

Master 1231

Chapter 1231 – 1231. Let's Train!

"What was all that noise out there?" Walker had heard the yelling from the hallway while he, Onyx, and Alice went to find Su and see if she wanted to move to the back courtyard and train.

"Well, Midnight managed to find a little boy that unlocked a sword saint system. So I expect the city will be pretty loud for a few months." This caused Walker to raise an eyebrow and look down at Midnight. Even Su seemed excited about this even though she was a shield user. The idea of a very high level system being discovered was interesting and frankly cool.

"So that's where you were. I thought you had ditched us and didn't want to train. Of all the people to test Onyx, I expect it to be you." Midnight looked at Onyx and gave a slightly judging stare. She growled slightly in challenge which caused a few hisses from Onyx. The two stared each other down which was a little comical since they would never actually hurt the other.

"Oh good. You are here this time. Now I won't need to ask for someone to come and fix the mess they make." The high priest was walking outside with a cup and teapot in hand. He was clearly out to take a break after the first concert. It didn't seem that he was very tired and all in all, he appeared in better health than usual. The atmosphere and increase in healers seemed to be taking a lot of stress off his shoulders as he neared retirement.

"Have they really been making that much of a mess? I can set up a room in the mansion for them to help the heavenly serpent if you think that will make it easier. Then they can train and take care of the egg without worry." Walker wanted to keep the high priest happy too.

"No! No, I can't have them leaving. The other nuns and healers love watching them. I even had a few people become inspired by them and take on new duties around here. It's good to have some energy around." It was very true that many had stopped to watch onyx and Alice train. What the high priest didn't say was that five people that week had been able to unlock a light or healing based system by watching the two train. It was extremely impressive and helped the city as a whole.

"Then we are good to go and see how much they have improved." Su pulled her twin shield off her back and clanged them together. She was very energetic now that she had chatted for a bit and seen something fun. She wanted to get right in to it and see what had changed and what new skills she could work on. The focus she had was already driven by the royal dragon court but it had increased the entire journey back.

Almost as if someone had called them. A group of nuns and healers seemed to appear around the edges of the courtyard to look over the walls or fences. The high priest took a seat on the small bench nearby. He was smirking as if he had predicted all of this from start to finish. However, he did not know what would be in store. There were more people participating this time. More pressure. More ways that those training before his eyes could change and learn. More ways to inspire others.

Onyx changed his size and looked at Su who was much smaller in comparison even though she was still much larger than the average young woman. She had the stature to block some of the strongest hits while maintaining her footing. But even more than that, she had the will and aura of a dragon beyond her.

"I don't want this to be too easy. So, let's make this a mixture of light and darkness elemental mana." Walker was tossing aside his apprehension for those watching. He instead channeled the light and darkness elemental mana around them. The sun was still uneven in the sky so there were plenty of shadows and spots of light that made the little courtyard ideal for conflicting elemental manas.

The shadows seemed to extend while the patches of light grew brighter. Just a small amount of Walker's mana was able to change the environment to a degree that would both enhance and challenge those who were using the two elemental manas. But what they did not expect was for Walker to be nowhere around them. They had clearly seen him call out and raise his hand. Yet when everyone tried to look at him they found nothing.

"Walker, playing tricks already!?" Su slammed her shield together and charged at Onyx. the light enveloping her shield and adding an extra layer. Multiple skills folding on each other to cause her defensive prowess to increase. What was, even more, was the fact that she seemed to speed up. It was as if a weight had been lifted off her and her muscles were as good as new after walking around for the day so far.

Naturally, Onyx used the shadows and the light elemental mand in tandem. He felt it cover his scales as he copied Midnight's skeletal armor. But when horns of darkness elemental mana formed and sharp spines of light covered his back, everyone was in awe. It seemed that the skill he had used before had taken a new form. He had been training it to a perfect state slowly but surely and was now proving that the training was exactly what he had needed.

"Brother, wherever you went, I will take you down after I beat sister and Su!" Onyx screamed mentally in a battle hardened state. He whipped his mana encased tail at Su as she approached.

.....

....

Chapter 1232 – 1232. Broken Courtyard

Just before Su and Onyx collided, there was a single arrow of light that fell between them. The soft song that began was not easy to understand. Even those that had heard it before were at a loss. Walker only made out a few words, in particular, falling light rain. This was the skill that Alice would be stuck with but would make it nearly impossible for those around her to avoid.

The light arrows that fell like small needles were nothing to Onyx. he had trained against them constantly and now they just fell and became part of his armor. Midnight had a similar status. The small arrows that touched her scales would break and dissipate. Yet they caused her a lot of annoyance since she felt the impact of each one.

Since Su had the twin shield and had just reached Onyx, she did not worry about the light arrows falling around her. She slammed the shield in to Onyx's tail and watched as it was nicked away. She was also kicked back slightly but not enough to even say there was a recoil.

To say that there was chaos was an understatement. But that was where everyone was thriving. Midnight was using her agility to dodge the arrows while jumping over the swipes and slams from Onyx's tail. When she would near Su, she would slash or try and breath flames at her. It made for a very good offense as a defense strategy.

Alice was hiding in some bushes which no one had even been able to notice. Since she knew she was at a disadvantage, she had taken the chance to hide while they were distracted by Onyx. it was not planned but the best use of the way the battle was going. Walker was impressed and almost felt bad for what he was about to do. But this was training, he needed to make sure everyone was vigilant against those who hide themselves away.

The reason he had improved the shadows and the light elemental mana was to make it harder for those around to catch him in sight while he used the shadow wrapping skill. Midnight wouldn't have used it since she wanted to go head to head with Onyx in power. But Walker would gladly use it so that he could challenge everyone. It was also the best way for him to show them that they shouldn't just expect

him to go in attacking. It was his personal challenge in training to them and himself. He had to learn to hold back and wait for the right moment.

The right moment was when he found Alice in the bush using the song to her advantage. In that second, Walker forgot about controlling the darkness elemental mana. He instead looked at the soft mud below Alice's feet. He used the water and the earth elemental mana to cause the mud to become thinner. Before Alice could realize what had happened she had started to sing in to the mud. This caused panic and the song to end. All of the light arrows falling began to disperse, freeing up everyone from the annoyance and the need to dodge. However, it also allowed them to realize where Alice and Walker were.

