

## Master 1301

### Chapter 1301 1301. Who's Going

"I did it! I finished everything and hired more staff! I can leave and fight those giant bugs too!" Remey burst in to the mansion yelling. She had spent hours to find new staff members to help the alchemy guild. Between her, Trish, and the old master alchemist, the three were exhausted but free.

The class schedules that they had set would still remain while Remey had freed herself enough to leave for a maximum of three weeks if she desired. Not that she was actually planning on being gone that long. It had already been made clear throughout Genesis that the dwarves had taken full responsibility for this issue. Even Scylla had backed off.

From what Remey had heard, Scylla was focusing on the notes that were found in the abandoned village. There had been more research locations for monster experimentation around the area. It was a stain for the demi-human history along with the other races that had members of their populace that left to try and make a name for themselves in such a way.

"Do you have to yell? Everyone is finally back and you are ruining the dinner being put out." Gil was about to throw a napkin at Remey when Walker stopped him in his tracks.

"We have been waiting for Remey so we could eat. Let's not start an argument already. It's good to hear that you are coming along too. That means it will be, Su, Alice, Gil, Midnight, and myself going too. Onyx is staying with the hatchlings and Alma was invited to come and learn but instead is sending the younger enforcers to learn some new tactics." Walker had quickly gathered information on the way home with Alice. Between the two of them, they were able to get back up to speed on Genesis gossip and truths easily.

"Alice is coming too? Great, that makes the girls' side of the party even stronger." Remey chuckled in victory while taking her seat and making Alice fist bump her. There was no pushback from the others while Gil and Walker just gave each other a knowing look. Fighting Remey about anything like this would just end in someone being punched. "By the way, are you feeling better Su? Gil told me what happened when he came by the guild for more potions. He said he wanted to make sure you would have them if you needed them."

"Well, she would have done the same for any of us." Gil was a little embarrassed for everyone to know that he had sought out Remey for potions. But Su looked very glad that he had taken her wellbeing first over the other things he could have done the other days.

"I am feeling better. When Walker got home I spoke with him a little and managed to figure it out. Since Midnight and Walker's bond was strengthened I felt it too. It made the dragon bloodline I was passed down weakly through the ceremony react. It actually must have gotten stronger because I can feel that my body is stronger. But getting through the fever was a little tough. Thankfully Gil was able to make sure I was well." Su knew she would have been embarrassed if Gil took her all the way to the cathedral for something that was to be expected for the way Su was bonded with Midnight and her own growth.

"I really am sorry. I didn't realize it would make you ill. I know you had made a lot of plans for your days before leaving and I ruined them. But I am still impressed that you are able to produce sparks and sometimes small flames." Once Su had woken up, she had a slight heat in her throat. She had sneezed and a burst of sparks left her mouth making her realize that she had grown in to being able to breathe fire properly. Before she had the skill but had been afraid to try using it after the changes in her body. But with the newer changes, she felt tougher and that it was an instinctual act.

" That means you can breathe flames and try to test my fists to resist fire even better!"

"NO!" Su shut Remey down immediately. She was not letting Remey get in to more dangerous fire based training that would burn her hands again. Midnight was still growling softly. She was glad to hear that Su was embracing the changes that came with being a proper draconic guardian. It meant that she would get closer and be able to train more with Su. It was an all around win for everyone.

"How about no one breathes fire at the dinner table and we save that for showing off later. I have a lot to share too." The rest of the night turned on to them all sharing their new skills and developments. Gil felt that he was the least improved until he explained the dagger techniques that the desert elves had and how they had wind elemental origins meaning that they were related to both the stone elves and the wind elves. He had made a breakthrough of his own in a different way.

"I haven't heard of mana circulation injuries but I don't doubt they exist. I would expect them to show in people who train to their limits. We should look in to healers with such skills. It might be best for them to give evaluations of other healers." Su made this theory because she wanted the healers that pushed themselves to be healthy and safe as well. She was fully supported by Alice and before everyone knew it they were going to be dragged to the cathedral in the morning when the golem army was going to be leaving late. Fortunately, Walker knew that the dwarves would be leaving on schedule. They had their pride on the line after all.

