead eyes glowed with a mix of pain and fury.

It lunged toward him, but Archer huffed before breathing a stream of fire at the Blightfang, causing it to screech in pain.

Once his dragon fire hit the creature, he lunged forward and clamped his jaws over the snake-like creature.

Archer sank his teeth into the Blightfang's skull, shattering it with a resounding crack. He absorbed the essence of the experience, feeling a surge of refreshment.

However, a sharp pang of pain shot through his massive body. Archer shook his big head and focused on the city.

He didn't sense any more creatures and returned to his humanoid form. When he returned to normal, he walked over to the corpse and stored it away.

Now, he was standing in the middle of a city square in tatters because of the battle. After doing that, he felt the item box was full and useless until he emptied it.

Archer walked over to the girls, who were looking at him with amazement. When he got close, he kissed both girls before speaking. "Let's continue on ladies."

They nodded, and the three started looking for a way out. The group soon found the other side of the city, a forest, and stepped into it.

The three walked for a while and came to a lake that looked peaceful. Archer looked at the two girls and asked with a charming smile. "Seeing as it's getting dark, do you want to camp here?"

When the lion and elf heard this, they nodded. Once Archer saw that, he removed a large tent from his Item Box.

He held the door for them as they stepped inside. After they were inside, Archer cast Shadowspawn and Stone Warden to summon guardians to protect them.

The shadow creatures appear in dark tendrils as they warp around the tent in a protective embrace.

While they did this, the Stone Men stood as silent sentinels to guard them throughout the night.

Once the security was set up, Archer returned to the tent to see Llyniel stoking a fire as Nala sat there brushing her wild sandy blonde hair.

But whatever she was doing wasn't doing a good job as her fluffy hair bounced back, making her look like she had a lion's mane.

Archer admired the scene as the two girls spotted him. Llyniel smiled and waved, and Nala blew him a kiss. He took off his boots before sitting down to get comfortable.

Chapter 546 Burn His Way To Them

[Rest of the girl's POV]

Kelia looked at the blue-haired girl and thought about the offer but decided to think about it and finally answered. "Let me think about it, please."

Each girl nodded before the older woman motioned for them to enter the house, as it would be dark in a couple of hours.

Sera stopped walking and commented in an annoyed voice. "Why can't we explore the area? I don't want to be sitting inside a house for hours."

Kelia stopped walking, turned to the dragon girl, and explained her reasoning. "Someone is clearly out to get me and will sabotage the enchantment. They want to harm you girls due to my past, and I can't allow that to happen."

When Sera heard this, her stubbornness subsided before approaching the door as her tail swayed behind her.

As she passed by Teuila, she playfully slapped the girl's thigh, causing the ocean princess to snap at her. "Oi, you little shit, who're you hitting! Come here now."

Sera darted away while giggling, and Teuila chased after her, causing the other four to laugh at the two's silly antics.

After everyone had entered the house and sat in front of the fire while still laughing at their silliness, they felt a rumble throughout the town.

Kelia and the girls looked around worriedly, but the older woman reassured them as they stopped laughing. "It happens to everyone once in a while."

All the girls nodded in agreement with Kelia's explanation. Afterward, the older woman went off to make tea while everyone waited.

The house was nice and clean, considering the circumstances that Kelia found herself in. The fire crackled, and the heat pushed out the cold from outside.

It felt like an earthquake, but Kelia quickly explained. "That's not far from here. Maybe a few day's journey. It sounds like two large beasts are fighting again."

Hecate turned to her with a curious look and commented. "You've felt massive beasts fight before?"

Kelia nodded before informing them about what she knew. "Yes. It's happened about four times over the last twenty years. But it's never been this close before."

Nefertiti was the one to talk next. "Well, I hope my husband doesn't take too long. This is getting annoying now."

Everyone agreed before Hemera muttered with a smile. "That will come with a price. It always does with Archer. Trouble seems to find him everywhere that dragon goes."

All the girls giggled when they heard the sun elf's comments. Kelia looked around the room and studied each one.

Once she did that, she asked everyone a question. "Does your husband have a thing for brown-skinned girls?"

Nefertiti's eyes glinted with a mischievous sparkle as she considered the question. A sly smile played on her lips before she responded, her tone laced with amusement.

"We think he does, you know," she began, glancing at the others. "Most of us here are of darker shades, a beautiful spectrum of skin tones. But, oh, he does have a few ivory-skinned girls. They're not with us at the moment, though. They're back in the empire, probably attending classes."

Everyone started laughing before something exploded on the opposite side of the town. Kelia and some of the girls rushed over to the window.

Once they looked out the window, everyone saw plumes of smoke far in the distance. After seeing this, everything went quiet.

The fake night appeared, and the creatures outside started calling to them. Sera shivered when she heard their voices.

But Teuila comforted her as the whispers got louder. Kelia closed the curtains and told the girls to ignore it as she made more tea.

Hemera joined alongside Hecate. Sera walked over to the window and saw the humanoid standing there.