Midnight used a powerful push of her wings to get herself closer to him. It caused Walker to jump back and lose control of the mud which gave Alice time to move. It also let her start singing a song of shields. It may not have been the solid condensed light shield that she had wanted it to be but it was still enough to block Midnight from going after her and Onyx's tail from pushing her back. Instead, she found herself about to be cornered by Su who had used one shield to knock Midnight off balance and the other to attempt to pin down Alice.

Su had a lot of skill when it came to using both shields at the same time., it had come from hours and hours of training. Now that she had the comfortable use of both, she was able to block and deflect at the same time. Onyx's tail? Nothing to her, Su deflected it and caused it to hit Midnight away from them. Walker pulling out a sword? Nothing. Su blocked it then shield bashed to keep him at a distance.

Unfortunately for Su, Alice had been training very hard. The next song she changed in to was a song of swords. It wasn't enough for her to make multiple in an instant but it was enough to make one that caught her off guard. One sword that pushed her away and gave Alice the time to run away from everyone. She wanted to be able to sing [properly and create more swords while staying away from them. She had given up on the moves that slower her and stopped her from being able to dodge. They would put her in a bad situation.

Since Onyx felt that his tail was not doing the job he changed tactics. He gave up on the larger size and shrank down. It was time for him to condense the shadows and the light himself to create dull spikes. He would use them to create a field to his advantage just as Walker had done. Unfortunately, Walker sensed this. He could feel the change in the mana around him and he pushed back. This was now a battle to control the mana between them.

This fight went on for a while causing many to look on in awe. The high priest had totally given up on the courtyard and garden looking nice. Instead, he just smiled while he watched how powerful and wise his

daughter was becoming. He remembered the pudgy faced baby girl he used to hum to sleep at night and wondered where the time had gone.

.....

....

Chapter 1233 – 1233. Fighting Over Mana

"I knew you would be here but...what happened?" Gil had been looking for the rest of the group after he finished with his business at the archery academy. He had to settle paperwork and also set the students up with some new mentors. He had goals for each of them while he was gone and left it up to themselves for motivation. He also promised he would help them make arrows when he came back seeing as a group of elves that he knew from the forest elf city were coming around the same time.

"Well, they trained and destroyed the courtyard. But when the two of them started fighting over control of the mana they got a little out of hand." The high priest wasn't really sure how it ended up like this to be honest. Yet, he could still feel the mana that had fluctuated and caused issues. He had healed people for many years and was very sensitive to any mana in the area around him. It was one way for a healer to be able to sense and purify mana that was causing lingering effects on a person's wounds.

"I take no blame. None at all!

"Su yelled out while she was bandaging a scraped elbow. "Onyx and Walker started their little battle over light and darkness mana. Then add in Midnight trying to breathe flames on top of it while Walker divided his focus to deflect them. On top of that, we have Alice manipulating the light elemental mana to condense. All of that together and....this."

She had completely explained it and while there were small pits in the ground with some scorch marks. It had easily scared off the audience before they came back to look at the aftermath. It had also left everyone with some minor cuts and scrapes while ending their training. "I will heal you, just stay still." Walker was doing his best but Su was having none of it. She was taking care of her own wounds because she didn't trust him at the moment to use mana.

"And how are Onyx and Midnight already napping over there? Shouldn't they be, you know, awake and a little off?" Midnight and Onyx had curled up on the edge of the courtyard sleeping soundly as if nothing had happened. The only signs were some dirt and shallow scratches on their scales.

"Do you really need to ask how they can sleep? They used enough mana to make them tired and the pair could sleep anywhere anytime. I wouldn't be surprised to see them get a sleepwalking skill or something." Walker had long thought that he would see Midnight get such a skill. She seemed able to sleep in the second she decided to do so without any issue.

"And where is...Alice." Gil was still trying to catch up to how they had trained. Yet when he found Alice he wondered what had actually happened. She had mud up to her knees and there were leaves all in her hair. If Gil could guess, he would say she had been lost in a forest for weeks trying to find her way home. "You are all so lucky that Remey isn't here too. She would have a field day with this." The slight laugh made it even worse, however, Gil watched as Walker drank a few small mana potions and began to clean himself and the others up using his skills. The courtyard easily shifted back in to order making the high priest much happier.

"So, rumor has it you are all leaving again. And Alice will be going with you." The high priest was looking much more serious now. The tea seemed to help him focus his gaze and make everyone feel the threat only a parent could wield.

"Yes, I found rumors of my species and we will go and search for them. We have already made sure the heavenly serpent egg has plenty of food for while we are away. Alice will have the chance to work in a challenging environment to use light elemental mana while she is protected by everyone. It will make her and us stronger. It could be safe or dangerous. But she will be safe, I promise this." Onyx looked at the high priest taking full responsibility. He had been around a lot so the high priest perfectly understood Onyx's desires. Yet, seeing how serious he was taking it was still impressive.

"I will hold you to that. I know the rest of your family would say the same thing but you are in charge. I won't pretend to be happy about it. I am sure it is the same for everyone's parents and guardians. But know this, these old bones will leave this cathedral and charge right to you if need be. I will bring my daughter back. Don't make me do that." Of course, the likelihood of this was low but the high priest wanted to be a little harsh on Onyx. He knew that it was the first time Onyx was going to be in charge of the party and felt it was better to act like any other sending adventurers out on an escort quest. Even though this wasn't necessarily an escort quest but a research quest. "Well, I should get back to work. I have been teaching a few new healers the basics about feeling the mana inside another person's body to find internal wounds. They have been quick to catch on. It's more fun that way."

"I think he was a little harsh but he was fair. When you are in charge again you might have people that say much worse about escorting or adding others in to the party. We have been lucky that Clara deals with these things as our guild manager. But she won't always be able to do that for small quests." Walker knew that Clara had worked hard to do such things.

.....

....

Chapter 1234 – 1234. Wind Affinity!

"Are you really sure we should add the wandering dandelion seeds? They are part water elemental affinity." Remey was not too happy to hear that they were risking their potions creation at this point in time.