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## Chapter 1302 1302. Unique Golems

Walker had narrowly avoided Remey testing out everyone else's skills that they had trained. She had been cooped up in the alchemy guild and had too much energy to burn. Although, she had managed to train with the alchemy fire spirit to a considerable degree. Since she had nothing else to do while organizing and teaching the newer alchemy guild members, she had been using alchemy fire to make some basic salves and balms. That way she had become a little more resistant to the burns that alchemy fire could cause along with having sharper control of it.

Surprising them all had been Midnight that pushed Remey toward her room to rest. It seemed that the temptation to eat the giant earth ant meat was enough to get her to split things up. It was a fact that the tamers had gotten involved for the additional food source to feed their tamed monsters so this was also backing that the meat must taste good. At the end of the night, Walker didn't argue that everyone was heading off on their own to rest. He had spent some additional time outside on the back patio enjoying the clear night sky with Alice. She had somehow developed a love for the stars and singing to manipulate the starlight.

Once morning had rolled around, Walker was yet again being pulled out of his bed. This time it was Remey nearly dragging him by the foot. "I swear, you go and train and then you become a brick that can't move the next day. Everyone is awake but you. Even Alice was awake and helped your mother make us breakfast." Remey just kept shaking her head as Walker started to come back to life and look around. She did find it amusing when he jumped up and started to rush about the room preparing.

Her laughter only grew when she noticed that he was wearing his shirt backwards after coming back out of his room. "I'm up. I sear." Walker followed Remey down the stairs and to the front where everyone else was waiting for him. They each had a steaming hot sandwich in their hands while Alice had two. She had been waiting to hand it to Walker. It was very clear that she was proud to have helped make them and spend time with Hilda. On the other hand, Hilda was secretly gossiping now with Su's mother about how she was going to have the best daughter in law soon. Hilda fully expected that Walker would fall head over heels and marry Alice one day. It was a mother's intuition.

"Thank you. I could smell them all the way up the stairs." His face was flushed while grabbing the sandwich but he continued on. "Onyx, good luck with the hatchlings. And all of you, don't go giving my little brother trouble while I'm away. If you do then we might not bring back a snack for you." The little hatchlings partially understood what Walker meant and popped their heads out of the shadows to nod their heads the same way that they had seen Onyx do.

"Be safe. I will be waiting for everyone." Onyx was sad that he was unable to travel but he was true to his commitments. There was nothing that would pull him from his current goals. Everyone knew this and

fully supported him so he would patiently wait until he could take the hatchlings on a journey outside as well.

"It looks like the rest of us are all set. The golem army should be outside of the city right?"

"Walker knew that they would be all lined up and ready to go but he didn't want to miss any changes that he had missed.

"They already left. The rest of them are heading out now." Remey had gone on a very early walk to see what the first two squads were heading out the third was going to the closest ravine and would be getting there at the same time as the other two squads got to their ravines. It would ensure a consistent attack that would stop the other two queens from sending their giant earth ants to attack the weaker colonies that were splitting off.

"Oh, then let's get there quickly." Midnight huffed in approval and burst out the door with everyone quick to run behind her. She wanted to be the first to see what the golems were doing and if anything unique was in the army. The party's last trip there had produced an interesting effect on the forging that was happening within the dwarven city. Therefore, they all wondered if more golems controlled by elemental spirits had been created along with any more dragon style golems.

The party was not let down when they saw the size of the golems lined up ahead of them. Instead of the basic working golems that the party had seen, there were smaller ones for communication. But what truly took the cake were the large golems triple the size of the working golems. They were incredibly heavily armored and set up to tank major attacks. They were also the carriers for large carriages full of supplies that would be used for repairs and other such things. The small group of healers were aboard one of the carriages and Walker could make out a few familiar faces from the instrumental side of the cathedral. One was the strings player that Su had spent some time with but still not spoken with the rest of the party too much. Su was surprisingly shy about such subjects.

