

Master 111

Chapter 111 - 111. The Need To Explore

Elise started to giggle a bit more than necessary. A tear in her eye " you're hysterical you just said you made two blood contracts with a straight face." This was something only some of the most powerful tamers could do. Getting the blood contract skill was so rare that if inscribed within a scroll it could sell for hundreds of thousands of gold to a tamer. This was mainly because the user would be so closely bonded that it was hard to distinguish from a master level contract. Not only that but the user of a blood contract shared more than just some bond, it was literal sharing of feelings and information. Not every tamer had an ability to communicate with their tamed beasts, therefore having this ability to communicate was highly sought after.

"Well it wasn't really a joke, it's true. My system gave me this skill. It's been very useful. I know when midnight is hungry, or when onyx is tired. Actually right now onyx wants me to get him one of the light crystals since he is hungry and has just remembered it." Walker produced from his inventory one of the light crystals. Placed it under the table where the two were still hissing and chittering away getting along like the best of friends. Onyx pulled it with his tail and wrapped around it still holding his conversation. Walker then looked at onyx who had started staring at him. "Oh yes I'll get something for you friend to snack on too, I can't be a rude host." Walker checked his inventory looking for something made of metal or good minerals for the hedgehog to snack on. He had held on to some of the broken weapons just in case he wanted to experiment with crafting in the future. He figured now is a good opportunity to see if it's good enough quality for a snack instead. Pulling the hilt of a sword with a slight amount of rust in it "Laurence is this an acceptable item for the porcupine to snack on? I think it's made of some ancient iron. I just worry about the rust."

This had snapped Laurence out of his daze, "umm well yea he can burn away any impurity in his stomach but wait are you sure you can use blood contract?" Walker set the sword hilt down underneath the coffee table and soon hear a small chipping sound. The little porcupine was using its very hard teeth to chip little bits off. It was actually a very interesting phenomenon to witness seeing that this was one of the ways monsters strengthened themselves.

"Well yea, it's annoying because it drains all my mana no matter what but it's pretty amazing. Even now while midnight meditates and learns about darkness and death I'm also feeling a change in my understanding. I can't say I'm gaining much from the death part since I'm not a skeletal dragon which has a strong connections due to its bones. But I can feel the dark mana being affected since I've learned to manipulate darkness element." Again his words were deafening to them.

"Wait so you have a dark affinity?" Elise had realized he wasn't joking and become extremely serious.

"Well no...I can use all the elements..." Walker said this slowly afraid he might be causing them all a heart attack.

Even Riley was looking at him stunned. This just spoke to how crazy it all sounded. "If I was to post a quest specifically asking for your party to travel with us as escorts would you accept?" Laurence knew the three would be reporting to their guild after leaving the city. By bringing the omnipotent party along they knew they would be praised and even promoted. This was because their guild master was the only other person they knew who used blood contract. It also would be valuable for Walker to meet him knowing that as the party leader of said party having the connection was invaluable. The potential of Walkers' party was immeasurable.

"We can introduce you to our guild master, it would also give you a chance to get a bit farther from the city. Naturally, we travel many places as tamers in pursuit of unique beasts. Not to mention, Elise here is after a very unique bird. One that uses darkness as its element so having someone with such affinity could be very useful. Any thoughts?" This was Laurence's plan. If he convinced them to come on an adventure to broaden their horizons and assist them in something rare, then this trip would be a massive boon.

This seemed like a decent proposition, walker knew that meeting the master of the tamers guild would create a strong connection for their party as a whole. Getting out to explore a new area would give them valuable experience especially with their new skills and levels. The search for a rare dark affinity bird sounded tempting, Elise Was most likely looking for a nest to make a contract with an egg of such a species. On the other hand Walker could learn more about taming from the first hand. "It sounds very tempting, unfortunately, we won't leave until midnight awakens, also our manager kind of got angry at us and refuses to give us a quest for a few more days." Walker laughed at the last part a bit embarrassed. This was also a ruse to see what else they were thinking, Walker had already caught on to Laurence and his tricky strategy.

"Well naturally we don't plan on leaving the city for a little while. We can easily extend our stay in an inn." This was nothing to them as they had brought adequate funds in case they needed to stay longer.

"Oh no, I couldn't ask that if you, you three would be staying here. Please feel free we have more rooms than we know what to do with. Plus I'll gladly drag everyone out to the training field." This was the more walker wanted, training with experienced tamers would allow the party to learn how to battle other humans along with a few different monsters. It was an all around benefit. The tamers would gain experience and a better understanding of who they would be traveling with if the party accepting their request.

Laurence saw no reason to say no to Walker's offer, saving a few gold from staying at an inn. And getting to know their party better was ideal. "Yes, that sounds like a grand time, we accept your offer." Elise couldn't be happier; this meant that Stella could remain out of the beast ring and even fly in the air around the mansion.

"It's settled then we'll find you all some rooms. If you are all up to it you can come to the adventurers guild tomorrow and meet our manager. I'm sure she will want to hear your request directly. Plus maybe we can get out of waiting a few more days." Walker's sneaky plan probably wouldn't work but if he could convince Clara to even let them adventure a day earlier it was worth it.

Hilda who had already returned with tea while the group talked jumped up. The porcupine quickly curled up in fear. "Oh I need to start dinner I got so distracted chatting and watching the little ones." Hilda had been having a grand time making dinner since moving to the mansion. She had fewer orders to worry about since she only kept her adventurer and close clients. This meant that she could cook to her heart's content and branch out trying new things. Consequently, her level had been able to increase more than it used to which added to her joy.