"It will balance everything out! The reason that the wind affinity potion has a shorter shelf life is because it evaporates and condenses too much. The additional water affinity ingredient will help it from doing that. Since it is also mainly a wind affinity ingredient then it will balance and be perfect." The old master alchemist had already fought this battle with Trish who was silent in the corner watching to two repeat history.

"Now! Add it now!" Trish saw that the potion suddenly began to heat up since it reached the perfect mana condensation period. The two had been arguing and forgotten what they were doing. They would lose the potion if they did not continue now. "Be slow and add the ingredients piece by piece. Let it adapt then add a lot." She used all of her experience to find and best wandering dandelion seeds.

Dandelions were known for their yellow flowers but when they produce seeds they closed up and created little fuzzy white parts that carried the seeds throughout the field lands. It was an annoying spring occurrence. Yet the wandering dandelion was a particular strain of dandelion that grew on the mountains and was carried high in to the rocky terrain to grow against all odds. It was an outlier among its species.

The old master alchemist did exactly as Trish had said. The darker green and blue potion began to become more and more green while the most subtle hint of blue to the edges. When it reached that point, Remey slammed a lid on the cauldron. She started to throw ice around the cauldron while the old master alchemist extinguished the fire. They had used this method with their skills to properly cool it and save the most potion they could.

They had succeeded in the wind affinity potion but they had not made it sellable yet. It was not lasting long enough unless it was frozen. Then at that point, it was useless since it lost effects as soon as it melted. "Now just wait..." Remey was unsteady. They had focused on this since they came in to the guild that morning. Before she left for their trip to the ravine, she wanted results. She wanted to see this new potion shake the foundations of Genesis and everyone coming to the competitions. Only having the water elemental affinity potion was too little for her. They needed more.

With three alchemists cooling the single cauldron, they had a much better proficiency in doing so. Something that would have normally taken a single alchemist cool in hours was done in minutes. It was the level of expertise in using the skills and the fact that there were multiple. "You know, we might want to work on group potion making techniques." Remey had not thought of this as a class option and was not thinking it might be better. Some potions required assistance anyways so having a group potion making class could only expand the possibilities. That and there was the fact that students would be working in groups within their research and classes constantly. Alchemy had already changed in to groups without them publicizing it.

"We can do that. I have some time to build a class around that. I can use you as an example of what not to do." The old master alchemist whipped away sweat from his forehead while teasing Remey who just grunted as she flicked the cool cauldron in front of her.

"Let's just check the potion before you two start another fight." Trish popped the lid of the cauldron off and was greeted by a soft breeze moving through the room. It seemed that the air elemental mana had already reacted to the open potion which was a good sign. There was a similar effect when they purified and adjusted the water affinity potion formula. "It looked like it has a very slow evaporation rate now. It needs cooler temperatures still but is very easily drunk. The vials should be..." She sifted through a crate and found one, "Runes carves with water and air in mind. Perfect. I would say we have the final product for a mid tier wind affinity potion. If we want a high tier we can use this technique but better herbs."

"This is perfect. With so many people that will come from the other kingdoms and even dragons...we can make sure that we get those herbs. Who knows what the adventurers will find." Remey could laugh for hours thinking about what they might find.

"That's good to know since I have two more theories written already." The old master alchemist had not been idle. He had proposed ideas to a class on herbs and their elemental affinity. He had been researching these things lately and now he was what could be considered an expert in them.

"More? Already?" Trish was stunned. She didn't believe that the old master alchemist could be so amazing. It was as if he was getting younger and more energetic by the day.

"Earth and fire affinity potions. I found ingredients and potential techniques to use with skills. I have to find them and test things but when we start the competitions I should be able to demonstrate them to a crowd. We can pick one and share it. Send everyone home with some wonder." This was the idea. Share a free lesson with those who showed up to the last day of the competition. Attract all the wonder and grow exponentially. It would shock the world to the point that they would only ever trust and regard the alchemy guild with respect.

.....

....

Chapter 1235 – 1235. Don't Worry

"I swear, busier and busier every day. Tomorrow I have to make an announcement to all of Genesis. How do I do that!" Clara was speaking to herself mostly. But Barry was still in the room and was not having her chickening out of it.

"You are the only one that could represent the guild like that. Where we have power. You have the wisdom and system to make it work. Why do you think you will be considered the best master of the adventurer's guild in the future? This is a title you are guaranteed to have. You have a system made for this. A will able to withstand anything, and, you control the most powerful warriors that can cross kingdom borders at will." Barry was not wrong. Clara shouldn't fear speaking to a single city when she would send adventurer's throughout the continent from now on.

"I know you are right but that does not make it easier. The dwarves made some crystal and light invention with the elves and they say I will be seen by everyone the night of the announcements. I don't like that. I will look weak compared to the idea of what adventurers should be." The idea that a slim woman like her was the head of the adventurer's guild was what she worried about. Looks meant a lot to the common people. They looked at a soldier and expected powerful people. Not someone weak. That was the same with adventurers.

Her party may have shocked people by looking young, but they also had a dragon with them. Perfect gear, and a reputation that everyone gossiped about. Not many knew that she was the respected leader of that party. "Wair, they are going to stand behind me when I present. I will make them wear their best

and show the entire city that I am with powerful people as well. You too! Don't try to sneak away. You will be there and leave tomorrow night instead." Clara had given Barry the quest from the Genesis council to head toward the mountains to deal with some rogue dragons. But he would now be leaving later and have to make up the time somehow.

"I should have known this would happen. I will wear my armor too instead of my usual." Barry didn't like wearing armor since it slowed him down. But now he would do it for this one time. He would gladly make sure that the guild master was respected the same way he was as the vice guild master. "Also, use that skill that makes most adventurers quiver like a leaf in the wind. I don't know what it is but it really works well. Your system gave you something good."

"Wait! What a star-" The door was closed and Barry was gone. "What stare is he talking about? I don't have such skills..." Clara mumbled to herself while she began to write her short speech. she didn't want to be the one that started off the months of competition and economic growth since it would put a lot of pressure on the people starting anew. However, she knew it was the best way for the city to begin its growth and push them in to a higher tier of living to put them even with other cities.