"Look! That's a serpent type golem. It looks a lot like Onyx!" Remey was in love seeing the golem. Her eyes went wide as she saw the unique line up next to it of unique golems made for this squad.

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Chapter 1303 1303. Marching With Golems

"Are you here to march or are you here to look?" One of the dwarves joked since he had seen plenty of people come to look at the golems. He wasn't wrong though. The party was staring open mouthed at the unique golems. Some of which were made by dwarves they had met or apprentices. They all served their own purposes in the army of golems but mostly to deal with monsters in different situations and areas that the basic golems could not get to.

"Those are like wolves. Look, there are thirteen of them making up a golem wolf pack." These were Gil's personal favorites since he felt that they would be the best at working together in a forested area to hunt for prey and scout an area.

"You aren't even considering how tough those bear golems are. The pair right there would be able to block hits and land fearsome attacks." Su had found herself enamored with the somehow adorable bear style golems. They had very detailed features and seemed to be made from much tougher materials than most of the other golems.

"Please stop looking at all of them like you are going to try and get them for yourselves. What would you all even do with a bunch of golems?" Walker was already stopping any of their intrusive thoughts from them. It seemed that if he didn't act soon they would be trying to buy golems from the dwarves to just have around.

"Birds." Alice pulled for Walker's attention and pointed out the small fluttering golems used for the main communication. They were made of very light metals and modeled after sparrows. They were able to move through most of the army without anything stopping them. However, they [pulled Walker's attention toward the next line of odd golems.

"Gil, check out those golems. They are ballista golems. I think they would make an interesting opponent." The golems that Walker pointed out were less shaped like humanoids or monsters and more like a large ballista with runes to help it aim and fire automatically. The only issue was that they appeared to be slow due to the mana they needed to properly utilize the runes.

"They probably can hit hard, I would say they are better for taking down walls or large groups of monsters. They have piercing power. But accuracy looks to be a problem for them." Gil could see that the wires used as strings were made specially to add power but did not have very good flexibility to make shots curve or arc. They would have to rely on gravity or . "The bolts they use are also very basic. If they used or rune inscribed bolts it would use way too much mana and take too much time to make. Not that it wouldn't be better for them to use rune inscribed bolts."

The evaluation showed how much Gil knew about archery and other similar long ranged attacking techniques. He had to know these things to properly use the skills he had and teach others. He didn't start an archery academy because he knew nothing and just thought it would be fun. Archery was something that he had grown up doing with his father. Even if his system was not at all related to archery, Gil would find a way.

"Listen up! By order of the great king of the deep caves, the army shall march until we get to the target! There will be no stops along the way. Keep up or fall to your own weakness!" The chorus of shouts from the fellow dwarven soldiers could shake the earth. This mentality was to fire them up and prepare them for the trip to battle.

"I guess we are off. I call dibs on the first monster we see that isn't an ant." Rmeey was ready to go and followed the marching soldiers. She didn't even notice that the carriage nearest to them was waving the group over to hop in. The main forces would not walk but take positions within or on golems. The others were on the large carriages. Remeey was just too full of energy to pay attention.

"We are stretching our legs. We will hop in later!" Walker shouted back since he also wanted to get a little fighting in while they marched. He needed to test himself a bit before they got to the giant earth ants. While the party was not fully intending to battle it out against the colony, it was unavoidable that they might face them. However, they all needed to be sure that they watched how the golem army organized and worked. The last battles they had been in were organized strangely or in rushed circumstances. This was the first organized and proper battle they would witness. It would teach each of them how they might need to act as people with high standing in Genesis and the kingdoms in general.

"Walker, I can tell you have been playing with mana the entire time since you woke up this morning. I want to ask you something." Gil was a little more serious when he fell beside Walker. "I want you to practice making elemental arrows for me to fire. I have my arrows in my quiver but they won't always be by my side. What if my quiver is left behind or broken by a monster? I can't make arrows out of nothing. But you can."