"Ahh I guess your name will need to be Hyde after all..." Laurence had finally given in seeing the porcupine curled up under the table yet again. He was thankful that it hadn't shot any quills and started fires. He would need to practice with Hyde to see where his strengths would lie in battle, maybe Hyde would be able to roll around and fire quills in a strategic manner. Laurence put his strategizing to the side for now knowing he could take advantage of Walker's party and test the theory out at the elementary level later. It would be good to start more training the younger the tamed beast the better.

Crack!

A loud cracking sound had taken their attention interrupting the flow of conversation. They all looked toward the windows since it sounded like glass but in actuality, it wasn't glass at all. After looking around they noticed broken pieces of crystal in the floor under the coffee table. The light mana within the light crystal had been fully consumed by onyx. Upon seeing this they all became entranced in the lights faintly shining between onyx's scales. None of them had ever witnessed a mana crystal lose all its mana before because they were often crafting materials or fully consumed. In this case only the mana was consumed leaving the physical crystal behind.

"Well that's a first for me" Gil saw this as he had walked in to the room seeing everyone looking at the broken crystal. "So what is it now? Is it useful for anything? If it's just something pretty maybe a jeweler will buy it." Gil took up a seat joining everyone.

"This here is Gil, he's our resident ranger. He like fires arrows and stuff." Walker threw some teasing to the air knowing it would get Gil talking more.

"Oh says the guy who can just look at something and his system gives him a new skill. Use your wonderful powers and tell us if this is useful." Gil snagged a crystal shard and tossed it to Walker. A smug smirk on his face knowing that walker was too curious not to do so.

"Fine fine, all around appraisal!"

' desolate mana shard

The Remnant of an elemental mana crystal. The mana has been consumed causing the structure of the crystal to break. Ideal material for crafting items and types of equipment that can store mana.'

"Oh!" Walker was surprised by the last bit, he had assumed it would only be useless now since they'd lost the mana. But these shards were basically smaller mana crystals that were waiting to absorb mana. " so basically since onyx ate all the mana the crystal wasn't able to stay in the same shape. So it broke making a bunch of mini crystals which don't have mana. This means they can absorb mana when they are used to craft things. Should be an interesting item to bring by the forge some time." The idea that they could obtain some form of item to store mana for when they need it most was very exciting. For any adventurer running out of mana and potentially passing out in battle was a huge risk.

"Oooo I want some too how do I get all the mana out? Can I eat it too? Does it taste good?" Elise had become very focused on the reaction onyx had to consume light element and now had listened to Walkers' every word.

Thinking on this he responded carefully, "in theory if you or Stella had the element for the crystal you use then you can slowly drain it of . It's easier for onyx who eats said element. Actually it might be easy for me since I can manipulate elements with my skill. If it works that way then just use the crystal as fuel for an elemental skill or and eventually it will run out. Basically, train like crazy." Elise had a strange glint in her eyes as she turned to look at Stella. Stella however was fluffing her feathers knowing exactly what Elise would ask of her. She may not be able to speak but she was smart.

"My sister Stella can throw some wind blades. It's a super rare skill a harpy will learn once out of a hundred harpy born. So you could say she just needs a wind crystal and some time and we'll have some super rare materials." Laurence was prepared to ask Walkers' party to help them drain some mana crystals he currently had to bring back to the tamers guild but once he heard the theory he didn't act in it. Knowing Elise and Stella could provide the shards put him at ease.

Chapter 113 - 113. Dinner And Deals

They all continued chatting for some time. Gils and Su's parents had made their way inside introducing themselves and sitting at the dining table talking themselves. Garret had returned from his new guard position on the inner gates only to find walker had invited tamers to dinner. To say the least, he was ecstatic.

"Don't tell me you've come to steal away walker from the adventurers guild. There's no way as a father I'd let him leave and wander the world only returning every few years. That's just not allowed it's a family rule!" Walker never remembered this being a family rule but he knew this was his fathers' way of saying he loved him so he didn't say anything.

"Well, actually we were hoping to take the whole party to a gathering with our guild master. We also want them to accept a quest with us. But there's plenty of time before that, Walker even told us he'd take us to the adventurers guild to meet their manager, we'll be having an insider tour." Laurence laughed at this to lighten the mood. Garret readily accepted this seeing that they weren't aiming to steal away the entire party but instead work together. He'd heard of those awakening the tamer systems and leaving only to return once in a few years or never at all. It was a minor fear every parent had.

" don't worry about us, we would be joining them for a few months but it would bring us both a lot. Not to mention we haven't explored many areas yet so joining a party of tamers who have would be very valuable for our party. Since we have a manager they would send us quests with the system too so we could branch out in that way as well." Walker had already thought of how to explain their plans to everyone else. Plus the idea of going somewhere new was tantalizing. Something else that really caught walkers attention was that other tamers they meet may have knowledge on dragons like midnight. The more he learned no matter how small the better.

Lisa who had been making friends with Stella and Elise had heard this. "If you all leave you need to bring souvenirs or else I won't give you your new clothes!" Lisa was understandably unhappy to hear they were leaving again, they had all just gotten back! Since Remey had given her the arcane silk she he constantly worked and was almost finished with what she had made everyone. The only problem was the amount of mana she needed to sew all the parts together. She refused to give them something that would fail them in need, so she had worked until her mana was almost empty then rested, worked, rested, worked, rested, and after hearing everyone talking in the dining hall had decided to take a break. She had been very excited to see that Walker had brought new friends, especially Elise and Stella who

were very interested in hearing about the new needles walker had gifted her. Elise may have only been interested in them because they were made from dragon scales but Stella was more excited to meet another girl, it had been rough being in a group with all males, Elise may not care but Stella did just a bit.