"Miss! Miss!" One of the younger adventurers had rushed to the open counter on the first floor of the adventurer's guild. Many had been showing up and hanging out in the lower level to listen to rumors and decide on quests. Just because some high level parties had managers didn't mean all did. It was often decided by the party leader what would happen and what quests would be taken.

"And how may I help you today? You look full of energy, a big quest?" The female staff member was slightly surprised since the boy had only just realized she was a demon. This was one of the first demons to have been rescued and she had managed to find a home and a job within Genesis. The adventurer's guild had welcomed her well and she could not think of a better place to be.

"Uhhh- yes! I was looking for quests but I heard that there would be a big quest released soon by the guild? One that could help us move up to the next tier?" The boy quickly got over seeing a demon and went on to ask his questions. He had heard the rumor earlier that morning and was waiting with his party to see if there would be more information. He finally decided to rush up to the counter and ask.

"Of course, many are interested in that. There will be an announcement tomorrow night. The guild will play a large role in the competition kick off. The adventurers at your level are welcome to participate and encouraged. Even if you do not move up a tier you will gain a lot of connections, experience, and be a step closer to moving up a tier. I highly recommend you prepare for at least a week or two of adventuring." This was the same thing many staff members had been saying. Yet it was more than the boy had.

"Thank you so much. I will get everyone ready as soon as possible!" He rushed away as if he was on fire. The three other members of his party watched his expressions and knew that the rumors were true and they would be able to get a quest that would push them higher in to the guild rankings. They wanted to be the next heroic party. The next party to travel to cities they had never been to. They wanted to discover an entirely new world that no one else had seen for generations. It was their time to shine.

.....

....

Chapter 1236 – 1236. Personal Project?

"You all look pretty happy. What happened?" Remey was the last one home and found the entire party in the dining hall by the fire relaxing.

"Long story short they caused a big mess and are finally cleaned up. Training was a little rough. I had to train alone since they were pretty much tapped out." Gil still felt it necessary to tease everyone a bit. It made sense since he felt a little left out after not being able to work on his dagger arts under pressure.

"If you need to get beat up I can work on my skills with you. I have been in the lab all day and need to burn off some steam." Remey tried to do her boxer's bounce from side to side but her body betrayed her. They all saw that she stumbled slightly from how much mana and energy she had burned.

"Maybe in the morning. I will be up early to send off my archers. They have their own goals and three of them are leaving with a merchant to guard them and work on their long range sniping." Since Gil had to do this, Remey thought it would be good to add in that training.

"Just don't train too hard. I got a message from Clara that we have to go and meet her in our best gear tomorrow night. Apparently, she needs help with the announcement starting the guild quests for the competitions. The notices were posted but that was all. People don't know details and it will be a big deal. I expect the guards to have some extra work tomorrow." Walker knew it was a little short notice but no one had made other plans. They looked forward to seeing Clara too since she was always so busty and they did not head to the guild building as often as they could.

The rest of the party readily agreed and decided to meet right in front of the Genesis building when they needed to meet up with Clara. The rest of the night was quick since they were all fairly tired and needed sleep to get ready for the next day.

"What are you working on out here?" Walker found that Onyx was not at the cathedral and was actually outside in the morning sun as it rose. He thought that Onyx was just relaxing and absorbing the light elemental mana but he found that the dragon golem was also there. It had been helping out in the forges and the fire spirit that called it home had been greatly enjoying the experience.

"Brother! I was training. The golem is much tougher than the ground so I can see how well I can make my light and darkness spikes." The golem proceeded to swing its tail and crack one of the shadows that had formed into a spike in half. "I realized that they are too weak because I have no idea how to condense them equally. I have the skills to condense the light elemental mana because I train it with Alice. But I have fallen behind. I might need this while exploring."

"That's a good idea. If you fell behind then you would have some trouble with one of the things you should be the best at." Walker was very impressed that Onyx had managed to realize this and taken the time before they left to prepare. He also knew that Onyx was taking this as seriously as possible. But what was even more surprising was that he found the dragon golem and the fire spirit to train with him. It was an opponent none in the party had actually trained against very much. That meant that Onyx was also broadening his horizon with training partners.

"Condensing the light is easy since it is in the air and the warmth. But the shadows are harder since they fluctuate more than the light. But if I use my own shadows it is easier. I think that there is a connection with my mana and my shadow already since I hide my true size there." The connection that Onyx felt was indeed this. He was an abyssal serpent and their nature let them hide within shadows. Since that was the case he would always have some of his mana bleeding away into his shadow.

"Are you joining us? Or do you have places to go?" Onyx wanted to keep training this way but knew that Walker might end up adding some positive insights.

"I was actually going to head toward the market and grab a few things. I wanted to see how everything was growing and if there were more people around with unique items. I also have to stop by the wandering blacksmiths to tell him about the dragons and them coming to visit. He will have to do the teaching since he is the best around. That, and he made the circlets we gifted the dragons." It was understandable that Walker would need the wandering blacksmith. He was not confident in making anything near the quality of the wandering blacksmith whose title and works were renowned.

"Then good luck and say hello for me!" Onyx had also met with the wandering blacksmith recently for a personal project. Unknown to the rest of the party, Onyx had been taking on small jobs here and there between training and meeting with various adventurers to find information. He didn't want to rely on everyone else for gold to spend. Not that the rest of the party would avoid giving it to him. But he still wanted to rely on himself.

"I will, good luck. And I'm glad you are enjoying the golem. Remember that you have a one of a kind dwelling golem. Maybe with your hello, you can share your experiences with other spirits." An excited buzz rang through the dragon golem after it thumped its tail on the ground. Walker just gave a wave and headed away.

.....

....

Chapter 1237 – 1237. Excitement

Walker wasn't really sure what Onyx had gone to speak with the wandering blacksmith. But it just went to show that he was keeping everything in order to prepare for their journey to research the ravine. It was a very important event for him so it wasn't too hard to make sense of it.

Since he had left while the sun had just begun to rise, the streets were mostly clear. Walker greeted the few people out on deliveries and even passed by a few new shops opening their doors. "Seems like a lot of the shops have been rented out so far." Walker mostly spoke to himself but also to Fleur who had been clinging to his shoulder all morning. She had finished her resting and was ready to take a look around for the day.

