

## Master 1091

### Chapter 1091 Prized Eggs

#### 'Mud Skinned alligator egg

This is a very rare mud skinned alligator egg. They rarely show themselves since they prefer to hide on the silty bottom of ponds or low rivers. They hate fast water and they often hunt for birds trying to catch fish. They are very valuable since they constantly shed their skin which is a very useful crafting material. Unfortunately, they are very susceptible to illness and that has led to them being an extremely rare monster.'

It was an understandable reason for the mud skinned alligator egg to be rare. If it was susceptible to illness because of its skin then it would have a very hard time surviving in standing water. Walker read off his appraisal and Ash seemed to understand. "I had hoped that it wouldn't be one. I doubt I can find a proper home for it. Maybe a nobles' or rich merchant child will become a tamer one day." This seemed to be the only hope for the egg since when it hatched it would need constant care.

Walker turned his gaze to the pure white eggs with a lot of ridges on it. This was also an egg that Onyx was fixated on. "Brother, it has a very powerful light elemental affinity. I can feel it pulling the light mana from me. I never have to fight for control over it." It was shocking to hear that Onyx struggled with it. Usually, Onyx was the strongest pull of light elemental mana because he was drawing it to him as food. Walker even had the feeling that onyx had better control of it when he was hungry.

#### 'Heavenly serpent

This is an egg that should never have touched the ground. The heavenly serpent is a monster thought to remain in the sky as close to the light as possible. When they eventually outgrow their childhood and reach adulthood, they will use a massive amount of stored mana to create a spatial portal to the light elemental plane. They were loved by a certain race due to their light elemental purity but have long been thought to have migrated fully to the light elemental plane of existence. To hatch a heavenly serpent the egg must be bathed in pure light elemental mana for one hundred days straight.'

Ash let out an impressed whistle when he looked at this egg again. He had not been able to find records about any of these monsters nor about how to hatch them. He had only been able to discern the light elemental affinity and the fact that it was a snake or serpent shaped monster. "Now that sounds like an egg that might not be able to be hatched. I think you would need a few thousand light elemental crystals with perfect purity. That's a lot of gold..." Ash now realized he would most likely never sell this egg since tamers were not known to be rich people.

"Brother, it is like me. It would never have been able to hatch without the right person." Walker could feel the pain that Onyx had in his heart. Onyx knew that it was possible this egg would have no family at all and that it might be impossible for it to have a home like Onyx did.

Midnight picked up on the way that Onyx felt and was staring Walker down hard. They both were giving him a harsh look. "I can understand how you both feel, but you know that I wouldn't be able to hatch this egg either. If I did, I would need to make triple the gold the entire family has, then I would need to take care of it, and finally it would need to be able to come with us." These were valid points that Walker needed to keep at the top of his mind.

"I can tell that this is a hard thing to think about. You have two voices telling you to take this egg and have it join your family. Many tamers feel this way when they hear a story like this. But that can be good and bad. In your case, you have seen the best and had a stronger bond with these two because of their need. For some people, they will take the egg out of pity and hatch it, then they are unable to properly care for it and the monster suffers. But let me tell you something interesting..." Ash had a very wide smile on his face. "Have you ever met someone that is not a tamer that had ways to tame a monster?"

It was as if Ash had started an earthquake in Walker's mind. He was having a pretty bit realization about taming that seemed to make a lot of sense. "Herders, farmers, and even the dwarves have monsters but they aren't tamers!"

"That's it. The dwarves can tamer certain monsters as pets because those monsters are very closely related to their mining and forging systems. I have even seen a golem get tamed by a dwarf miner that went after some rare ores. It was an amazing feat since there are no golem eggs. I had a pretty great show to see it happening. Now, as for a price, introduce me to the dwarf king of the deep caves. I heard he has a few tamed monsters related to his system."

"I can make that happen, but what are the requirements for someone to get this egg?" Walker had a feeling that it might be a little more strict than expected. He also knew that Ash seemed to be more curious for information than expected. If he managed to meet the king of the deep caves it would be a long conversation.

"Just listen closely, I doubt you don't know someone with the requirements needed. You seem well known." Ash felt that Walker had played right in to his hands.

Chapter 1092 A Perfect Partner

Walker was on the way out of Ash's egg shop in a matter of seconds. He had the perfect person in mind so all he would need to do is worry about the hatching conditions and getting the king of the deep caves to come with him to Ash's shop.

"Brother, are we really going to find a home for the heavenly serpent egg?" Onyx was worried that Walker might be unable to do so at such a short notice.

"Don't worry. I have the perfect [person in mind. I think you will like it too since you have worked with her." Walker was being careful with what he said so that he could tease Onyx and Midnight a little. They were driving him to make this decision so he felt it was only fair to have a little fun with it. Not that he wouldn't have done something to help the egg find a home anyways. He was even brainstorming about the mud skinned alligator egg.

There was still the curiosity about the other egg that Ash had refused to show him. For whatever reason, there was a lot of negative feeling around it along with some strange mana flow. It reminded Walker about how it felt when Scylla was using her mana. It was related to her ancient bloodline which made sense since Ash had mentioned the egg was ancient as well. He would be sure to ask for details when he returned.