"Don't worry I'll keep an eye out, maybe I'll even beat walker to the punch." Gil had always been an only child and now that he'd met Lisa and started to see her and the party as family he wanted to spoil her to the ends of the earth.

"Oh is this a challenge? I believe Remey and I will be able to find something better than you and walker." Su had relaxed significantly over the last hours chatting. So much so that she was even in a betting mood.

"Yea that's right we'll kick both your butts!" Remey strutted in the room from visiting the orphanage after training. She had been the last person they needed to move forward with dinner.

"Well if you two are willing to bet on it then I guess the loser will have to help prepare the gardens in spring." Placing the penalty for the bet this way would make sure that they would be ready to grow all the new seeds come spring. Walker was always thinking ahead this way, plus he didn't mind some friending competition. "Laurence we'll be relying on you for some help here since you'll know the areas we travel." Laurence couldn't help but smile at this shameless use of connections. How bold to ask in front of those he was competing with.

They all gathered and helped set the table bringing out plenty of food. The tamers were over the moon with Hildas' cooking and made sure she knew it. Especially Riley who barely spoke had issued a whole sentence in how great the roasted beef was. Onyx had devoured another whole light crystal making them realize just how important it would be in the future to have the crystals for when they are in dark places. Walker also was thankful that he could produce the evil consuming flames which were part light element which could help feed onyx. Light crystals would be expensive. The little porcupine Hyde was still chipping away at the rusty sword hilt happy as all else. He didn't risk meeting everyone but since everyone had slowly shown up for dinner he easily grew used to the noise.

Dinner passed faster than they could expect and soon walker had shown everyone to their rooms. Laurence had asked if they could get up early to head to the adventurers guild which was not a problem for any of them.

Walker headed to bed last out of everyone thinking of what tomorrow would bring. He would have to remember to get onyx identification as his tamed monster while at the guild as not to cause any trouble.

As Walker closed his eyes to drift off to sleep he couldn't help to have a sense of foreboding on the day to come.

Chapter 114 - 114. Unfortunate Encounters

Everyone seemed to wake up refreshed and full of energy. Hilda had been kind enough to set up enough sandwiches for everyone to have as they walked for breakfast. Elise had decided to let Stella remain at the mansion so that she could fly around the training field and be free. Laurence Had chosen to leave Hyde in the beast ring for safety since it was possible for him to start a fire by accident. He would hate to be the reason his new friends lost their beautiful home.

"Alright now that we're all together let's head out. I figured we could head the long way so you three can view the city more." As Walker had dressed and eaten a sandwich he thought of the route to take to the guild. He knew he wanted to walk them by the auction house this time to see the academy which was nearby. That would make them pass by the holy cathedral which was definitely a sight to see. The stained glass windows were as old as the castle. Not to mention the tall marble arches and pillars. The cathedral was especially known for its music, those that joined their choir had the ability and skills to of healing music. This was a rare skill that often wasn't useful in battle but surprisingly helpful for the elderly and those recovering from illness. Thus hearing their songs was something many would travel for. It just so happened that the entire quire which normally split off and went to the smaller churches in the outer area to perform would gather once a month for a large performance. Today they were together and performing which would be a very great experience to show off to the tamers. After that, it was an easy trip to the guild and forge. They weren't going to head in to the forge just pass by but it reminded Walker to gather as many crystal shards as possible. After the guild, he wanted to test out some more elemental manipulation and also challenge Laurence to a sparing match. Walker desperately wanted to see his other tamed beasts.

They were chatting and pointing out many of the larger buildings and such as they walked. The knowledge was still fairly new to walker and the party since they hadn't lived in the upper tier long, luckily Garret picked up a lot of information as a guard.

"One thing I don't really get is why are there so many people running?" Elise had noticed small groups of young people running in the area. This was strange by the basic fact that due to the systems people had body training wasn't necessarily a norm.

"Ah well for some systems like guards they have quests that require body training. I wouldn't have learned it if my father hadn't told me about his system quests. It's rare for it to be the case but at the academy, the ones that do have such quests tend to group up together." When he was young his sister and he would often wonder why Garret would leave early in the morning eventually they had learned the details.

" it always amazes me the many things the world asks of us through our systems," Laurence said this almost every day. It was easily his catchphrase, but due to how true it was no one ever made fun of him for it.

The group had started to see the towering holy cathedral in front of them. The outer courtyard was a gathering place for many in the mornings to chat and have tea. Only the best of the best chefs would bring their pastries to sell to the many tables in the hopes of fame. The elderly were often there first as well so they could get inside to say their prayers or visit healers.

The holy churches often recruited every healer they had the chance to. This was simply because their teachings were for the benefit of others. That being said their mission had brought them significant power over human faith. This was good because they were able to heal and aid the sick and weak. Yet on the opposite, it gave way to many who desired to feed off of the church as well. Some nobles had become victims and villains in this respect. There were a small number of nobles who had long been members and made hefty donations to the church, therefore, they exerted their power to cause weak minded members of the church to act as they see fit. Those nobles that were not as powerful could often become victims to the prior group. This would come in the form of denial of healing, exemption from prayers, and even their children being denied a blessing which was a very big part of nobleman tradition.

The group seemed to walk upon such an example of villainy this very morning.

"You trash, why would we let you in here when you can't even donate a hundred gold for our services. Do you think your ears are even good enough to hear my voice let alone their healing notes? Pathetic!" Walker saw a familiar face along with two familiar attendants. This was the man from the auction house. He was currently pushing out a man with visible injuries from the front door.