She could have sworn that the thing was smiling, which greatly annoyed her. The dragon girl gave the creature the middle finger before returning to the sofa.

The girl slumped down like a lazy cat and got comfortable as Nefertiti watched outside and studied the creepy humanoids.

Hours passed like this, and the girls chilled in the living room before falling asleep, but soon, something hit the house, which caused everyone to jump up in alarm.

Nefertiti rushed over to the window and saw even larger creatures; they were much stronger than the others.

Hecate joined her, and her red eyes narrowed before talking. "It looks like they want to fight."

The pink-haired girl prepared for battle, but a surprising turn of events left her and her companions dumbfounded.

Shadowy figures emerged ominously behind the humanoids. Nefertiti yelped when someone appeared in front of the window.

Hecate gazed at the unfamiliar creature and expressed in a bewildered tone, "I sense a connection with this entity, Nefi. It seems their intention is not to harm upon us, but rather to safeguard us."

"Sweethearts doing?" Sera inquired with a curious voice as she approached from behind two lights

The moon elf nodded as she muttered. "Yes. They are his creations. He should be here soon."

When everyone heard Hecate's words, they got excited, but they all knew a fight was about to happen, so they prepared to jump in.

Teuila readied her sword, and as the other ladies prepared for action, Talila swiftly retrieved her bow from her storage ring.

Hemera's piercing scream echoed during their preparations, cutting through the tension. "Get down!"

Everyone dropped to the floor just as a colossal impact shook the building, unleashing a torrent of dust that blinded them all.

As the dust settled, it revealed the aftermath, and everyone's gaze turned to the point of impact, revealing a violet shield.

Within its protective confines, Nala and Llyniel lay unconscious. Though battered and bloodied, they clung to life thanks to Archer's healing magic but it wasn't completed.

Witnessing this, Hecate sprinted towards them just as the shield vanished. Fueled by concern, Kelia hastened to attend to Llyniel, who was bleeding and lost her right arm.

But it was Nala that caused the greatest worry within everyone. The poor lioness was missing both her arms, her face was covered in blood, and she was clinging to life.

The girls, their faces drained of color, rushed to the fallen girls. Hemera rushed forward to start casting healing magic.

Drenched in blood and robbed of both arms, the lioness summoned the last shreds of strength to speak with a breath that echoed desperation before slipping into unconsciousness. "He sent us away before the demigod could kill us. Archer is in danger! Please, you must help him."

[Battle Witches & Silver Dragon's POV]

High above the group of girls were the three battle witches carrying out Ophelia's request to find Archer.

Scarlett quickly spoke when they saw the two silver dragons landing in front of them. "Amaryllis, what do we do?"

The brown-skinned witch turned to the pink-haired girl. "Don't attack until they do. I don't sense any hostility coming from either of them. So let's wait and see, as some dragons aren't involved in the war."

Valencia and Scarlett nodded before the silver dragons touched the ground, and two bright lights emanated.

But the pink-haired girl internally thought to herself. 'I got a bad feeling about this!'

The jungle around them was lit up thanks to the lights, which allowed the witches to see everything.

Once the light died down, the three women saw two people standing there. They were a lot older than them.

Amaryllis noticed that the man had silver hair and silver eyes. She looked at the woman next and noticed her red hair and violet-colored eyes.

They had silver scales on the exposed parts of their skin, and the air around them hummed with power.

Valencia felt the power radiating off the two and wondered what Rank they were. She guessed internally. 'I bet their Demi Gods.'

The blonde battle witch knew they couldn't fight these two, and only their grandmother stood a chance against them.

What confused the three was that there wasn't any hostility coming from the two; all they felt was a peaceful place.

With narrowed eyes, the two dragons advanced, causing the trio to step back. Valencia was on edge but didn't act, but sooner was caught off guard.

Scarlett was about to start casting magic, but Amaryllis touched her arm before the dragon woman started talking.

However, the woman asked a question with an unfamiliar accent, "I presume you three are also here for the boy?"

Their expressions, marked by confusion, confirmed her question. With a smile, she introduced them. "I'm Tiamara, and this is my husband, Aslan. We're here because Tiamat, the dragon goddess, tasked us with rescuing the white dragon and his girls. I assume someone from his home enlisted your assistance, ladies?"

Amaryllis nodded and was about to speak, but the dragon known as Aslan stopped them as it looked like he got a message.

His face turned white before turning to his wife and the witches. "We need to go now! He will die if we don't hurry!"

The witch's hearts stopped when they heard that, and they rushed forward and asked in a concerned voice. "What can we do? He cannot fall. The witch kingdom needs him!"

Aslan didn't answer as he jumped into the air and transformed into his dragon form. Tiamara pushed them to the side as she spoke. "We must step back. The boy is under us, and my husband will burn his way to them."

Chapter 547 Surface Dweller

Archer, Nala, and Llyniel were relaxing inside the tent, which was small outside but felt like a small apartment inside. He found it in one of the royal treasuries and decided to keep it.

While he was relaxing, Llyniel was cooking. The lioness was working out, and Archer was watching her, thinking, 'So dedicated to her training.'