"Midnight, if you rush too fast I will have to run behind you." Midnight had noticed where they were going and was very excited to get there. The way the city was progressing showed that there had barely been any interruption in the days that greed's curse affected them.

The streets were more and more full every second while there seemed to be new construction on every corner. The buildings were coming up with speed and efficiency that every dwarf boasted about at any chance. What was even more impressive were the shops. The elves had sped up their transportation of goods since some of their younger generations were jumping at the chance to travel the world. There were even a few walking around with adventurer's guild plaques already.

"Brother! You are going to ask Alice!?" Onyx saw the cathedral in the distance and put the pieces together.

"I thought Midnight would have told you first. Yes, I am going to ask Alice. She has a much higher light elemental affinity than most people. Plus, she can help provide the pure light elemental mana that it needs. I can also see if the church will provide some of the light elemental mana crystals needed. If the heavenly serpent is light affinity then I trust it should have some healing abilities as well. But that will

depend on it. I don't know if I can find any more information on it. It could be harder than finding information about you."

The last sentence seemed to make Onyx quiet down. He had thought that he would have a friend in the world like him. But now he could tell that the heavenly serpent may feel even more isolated since its race was known to have left the plane completely for another more suited to their lives. "I won't let it feel alone and neither would Alice. She has a good heart." Onyx had a very high opinion of Alice after partnering with her lately. He believed in her strength and was ready to back her up.

"Good, now let's see if she is up for a little adventure." The cathedral was slightly busy since many people were coming to pay respects before they went about their business in the city. It was a common respect for some merchants that had relationships with the church. Therefore, when the high priest saw Walker he gave an apologetic wave. He and three of the potential high priests were swarmed by a crowd of merchants and other higher ranked individuals meeting with them.

"Midnight?" Walker had lost Midnight the moment they entered the door. But when he heard a surprised squeal he found that Midnight had nearly pounced on Alice. It was clear that Midnight had been worried about Alice's wellbeing too and that Walker should have headed to the cathedral earlier. "I'm glad you are energetic enough to fend off this vicious dragon." Walker was met with a giggle from Alice and a dramatic fake growl from Midnight for his joke.

"She's too kind." Alice was happy that Midnight has come to greet her in such a way. The feeling she felt from Midnight made her happier.

"So, do you have time for a little adventure? I met a new friend from the tamer's guild and have a proposition for you. It might not work but I think it could be very valuable to you and your future. It will also help another find a home." This caught Alice off guard. She had expected Walker to just be coming to check on her and the cathedral. But having him suggest a little outing was exciting, even more so that he was saying that he found something that might help her become stronger.

"Of course." The response was instant and Onyx decided to take Alice's shoulders over Walker's as his resting spot. He also wanted to help Alice keep her mana in check since she might need a lot to bond with the egg. He didn't give anything away though. He wanted to see Alice's genuine reaction when she found out. He took it as his responsibility as a fellow serpent type monster.

"Then we need to go and find the king of the deep caves next. I think he should be at that new bank worksite. The Genesis building would get too crowded if it managed all the finds so we decided to split

things in to the Genesis building and a bank that manages all the transactions in the city. It's safe to say it will need a lot of underground vaults." Walker took Alice's hand and headed out the door. A few healers watched with small smirks.

#### Chapter 1093 A Growing Worm

It would be an understatement to say that the bank was a large building. The space that had been set aside for additional building was taken up very much by the bank mark out. The idea that Genesis needed a separate bank had not just come from the fact that the Genesis building would be too crowded. It had also come with the fact that there would need to be a great number of transfer and recording runes there. The space wouldn't allow that in the Genesis building.

The bank would be responsible for safeguarding gold and extremely valuable items. This meant that they would need extremely dedicated guards. It also meant that the staff would need to be highly educated. Luckily, Markus raven was already there training the two demons along with other staff. He had taken full control of the city's funds along with the flow of gold to the bank.

The shops were all being fitted with crystals and runes that could transmit information. This allowed people to pay with their adventurers' plaques or other identifications. That meant carrying gold would be less common which in turn would cut down on some crime. It also meant that the transfer of gold from accounts would be faster for those working at the bank. Overall it was a very efficient system that could help every single citizen in the city once it was properly in place. That reason was why so many of the building and crafting system users had been focused on the bank.

Finding the stairs that were made to go underground where the vaults would be was easy. Many of the dwarven golems were crying heavy pieces of metal downward and Walker pulled Alice along. Midnight was looking a little more dramatic though and jumped down using her wings to glide. Walker could tell her wings had become stronger yet again. She was test flapping in the air to slow her descent even more. It was only a matter of time before she would be able to take off properly. This was why she had not shifted to her dragonkin form again, it would affect her flight training.

"Sir hero, looking for the king? He's over that way with his little pet. Apparently, we hit a small silver vein and he had been feeding it." There was a little jealousy in the miners' voice that Walker could tell was from the fact that the king of the deep had a silver skinned worm that he was raising.