The man in bandages had his arm in a sling and most likely was there to be healed. Everyone knew there was no price for healing but it was customary to donate so the church could buy food and such. But by no means was it required.

Walker used his skill wanting to know who the despicable man from the church was, this is the second time they'd seen his ugly side.

' Ross Merrill

Level: 22

Light channeler system

Sent to the church as the youngest son of the Merrill family. The hate for his own family and the church cause his mind to warp. His favorite pastimes are charging lower tier citizens for healing and toying with the nuns who he outranks.'

"Ugh" Walker let out a disgusted grunt. This man may not have had the best of life being forced to the church by his family but it was no excuse to treat those around him poorly. Not only did he prey on the weak but he "toyed with the nuns"? Walker couldn't imagine the terrible things he may have done.

Before Walker could even shout he saw the man that Ross had pushed begin to fall. They were standing on the top of the steps to the cathedral and the man in bandages wouldn't be able to catch himself.

Chapter 115 - 115. Heroic Deeds

"Su! Catch that man!" Walker was relating the order but Su had already caught his intentions and begun to move. Since Su was their party defender she had the strength to catch the man without injury. This left Walker able to support.

Su had used one of her blocking skills to get right behind the man falling. In a second she had dropped her shield that she normally wore on her back and caught the man.

"Sir are you ok? Did your injuries worsen?" Su was worried the man had become more injured even though she caught his fall.

"Nice job Su, so this man didn't donate enough money to the church for healing?" Walker said this rather loud. "Then I'll just need to heal him myself, heal!" Walker used his healing skill three times and saw the bandages man's slightly pale and tired face Become rosy and warm.

The man soon stood up out of Su's arms and began to move his body and remove bandages. He even pulled off his sling and started to stretch his shoulder. "Young master thank you so much for healing me! You young miss thank you for catching me! Who would have known I'd meet two heroic saints in a day!"

The man had been unable to work for a week and was finally able to make his way to the cathedral for healing only to fall victim to Ross and his cruelty.

Walker looked towards Ross with disgust openly on his face. Ross glared back seeing that Walker had just healed the bandages man and even made a show of it to the others by speaking loudly to draw attention.

"So do you have a proper answer for me of why a man of the church would demand a hundred gold for healing and even kick an injured man down stairs!" Walkers' words almost echoed he had yelled so loud. This drew attention from many in the front courtyard.

A small crowd had gathered, they had all seen out of the corner of their eye the bandages man fall. Yet now they were in awe as he had been caught and healed in an instant by the two. After the auction, the party had taken to displaying their travel medals and the plaques much more visibly to tame some of the stricter nobles' gazes. This was working in their favor currently so Walker decided to push a bit and work towards Ross's punishment.

"That man of the church Ross, he continually charges those that are injured for the services that their faith preaches as free for all man. Instead of upholding just and good intentions he auctions cursed items without care for the danger. Worse than all that he toys with the kind and Righteous nuns who have given their hard work and determination to true good. I beseech these strong and kind people here today to place the scene here today in the ears of the high priest. I can't think they would be so keen to know their ways have been perverted in such a way!" Walker was using every ounce of mental strength to speak and act as a noble and hero.

Enraged by his words Ross took a few steps down the stairs " how dare those born in the low tier, do you think I don't know your scheme!? These poor fools have assaulted the faith here by spreading lies about healing items. They robbed the church of much needed light crystals. They even dare to lie to royalty that they are hero's to pad their tier as adventurers. How else could they jump to silver tier at such a young age? Fools!" This would have worked in his favor if walker had not spoken first. Yet since Walker had laid out a calm and strong speech where Ross was full of anger and accusations those listening could not bring themselves to believe.

They had heard the rumors of young adventurers receiving the hero title. They also believed the king's word above that of a single person from the church. Also as it was common for nobles to gossip some did know of Ross's unsavory activities, when you were Rich in the high tier of society what else was there to do but gossip?

One of the nuns who had been attendant to Ross was breaking down as tears fell from her eyes. This young girl had taken a few beatings under the ruse that Ross was purifying her sins. The other girl had long become numb to Ross's words and heavy hand, but at these words, a small cold glint came through her eyes. This was her chance, "yes these heroes speak the truth! Ross he long abused my sisters and me claiming to save us from sin but use us as playthings he can break and berate at any time. He knew that the ring was cursed but just wanted money to sneak on the brothel. I've watched him many times force payment for healing but I lacked the power to change things. Now that the heroes have come they can rule down proper punishment." This was unexpected, no one expected this flurry of words from a nun so small in stature. The most convincing part however, were the small purple bruises that could be seen around her neck and face craftily hidden by her clothing. Not that she had said her piece and become slightly disheveled she became clear.

The small crowd had begun slinging insults at Ross who's anger had begun to turn to fear. Would he lose the power he had slowly stolen from the church over one pathetic old man? These weak attendants were pushing back against him? Him!? He cursed his system for not having proper attack skills to smite this trash around him. They didn't deserve to be in his presence. He began to retreat slightly...

The large front doors of the cathedral created a loud thunk! Sound attracting all attention. They began to creak open slowly to reveal a short old man wearing high priest robes.

Chapter 116 - 116. High Priest

The high priest was dressed elegantly in flowing red and green robes. He may have been aged but his eyes were sharp behind an old pair of bronze rimmed glasses. He carried a plain wooden scepter to assist in him walking and was followed by two older nuns, as his attendants.