He turned to the window that gave him a view of the outside and saw the lake and jungle surrounding it.

Afterward, the wood elf brought a plate of meat and greens, which smelled delicious, and Archer started eating.

Nala stopped working out and wiped herself down before approaching the kitchen. She grabbed a plate of food before getting comfortable next to Archer.

Llyniel got herself some before sitting on the other side of him. After that, the three started eating, while the fire started soon after entering the tent.

The three enjoyed the elf's food and complimented her, which caused her to smile before going red.

When the two saw this, they laughed but found it adorable. After Archer finished eating, he grabbed Llyniel by the waist and pulled her closer.

Archer was about to kiss the little elf, but a sudden dread washed over him. His eyes widened in shock, causing him to grab both girls and throw them across the tent.

Nala and Llyniel were caught off guard, but a spear ripped through the fabric and slammed into Archer's chest.

His scales managed to soften the blow, but it still hurt, and he was sent crashing through the forest and crashed into a group of boulders.

While this was happening, the two girls jumped up in shock and looked around to spot their attacker.

They spotted two people standing there. Nala narrowed her eyes and growled, causing Llyniel to look in the stranger's direction. It was a man and a woman.

The girls noticed that the couple's skin had a profound tint of dark grey, and their creepy black eyes were like a black hole.

Although they bore a resemblance to elves, a distinct otherness set them apart. Their hair was pitch black and tied into a ponytail.

They had normal humanoid hands until a shadow washed over them, replacing them with bone-chilling claws.

But that's when four talon-like appendages appeared from their backs. They looked like spider legs tipped with sharp barbs.

Llyniel, sensitive to the flow of mana, sensed the energy emanating from them, but it was unlike anything she had encountered.

It carried an unsettling, heavy, and stifling darkness, yet the two seemed to embody it with a disturbing naturalness.

The wood elf thought to herself in horror. 'They are evil. Their mana radiates dark energy. Was it this race that took down the ancient elf empires?'

The two looked at the girls with malicious smiles before the man spoke. "Look at what we have here, my wife. A demi-human and elf from above. They are strong, and the lion has the boy's mana running through her, strengthening her entire body."

"Yes, husband. I can use the elf to turn her into a Nightstalker commander with the amount of mana she processes." The woman spoke coyly as she held her husband's arm.

When the two girls heard them talk, they were shocked, which showed on their faces and caused the couple to laugh.

Nala sized up to the two and realized they couldn't fight them. They had to wait for Archer's return to escape to the domain.

The woman stepped forward with a malicious gleam as she explained how they knew the Surface Dwellers language. "We captured some human and elf traders. The commander promised to set them free if they taught us their language, and when they did, they were killed. Used in my husband's games."

Nala's ears twitched, and her tail stood straight as she took out her sword and cast enhancement on herself.

'We can't win. They are too strong, but hopefully we can escape.' Nala thought to herself.

She was Master Rank and would put up a fight as Llyniel covered her. Nala turned to the elf and spoke in a concerned voice. "Cover me. We need to hold on until Archer returns."

Just after speaking, an earth-shattering roar was heard, which alarmed the couple. The husband turned to his wife and said. "The boy's coming. I'll deal with him. You capture your subjects."

The woman nodded before the husband vanished. Nala saw her black eyes turn to them, which made the two step back.

She didn't wait and shot forward with such speed that it caught the woman off guard before the lioness's sword swung at her neck.

When the mysterious woman saw this, she smiled before grabbing the blade with her claws, which shocked Nala.

She quickly counterattacked and punched the lioness in the stomach. The lion girl flew off the ground, but Llyniel quickly caught her and gently dropped her.

The wood elf quickly healed Nala, who rushed forward again but tried to attack the woman from another direction.

Llyniel started firing Earth Blasts at the enemy. Thanks to being in a jungle, her spells were powerful, and her spider leg talons quickly blocked the spells.

But that's when Nala appeared behind her. She lunged forward and went to stab the woman, but her arachnid-like appendages batted away the sword.

Nala was taken by surprise, but it was too late to dodge as a talon stabbed into her shoulder, causing the lion girl to scream out.

When Llyniel saw this, she panicked and started casting even stronger nature spells, but the woman blocked them easily.

The elf was surprised as the woman vanished, still holding a screaming Nala, and appeared behind her.

Llyniel turned around and raised her right arm, but the woman smiled, and her mouth morphed into one like a shark.

Nala screamed out even though she was in pain. "Llyn! Watch out!"

But her warning came too late, as the woman bit into her arm, which caused Llyniel's eyes to widen in shock.

The woman quickly shook her head and ripped the girl's arm off with savage intensity. The elf screamed in pain but raised her left hand and cast her best spell. "Wildfire."

A wild and powerful fire burst from her hand, washing over the woman, who flinched in pain but quickly slapped the spell away.

When she did that, the woman kicked Llyniel in the chest, which sent the girl flying and crashing through trees and bushes.

Nala managed to free herself and took out her spare sword. She started to attack the unknown woman, who was now angry.