"You look pretty happy today. I heard you found a small silver vein." Walker glanced at the footlong silver skinned worm that the king of the deep caves had managed to hatch.

"Well, in only a month since this little gal hatched she has grown this big. I can't use all of the silver I left back at the kingdom so I have been struggling to feed her more. Now she will have another growth spurt. I can only wish I will be here to find more." The last of the silver ore was snapped up by the silver skinned worm.

The silver skinned worm was still small but the sharpness of the four teeth it had easily cut through stone. Its skin was grey and not very silver yet. Walker could tell it was efficiently absorbing earth elemental mana from the stones around it. "So, what brings you down here. Shouldn't you be around the city being a hero or something?"

"I actually came looking for you. I need your help with something. It would be even better if you brought along your silver skinned worm, actually, what did you name it?" Walker felt bad not using the worms' name since it was clear it could hear the vibrations from his voice.

"Airgid, it's a name that translates to silver. A traveler I met once used it and it seems to have stuck with me. I don't really know why but it felt right. Now, why should I come with you? Give me a good reason and I might say yes." There was a hard look in the king's eyes. He was needed here and convincing him to leave would be tough.

"I met a man named Ash. He is an egg hunter and it might benefit you to meet him since he has many eggs that could be useful to you and the other dwarves. I also need you to meet him so that he can take that as payment for another matter I am working on with Alice. I promise it will be worth your time." Walker watched the king carefully. He knew that it would be about the value that knowing an egg hunter could bring. The king of the deep caves was not out just to go help Walker at the drop of a hat. It needed to be an equal value, this was just the way dwarven culture grew since they were known for their trade.

"I can agree to that. But I will be expecting a lot from this meeting. I don't want to waste time." It was clear that the king of the deep caves had heard of egg hunters before. It must be one way that the dwarves had acquired some of their tamed monsters.

The mention of the egg hunter brought more clarity to Alice who was trying to figure everything out. However, she was making some false assumptions that Walker was looking to tame another monster with her assistance. "Then let's get going. I told him we would be back soon." Midnight was sniffing the silver skinned worm before the king of the deep caves picked it up and added it to a large pocket on the front of his leather mining apron.

"Just sit tight in there while I walk. I left some silver pieces for you to eat," The king of the deep caves appeared to care about the silver skinned worm more than he let on.

#### Chapter 1094 Match Made?

Due to the pace that Midnight set, they were all forced to move faster. She was the worst at holding back her excitement but no one had any issue with it. There was a lot of curiosity that the king of the deep caves and Alice had. They wanted to see what Walker was thinking and what he had in mind since there was a lot of potential in an egg hunters' shop.

When the door opened, Walker was greeted by the chime of a bell. He also noticed that there was a slight smell of burning. The scent pierced his nose and was very potent. So much so that it burned a little. There was also the remains of the crate that he had seen before. It seemed to be melting a little from the inside now that the egg was gone. "Now that smells like an acidic poison if I ever smelled it. I would stay away from whatever monster makes that."

"Sorry, I was just transferring a certain egg. I take it you are the honorable king of the deep caves who happens to have tamed a silver skinned worm? I have been wanting to meet you ever since I heard the rumor. I never had the chance to meet one and rarely encounter the monsters tamed by your people." It was clear that the main reason that Ash wanted to meet the king was because he lacked the chance to study these kinds of eggs.

"Well, I do happen to have my Airgid right here." The king pulled the mall worm from his pouch to show it off. The worm just moved around lazily in his hand as if it was trying to sleep. "I can go in to more detail if you want but you will need to come by the caves with me. We already have a few miners with pets and partners working." This proposition was exactly what Ash wanted.

"Perfect! I have to study more so I can identify more eggs. I assume you will have some eggs around as well since you're digging quite a bit?" Ash also had hope of seeing some new eggs.

"We have found some monster nests as we go. Even broke in to some small caves that didn't have proper air flow for monsters to hatch." That was it, Ash was hooked and ready to leave.

"I brought someone that should be able to bond with the heavenly serpent egg. This is Alice, she is a songstress that controls light with her voice. I would say she is perfect for the heavenly serpent since they will share a very pure elemental affinity." Walker was proud to introduce Alice and also saw that she was understanding the situation. "I know you might not want to be partnered with a monster. But I could only think of you being qualified for this. If you don't want to then I will search for someone else,

no questions asked." This was the promise that Alice needed to hear. She would not want to be forced in to anything but felt that Walker was coming from a good place.

"Can I look?" Alice wanted to feel if the egg would actually be compatible with her. She was not sure if she could actually tame a monster. However, she had met a few healers with light elemental partners. One healer, in particular, was a traveling healer that partnered with white ermine which was very similar to a weasel. But it had a very kind nature that came with its ability to heal small wounds and boost healing skills used by others.