Ross saw this and smiled, his smile showed too many teeth. It was unnerving. The high priest would definitely take his word over some lowborn adventurers. "High priest! I beseech you to halt these trouble makers. They have slandered the good faith of the church and caused a scene in front here. We can not allow them to spread their blasphemy any longer they must be punished!" Those that he gathered had no words for the shameless man in front of them, did he really believe he could win this argument?

"do you not believe me to have proper healing Ross!" The high priest had raised his voice which was indeed a rare occurrence. He was known as a rather patient man to all but when it came to those who wondered and dishonored the faith it was rather different. "Do you not think me a fool? I've already spoken to Avis Garnet about your night out at the auction. Not only that but as I head to greet those who wish to attend healing to I find you abusing your authority. Even more I hear that you have in turn abused your attendants as well? Do you truly wish to be free of this home?" His gaze pierced Ross's soul

as of seeing the darkness within. He had royally messed up and was going to pay the price. "Rose please bind him until the guards arrive, he has outstayed his welcome and must travel a new path." At his words the older nun raised a finger and white chains made of light wrapped Ross in to a full cocoon of white chains. He could not even flinch let alone speak. "Thank you dear, as always a wonderful job." The nun gave a nod and watched closely. To ensure Ross stayed in place.

The high priest took some steps towards Walkers' group. Just as the onlookers were stunned so was the party. This turn of events was not at all expected. Who knew the high priest had heard everything! He even had spoken to Avis about the auction!

"You all must be the tamers guild and the little hero's Avis told me about. If I'm not mistaken I heard there was a little dragon hero too. How sad she's not with you all." The high priest had always had a knack for finding out anything and everything just by listening around the cathedral. If anyone knew what was going on it would be him. The benefit of being the high priest for years aided the multitude of connections he had. "Well I'm any case come inside, I have some nice seats open where we can talk. Oooh don't worry about that fool he'll be ousted from our faith. There's nothing I detest more than those who do not follow the code they pledge." The high priest shook his head, he truly did pity those who fell from the right path. "Rose please watch over poor Ross until the guards are here, we will worry about notifying his family later."

The High priest gave them a wave to follow. They all hesitated a moment unsure if it was ok for them to so quickly head inside after such a scene. They were out at ease as they noticed the small crowd praising their actions and even whispers of how fair and strong the high priest was to dish out righteous punishment so fast.

They promptly followed the high priest inside the doors to be greeted by the wonders of the cathedral. This was also the party's first time inside, since they had only been to the smaller lower tier churches. The light shown through many large stained glass windows reflecting the rainbow upon them. Large oak pews lined the inside facing a stone platform. Many people holding a myriad of instruments were seated warming up on the platform. Most notable however was a large pillar holding a glowing orb. It was as if light was being taken and thrown out of it, this brought a warm conforming feeling to everyone looking at it.

'Entered healing aura: mana recover and health recovery has been boosted.'

This was also unexpected, it was common knowledge that the cathedral had the best means of healing others. The fact that it had an incredibly rare item that created a healing aura was above and beyond

this. Just being in the cathedral healed people and sped go mana regeneration. The effects of adding healing music in top of this must be incredible!

These new sights and feeling were overwhelming. The high priest had a smug grin in his face, he would never tire of seeing these looks of awe on those he brought inside. His favorite moment was when an injured person would awaken for the first time to fully bask in the wonderful sight.

The group continued looking all around them taking note of the many carved statues that guarded the walls. These were figures that had truly shaped and greatly influence history along with the faith as a whole. Some had used healing powers never before seen again while others had devoted untold hours and sacrifice to uphold the values of the faith.

Before long the high priest had seated himself upon the front row closest to where the musicians would play. He patted the open spaces next to him waiting for the party and the tamers to take their seats. He may want to have his conversation before the music began but it would be rude to interrupt their viewing of his amazing home. He knew Ross had caused friction in the eyes of the party, and if they would become as influential in the kingdom as Avis was predicting he knew he needed to mend that immediately. He also feared the tamers guild members would tell their guild master to avoid the church greatly reducing the items brought to them necessary for rare healing rituals or even damage the relationship with the alchemists who also partnered with the church. He felt he had a strong goal to achieve in this meeting.

Chapter 117 - 117. New Connections

Having finally sat down and taken in enough of the elegant artwork that was the inside of the cathedral it was time to chat.

"First let me congratulate you for your test results. It's very impressive to rise to silver tier so young. You all must have worked incredibly hard. Also to you three tamers guild members, I hear you had a sweeping victory at the auction, I hope your new beasts serve the guild well." These were but formalities but also a way to show that the high priest knew of the group in front of them.

"Thank you very much high priest. We are very grateful for you words and to be shown to the magnificent seats. We were showing our new friends around and remembered there would be a performance today. We thought there was nothing better than to hear the lovely music to commemorate their visit to you kingdoms capitol." Walkers practice in speaking like a noble was paying off. He had gained the art of replying honestly and charmingly. Not every noble was able to pull this off. He knew he had his critical thinking skill to thanks since he was able to properly think through all his words before he used them.

"Us as well high priest, we thank you for your words. However we could not have had that sweeping victory without hearing a little snake hiss a secret or two." Laurence chuckled as he said this.

"Ah so you all became friends at first sight, how fitting. I can't imagine a hero reaching out to anyone without light in their souls. I hope that you young hero's feel the same even after that poor showing out front and at the auction. As Ross's senior I should take responsibility for his actions. I know he was a troubled boy sent here by his family as a good faith gift to the church, yet, we did not guide him in a pure enough way. For that I am very sorry." The high priest had long known bad apples made their way in to the church constantly and without enough supervision they rotted faster than one could act.