Her slight nod was halted when she noticed a stand selling a large quantity of flowers. "Huh, we even have a flower shop now. I would have guessed an herbalist would be behind that but it looks like someone who specifically grows flowers found a place." The growth of a society didn't just have the basics and this meant that they would have flower shops and other such stores. Overall it was very interesting finding a new shop that signifies Genesis growing properly.

The sudden stop in his movements shook Fleur slightly causing her to harumph in his ear until she looked ahead. The wandering blacksmiths' shop was completely packed with forged items. Small

daggers, single handed shields, kitchen knives, jewelry waiting for gems, and even more inside and outside. It seemed as if a dragon's hoard of goods had spilled in to the streets.

"What could he be doing to make so much?" Walker pushed passed all the goods set up to find that inside was another mess. "Before I can get in here I'm fixing this!" His shout went unheard as a soft muffled clanging came from the direction of the forge in the back.

Fleur decided to explore the shop while Walker calmed himself by moving everything in to organization. He knew that the wandering blacksmiths must have a reason for making so much so fast but this was ridiculous.

After an easy hour of moving things had passed, Walker looked around the outside and indiscernible of the sales area. "Swords down to knives along this wall. Shields here. Then armor parts, basic tools, and finally the repair equipment. It's all in order." The soft poke on his cheek from Fleur was his victory reward since she had been enjoying the game she made up of hiding behind things while he organized and found her.

"Hey, where are you!?" Walker called out since he had finally heard the clanging end. The back room was a fog of coal dust and heat that seemed impossible to breathe in. Walker was forced to use wind manipulation to cause a breeze to push it all out the chimney of the forge.

What was revealed was a coal stained blacksmith holding a perfectly shiny dagger in his hands. It had runes carved on it while also having many new patterns that reminded Walker of vines and flowers. "Been making a few items, hmm?" His look of wonder was all too clear. "Hope you don't mind but I cleaned up a little." This snapped the wandering blacksmiths back to reality. It also let Walker have a better look at the dagger and use his all around appraisal.

'Ornate forest dagger

+4atk, +2def, water and earth affinity

This is an ornate dagger created for specific ceremonies honoring the earth and water spirits that come together as the base of a forest. This dagger is never expected to see battle and instead be used to carve through rare dried herbs to burn in honor of the spirits. It has the ability to enhance the water and earth

elemental affinity of the user and cause their mana to flow more smoothly in relation to these elemental manas.'

It was a very impressive dagger even though it did not have high boosts to attack and defenses. Yet the elemental affinity the dagger had meant much more. It was able to help the user influence elemental manas. There was also the fact that it was ceremonial for the forest elves meaning that this was a special order the wandering blacksmiths had been working on.

"Just some things in boredom." The wandering blacksmiths spoke softly. He placed the dagger in a leather sheath and checked the sales floor. He showed a small smile seeing everything organized and nodded in thanks to Walker.

"I'd like to say I came to just check in but I might have something to get rid of your boredom." There were not words for how Walker felt about the fact that the wandering blacksmith had made so much just because he was bored. But it was who he was and that would never change.

"I managed to impress the dragons with your circlets. So much so that they will be sending some dragonkin blacksmiths to learn from you and the elves about true spirit forging. One of them already had a partner that greatly enjoyed the darkness dwelling circlet."

For a moment there was a look of joy, then the excitement took over. The wandering blacksmith knew he would be able to learn more about the draconic runes and add them in to the newly discovered runes, the basic runes, and his own runes he had begun to form. There would be a massive new boost to his repertoire. He would not be bored for a long time. "When?"

"They should be looking to come in a month or so if they can wait that long. That's my estimate." Walker watched as the wandering blacksmiths grabbed the nearest paper and began to scribble down a list of must order materials.

.....

....

There was no point in sticking around. As far as the wandering blacksmiths was concerned, Walker could be a ghost. He was fully entranced by the fact that he was going to be learning a ton of new things while also teaching dragonkin. It was good though, he looked to have found something that the wandering blacksmith was excited for. It would also be something that could help him from wandering off in search of a new material for months on end. Part of Walker knew that this would always be a possibility. Luckily, he trusted the wandering blacksmith to ask the party to be his escort.

"Is the shop open!? Is the blacksmith taking requests!?" A dwarf caught Walker's attention on his way out before the dwarf saw all the forged items. "I need to go get everyone. This place had been empty for weeks!" There was no doubt in Walker's mind that there would be a lot of drama in the next few minutes if he didn't move away from the area.

"Let's just head toward the market. I bet those elves have a full store and not a large stall anymore." Fleur seemed to be interested in the idea since most of the things that came from the forest had denser natural mana. She liked that she would be able to feel it and explore the market with Walker.

It took them only a few minutes to reach the food area of the market. Many small stalls were run by those that dealt with farmers. Some were closed and had signs that said when they would open. They were bought by the new local farmers that would be able to sell the Genesis produced vegetables and fruits. Walker was really looking forward to the day that he would be able to say that he bought a Genesis apple.

Saying that the space had been changed was an understatement. There were many stalls that simply were not there any longer. Instead, there was a large courtyard with multiple signs in the middle. They listed growing seasons, local farms, and even better, merchant information. They were perfect for those avid foodies that would chase down ingredients for restaurants or personal use. It was naturally a place that was crowded by employees of local restaurants as they hunted down their future menu ideas. The city got busier every day and food would become a major player when it came to income.

"I think that is what we are looking for." Walker read a sign that said, forest elf trading company. That alone was enough for him to want to go and take a look. "Wow." He was stunned. After opening the door he found a lot more than he expected. Not only food lined some walls and bins. But there were many items that he had seen in the forest elf kingdom.

An entire section was separated for crystal charms with runes on them. They would not have a major effect on someone wearing them but they would have a slight effect. "Those could work really well to help children understand mana and possibly unlock al systems." Fleur was already gone. She went right to the area to enjoy the mana while Walker looked around.