"I want to see this little monster hatch one day. I have had this egg for about four years now. I didn't really know what it was and hate that it wouldn't have a home. It requires a hundred days of pure light elemental mana. That will cost a lot but between him and a few others, it should be possible. I also know that it will need a lot of attention when growing, a place with a lot of light elemental mana is important while it grows." Ash was much more serious than he had been before. Now that he was willing to give up this egg for a new business connection he had to be certain it would be safe.

Alice placed a hand on it and felt the draw of light elemental mana. She took off the bracelet that Walker had given her and handed it to him for the moment. She whispered to the egg and the light in the room pulled toward her. The reaction was simple, the egg absorbed it all. But what was even more interesting was that the ridges on the egg seemed to glow with light elemental mana.

She turned and looked at Walker, he handed the bracelet back to her and she started to try to think of what to say. "You have to write a new song, don't you?" He understood that she was thinking about how she would contract this monster and make a proper bind. It was clear that she resonated with it when she whispered to it. It was stronger than she had expected and she would be ready to give it whatever it needed to hatch.

"Take it and care for it. I want written logs of its growth and any signs of what it might need to hatch other than light elemental mana. It's part of the price you will pay. It is valuable to my progress." Alice nodded as soon as she heard this. Ash was being very professional and Alice understood the value of such an egg in her hands. The king of the deep cave showed respect as well. He liked the professional attitude that Ash had and felt that they would work well together.

#### Chapter 1095 The Deal

"Honestly, you don't realize how hard it is to find homes for some of the eggs I manage to collect. Some years I will have the same stock without finding the right tamer or pertinent for an egg, but other years I will clear out my stock completely." Ash seemed like a weight was off his shoulders now that Alice had accepted the heavenly serpent egg. She seemed very interested as well. Walker couldn't help but feel



that the strings of fate had come together. If he hadn't met Ash this early in the morning then he wouldn't have been able to learn all that he did and bring Alice here.

"Now about the eggs you can offer me. I see you have some gravel fly eggs over there. Do you think we can make a deal with those?" The king of the deep cave hadn't been able to get gravel fly eggs for some time due to their scarcity.

"Oh, of course. I found that clutch some time ago. I would say there are about sixteen in that clutch. They should grow to be about the size of a fist. Perfect for exploring caves." Ash was ready to jump right in to the next conversation and make a real sale. He had even managed to catch the attention of the king without any effort.

"Wait, before you get in to things, can I ask why that egg you wouldn't show me is so dangerous? I can feel the mana that is similar to the swamp lands. If I had to guess it has poison of some sort." Walker wanted to ask so that he could sate his curiosity. But he wasn't prepared for Ash to react.

"Look at my hands." Ash pulled off the gloves to reveal heavy scars. "I was exploring and found it in some rocks. The egg is definitely ancient and is a monster that I doubt anyone can currently handle. But I can't identify it. I want to do it myself. The only problem is that most of my skills require touching an egg. That was my first mistake. If I didn't have the right antidotal herbs then I would have lost my hands and my life. The egg constantly causes poisons to pool around it. I assume that it will hatch when the poison fully pools around it but I can't let that happen until I know what it is. It's part of my pride as an egg hunter to figure this one out."

"I understand. I didn't want to force you to show me that. I just had some curiosity and didn't want to risk anything dangerous. But if you need help feel free to come looking for me." Walker knew that he might have overstayed his welcome.

"No, no. It's fine. If you tried to force me to show you the egg I would have been very annoyed with you. But you just wanted to ensure my safety. I'm impressed that you can feel the mana and that it has a poison accumulation skill. I will keep that in mind. I may come asking for you when I have a breakthrough." Ash turned back to the king and began to show off the clutch of eggs. They were small stone like spheres that definitely would hatch in to small rocky shelled flies.

"Walker..." Alice was ready to head back to the cathedral. She wanted to compose her song to bond with the heavenly serpent along with speak to her father. She wanted to help the little heavenly serpent

hatch and have a family. She also knew that Onyx was very interested in this as well and couldn't help but want to answer his curiosity.

The four left the king of the deep caves and Ash behind. Walker figured they were too caught up in their talks anyways. "I will search through the libraries to find anything about the heavenly serpents. I have a feeling that I might be able to find some things about them in fairy tales though since they seem kind of old. I also think people won't believe they are a real monster." This was something that Walker was catching on to. Even Scylla who had descended down from an ancient monster could barely find real documents about the ancient Scylla that once lived. She had voiced that annoyance when they had started to get to know each other.

"I wonder if I can find some poison resistant materials for gloves." Walker was thinking that he could make some new gloves to gift Ash since he was glad that he could work out a deal with him for the egg. Walker knew that as much as Ash was going to make from the new connection with the king of the deep, that he cared more about the egg actually being able to hatch and live well.

Alice casually bumped in to Asher's shoulder while walking. She was carrying the egg close to her so that it would stay warm. It wasn't very necessary but it was something she did out of care. She was more excited than she expected to be able to hatch any companion. The idea that it could help her on adventures was great. It was also a way to make sure that she would never be left alone. This was something she worried about no matter what because she had seen many people injured left alone to be healed in fear.