"This seems like it has been on your mind for a while. I have been practicing the high elemental manipulation skills I was able to learn equally through my meditation. Let me give it a shot while we move. Just make sure that when you test them you fire far away from people. I will need to get the skill before the arrows are balanced." Walker gladly accepted the challenge set before him.

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Chapter 1304 1304. Training On The Move

The earth proved to be the easiest yet again for Walker. A small spike easily rose from the ground with minimal mana from him. Next Walker held it and began to manipulate it like clay in to the form of the basic arrow that Gil held. All in all the fins were nearly exact when it came to comparison. The weight proved to be the issue. When Walker formed the arrow heads, he was compressing them to be sharper. Yet this was also causing the problem of making them heavier.

O know if it isn't heavy that they will fly straight. But if I don't condense the arrow head then they will not pierce something. I don't want you to hold an arrowhead that will just shatter when it hits anything slightly tougher." Walker was focusing on the form and making sure the shape was exact.

"Then don't focus on the shape completely. If you can't make it so that the weight is the same then change it. This is a basic arrow and a template for a design. What if you change it to not have an arrow head at all. Just make the end a very condensed spike. With my aim, If I aim for armor or spaces in scales then I will be able to hit it better. It means the rest of the arrow and the fins need to be better balanced but that's easy." Gil had watched the same arrow be formed multiple times. He was going to let Walker attempt to keep the same since it was comfortable when fired. Yet, if he changed it and had to adjust to a different arrow that was fin too. What kind of archer couldn't adjust to multiple forms of arrows in a battle?

"That's what I will do then. I think the earth is just difficult because of the way that the ground is here. I can't miraculously change the characteristics of the earth around me to make the arrow head metal, the base stone, and the fins copper." Walker realized he had been trying to do the impossible. As soon as he started to change the shape he could condense it very well in to a spike that had six fins. "I'm going to make the fins angled so the arrow spins and stays straight better. I saw some arrows like that when we were in the forest elf city."

"Perfect! I wasn't even thinking about that. It should help with balance too." The idea seemed to work perfectly. Gil fired the first one and saw the spin but it was slightly off. Walker quickly saw the issue and formed another. After seven in a row that flew straight, Gil was over the moon. "Think we should move on to water? You can make ice arrows. They will be weaker in strength but I think they will be better at causing bleeding when they melt. Good for large armored monsters that we can't take down immediately anyway."

"So they are just going to make arrows the entire time they walk?" Remey was walking next to Alice and Su trying to make sense of why the two boys were so entranced by making arrows out of elements around them. Yes, they were getting a feeling for the improvements that Walker had after meditating properly and discovering his problems within his body. But this was still burning in Remey's opinion.

"I can do that." Su and Remey both looked at Alice who spoke then started humming. When she hit the right note, Alice began to sing about the arrows of the moon falling upon those who do not enjoy its beauty. The single phrase was enough to cause light to form in to ten condensed arrows in front of her. She had to be just as much a poet as a singer to make such things happen while singing. It was always inspiring.

"Well, that was interesting. I wonder how long she had thought of that song or if she is making it up right now?" Su was amazed that Alice had suddenly stopped and done something like that. Her silence had been to think of this and develop a new way of using her skills. When Alice reached Walker and Gil, Walker partnered with her to take the light elemental arrow out of the air and solidify it more. The two of them together made a condensed light elemental arrow that was strong enough to pierce the shadows. Gil seemed very invigorated seeing this since he wasn't sure it would be possible to efficiently make light elemental arrows that would dissipate extremely fast.

"Hmpf, they can worry about their arrows all they want. I am going to have Midnight challenge me to a game of tag so I can work on dodging." Su looked at Midnight practicing her flying nearby by jumping and flapping her wings in less and less flaps to get to the top of the massive carriage.

"I will come too. I always deflect and block. Dodging should be on my to do list." Su decided to get better control of her own body as well. She had felt a little off in her own skin after the fever. It was clear to her that she was getting more and more balanced with the dragon blood in her body. If she did not take the proper care to relate to it and understand it then her body might be foreign to her all together.