" we of course understand that one person does not stand for all in the faith. It would be the same as saying that because one stone on a road is broken that they are all bad and need to be replaced." A simple relation but a true one indeed. One person could not stand for every aspect of a group no matter how hard they tried, everyone was unique in their own right.

"Ahh it pleases me to hear such wise words from those so young. We as the elders must be getting through to some." A hearty laugh escapes him. " there's is another thing that struck me, I've heard the rumors you can use any skill but did you really use a healing skill?"

'Daily quest: assist the church

You have met the high priest and experienced the church's true form. Use your skills to heal some brutal injuries and return smiles to the faces of the people.

Rewards:

100exp

Fame rises'

The system prompted them to assist the church in healing to raise their names. They did have the quest goal of becoming known as a heroic party so this was a perfect daily quest. But why did the system prompt them now? They had been in the church for some time.

Walker didn't let his surprise at their daily quest show. Su, Gil, and Remey were eagerly watching him having seen the same system notice.

"Yes, I have the basic heal spell. It's actually the first skill I used when I unlocked my system. I tried to heal my sisters pricked finger and it all unlocked so fast. It was a pretty great day." He had a theory of where the high priest was going with his question, in relation to the system quest it was very plausible.

"Well if I could be so forward to ask this, do you and your friends have time to stay and help us with those who do not fully heal from today's melody? It would be a true honor to be healed by one with the hero title. I hope this doesn't interrupt you plans with friends either, of course I'm asking for them to join you." The high priest knew he could be pushing too much but having the hero's and the tamers work together would solidify their relations as a whole.

Laurence wanted to say no since he was still out off by the actions of Ross but he had noticed a peculiar system notice. In his system view he saw this,

' special quest: friend of the hero

You have started a flourishing friendship with budding hero's. This is a test to you character and morals, to show the world this you must do what any good friend would do. Help them out.

Reward:

75exp

Tamers guild fame increase'

Tamers never gained quests that didn't revolve around taming or growing relationships between tamed beasts. The only other quest they received were from guilds issuing said quests. Was this the power of being around someone with a title? Everyone had heard that those with titles cause system nearby to act strangely but this was on a whole different level. Their title causes them to gain a quest they would never have in their lives!

"We will help, there's nothing that would make us happier than to see those fallen stand again." Laurence layered his words with sweet intentions. He was extremely excited to have a new quest let alone one he could never hope to have without meeting the omnipotent party.

"Excellent excellent I knew asking you young folks would take some weight from my old bones." This was the ideal outcome for the high priest. He'd lead the foundation for a strong relationship with two guilds and the newest title holders in the continent. He may seem sneaky at times but his goals were far from nefarious. "Ah and here I got you all talking too much the music is about to start!"

Chapter 118 - 118. Beauty Of Song

As they had all spoken many people had gathered in the cathedral. Some were helped along by family or nuns and others walked on their own. Many elderly had come and sat seeking relief for aching bones. The small talk around the cathedral slowly died down to silence as it was a clear the musicians had prepared.

A lone violin began to play. This single note started their hearts beating faster. Warm wave fluctuated within their body resonating with their souls. One by one more instruments joined bringing the sound to a loud body of harmonized notes. Flutes fluttered in their ears meeting the string instruments. Trumpets and trombones laid out a base of low and high tones bringing energy to the depths. These feelings of harmony made them want to stand and dance. Energy flowed through the room, the orb on the center of the stage flowed brighter and rainbows danced.

The time of the melody began to shift to a quiet background as a girl about sixteen years old took the center stage. She held no musical instrument like the others. Her brown hair hung to her waist and was braided tightly. She was slim and wore sky blue dress that showed her figure but hid away anything tempting. Her features were soft and her brilliant emerald eyes shown with a joy like no other. She had many freckles and from what Walker could see a few scars that had begun to fade away over time.

This girl stood still but slowly began to raise her arms until the music came to a sudden stop and she opened her mouth. Walker was completely entranced, her voice spoke of pure sunlight, the overshoot of dreams, and much more. Saying that she had the voice of an angel was a blatant insult. Between her appearance and her voice Walker could easily say this was the most beautiful girl he had ever seen.

Gil's elbow hit Walker's ribs; a smirk on his face shaking his head slightly. Walker had been sitting there jaw dropped catching flies. Gil had seen this and wanted him to put the poker face back on to not embarrass himself. The high priest had already seen this and smiled inwardly.

The girls words continued to flow smoother than any river would flow. Soon the dancing rainbows took on shapes of clouds, doves, angels, and many more creatures which came to visit those that were weak or ill. This melody and dance of colors and light was healing those in need in front of their very eyes. The performance had been going on for over ten minutes when they felt the dip in mana. It seemed the end was approaching.

Feeling this their hearts wanted to cry out to keep going but nobody desires to see the musicians fall. Walker had begun to look at more than just the singing girl noticing he was the only one so very transfixed on her song. He made a mental note to thank Gil, if he had not elbowed him he would have looked like a fool come the end.

The end was soft and left them wanting for more. However the musicians had used their mana and needed to recover. The aura l. The room returned to its prior activity and the light no longer danced. Many of the guests showed great improvement. The elderly especially were standing straighter and talking as they left much faster than they had entered. There were about twenty people still left. Some were in wheelchairs unconscious some bandages covering them. Others were being attended to by nuns replacing bandages on or risky healed wounds.

"Here's the plan, Su and Remey partner up and assist in changing bandages. Laurence and Riley will fetch fresh water to use for cleaning wounds. Elise and Gil will help move the unconscious. I'm going to move around and use my healing spell to assist those with larger injuries." The critical thinking passive skill was really paying off today for walker. In a matter of seconds he had issued a plan. The high priest was very impressed by his astute decision and decided to use one of his spells as well. His was limited to a certain amount of uses a day. This was the rise and fall of a high priest system but for a moment like this where those with tougher illness and wounds were left he always saved some spells.