"You know, now that I think of it...The high priest might get a little angry that I brought you to get a monster partner. Especially one that will be tough to hatch." Walker found it a little funny but knew he could be in for a scolding. Based on the way Alice looked at him he knew he had a chance for a scolding.

#### Chapter 1096 High Priest's Glare

"Ahhh, I finally chased off all those merchants. I swear, they come here to see us and make donations but they really think that we will prioritize healing. I will never allow someone with worse injuries to wait just because someone who donated money walks in with a paper cut." The high priest was mostly speaking to himself, but the priests around him were nodding along before they headed to separate tasks. They knew that the high priest was much older than them yet worked much harder and longer so rest was necessary.

He had just sat down and looked toward the door to see Walker coming in to the cathedral again with Midnight ahead of him. However, when he saw Alice he locked on to the egg in her hands. "Huh, I didn't expect that he would get another tamed monster." The high priest thought that Walker was going to be taming the monster egg and that he was just stopping by with Alice first.

But when he realized that Onyx was on Alice's shoulders and acting a little protective it made him think again. He also noticed that Alice was hugging the egg a little too tight and that Walker didn't have anything within his hands. There was no reason that Walker wouldn't be holding the egg himself. This caused the high priest to jump right up. The four were headed in his direction anyways.

His look said it all. There was a little curiosity but Walker could also tell that the high priest was not the happiest to be seeing that his daughter was bringing an egg in. "Now, tell me what, why, and how before I judge this." The good thing about the high priest was that he was not going to run through everything with his emotions. He wanted the logic and the story behind it before he came to judge it all.

Since Alice was a little afraid to say it she looked at Walker with a sad expression. As tough as he was against Midnight and Onyx, he started to melt right there on the spot. "So I met the egg hunter that works with the tamer's guild. I learned a decent amount about eggs and was introduced to this egg. It is a very rare monster that doesn't live around here any longer. It's a heavenly serpent. It needs to be bathed in pure light elemental mana for one hundred days before it can hatch. I have a theory that we can speed that up by increasing the pre light elemental mana." Walker took a deep breath before he continued under the high priest's watchful gaze.

"It has no family and is very hard to hatch, therefore, it would most likely not have a home anytime soon. I can not properly care for it as a member of my family so I passed the idea to Alice. The fact that she can manipulate the light elemental mana will go miles for the health and growth of such a partner. It also is a light elemental monster, meaning that it most likely will be able to boost or heal others. It would be an asset to Alice's safety and to her healing endeavors." This was the main point that Walker knew would make the high priest accept this.

"The heavenly serpent won't be alone and neither will Alice. It's like me." Onyx chimed in and showed a much more hopeful expression which was impressive since he was still a serpent. Walker had no idea how Onyx and Midnight both pulled off these kinds of looks.

"And you know that the cost of raising such a monster is very high?" The high priest looked at Alice who was looking right back without flinching. She slowly nodded and pointed toward their room. "I know you have your savings. You never spent a single gold unless you had to. But you will need more. I will help since I was hoping to give you a gift for your hard work building this new cathedral up and training new healers. But I expect that someone else will be helping." Walker felt the high priest glare at him for just a second.

"I have already promised I would help. I even have some light elemental crystals I can donate now. But I plan to take some gold and get some grand light crystals from the forest elves. They should be pure and easy to make use of. It might even speed up the hatching process." Walker knew that Onyx had amazed him with the speed at which he consumed the light elemental mana. If this heavenly serpent was anything like Onyx then there would be a hatching egg in just a fraction of the time.

"Then I will leave it to you. But if you dare give up on this creature, I will exile you from the church for the rest of your life. You know how precious a life is and you know the values that this city is founded on. That monster no matter what it is like will need you. Whether it is tough, painful, or even something you fear. You are responsible." The last few words made Alice cringe. But after she heard them all she held the egg just a little tougher and looked her father dead in the eye.

"I will make it the best partner ever." Alice had never spoken so firmly in front of Walker. She would have been embarrassed to act this way but right at the moment, she could only show her steel.

"Good. Then let's go set up a space in our quarters for our new family member. To think I would have not one but two children in my life." There was a wrinkled smile on the high priests' face. "Well? Are you coming to help?" Walker put some pep in his step and followed.

#### Chapter 1097 Off To Sell

"Today is the day! We have pushed through an attack in Genesis and we have the best possible potion materials to put everyone at ease. Running low on mana? Have a mana potion to keep up with your work and skills. Feeling under the weather after recovering from a curse? Have a health potion. Looking to boost your affinity with water to make sure you can defend against any potential danger? Grab an affinity potion. Those are the tactics we need you to use today." Trish stood over a group of young merchants that had been chosen by the alchemy guild.

"Ha, this is easier and easier the more I listen. We are going to play on fear and keep the sales rolling." One young merchant saw the way they were advertising and knew that this was the case.

"Yes and no. You are taking advantage of the situation, yes. But you are selling peace of mind. Some people feel they could be attacked at any minute. Some will buy a weapon, others will build a basement to hide in, and some...will buy potions so they can have a fallback. Just because some come to us does not mean all will." Remey made it clear that this was a tactic that many others were using. There was competition.