'If it isn't the hero. Welcome back. I am glad you found us again." The fact that the hero had come yet again made the forest elf merchant very happy. He waved over the other two that were helping staff the large shop. "I have some interesting ingredients you can take to your mother. She recently signed a spice deal with us. We are very excited to see what she makes. Those sticky buns have really taken the elves by storm. No animal product in it at all, perfectly balanced with nature and fruits. She's a genius."

The forest elves were not necessarily against eating animals, but they valued hunting in moderation. Therefore, their diet had a lot more fruits and vegetables than other races did. That was the main reason why they had such a love for the sticky buns that Walker's mother had begun to sell. If anyone told them that they were made just to attract business from the elves then they wouldn't even be able to argue against it.

"Who am I to say no? I will bring them to her. I'm impressed that you already have a shop. Business must be good." There were some small items including the water spikes. However, it appeared that the stock was running low.

"We have a hard time getting enough here at once. Many people are coming to buy and then bring elsewhere. We are taking the market by storm. If we didn't have more elves come from the city and help form a group then we would have been washed away by orders." The three laughed. "I won't push anything on you while you are here but feel free to look things over." The advice that Walker could give would be very valuable.

"Well, to be honest. You might want to sell a guide to communicating with the forest elves. I notice the laws and regulations around Genesis building and the adventurer's buildings. But you should have them too. It will make more sense to sell them here since you might get people that want to visit your home." The idea was simple and just seemed to be common sense.

"Of course! If we make a small guidebook people might come and visit more often. We will take that idea. Don't worry, we won't leave your name out of it." The simple idea had passed right over their heads in the business. They had too much going on. But it had been enough to let them talk amongst themselves while Walker took a look and basked in the growth of Genesis for a little while.

.....

....

"Keep moving! How can I let you go off on your own to hunt if you stand in one place every arrow you shoot!" Gil was one of five that were instructing the ten archers moving about the archery academy training area. They were given arrows made with cotton ends to fire at each other. It was a simple game of don't get hit while hitting others. So far, there were a lot of problems being found in the methods that the students used.

"None of them are even trying to sneak. They are using the environment we set up to block arrows, yes, but surprise attacks seem far from their minds." One of the other instructors was a fairly tall forest elf enforcer. He was extremely skilled in making himself invisible within a forest which was surprising due to his larger stature.

"I know, that's what worries me. What happens when they come face to face with a monster and can't draw attention to themselves? They will need to stay hidden." This was disappointing because they had already gone over the lessons in sneaking. Most had even been able to copy it and pass small tests.

"We might be better off introducing someone sneaking to them. Maybe that will stop them from standing so tall to aim from so far." another younger forest elf enforcer pointed out two of the students that were aiming for each other from across the training area. They ignored everyone else and adjusted their shots without moving a single step. They were prime targets for any arrow. It was almost as if they were waiting for their opponent to strike.

"Then all of us are joining them. We have the cotton arrows for it. We can even sneak up with sheathed daggers. Who cares if it scares them. That will be even better." Now one instructor was a little rough around the edges. The man that had come to Gil was from the demi-human city. He was a mix of tiger so it didn't make sense that he was a light footed archer type. However, his personality also betrayed him as not being an archer. The only way that he showed he was an archer was the bow on his shoulders, of course, that was until Gil saw him shoot.

The style of archery that the man had used was aggressive but silent. The speed and power behind every arrow was shocking, to say the least. What made everyone even more impressed was that the man could seamlessly disappear from sight in seconds. It was as if he was a predator battling and sighting another prey in the wild. The rough personality hid away the gem of an archer he was. It was as if it was an act to bait in prey.

"We might as well follow Lester. He will just take them all down if we don't join." The last instructor that Gil had found was a quiet guy but a pretty skilled one. He was a forest elf that had not had a system.

However, when he gained it after Pride had been defeated and some corruption had been cleared, he skyrocketed. He had become a genius that was suddenly able to use all the archery skills he had attempted to learn years ago. He was no longer a walking archery manual but instead, the best archer around with tons of potential.

"In we go, try and keep up. We are in this game too now." Gil smirked and ran in to the mess of obstacles they had set up for the students. He snagged a quiver of cotton arrows and rushed off.

"This will be fun! Use the wind to take them out! I want to see you change directions!" Zephyr was ready to play this game. She had wanted Gil to start using the wind more and more but held her tongue. Gil needed the dagger techniques the same as archery. She preferred his safety over the fact that he would use the wind elemental mana more. She could wait.

"Just watch. You and I will make some impossible shots happen." Gil had yet to grasp the ricochet skill, yet, he had the ability to push the wind here and there to change the direction of the arrows. Thus, he felt comfortable aiming longer distances at targets with the blunt cotton arrows that would not easily hit their targets. That was another challenge of the game, it replicated damaged arrows so it made everyone adjust to the specific balance of the arrow that they picked up in their hands and notched in the bow.

"First target, student running through the middle of the open area in the center." Tracking the student running was easy. They ran in a straight line without any idea that someone was watching them. Gil notched the arrow and felt that it would not make it the full distance due to the weight. He used his bond with Zephyr to add wind around the arrow and released it.

The tip of the arrow didn't even have time to start arching downwards. He had added the wind elemental mana and it was able to stabilize the arrow enough to keep it moving. In the blink of an eye, it had landed and bounced off of the student's shoulder while Gil had already fallen back and disappear behind another obstacle. The student just looked around stunned since he had been tagged by a ghost.

The same occurrence happened to a lot of the students and before they knew it they had backed themselves up in to groups of two and three. They couldn't mark down where the arrows were coming from and what they should do. The instructor felt that it was very amusing until they caught one of the students finally trying to hide and catch them in the act of firing the arrows. "About time they caught on. Let's kick it up a notch." Gil notched three arrows at once while smiling, he was having fun now.

.....

....

If you are not reading this at Webnovel.com, then sorry the content you're reading is stolen!

Please say no to piracy! Don't take part in crime! Don't patronize thieves!

Repent now and go here, <http://wbnv.in/a/ccfhAus>

Occasionally missing content, please report errors in time.

"Knock Knock. Are you two in there?" Walker had made his way to the cathedral and looked for Alice and Onyx. he thought that they would be training again but found them nowhere to be seen. It meant that they could only be in one place, the heavenly serpent egg room.