She dodged the lioness's attack and grabbed her by the face. The woman slammed Nala into the ground with a loud crash.

But she didn't stop there as she sliced off Nala's right arm, which caused the girl to bite her lips in pain.

The woman threw the lioness off to the side as she felt another spell flying at her, but she batted it away with ease and turned her attention to the source.

Llyniel was barely standing as she was covered in blood, but her brown eyes glowed fiery as she cast spells.

All sorts of nature spells flew at the woman, who was getting annoyed but vanished from where she stood.

The woman reappeared behind Llyniel and slapped her so hard Nala heard it. The surprise attack sent the elf flying and crashing near the lioness.

Nala looked around and noticed the sound of a fierce battle not far from them that lit up the jungle.

Every beast nearby fled deeper into the trees, escaping the fights and their destructive aftermath.

When Nala looked at Llyniel, she was unconscious and badly injured. Blood was pouring out of the stump, and she was covered in cuts and bruises.

The lioness caught the sinister undertones in the woman's chuckle and turned toward the evil figure looming nearby.

Nala locked eyes with her tormentor, prompting the woman to cease her advance and speak with a chilling confidence.

The woman spoke with a grin. "You witness, little Surface Dweller, the fate that awaits you. Your essence will fuel our experiments until your very spirit shatters, leaving you a hollow shell of your former self. Once that transformation is complete, I shall turn you into a plaything for our experiments, birthing lion-like monstrosities that will serve as instruments of terror in our war on the surface."

After speaking, the woman continued walking forward, but her words caused panic to shoot through Nala, who jumped up with the last bit of her strength.

Nala took out her last sword and rushed forward, but the woman chuckled. She dodged every attack and used her claws to slice off her left arm, which dropped to the ground with a thud.

Then, with a swift kick, the woman sent Nala flying, but not before slicing off her left leg, causing the lioness to scream in pain.

She wanted to torture her for fun and was enjoying the one-

sided fight.

Chapter 548 You're Very Handsome

The woman approached the mutilated lioness, who was still trying to get up while mumbling Archer's name.

But the evil woman stopped as an object flew toward them, and saw her husband crashing into a nearby lake.

Ceasing her assault on the girls, she hurried to the man's side. In her absence, Archer emerged.

Upon witnessing their condition, panic gripped him. 'They're injured! I need to help them before that couple returns.'

His violet eyes were glowing in rage, but he saw Nala and Llynriel badly injured. They looked like they were dying. Archer rushed over to them and gathered them together.

He cast Cosmic Shield around them and Aurora Healing on the two, but it was too late. The woman reappeared in the new clearing the battle caused, looking angry.

Archer stood up and sensed the other girls not far away cast Azur Cannon at the shield and sent it flying in their direction.

When he did that, he heard the woman speak in a tone laced with venom. "You think they will get away, dragon? We will catch them after killing you."

Archer chuckled when he heard the threat and took a deep breath before letting out a soul-shattering roar followed by a stream of dragon flames that hit the woman with a boom.

He saw this, cast Blink behind the woman, and grabbed her by the neck, but what he saw took him off guard.

The woman was smiling but commented in a teasing tone. "Only my husband can touch me, lizard. Now be gone."

She pulled her fist back and punched Archer in the jaw, sending him flying through the jungle.

He was crashing through trees, and the husband appeared. The man cast a spell at Archer, but it bounced right off him.

This surprised the man, but only for a few seconds. He flew toward Archer and kicked him in the chest, sending him crashing into the ground.

The man landed next to the woman, who greeted him with a smile, but suddenly the two felt something rumble.

They ignored it as an army of shadow creatures charged at them. The couple tore them apart with ease and erased them from existence.

Archer stood up and spit out some blood. He stretched his body before scanning the two to understand better who he was fighting.

[Moros]

[Race: Terravian]

[Rank: Demi-God]

[Level: 803]

[Azura]

[Race: Terravian]

[Rank: Demi-God]

[Level: 803]

When Archer saw this, he was beyond shocked and internally thought. 'No wonder we got beaten so easy. They are demi-gods. Fuck.'

Moros rushed forward and threw a punch at him as he spoke to Archer with a grin. "Magic doesn't affect you, Surface Dweller. So I will use physical attacks to kill you."

"Shut the fuck up and fight, you idiot," Archer spoke just before the man's fist connected with his face.

He was sent tumbling along the ground and crashed into a boulder. Archer shook his head and felt his Regeneration kicking in.

The wounds that covered his body healed, but it didn't take away the toll it took on his body until he rested.

But he didn't have time for that as the woman sped toward him and suddenly appeared before him. Archer used his wing to block her kick and grabbed her ankle.

When he did that, he used every bit of strength and threw the Demi-God to the side. As Moros saw this, he was enraged and rushed forward.

The Terravian overwhelmed him, and he couldn't defend himself. Moros sneered down at Archer, his face contorted with triumph and sadistic pleasure.

"You're nothing, Surface Dweller," he taunted between punches. "I'll make sure you suffer before we end you."