"The guild master is right. Listen to her well and you might be able to meet the requirements we need. A contract selling the potions from this guild is on the line. You have ten packages to sell. Good luck." The

old master alchemist had been advertising Remey as the guild master every chance he got. It was just as well since she was already known as a hero.

"I swear, all of them are going to call me guild master every second of the day. You're lucky you're old and breakable or I would teach you a lesson." The attitude that Remey gave back was not enough to deter the old master alchemist. He instead found it hysterical and laughed until Trish shook her head.

"We finally have our merchants starting sales and you two are messing around. We need to keep the alchemists we have working on portions to stock up. The classes are going to start tomorrow. I will be teaching a course on basic elven herbs. You have yours on the science of affinity potions. We need to be ready." The research that the old master alchemist had been so diligently studying had become the focus of his classes. He felt that doing it this way would expand the guild's reputation and cement his research in to history.

"I still can't believe that you are just giving up your research so easily. I thought you would hold on to it for dear life." Remey felt that all their work was just being handed away since it was a class. But she did understand the draw it would have to budding alchemists.

"Well, what if I was to tell you that I have a first version of a fire affinity potion. I will be starting with that tomorrow. Come and sit in before the class you will be teaching." The old master alchemist broke the news of his secret making Trish and Remey were both very interested.

"Pffft, I plan to be very busy with my class. Every single alchemist that walks in the door will be learning how to go out and find their own herbs whether they have fighting skills or not." The simple goal that Remey had was to make the guild members tougher. They would need to go out and find their own herbs one day, especially if they wanted to understand the environments the herbs come from. The herbalists wouldn't be letting just anyone wander through the fields without experience first.

"I doubt you will have many fighters. So use the explosive potions and those blinding ones I taught you. If they come from my class then to yours they will see how my herbs and your potions combine. It will be even better if they attend the affinity class and learn how enhancing a certain affinity can improve the potions they make." Trish was happy with the three subjects since all of them would be able to come together in some form or fashion.

"Remey, I just helped them drop off those new tools you ordered. I have to say, those dwarf alchemists are professional at creating new tools. I have learned a lot!" Rodney headed out the door and Remey smirked.

"That was a good kid. He was just working the front desk in the forge building when we met him. But here he is running around as one of the important members of the crafting guild. He even supervises multiple orders and teaches people to deliver them." Trish was very impressed that Remey had connections in a way that got them discounts with the newly forming crafting guild.

"Ah, they made me a new cauldron just the other day. I had to pay a decent material cost but a low workmanship cost. A very fair deal. Now I have a personalized cauldron just for darkness elemental materials." The old master alchemist had already set his sights on the darkness affinity potion theories he had.

"Another one? That's the fourth one this week. I think you have a problem. But I want them too." Remey thought this was a crazy expense but couldn't help but admit her own desire.

"Ha! I will have them as busy as much as I can. There are so many new potion possibilities now that I have figured out the affinity potion experiments. So much more to come." The old master alchemist tapped his pocket where his theories were written in a journal. Both Trish and Remey were tempted to snag it from him to read and try themselves.

#### Chapter 1098 Arguing Archers

"Perfect! That's just what we will need. I wanted to try and get out of the city with everyone to get stress off my shoulders." Gil had just finished speaking with Clara and was rearing to head out and do a little hunting.

"Just remember. These are inexperienced archers. you have three longbow system users and two game hunter system, users. They were scouted out by the guild as soon as they awakened and offered the chance to be the first to go through your archery academy. That means they will be the leaders of your academy and show the value you bring. I know you have already brought a few elves over with their arrow and archery techniques. Use what you have well." Gil was going to take the five out with him to get them a little experience out in the world before they went to start learning to make arrows and practicing skills.

"Don't worry, I will have them up to par in no time. They will be hunting just like me soon." The energy Gil had was enough to make everyone around him more energetic as well. It was a strange personality trait that came from his slightly higher charisma than most people.

The room that the five had been waiting in was surprisingly loud. When Gil came in he found that the three longbow system users were fighting with one of the game hunter system users. From what Gil could make out, they were arguing about sneaking and long range combat. The last game hunter was just sitting peacefully waiting for them to argue to their hearts' content. He had an amused expression on his face the entire time.

The sound of the door opening was completely ignored while Gil walked in. He was happy not to be noticed and kept his steps soft while letting the door remain open. He went and sat next to the only person who had noticed him; the sitting game hunter. "So, they seem to be having fun."

The game hunter recognized Gil and was a little stunned that no one else had even reacted. "It's alright, they are going to learn a lesson about sneaking. I think that the longbow range is great. I snipe a lot when I am out in the wilderness. But, sneaking can save your life. Both are things all archers should learn. You are a game hunter, right?" The slight nod showed the seriousness of which the game hunter was taking Gil's advice. "Good, sniping can help you aim and preserve the materials of your target. You will be more accurate."

"Sir hero?"