When he had pushed open the door, he had found that the room was filled with extremely condensed light elemental mana. It was radiating through everything and even made rainbow fluctuations in the air. The pair must have been working very hard. "What's wrong? Why do you look like you are about to cry?" Walker found that Alice was on her knees with a trembling lip and Onyx was moving around with a lot of stress.

"It cracked! The egg cracked! But we didn't do anything and we don't know why. Is it hurt? Can you appraise it?" Onyx threw his thought loudly at Walker. There was a moment that he needed to take before he could respond since it had been so loud.

"Let me see, just breathe alright?" Walker could feel that the mana within the egg was still growing. For whatever reason, it had a small crack but that seemed to be the place that the mana was being drawn to. Part of him just knew that everything was going to be fine.

'Heavenly serpent egg (hatching phase)

The hatching phase of a heavenly serpent egg lasts for anywhere between five and fifty five days. The higher light elemental mana density in the area will influence the speed of hatching. Once it hatches the

shells will dissolve in to the light elemental mana and become food for the newly hatched heavenly serpent egg. This is the ideal time for someone to contract this as a tamed monster if that is the goal. This heavenly serpent egg has roughly forty days remaining until it hatches regardless of mana density.'

"We are going to find someone that can make scrolls. I have no idea how to put my skill in to a scroll and you need it as soon as possible." The blood contract skill was one that Walker had only used twice. However, he wanted Alice to be able to use it and bond with the heavenly serpent. He had not expected that there was an optimal time to do such a thing but since there was, it had to be done. They needed to figure this out.

"So it's not hurt! It's hatching. Was I like this? I don't remember the day so well." Onyx couldn't recall it so well. He could remember absorbing some light elemental mana but more or less being incredibly tired. Then he slowly learned by watching until he could move about and do more.

Walker clasped a hand around Alice's arm and started to pull her out of the room. Onyx was close behind. He had the idea that the mage tower would have an arcane something or other to help make a scroll. He had some paper but had not learned the runes or skills necessary to engrave any skills in to a scroll. Therefore, he needed someone with experience to ensure that they would be able to get it before they left for the ravine.

"Brother, you're moving too fast!" Walker stopped and realized that Onyx was right. He had let himself get too excited and pulled Alice along without letting her adjust her shoes for running. His apologies came out in a jumbled mess that ended up making her giggle. The single peal of laughter nearly stopped his heart.

Once everything was all set, the three moved quickly through the streets. They had become much busier as the morning had gone on. Walker was sure that Onyx had already trained hard with the dragon golem earlier but now he was getting a second round of training in dodging. He felt a little bad since Onyx was going to be the leader and they needed to be up later in the night to help Clara. Overall, he was sure that Onyx would be a little more tired than usual for the next morning when they would set out for the ravine in the fields.

The mage tower was still very busy since there were so many possibilities. The runes alone attracted people who just wanted to see a building made for mana and . But the real draw were the many books and elemental rooms within the tower. Walker clearly remembered the copied consciousness left behind in the tower searching for a grand mage to reign over it. Unfortunately, it seemed that the

consciousness was still slumbering in wait. That wasn't the biggest deal since they had just begun to research the tower in Genesis.

"I know there are some mages that have set up little stalls and shops around the tower. The training area is still being finished so it is off limits. But we should find someone making skill scrolls." Walker looked through and found many mages selling mana crystals and al staffs. The fact that so many robes were on display was actually a little annoying since he wanted to find something specific but couldn't see past them.

Suddenly, Alice pulled on him and Walker was the one being dragged away while Onyx chased. She had spotted a small stall hidden between a few robes and mana crystal stalls. The entire thing was basically just a large rug covered in rune covered papers along with a few ink brushes. "Can you make scrolls that store skills?" Alice spoke very politely and attracted the attention of the elderly man sitting in the middle of everything.

"Why yes, I can. You would be the first customer of the day. Is there a specific skill you are looking for? I have some leftover from past customers that made extra copies and did not need them." The man slowly started to organize the scrolls before he realized that Walker and Onyx were there too.

Chapter 1239 1239. Arrow Tag

"Keep moving! How can I let you go off on your own to hunt if you stand in one place every arrow you shoot!" Gil was one of five that were instructing the ten archers moving about the archery academy training area. They were given arrows made with cotton ends to fire at each other. It was a simple game of don't get hit while hitting others. So far, there were a lot of problems being found in the methods that the students used.

"None of them are even trying to sneak. They are using the environment we set up to block arrows, yes, but surprise attacks seem far from their minds." One of the other instructors was a fairly tall forest elf enforcer. He was extremely skilled in making himself invisible within a forest which was surprising due to his larger stature.

"I know, that's what worries me. What happens when they come face to face with a monster and can't draw attention to themselves? They will need to stay hidden." This was disappointing because they had already gone over the lessons in sneaking. Most had even been able to copy it and pass small tests.

"We might be better off introducing someone sneaking to them. Maybe that will stop them from standing so tall to aim from so far." another younger forest elf enforcer pointed out two of the students that were aiming for each other from across the training area. They ignored everyone else and adjusted

their shots without moving a single step. They were prime targets for any arrow. It was almost as if they were waiting for their opponent to strike.

"Then all of us are joining them. We have the cotton arrows for it. We can even sneak up with sheathed daggers. Who cares if it scares them. That will be even better." Now one instructor was a little rough around the edges. The man that had come to Gil was from the demi-human city. He was a mix of tiger so it didn't make sense that he was a light footed archer type. However, his personality also betrayed him as not being an archer. The only way that he showed he was an archer was the bow on his shoulders, of course, that was until Gil saw him shoot.

The style of archery that the man had used was aggressive but silent. The speed and power behind every arrow was shocking, to say the least. What made everyone even more impressed was that the man could seamlessly disappear from sight in seconds. It was as if he was a predator battling and sighting another prey in the wild. The rough personality hid away the gem of an archer he was. It was as if it was an act to bait in prey.

"We might as well follow Lester. He will just take them all down if we don't join." The last instructor that Gil had found was a quiet guy but a pretty skilled one. He was a forest elf that had not had a system. However, when he gained it after Pride had been defeated and some corruption had been cleared, he skyrocketed. He had become a genius that was suddenly able to use all the archery skills he had attempted to learn years ago. He was no longer a walking archery manual but instead, the best archer around with tons of potential.