The ensuing game of tag made those marching wonder what was happening. The party was split up making arrows and also playing tag. However, through all these motions and training, the party was staying in pace with the march. The march was not slow at all. It was an entirely odd way to show that the party was leaps and bounds ahead of what would be expected from those of their age.

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#### Chapter 1305 1305. Nighttime Experiments

"I'm not saying that it was a bad arrow. It works. But there's no point in it. If I fire an arrow made of condensed shadows it is lost in the sun. Then if I fire it in to the shadows it melts right back in to them. It would be better if it had the decaying properties of darkness and poison instead of melting away." Gil had not put his dislike for the darkness arrow that Walker had forcefully condensed from the shadows of the setting sun under the carriage.



"Well of course it won't last in the light, the light elemental arrow wouldn't last in the shadows either. But that doesn't mean we can't keep using them. They probably work in the shadows like your other darkness infused arrows." Walker was trying to argue the value of the darkness elemental arrows much to Alice's dismay. She had been helping them with the light elemental arrows since Walker had less speed creating them. It was just a difference in skills. But now that she wasn't actively helping she was annoyed that she was out of the loop. She had no control over other elemental manas therefore she felt useless.

"I think you two should be done. This is all you have done the entire walk for the day and we are heading in to the night soon. Midnight, Su, and I are even done playing around with our training. It's time to rest. The golem army is better than anyone else to watch out for the night." Remey saw the argument between the two and knew it was her turn to be level headed for once. That, and she wanted Walker to drop the arrow making to share the food in his inventory. Midnight and Su were of like mind on that subject since they had burned a lot of energy.

"By the way. How do you not have an arrow making elemental skill or whatever? You have made like a hundred and I'm sure you are low on mana." Gil was stunned that Walker had not received the skill easily for once. He was used to Walker somehow managing to get a skill without much effort or in the most random way.

"You tell me. I keep making these things with different shapes and trying to get them perfect. They even work like normal arrows but cause elemental damage. We saw the fire one literally catch the grass on fire before going out due to the damp ground here.

"Alright, you pushed me to it." Remey used her fists to clunk the two on the back of the head completely bringing them back to reality. "You two are getting in the carriage. Gil can go to one side and think about his arrows and how he should make his own. Walker can get the food for everyone since we are hungry. Alice, Su, Midnight, and I will relax and sleep. If you two argue or try to make more arrows I will put you to sleep myself!" Midnight just growled slightly in approval because she was all for getting dinner sooner.

Gil moved away rubbing his head knowing that he would have a slight bruise there. He was mumbling about how the elemental arrows should work but that Walker should have gotten a skill by then. Walker just moved inside and sat down after handing out the food that he had held on to for the trip. The healers were in the other carriages so the party found themselves surrounded by the carriage with extra supplies and many tools for golem repairs. Walker even found a stack of the golem ballista bolts. Since everyone was distracted he decided to look at the form and try and copy them as well.

Pulling out the earth part he had been working with before to make the spike that Gil could fire, Walker began adding water to make an arrowhead. The shape was thinner so it could fly through the air better. The dwarves had tested many forms and found this the best shape to use for efficiency. The fins were easy to make out of ice as well since the arrow could melt leaving the spike of earth to pierce whatever they were fired at.

The theory that the arrow might change as it flew through the air was simple. It was also a way for Walker to wonder if there were arrows that could be made with multiple elements to have different end results similar to the infusion of elemental manas within arrowheads that Gil already used. But when he tried to make an arrow with fire in it he just heated the dirt instead. Condensing it caused the entire structure to become brittle. And the water to evaporate.

His experiments continued on until Walker realized he was the only one awake. Even Gil had called it a day and fallen asleep in the corner with his bow at his side ready to grab it at a second's notice. "I'll try it one more time." Walker made a cylinder of condensed stone. He had grabbed a medium sized rock from the ground as the carriage moved. He filled it with air and then added some fire from one of the lamps in the carriage. The flames easily started up and were fueled by the air on the inside of the stone cylinder. Once Walker sealed it he could feel the pressure. As he did this he added water around the sealed cylinder to form an ice arrow around it all. He had made a strange arrow that was surprisingly heavy. However, it was perfectly balanced and could be used. The previous cracking and breaking that he had experienced and stifled before didn't occur. He had finally succeeded in making a decent elemental arrow that could be used without dissipating. I just needed the proper elements in the proper balance.