"Gil is fine, I will be teaching you all as equals. Just because you don't know something doesn't mean I am above you. Just wait to see what I mean when it comes to the ideas about making arrows and how the elves do it." Gil wanted to be sure that everyone would be comfortable and that there wouldn't be any divide in how everyone felt.

"Gil...should we stop them? Aren't you taking us to the training grounds?" The game hunter felt that he was about to watch some intense scolding. He wasn't completely wrong. The girl game hunter was still yelling back to every provocation from the three longbow system users.

"You are probably right. It's time we head out." Gil took a breath, "Listen up! We are leaving the city for some hunting. If you can not follow me then be ready to lose your right to learn with myself and the other instructor of the academy!" There was heavy shock at his shout. The authority in his voice was something that they didn't feel they could argue with even if they tried their best.

The four glanced at each other and at the door then to the pair sitting in the corner watching them. They struggled to come up with a response just as Gil walked out the door with the other game hunter on his trail. "So, you think that sniping is more important?" Gil looked at the longbowmen. They all nodded in unison and held their bows tighter. "And you think sneaking is more important?" The female

game hunter nodded as well and tried to walk without making a step. "Then your silent partner here will explain to all four of you what I advised him while you argued. Then by the time he's done, we should be out of the city."

The four were not happy that Gil was not teaching them himself but felt that they had dug their own grave. They had argued right in front of the instructor that they had wanted to learn from. What was even more hurtful was that he had already started to hand down advice and they had missed the chance.

By the time they had made it to the main city gate, the five had grown silent again. "Now, you will follow my every move and learn by watching." Gile walked out with a wave to the guards. The other followed his lead and gave a wave as well. "Don't forget that the guards are your best friends. Some even came all the way from Diamond to get a new life here like your families did. They will be able to direct you to the best butcher or tanner, or even seamstress that may need your prey." This excluded the adventurers guild since the guild didn't always look to purchase or break down regular animals.

We are heading to those flats over there. The grass has been tall enough to stay through the snow and wind. That means we have some interesting and tough to hunt monsters or animals. Personally, I want to get myself some white hare for stew. But we might see a horned rabbit or two." This caused the five to become much more serious.

#### Chapter 1099 Fox Hunt

The trails that had been freshly carved through the plains were not well traveled enough to deter animals and monsters. There were plenty of spots where animals had stopped to explore the trails or to hunt for prey of their own. "Look here, these footprints are what we are looking for. They are to a white hare or rabbit. Whatever you want to call them. They are a very fast animal and most of the time are only hunted by birds and foxes. But they have managed to stay alive for years and years even though the horned rabbits will also force them out of their territory."

The difference between an animal and a monster was simple. Mana, the mana would change a monster over the years and the monsters would produce eggs and hatch. A normal animal was not so complicated. They would live in the wilderness peacefully and exist the best they could. However, they would not have the high amount of mana a monster would have and therefore they would not change through the generations in the same way a monster would.

"What about these tracks?" One of the longbow system users had found another set of tracks they didn't recognize.



"Those are field fox tracks. They are usually grey furred and often confused for wild dogs. But they are actually a very fast earth affinity monster. They have a very weak earth shaping skill that lets them dig deep burrows where they live. They will hunt for any little animal they can get their teeth on. They actually hunt better in the fall and spring when their fur matches the season. Right now it is probably hoping it can catch anything. If we manage to catch it though, we will be able to sell it for a decent price."

"My parents say that fox fur is a luxury." The game hunters both had the same thoughts when the other longbow user spoke up.

"That's exactly it. For anyone hunting game the fox is a nice catch. It can be sold and turned in to decent coats and blankets for those with more gold in their pocket. Or, you can use it as a head and shoulder cover for hunting in the harvest season." This was another potential use for the fur that the young archers had not thought of.

"Then we can hide better and ambush our prey!" The slight excitement made the girl a little too loud.

"Who cares about an ambush. Just spot it from far away and take it down. That's way better."

There was a chorus of yes and this is better from the three longbowmen. "Oh? Well, let's test that out. Can you shoot from a hundred meters away? What about five hundred? Can you shoot from the city to here without missing? Because I know archers that can do that. But they never have exact calls on where their shot will land, just that they will hit their target. Accuracy drops the further you are." Gil pointed at a small bird in the air and then fired an arrow up. The wing was hit and the bird fell. Once it was on the ground he followed up with a second shot.

"Am I a bad marksman or was the bird out of my accuracy range?" His question was obvious and they all knew he had been lucky to hit it. On top of that, he had to use two arrows instead of one. "Your accuracy is important. If you can sneak closer and increase your occurrence without alerting a monster then you are safer, and can end a fight in one arrow." Gil followed this by crouching and following the hare tracks. The fox and the hare seemed to be on the same trails behind one another.

"That is the fox, can you see it?" The muddy trail was perfect for the fox to blend in. The two game hunters were able to use their skills to see the fox but the three longbowmen could not since they had not trained and grown their level to unlock such sight skills yet.