Archer tried to block the blows, but Moros was too fast. The Terravian's fists connected with bone-crushing force, and his body jolted with each impact.lights

It felt like he was getting hit by concrete as the blows rained. The two enemies were too quick and moved with speed he couldn't see.

The pain seared through him, a constant reminder of the dire situation he was in. The air shifted just as Archer began to feel the weight of despair settling in.

The Terravian woman, Azura, joined the fray. Her movements were swift and precise, each strike calculated to inflict maximum damage.

Archer barely had time to register her presence before her kicks joined the onslaught. The duo coordinated their attacks seamlessly.

Moros would deliver a punishing blow, staggering Archer, and before he could recover, Azura would unleash a flurry of kicks that seemed to come from all directions.

Archer was trapped in a relentless dance of pain. But suddenly, he felt something bite into his left arm and tore it off without an issue.

He gritted his teeth in pain, causing him to scream internally, and used his right hand to cast Azur Cannon into Azura's face, sending the Terravian flying.

Moros flew forward and threw a punch that connected with his face. But before he could fall to the ground, the man summoned his spear.

The Terravian plunged it into Archer's chest, causing him to scream out in pain and aim his hand at the man.

He went to cast a spell, but Moros cut off his left arm at the elbow. Blood poured out the stump as something black mixed into the claws that injured him.

Azura appeared and was about to finish Archer, who felt a burning sensation running through his body but stopped when the tunnel rumbled and shook.

The tunnel roof caved into, and a silver beam shot toward the Terravian couple, who quickly blocked the attack but were injured anyway.

Moros didn't know what happened, but Azura looked at the culprit. A man was hovering in the air with short silver hair and glowing silver eyes.

Four women surrounded him, but the silver-haired woman spoke to the rest and pointed in a certain direction, and the three spilled off.

The silver-haired woman spoke to the man, who vanished from the spot where they were hovering.

He couldn't see where he went, but the silver-haired man appeared in front of Moros and punched him.

The punch was so strong the Terravian Demi-god flew off. The woman got closer and spoke. "Go after that fiend. Look at what he has done to Archer! I'll deal with the wrench."

When the man heard this, he nodded and sped off. But Archer managed to get a look at him before he left.

Archer noticed the man had short silver hair and two white horns like his. He couldn't miss the man's silver dragon eyes and thought to himself. 'He's a dragon!'

When the Terravian Azura heard the insult and lunged forward. But that's when the silver-haired older woman grabbed her by the face and squeezed as she spoke. "Now die, you newborn Demi-god. The gods won't miss you."

The woman crushed Azura's head and dropped her body to the ground with a thud. When Archer saw this, he examined the woman who was approaching him.

She had long, silver hair and a slim body. Even though she looked like a scholar, he could feel a strong sense of power around her.

Archer saw her white horns and violet dragon eyes. He soon realized she was also a dragon and even more powerful than the previous couple.

He tried to scan her but got a terrible headache, and that's when he heard the woman giggle before she spoke. "You shouldn't try prying into a lady's secret little white dragon. But Tiamat was right, you're very handsome."

Kneeling before him, the woman spoke with gravity, "But let's not dwell on that. I am Tiamara, the queen of the silver dragons in the far east. We must get you back to our island, for you are in a dire situation. The poison courses through your veins, and conventional magic is futile in healing you."

Archer looked at her as his vision danced and asked with a groggy voice. "The girls? They need help."

Tiamara smiled as she scooped him up. She cast her dragon magic that relieved some pain as she answered. "They are fine. The witches went after them, and my husband went to their aid. The three young girls will take them back to your home."

He ignored her words while activating the bracelet, summoning all the girls back to the domain and locking it down so they'd be safe during his treatment.

Archer left each girl a message about the silver dragons healing him. Once the message was done, he created a screen in the treehouse so the ladies could see everything around him.

Once he did all that, he fainted, which caused the woman carrying him to laugh as she approached her husband.

Aslan held the Terravain man in his hand, who was struggling but soon was dead as the silver dragon snapped his neck.

He threw the body to the side before summoning their wings and taking off. The witches followed behind as their battle was over and were reporting back to Ophelia.

Chapter 549 What Battle Witches Can Do

[The girl's POV]

[Before they all were sent back to the domain]

Hemera cast her healing magic over the fallen wood elf and lion girl. The wounds started to heal and close, which caused the bleeding to stop.

The sun elf thought to herself. 'I hope they are okay. I can only do so much and need someone who knows better healing spells.'

Nefertiti and Hecate joined in by giving the sun elf their mana, which allowed her to cast the spell.

As they were tending to the two girls, Teuila shouted to everyone. "Enemies incoming! Get ready to fight."

Hemera told Nefertiti and Hecate to help hold off the creatures, which they agreed to. The two rushed over to Teuila and Talila, who were ready to fight.

The house and protective enchantment lie in a mess and wouldn't offer them any protection to the incoming onslaught.

Sera and Nefertiti got ready as the humanoid creatures charged toward them. Talila started letting arrows loose that flew into the horde.