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#### Chapter 1306 1306. Supervision Needed

' The skill elemental arrow crafting has been taken from the elemental smith system. The skill elemental arrow crafting has been learned through constant practice and learning involving elemental mana and forming it in to arrows.

'Elemental arrow crafting- passive

The ability to shape the elemental mana and elements in to any form is required to be able to begin the experimentation needed to create elemental arrows from the elements around the user. This experimentation is the build up of archery knowledge that allows for flexible experiments. The knowledge can be put to use and cause faster learning while consistently testing theories based around how an arrow will fly and react with certain elemental manas. The user has a better knack for crafting

elemental arrows the more that they create them. The mana to create elemental arrows is halved for the user'

The skill was a little vague but when Walker saw that the mana to create an elemental arrow was halved he was in shock. This was a very high tier skill that made making arrows extremely easy when it came to mana cost. Walker would use his elemental sculpting skills to create the arrow which took concentration and a decent amount of mana. But now it would take half the mana with the same concentration. That meant that his body would lose less mana putting him under less stress. It also meant that the more Walker worked on this skill the more he would progress. It was very similar to the skill that Gil had when it came to dagger arts. He just needed to learn more and research.

The sun had already started to rise after the group began to wake up. But when they saw what was around them they were completely lost. "I know we went to sleep in a rush last night, but wasn't this place full of tools and more spacious?" Su was the first to speak up. She didn't feel that she would have missed so many stacks of arrows around them before she went to bed.

"No, this isn't normal. There are easily two hundred arrows here. And why are there broken ones all over the place too?" Rmeey pushed away a loose bundle of arrows because she could see the dust falling off of them from lying in a pile of it. The entire carriage needed a good cleaning since Walker had failed so many times as he experimented. But he had been very careful to be as silent as possible so that he wouldn't disturb anyone's sleep.

"He learned the skill! This has to be it. He has some elemental arrow maker skill or elemental crafting or like arrow making high tier. I need to test them!" Gil was more energetic than a child handed infinite candy. From what he could sense and see there were multiple kinds of arrows with elemental mana within them. Walker had gone above and beyond what he believed would happen.

"Hm? Alice?" Walker mumbled as Alice shook him awake. She was equally curious about what had possessed Walker to make so many elemental arrows. "Don't worry. I will clean up the dirt after I finish my nap. I got a little busy when I started to figure it all out last night." Walker started to turn over but was shaken again. He had not realized the sun had risen and that everyone was waking up until the second shake from Alice really woke him up.

"How did you do it!" Gil was nearly in Walker's face asking him. He wanted the answers so that he could go and start testing all the forms of arrows out.

"Huh? I just made stones from the trails we are on in to cylinders. Then added mana and elements in to the center before sealing it. Then coat it on ice to make the shape around the cylinder spike. After that , it makes an arrow. But the best part is that if I add enough mana I figure out that I can make the ice last longer than it should. The appraisal said they would last for six hours." The groggy mumble was enough for Gil and he grabbed the first one. "Wait! Fire it far away!"

Walker had realized and yelled just in time as Gil had fired the arrow out the carriage and in to the distance behind them. They were at the back of the golem army lines but it was still too close for the small explosion that occurred. The dance of wind and flames mixed with dust slowly revealed the small crater.

"So, the condensed air and fire inside the earth spike activates when the ice melts during flight. The impact causes a sudden release. I kind of accidentally made some exploding arrows..."

"And you aren't allowed to stay up without supervision anymore." Su shook her head while walking away to stretch and properly wake up.