After seeing them focus on it and pointing it out to the longbowmen, Gil drew an arrow. "It's waiting to snatch that white hare away from us but what it doesn't know is that we are here to take both. Now, you might not be fast enough to claim both in a breath but I am. From this distance, I have an accurate shot and I am unknown to them." This was the main lesson today. It was to show balance and skill together. Both would be important for the young archers to train.

The breathing that the archers heard from Gil became slow and focused. They didn't know that breathing would be important, but when they noticed that his entire body steadied they took mental notes. The next moment was a blur to them. Gil released an arrow and pulled a second to the bow before they could blink. The second arrow was fired further away at the white hare which they had not realized was a significant distance from the grey fox.

Both monster and animal were taken down with a shot to the eye. No damage to the furs or body at all. "Now, who can skin an animal in the wild and who wants to have some stew before we head back to give this fur to my party's exclusive seamstress?" He couldn't help but smile seeing the awestruck faces of the five. Their arguments had seemed too unimportant now that they saw how a real archer would act.

"No takers? What is an arcane marksman like me supposed to do with no one to teach." The joke still didn't shake the five from their awe. Gil just started in on the task while they watched him in silence.

#### Chapter 1100 Change Of Su's Plans

"Well, of all the people I thought I would see coming from the dragon village it's you." Su was very glad to see familiar faces so early in the morning. She had come quickly hearing a knock on the door. She had just sat down for tea and been the closest to the door since everyone else was already gone or still resting.

"My elder has sent us three to explore your city and report back in one month about the progress. Elder Adair received permission for us to come and we have been very excited for the new sights and learning." The three had been part of the dragonkin warriors that Su had trained with. In Adair's village.

"Well, I think Midnight will be very happy to see you as well as everyone else. If you need a place to stay we have room available. Many of the people that were staying with us temporarily have taken their leave for new houses or jobs. It's actually a little lonely in here. But first, come and have some tea. I want to hear all about your interests." Su had planned to just go to the cathedral for the day. But now she would be giving dragonkin warriors a tour of the city. It was a pleasant change of plans.

"We have been told that we must visit the adventurers' guild and train with their warriors. It would be best to go there when they are busy." The three dragonkin were seemingly ready for a good fight.

"Then you will end up as teachers I am sure. The training fields usually have the younger adventurers and to be honest my party should have trained there more when we got together. Anyways, what else would you like to see? And I mean you, not orders. We have a lot to explore here." As much as Su wanted the dragonkin to be able to follow their orders, she wanted them to enjoy the time here to their own desires.

"Well...we have seen a lot of different foods being brought in from the demi-human kingdom."

"And we have also seen a lot of different armor and weapons shops."

"Also the tower over on the other side of the city seems welcoming."

The three each had something different. But that was perfect. "Then we will start with the food stalls, then stop by the tower, and finally we can head to the adventurers' guild and offer some training. I haven't had the chance to speak with Clara. She might come out to watch the show." Since Su hadn't seen everyone after the Greed event, she was feeling a little worried that some people might be low spirited.

"This tea is much better than I have ever had. How was it made?" One of the dragonkin warriors who had grown to respect Su was shocked. They had tea in the dragon villages and traded it around. But they rarely had tea that was better than another villages. Tea blending was just not a skill that the dragonkin cultivated in their people. They preferred warriors. It was the same for most of their forging and potion making endeavors.

The four spoke about tea for a little while before Su led them out the door and in to the now bust streets. Many people had come out and about to get materials or to try and sell things. There were plenty of merchants attempting to set up rugs to sell their goods. These people were quickly chased away since they lacked the proper permits. By the time they had made it to the wandering blacksmiths' shop, Su had seen seven merchants chased away even though the shop was right nearby the mansion.

"This is the same blacksmith's shop that came to the village with us. He crafts the best items in the city and I am sure it will only get better." Su didn't care that she was laying on sweet words. The wandering blacksmith had always helped them and deserved such praise.

"I have wanted a new spear and I think I can ask this man for it." The dragonkin warrior that had said they wanted to see the gear and items was already pulled at their bag for materials they brought with them. This had been the plan.

As they entered they found the wandering blacksmith lording over his stack of blueprints. The smell of ink was almost the same strength as the smell of coal. He had been hard at work and the arrival of Su with the dragonkin seemed to shake him from some slight boredom.

"It is an honor to meet you again blacksmith. I was impressed by your work and hope you can make me an ice spear that will not shatter like my last did." The materials that the dragonkin handed over were enough to make the wandering blacksmith grin ear to ear. He was already finishing his next exciting project and he didn't even need to go anywhere.

The process of measuring and drawing seemed to be over in a blink of an eye. But before Su knew it, the wandering blacksmith had trapped the dragonkin in to working with him to forge the spear. This didn't appear to be an issue since the other two were eager to return to the tour. Su couldn't even say a word since the wandering blacksmith had already started preparing the forge.

"Well, I guess we are going to visit the mage tower. I do need to warn you, it can only be looked at. We won't let anyone near it yet because of the potential dangers." This was just a fair warning since she cared about them, but for some reason, she swore she saw the dragonkin that had asked about the tower get more excited. Su did not miss the fact that the dragonkin had some runes carved on her armor.