The mixed elf hit headshots, causing many of the humanoids to drop to the ground, only to get trampled by the others who were still charging.

When the others saw this, Teuila started casting Deep Sea Blasts, annihilating the creatures by tearing them apart.

Sera grinned as she transformed into her dragon form and charged at the creatures. She tore through their ranks using her claws, tail, and teeth.

She used her tail like a whip without thought, sending the humanoids flying into the distance.

As Sera did this, she internally thought. 'Now I can let go and kill these things without getting held back.'

Once the dragon girl did this, she saw several large creatures resembling mutated trolls approaching her.

With a deep breath, she fired a stream of bright red fire. The burning hot flames splashed over the mutated trolls, causing them to turn to ash.

The redhead kept attacking the creatures. As Nefertiti saw this, she grinned before casting Arcane Storm.

She stood tall, her pink eyes blazed with arcane power. As the horde of creatures approached, she raised her arms to the sky, gathering energy from the ethereal realms.

Dark storm clouds swirled above, crackling with raw power. Purple lightning arced across the sky, heralding the impending onslaught.

With a commanding gesture, she released the pent-up energy. A torrent of arcane storm erupted, raining down bolts of purple lightning upon the approaching creatures.

The air crackled with magical intensity as the bolts struck their targets, causing explosions of dark energy that tore through the horde.

The creatures, caught in the arcane maelstrom, convulsed as the relentless lightning surged through them. Limbs were torn asunder, and eerie, otherworldly cries filled the air.

Nefertiti's control over the storm was perfect, each bolt finding its mark with deadly precision.

Meanwhile, Hecate, standing beside Nefertiti, chanted incantations under her breath. The glow of the moon above intensified as she drew upon its power.

She launched Moon Blasts at the remaining creatures, and each blast a radiant burst of lunar energy.

The combined assault of Nefertiti's storm and Hecate's moon explosions caused widespread devastation and ripped through the Swarms ranks.

It turned the battlefield into a chaotic dance of arcane magic that tore through the relentless horde.

As the last echoes of the arcane storm faded away and the final moonlit blast subsided, the immediate threat had been quelled.

Nefertiti, her form still radiating residual arcane energy, surveyed the battlefield. Smoke and ashes lingered where the creatures once stood.

Hecate, standing beside her, nodded in acknowledgment of their successful defense. Teuila, Talila, and Sera approached, having dealt with their share of enemies.

Teuila clapped Nefertiti on the back, a grin spreading across her face. "That storm of yours is a real game-changer. Remind me never to get on your bad side."

The pink-haired girl giggled before giving them a smirk, but a wave of roars was heard just as they relaxed.

Everyone looked at the town, overrun by wolf beasts rushing at them. They saw the townspeople getting torn apart and dragged off while kicking and screaming into the dark.

Sera quickly jumped in front of the group and let out a roar before a stream of violet fire shot out of her mouth and washed over the beasts.

Her dragon fire didn't stop the horde as the beasts rushed toward Sera and lunged at her, but the redhead reacted and bit the wolf in half.

However, the onslaught of beasts became overwhelming, and Sera found it challenging to sustain her defense. Without hesitation, the other girls quickly came to her aid.lights

Teuila leaped onto the dragon girl's back, slashing at the wolves swiftly and precisely, sending them tumbling through the air.

Meanwhile, Talila positioned herself at the rear, skillfully shooting arrows into the approaching horde, causing explosive chaos upon impact.

Yet, their help came too late, for the wolves intensified their assault. Suddenly, a cascade of pink flames engulfed the surroundings, forming an impenetrable barrier against the horde.

As this extraordinary display unfolded, a mighty impact shook the ground close to them, sending the beasts flying.

Intrigued, the girls turned their attention to the source, only to be greeted by a burst of laughter that echoed through the air.

All eyes rose to witness the arrival of a woman with flowing blonde hair adorned with beautiful, smooth brown skin and captivating violet eyes that radiated an otherworldly glow.

The mana around her came alive as she spoke in an exotic accent. "Cousins, wipe them out and show them what Battle Witches can do."

During the chaos, the witches sprang into action, each unleashing her unique brand of magic power.

Valencia, the close combat witch, became a whirlwind of destruction. With swift, calculated movements, she stormed into the heart of the wolf horde.

Her limbs crackled with witch magic, delivering punches and kicks with unparalleled precision.

Wolves were sent flying, and the impact sound drowned out their howls. Meanwhile, Scarlett, the mischievous witch, reveled in her chaotic craft.

With a maniacal cackle, she summoned a legion of pink elementals that materialized out of nowhere in vibrant colors.

These ethereal creatures danced through the battlefield, leaving trails of magical fire in their wake.

The wolves, surrounded by the inferno, succumbed to the searing heat, their fur igniting as they whimpered and fell.

Above the battle, Amaryllis hovered like a specter. Her eyes locked onto the person who was behind this attack.

She descended into the midst of the battle, her presence commanding attention. In a sudden twist, she vanished from sight, leaving the leader bewildered.