"In we go, try and keep up. We are in this game too now." Gil smirked and ran in to the mess of obstacles they had set up for the students. He snagged a quiver of cotton arrows and rushed off.

"This will be fun! Use the wind to take them out! I want to see you change directions!" Zephyr was ready to play this game. She had wanted Gil to start using the wind more and more but held her tongue. Gil needed the dagger techniques the same as archery. She preferred his safety over the fact that he would use the wind elemental mana more. She could wait.

"Just watch. You and I will make some impossible shots happen." Gil had yet to grasp the ricochet skill, yet, he had the ability to push the wind here and there to change the direction of the arrows. Thus, he felt comfortable aiming longer distances at targets with the blunt cotton arrows that would not easily hit their targets. That was another challenge of the game, it replicated damaged arrows so it made everyone adjust to the specific balance of the arrow that they picked up in their hands and notched in the bow.

"First target, student running through the middle of the open area in the center." Tracking the student running was easy. They ran in a straight line without any idea that someone was watching them. Gil notched the arrow and felt that it would not make it the full distance due to the weight. He used his bond with Zephyr to add wind around the arrow and released it.

The tip of the arrow didn't even have time to start arching downwards. He had added the wind elemental mana and it was able to stabilize the arrow enough to keep it moving. In the blink of an eye, it had landed and bounced off of the student's shoulder while Gil had already fallen back and disappear behind another obstacle. The student just looked around stunned since he had been tagged by a ghost.

The same occurrence happened to a lot of the students and before they knew it they had backed themselves up in to groups of two and three. They couldn't mark down where the arrows were coming from and what they should do. The instructor felt that it was very amusing until they caught one of the students finally trying to hide and catch them in the act of firing the arrows. "About time they caught on. Let's kick it up a notch." Gil notched three arrows at once while smiling, he was having fun now.

Chapter 1240 1240. Cracked

"Knock Knock. Are you two in there?" Walker had made his way to the cathedral and looked for Alice and Onyx. he thought that they would be training again but found them nowhere to be seen. It meant that they could only be in one place, the heavenly serpent egg room.

When he had pushed open the door, he had found that the room was filled with extremely condensed light elemental mana. It was radiating through everything and even made rainbow fluctuations in the air. The pair must have been working very hard. "What's wrong? Why do you look like you are about to cry?" Walker found that Alice was on her knees with a trembling lip and Onyx was moving around with a lot of stress.

"It cracked! The egg cracked! But we didn't do anything and we don't know why. Is it hurt? Can you appraise it?" Onyx threw his thought loudly at Walker. There was a moment that he needed to take before he could respond since it had been so loud.

"Let me see, just breathe alright?" Walker could feel that the mana within the egg was still growing. For whatever reason, it had a small crack but that seemed to be the place that the mana was being drawn to. Part of him just knew that everything was going to be fine.

'Heavenly serpent egg (hatching phase)

The hatching phase of a heavenly serpent egg lasts for anywhere between five and fifty five days. The higher light elemental mana density in the area will influence the speed of hatching. Once it hatches the shells will dissolve in to the light elemental mana and become food for the newly hatched heavenly serpent egg. This is the ideal time for someone to contract this as a tamed monster if that is the goal. This heavenly serpent egg has roughly forty days remaining until it hatches regardless of mana density.'

"We are going to find someone that can make scrolls. I have no idea how to put my skill in to a scroll and you need it as soon as possible." The blood contract skill was one that Walker had only used twice. However, he wanted Alice to be able to use it and bond with the heavenly serpent. He had not expected that there was an optimal time to do such a thing but since there was, it had to be done. They needed to figure this out.

"So it's not hurt! It's hatching. Was I like this? I don't remember the day so well." Onyx couldn't recall it so well. He could remember absorbing some light elemental mana but more or less being incredibly tired. Then he slowly learned by watching until he could move about and do more.

Walker clasped a hand around Alice's arm and started to pull her out of the room. Onyx was close behind. He had the idea that the mage tower would have an arcane something or other to help make a scroll. He had some paper but had not learned the runes or skills necessary to engrave any skills in to a scroll. Therefore, he needed someone with experience to ensure that they would be able to get it before they left for the ravine.

"Brother, you're moving too fast!" Walker stopped and realized that Onyx was right. He had let himself get too excited and pulled Alice along without letting her adjust her shoes for running. His apologies came out in a jumbled mess that ended up making her giggle. The single peal of laughter nearly stopped his heart.

Once everything was all set, the three moved quickly through the streets. They had become much busier as the morning had gone on. Walker was sure that Onyx had already trained hard with the dragon golem earlier but now he was getting a second round of training in dodging. He felt a little bad since Onyx was going to be the leader and they needed to be up later in the night to help Clara. Overall, he was sure that Onyx would be a little more tired than usual for the next morning when they would set out for the ravine in the fields.

The mage tower was still very busy since there were so many possibilities. The runes alone attracted people who just wanted to see a building made for mana and . But the real draw were the many books and elemental rooms within the tower. Walker clearly remembered the copied consciousness left behind in the tower searching for a grand mage to reign over it. Unfortunately, it seemed that the consciousness was still slumbering in wait. That wasn't the biggest deal since they had just begun to research the tower in Genesis.

"I know there are some mages that have set up little stalls and shops around the tower. The training area is still being finished so it is off limits. But we should find someone making skill scrolls." Walker looked through and found many mages selling mana crystals and al staffs. The fact that so many robes were on display was actually a little annoying since he wanted to find something specific but couldn't see past them.

Suddenly, Alice pulled on him and Walker was the one being dragged away while Onyx chased. She had spotted a small stall hidden between a few robes and mana crystal stalls. The entire thing was basically just a large rug covered in rune covered papers along with a few ink brushes. "Can you make scrolls that store skills?" Alice spoke very politely and attracted the attention of the elderly man sitting in the middle of everything.

"Why yes, I can. You would be the first customer of the day. Is there a specific skill you are looking for? I have some leftover from past customers that made extra copies and did not need them." The man slowly started to organize the scrolls before he realized that Walker and Onyx were there too.