He stood and started tapping his plain wooden staff. Green waves began to form from the bottom in the marble floors. "Healing pulse..." the high priest didn't speak loudly but the green wave responded through the room effecting everyone within. It bounces from statues, to walls, from the ceiling, everywhere. This pulse reverberated many times until the high priest returned to sitting slightly out of breath. "Ha it takes more out of me every day but I can never get over how wonderful that skill is." He may be showing his age but the light in his eyes said he refused to give up healing those in need.

Meanwhile everyone had gotten to their task. Working in tandem with the nuns it was an impressive display of the churches true values. Walker made his way to a man with large bandages on his back. This was definitely a wound from a monster. Long gashes ran from his shoulder to his ribs that he partially healed. It was a wonder this man had lived through the encounter. Without any hesitation he began to use his healing skill which quickly closed the wounds after only two uses. He was met by the grateful

smiles of the nuns nearby who had been able to save mana and heal more small injuries than focusing mushroomed skills on one large injury. Having just one more healer really made a difference.

Walkers mana only held out for an half hour of healing before he began to let it regenerate. While this happened he assisted in changing bandages noticing that almost everyone had already been healed. This was an amazing feat and surely was only because of the experiences those who had healed for many years had. A novice healer could not have been able to properly evaluate the injuries and use their skills and mana wisely to heal the most people. Some injuries were too large to fully heal and Required multiple treatments due to the healers mana restricting them. It was something once learned changed the efficiency and strategy of healing.

Chapter 119 - 119. Rainbow Songstress

Having joined the effort to change bandages walker reached the last weapon fairly quickly. As he reached to apply them a soft slightly tan hand beat him to the punch. Looking up the girl that had been singing was there not even noticing she had just stolen the bandage from his hands. She was incredibly focused on her actions that she soon had finished bandaging her patient and stood up with a look of relief. Everyone Ha even helped today and now it was time to rest.

"You're pretty fast, you must have practiced for a long time." There was nothing but pure admiration in walkers words. His face Had come slightly blushed as he tried to keep from staring at the girl in front of him.

She smiled a bit giving him a nod. Walker wasn't sure if she was just shy or didn't want to talk but decided to persevere and introduce himself. "My name is walker, I'm the leader of the omnipotent party. We were showing some friends around and decided to see performance for the first time. There are no words to describe your performance. I believe it's complimentary to gift flowers to the star, I don't have the usual ones but I have an idea." Walker eyed a basin of clean water and used his elemental manipulation skill to create an iced bouquet of wildflowers. The shimmered in the light of the stained glass trapping and reflecting the rainbow colors. "I hope these will suffice." Walker plucked the frozen bouquet and offered them to her.

She was stunned her lips formed an O shape and her eyes were dazzled by the details. She had yet to witness this form of and thought it very similar to her own control of the light element. She grasped the bouquet feeling the cool icy stems. They may have been melting fast in the warmth of the cathedral but the beauty she had seen in a moment was forever ingrained within her.

"Ooh I see you've met my daughter Alice." The high priest had regained some energy after resting and decided to check on the two who had just finished assisting the last patient. "I was blessed by the holy lord to find her abandoned on our doorstep one winter night. Since then she's been my daughter." So

her name was Alice, walker would make sure not to let it escape him. Yet even though her eyes were entangled by the melting bouquet she still didn't utter a word. This confusion was plain on walker's face. "Ah I'm sure you're wondering why I'm introducing her, well as you saw she can obviously speak but due to her system her words are infused with mana. She has a mystical power in her system, it's called the rainbow songstress system. She had amazing ability to form light in to the shape and form her words delegate. However this ability never turns off so if she speaks too much she could exhaust herself easily. Her very words can heal and bring calm to the very soul. I believe it was a blessing from the world itself for her to be left here and I will never change my mind." The high priest didn't look sad at all while explaining her risky abilities. Instead he looked like a proud parent whose child had demonstrated a great accomplishment.

This system was amazing in its own respect. It had the ability to finely control light to give it form. This in turn allowed it to assist in healing through the forms created. To be able to properly use these skills one would need a very strong understanding of the light element, this explained why Alice was fairly tan. Spending many hours in the light of the sun to practice and understand would be natural to her. Losing the ability to safely converse with normal words was a major downside but looking at how Alice acted and how happy she was to be helping others not a single bit of sadness could be found. It was like the high priest said, a true blessing.

"I understand, that is a pretty intense system. Although seeing what she's made of it I doubt any could do the same. I recently gained the ability to manipulate light and I can't make it dance as Alice does it the least." Walker raised a hand and used his elemental manipulation to cause the light through the stained glass to make a varying rainbow. "This is the most I think I can do before I practice more. I feel silly compared to you, hahaha." The nervous laugh was completely ignored as Alice had snapped her head up. She hadn't met anyone else who could move light like here even in a small way. She had seen Ross channel light through objects, she always saw the orb in the main hall of the cathedral give off light, she had even seen some fire healing skills that had white flames but it wasn't pure light. She snagged walker's hand her smile bigger than before, her gaze was full of pressure.

Walker knew exactly what she wanted to ask "of course I'll practice and come back to help again. It would not do for a hero with healing powers to let them waste away..." his face was redder than a tomato, this was too much for him. Turning his head away he saw Gil and Remey holding back laughter while looking his way.