Before he could react, she materialized right in front of the Terravian. Her voice dripped with calmness and menace as she uttered, "You targeted my dragon. Now die."

Amaryllis cast a powerful hex with a flick of her wrist, and a surge of dark energy surged into a lethal force.

The leader succumbed to the relentless force of the spell, collapsing to the ground instantly. Each witch, immersed in her distinctive combat style, operated in perfect harmony.

The once tumultuous battlefield now bore the mark of their arcane mastery as the pink elementals continued their dance of destruction.

Valencia weaved through the chaos, and Amaryllis asserted her dominance with a single, fatal incantation.

The remaining wolves scattered their ranks broken as the witches stood resolute against the remains of the once- threatening horde.

When the wolf horde vanished, calm settled over the battlefield. The air was thick with the lingering scent of charred fur and the aftermath of spells.

Everyone was catching their breath and exchanging glances of relief. However, the tranquility was abruptly shattered as the ground beneath them began to tremble.

The collective gaze of the group turned towards the source of the disturbance, revealing a menacing sight – mutated troll-like beasts charging toward them.

Valencia, the close combat witch, couldn't contain her amusement. With a hearty laugh, she surged forward, her movements a blur of calculated grace.

The first mutated troll came into her sights, its twisted features contorted in a snarl. Closing the gap with incredible speed, she jumped into the air, her fist charged with magic.

Valencia's laughter resonated as she delivered a powerful punch, connecting with the troll's face. The force of the blow sent shockwaves through the creature's form.

The airborne troll crashed into the others. This created a domino effect of chaos as they collided and stumbled over one another.

Meanwhile, Scarlett, the mischievous witch, reveled in the opportunity to showcase her magical prowess.

With a flick of her wrist and a mischievous grin, she conjured a large pink dragon made of vibrant energy.

It roared to life, ethereal scales gleaming with mana. Scarlett directed the creature with playful gestures, and it surged forward, rushing over the approaching trolls.

The trolls, caught in the radiant embrace of the pink dragon, roared in agony as the magical energy seared through their mutated forms.

The dragon left a trail of enchanting sparkles in its wake, engulfing the trolls in a dazzling display of magical power.

Chapter 550 Gorillith's

The battle raged around them, and the girls returned to Hemera, who was tending to Nala and Llynriel with Kelia.

They were hiding in the ruins of the house, hidden behind a half-destroyed wall. When the group arrived, Nefertiti, Teuila, and Talila guarded them.

While Hecate and Sera rushed into the house, they saw Hemera fussing over the unconscious girls, who looked a lot better than before.

All of them watched the witches battle the horde of creatures, and the women were winning as they pushed the creatures back.

Archer's girls were sorting, and the injured Amaryllis was high above them as she raised her hands with a stern focus.

Her violet eyes glowed as she unleashed a volley of Hex spells. Each dark energy projectile sought its mark with deadly precision.

The hexes struck the trolls, and their effect was immediate and catastrophic. Their bodies convulsed under the influence of the powerful witch magic.

She saw the limbs of the creature contorted in unnatural ways. Amaryllis maintained a relentless barrage, her control over magic evident in the perfection of her spells.

The combined efforts of Valencia's brute force, Scarlett's playful yet powerful magic, and Amaryllis's hexes wiped out the oncoming horde.

Each showcased her abilities and coordinated to fend off the mutated troll threat. The air crackled with Mana as the battlefield became a training field for the three to train.

An hour elapsed, and the trio of witches descended, standing in proximity. Sera observed them as they advanced, but a resounding roar echoed.

Instantly, all the charging beasts abruptly stopped, pivoting on their heels, and hastily changed direction, fleeing from the scene.

A collective sigh of relief escaped everyone as the creatures hurriedly retreated. The three witches approached the destroyed house.

They joined the group of girls, who started to relax, and Nefertiti spoke to Amaryllis in a neutral tone. "I assume Ophelia sent you here?"

The blonde-haired witch nodded with a sweet smile before answering. "Yes, she did. She was worried about her crush, so she sent us here."

Nefertiti gave her a nod before Hemera approached the three, but before she could talk, they started to vanish.

Witnessing the sudden change, Amaryllis swiftly seized the sun elf while the others firmly grasped the other girls.

Instantly, they vanished from their previous location, reappearing within a dark and damp forest.

[Amaryllis POV]

Upon materializing, the trio, taken by surprise, instinctively tensed, preparing for a possible threat as they detected the presence of approaching beasts.

As they were on edge, they saw numerous Gorillith walking out of the forest. When Amaryllis saw this, she shivered as the beasts were the same rank as her.

But something happened that shocked them completely. The beasts bowed down to the girls, who smiled at the beasts, which confused the witches.

Scarlett poked the blue-haired girl, who turned around with a smile and asked in a worried voice. "Why are they kneeling to you?"

Before the girl could reply, a voice was heard in their minds. "They are our queens. The king proclaimed they should be protected in the Beasthaven, and our tribe takes that duty seriously."

Valencia spun around quickly and saw an even bigger beast crouching down, allowing the dragon's harem to climb on them.