"That's just like the potions Trish taught me to make! I was going to see if we could fire them on an arrow but they are a little too large. This is pretty much the same. I wonder if the elemental mana is the same in the herbs that we balance for it or if there are other reactions occurring." Remey began to pull out herbs from a pouch and compared them to each other. She placed a potion from her hip next to them and started to teach Gi what caused them to come together. It seemed that the arrow and potion had the same result but different processes. It was a very surprising way for the two to bond.

Midnight and Alice had disappeared from sight until Walker looked over. Alice had hidden behind Midnight who had acted to keep her covered. It seemed that Midnight had done this before reminding him that Midnight had trained with Alice, Su, and Onyx before which must have resulted in some similar situations where Onyx's tail may have knocked around some rocks. "I will make sure I do this stuff far away from people next time...sorry." His apology made the to relax before Midnight was reminded that morning meant breakfast.

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Chapter 1307 1307. Are They Monsters?

"What do you think is wrong with them? They have been walking the entire time. Even miss Alice has been walking. Doesn't she feel tired?" One healer that had volunteered to go on the expedition to slay the giant earth ants was whispering to the other healers. He was amazed that the party chose not to stay resting within the carriage where it was safer and kept their energy up.

"You've seen them train. They are monsters themselves. If they weren't kind hearted the world would be a dim place to live." Another could see that the party was in a league of their own.

"But she was never like them. She was the same as us. Miss Alice always healed and got tired having to sleep after. We have the same problem. But now she is using her skills constantly while keeping the pace...training shouldn't fix that so fast." They were all stunned. The Alice they knew had changed in to a completely different person since she had come in to contact with the party. More importantly, since she had started to walk alongside them.

"None of you really know who they are, do you? When they visited my home they were unsure but figured things out fast. Really fast. It took them a few days but they had the entire city along with our kings behind them. It's not that they are monsters with amazing systems. They are people with amazing determination and courage to push and prod at what others won't. You should all try it. From what I see, that girl controlling light elemental mana was never meant to just be a healer." The elite dwarven guard in the carriage had been cleaning his armor and preparing his weaponry for some time. None of the healers had paid any attention to him. But when she spoke he drew their full focus.

"That's true, the high priest even got more energetic when they showed up. He started to push everyone to work harder and learn more. I know he is deciding who will be the next high priest in charge...but shouldn't it just be an easy choice out of the three best?" The healers were a little confused but began to grasp some things they had been oblivious to. Their eyes eventually fell on Alice who had made it clear that she was not staying in the same place any longer and would be pushing higher than expected of her.

"Alice, how long are you going to make a shield for Su to test hers on? I want to test them too!" Remey and Su had partnered up with Alice to train while moving. The idea was simple. Alice makes light condensed shields. Su would bash at them to test her strength and also try to find the best angles to attack another shield user. Remey wanted to work on her defense breaking fist without the addition of alchemy fire. She still could not master the new move and wanted to be able to use it in more forms. The ideas of defense breaking kicks, elbow jabs, and head butts even came to mind.

"Don't look at me. I will keep manipulating the light to flow around you as best as I can. The clouds won't hold you back even for a second!" Alice had looked back at Walker who was doing his best to

understand and manipulate the light elemental mana to condense. He wanted his control to be so precise that it exceeded the rune within the mage tower. The desire was not something he had expected to form but one he strived for. He had felt that he could do anything while in the mage tower. The mana was literally waiting to be condensed, manipulated, and fused in to natural mana. If he felt this way in a battle, then could he share that feeling? Could he make it so that his entire party had the best elemental zone for their battles?

Walker could recall the skills related to elemental zones but they were often mastery skills or very high level. One master skill could create a flooded plain by condensing insane amounts of water elemental mana. A high level skill had been written to cause a tornado surrounding the user to draw in intense torrents of wind elemental mana for a short time. Overall they were the skills written to bring people in to awe for and mages alike. Walker had never set his sights on such skills but wanted to be able to dream he would obtain them. And with the potential of natural mana, he thought that between Fleur and him, he might just make a natural mana zone skill.