Pffft...Ha he's...hah hah look how red..." Remey struggled to get this out through forced breathing and small giggles.

"Looks like little walker has grown up and found a wife" Gil put the nail in the coffin, walker was officially the most embarrassed he'd ever been.

Alice had also heard their words and dropped his hand showing a slightly red face as well. The high priest saw this as a good time to wrap things up and rest. They did have another performance later in the day and recovering their mana was utmost importance. "Well I hate to steal Alice from her new friend but we need to rest. We have our second performance in only a few hours. We need to be ready to play the whole piece. Please come again when you have the chance, and if you leave for an adventure know that you're always welcome to heal and recover fatigue here." The high priest turned to head toward a door at the end of the hall.

Alice had followed him constantly glancing back as she walked. She paused a moment as the frozen bouquet dripped a few more drops "thank you" the sweetest voice walker had ever heard whispered just now. He again dropped his jaw for a moment as his heart may have just stopped.

"I-I um I'll bring more next time..." walker struggled in his reply. Alice was almost out of the room by then but if walker had seen her face he would have known how happy she was to hear he would return.
Chapter 120 - 120. Teasing

Seeing that Alice and the head priest had gone off to rest Remey and Gil didn't let walker breath for even a minute.

"So what's your girlfriends name?"

"Was it love at first sight"

"Why don't you make me flowers out of ice?"

The pie unloaded all their won't up teasing they had thought of while waiting for the head priest to leave walker alone. While these too ranted on Su had made her way over as well. She had been pushing herself hard to help as much as possible. Her family experiences made her heart cry for those injured and she couldn't just hallway help.

"Leader is it time to head to the guild hall? I know you were busy with the priest and the singer so I tried not to interrupt before. Please ignore those two I'm not sure they understand matters of the heart yet." Su usually didn't throw words at others but seeing Gil and Remey gang up on walker she saw it as important to do so.

This lightened the mood a bit, "yes your right we should ditch these two and head out. Let's head over to Laurence, Elise, and Riley it looks like they are waiting for us." Su and walker headed towards the door where Elise was waving. Remey and Gil were left laughing but soon realized they would be alone.

"Hey wait!" Gil darted after them with Remey on her heels. Their taunts forgotten in the fear of being left at the cathedral all day.

"Sure took your time talking to your new friend there huh? Good for you." Laurence had seen the teasing towards walker and didn't want to add to it but couldn't resist a few words.

He had recovered his poker face by the time the group Had begun their walk to the adventurers guild. "Well naturally it's important to foster relationships as an adventurer. Not to mention our party may face injuries I can't heal so knowing a rising healer is very beneficial." Using their occupation and healing as an excuse made it seem as though walker had just been simply building connections. The truth was plain to see however, not a single one of them believed his words for a second! "So let's get ourselves over to the adventurers guild, it's a short walk this way!" Walker took the lead and before they even knew it they had reached the front door.

The noise of the first floor was nothing out of the usual, plenty of parties vied for the for quests and the attention of the staff. Clara had not expected to see the party for another few days at least.

The guild had recently posted the test results although fabricated a bit. It was normal for the guild to do so for a party so that they can get special requests and also to garner the relationships between parties. It was a wild and crazy ideology that the lowest and newest adventurer party had become silver rank overnight. Once the regulars at the guild had noticed the new post they read it and came to claim it was a lie and that someone else had posted it. However as they staff explained it more they added the hero title, verifications from the king and verification from the master of the guild. Those who argued quickly became those was spread the gossip and preaches for the party. Clara was just happy that walker hadn't brought midnight along, it seemed that she was going to be the discerning factor in weather or not people recognized them.

This however did not stop those who had seen the party return and claim their silver tier plaques. It also didn't help that they all wore the kings travel medals openly now. Clara understood that it made things easier when facing nobles but still, did they really need more attention?

"Hey there hero!"

"The hero returns!"

"Rescue some tamers this time ey?"

A few of the older regulars gave them shouts as they walked. This confused the group since it was the first time but it was easily brushed off.

"Hello Clara! We brought some new friends to visit you, actually they want to place a request." Walker had found Clara easily since she was staring right at them.

"You know you can't accept any quest for a few more days. I won't budge so easily, it's part of my job." She crossed her arms keeping a stern face while glaring at Walker whose sheepish smile was all she saw.

Clara took a glance at the three that had come with the party quickly identifying their tamers guild crests. "Oh so you did find some tamers at the auction!" She was genuinely surprised they had gotten so lucky that the tamers guild themselves had been there. She figured nobles or those from the academy would have bought up the corpse spider eggs.

Laurence as his party's leader came forward to stand by Walker. "Hello Miss Clara, Walker has told us much about you. Now that I see you it is clear that without such a fine manager their party would be lost to the right path. I understand you have placed restrictions upon them and we do not wish to cause friction. We would like to post a quest requesting the omnipotent party however. Would you be so kind to assist me in this?" Laurence showed his eloquent tongue, he had many years of practice speaking with these sweet words.

Laurence had been born to a maid in service of a noble, his father a butler. Until he unlocked his system he had learned their jobs and assisted them. Naturally he needed to learn how to speak in the presence of a noble or royalty. This skill could make or break his success here today!

The piercing gaze of Clara remained unbroken, "You must wait three days for your request to be processed after that it will be sent to the party in question. If they accept your system will notify you, if not the same goes." Her poker face did not falter, instead she had remained standing strong. Gathering the paperwork here and there from shelves Su soon placed a large stack in front of Laurence. A devilish

grin had shown on her beautiful face, "I'll just need a few forms filled out." This may have been the normal procedure but Clara was scary!