They looked at the witches, who were staring at them with confused faces, which caused Archer's girls to giggle.

A redheaded girl jumped off the gorilla and landed with a thud. When she did that, the smaller Gorilliths ensured she was okay, like worried parents.

This reaction caused Scarlett to laugh while Valencia stared at the scene with a neutral look on her pretty face.

The dragon girl skipped over to the trio, her voice bubbling cheerfully. "Hey, guess what? Everything you see around us? It's all our husband's handiwork. This whole place is his domain, and since you guys are here, he must consider you allies, not enemies. So, all the creatures and beasts you spot here? They're his soldiers, so just be cool, and they'll be cool, too. No need to worry about attacks or anything!"

When the witches heard the little redhead standing before them with a big smile, Amaryllis looked at her and thought to herself. 'She is so tiny. A bit taller than a human child, but she has the personality of a firecracker.'

She had long redhead hair tied into a ponytail while wearing a summer dress that clung to her slender but curvy body.

Amaryllis noticed that she was wearing a bracelet with the same gemstone as her dragon eyes, a beautiful ruby red.

Her tail swayed behind her and was slender but strong. The witch spotted her beautiful red horns, which sparkled as the light hit them.lights

The girl tilted her head at her before commenting with narrowed ruby-red eyes. "I know you just thought something rude. I'll forgive you this time, but I'll burn your pretty hair next time."

After speaking, she returned to the Gorillith and jumped up on it. Amaryllis and the other two looked at each other and nodded.

They followed the dragon girl while hiding their hair from her. When Amaryllis landed on the beast's back, there was a platform.

Seated comfortably in chairs on a platform, the girls relaxed while Hemera attended to the sleeping ones.

As the witches took their seats, the blue-haired girl, smiling, spoke up, "We haven't introduced ourselves yet, so let's take care of that now."

She smiled at them before continuing. "I'm Teuila Aquaria. A princess from the Aquaria Kingdom in the far south."

Amaryllis observed Teuila standing at nearly six feet with the body of a seasoned warrior trained daily for years.

Teuila's ocean-blue eyes sparkled like precious gems, and her silky blue hair was elegantly tied into a long ponytail.

The witch noted the girl's well-defined curves and toned body, a combination that complemented her appearance remarkably.

After speaking, Teuila stood up and pointed at the redheaded dragon girl lounging around in the chairs. "This fiery dragon is Seraphina. We call her Sera for short. She is our resident jokester who likes to tease people."

When the girl in question heard this, her little hand flew up, giving Teuila the middle finger and causing everyone to laugh except the witches.

Teuila girl shook her head with a chuckle before continuing. "The elf with the short golden blonde hair and yellow eyes is Hemera Helios. She is a sun elf princess from Mediterra."

Upon glimpsing Hemera, Amaryllis found herself momentarily stunned. She couldn't help but marvel at the woman's beauty, especially as her hair cascaded gracefully past her long ears.

She took note of the elf's flawless features and full lips. While she had encountered elves in the past, none had left an impression quite like Hemera.

Looking at the elf rising to her feet, Amaryllis silently mused, 'She's undoubtedly a princess.'

Hemera, having stood up, then shifted her attention to the trio. With a smile, she greeted them. "Hey, it's nice to meet you three."

After the greeting, she returned to tending to the two sleeping girls. Once that was over, Teuila turned to the mixed elf and introduced her. "This is Talila Wyldheart."

Amaryllis looked at the silver-haired girl pulling out materials from a storage ring before she looked up with a smile. Her red eyes glowed as Teuila introduced her.

She nodded at the witch before getting back to work. She looked at the girl and loved her beautiful silver, similar to the grey-skinned girl she had seen.

Amaryllis noticed she was also built like a warrior like Teuila and thought to herself. 'Does he like warrior women?'

The older witch shook her head before turning to the grey-

skinned elf sitting there reading a book. Teuila spoke as she introduced her. "This is Hecate Wyldheart. She runs our potion shop in Starfall City."

When Scarlett heard this, she quickly commented with a big smile. "Dragonheart potions? I've heard good things about that place. Auntie Pandora wanted me to buy some potions from there."

Amaryllis smiled at Hecate, who returned her greeting with a nod before returning to her book, causing the three witches to get annoyed.

The pink-haired girl was the one to speak. "Don't look at her like that. She doesn't talk to people and is allowed to do so."

Teuila giggled at the girl's reaction, which caught the witch's attention as she spoke. "This is Nefertiti Sharifi. Princess of the Zeinia Empire in the south."

The witches greeted her and received a fake smile before Teuila stamped on the Gorillith to get it moving through the Beastlands.

Amaryllis was curious, but Teuila finished off the introductions. "The two girls who are sleeping are Nala Lionheart and Llyniet Oakheart. Do any of you know any healing magic?"

Once she asked the question, Valencia answered. "I do. When we stop moving and rest, I'll help."

Teuila smiled before Amaryllis introduced them. "I'm Amaryllis Blackfire. Leader of the battle witches."