Walker, another arrow!" Gil had been testing the arrows over and over. His constant use of them left a trail of craters behind the entire army. Walker would repair them as he went back the same way but for the time being, they would remain. The reasons Gil was using them constantly were to perfect his aim more and also his uncomfortable feelings using these elemental arrows.

Gil had an extraordinary aim for a human. He rivaled the elves known for their precise aim and archery. Yet, Gil could feel that he was missing something. Something that kept him from being perfectly accurate from extremely long distances. Combining the two uncomfortable feelings was what he felt would truly push him to the next level. He aimed for the past craters further and further away.

Walker welcomed this additional training. By doing multiple things at once he was sharpening his focus. The only one that was missing from all of this was Midnight. But when someone looked up they would find that there was a small dragon leaping from the three carriage tops flying one to the other. She was training herself as well, casually letting flame plumes out of her maw.

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Chapter 1308 1308. Fearless Alice

"Monster's ahead! We need a group to take them out!" The commanding dwarf assigned by the king of the deep called out for a group of golems to volunteer. His scouts had spotted a small pack of heavy fanged boars. They weren't too much of a problem but were in the way and very territorial. They were a fairly common monster that was known to charge tusks first at an enemy to take them down. Other than that they were a commonly hunted monster for hunters looking to make a large meal.

"That's ours. We will take them down!" Gil volunteered before anyone else were able to speak. "Don't give me that look. I want to eat boar tonight. Plus there should be a decent few of them that we can take down before they realize they can't win and run. It will be great." Midnight reacted with a small roar of challenge. She heard that they would be for food and that was all they needed to be fired up.

"Actually, I want Alice to take the lead in attacking this time." Su surprised everyone, including Alice, with this. "She had been out with us before and mostly been a healer or using buffing effect songs. That won't be enough to keep her alive in a real battle if the ants swarm us and we can't get back together." This will also be her main experience slaying monsters."

There was a look of fear in Alice's eyes while she breathed faster. She had not gone after monsters by herself and had not had enough training metally to accept it. But she knew that Su would not suggest this to hurt her. It was clearly so that She could grow and become even stronger.

"I'll do it." The moment that Alice solidified her will she found that her mind became clever. She still felt her heart beating faster than average and felt that Walker was keeping a close eye on her. But he stopped manipulating the light elemental mana around her so that she would be able to experience the battle as it truly would be without any help.

"Midnight, use your shadow wrapping skill to stay close. Don't let anything happen. You are better at it and can hide without anyone noticing too much." Walker whispered this to Midnight who completely understood why he was asking this. She also did not want to see anything bad happen while they p[ushed Alice in to the front of this small fight.

The heavy fanged boars that were spotted were still fairly far from the golem army. But it was only a matter of time before they noticed the many marching golems and started to attack. There was no chance of rational thought in these monsters since they cared only about territory and food.

The party split off heading well in front of the army, nearly losing sight of them in the distance. The high grass was a perfect way for them to hide in. "Go all out. Don't let them even breathe. They can't hold a candle to your training." Remey might be the hot head of the group but she knew very well how strong those around her were. She would not encourage Alice if she didn't believe that Alice was much stronger than these opponents. Her words seemed to be the last spur of encouragement Alice needed to open her mouth and start to sing.

,m The effects that Remey had on Alice seemed to be too telling. Her words came out with a rougher sound making them feel violent. This was a different Alice than everyone was used to. When Alice trained her words were very sweet and still held elegance. But now? They had sharp and rough intent. The reason was simple behind this, Alice was not training with friends to become stronger. She had realized that she could not be delicate and weak for her entire life. Healing had made her too one sided when it came to the way that she saw the world. She needed to be tougher and make herself the same kind of strong as those she strived to walk beside.

The result was brilliant. The light elemental mana in the air condensed the light in to viscous looking serrated arrows. These were still not controlled due to the intense mental strain that would take, however, when they began to rain down on the pack of heavy fanged boars they did great damage. Before they dissipated the boars were left with harsh gashes and most were done for before they could attempt to battle back.

As soon as Alice saw that the board could target her she changed songs fluidly. Her rough song creating serrated arrows changed in to one creating five swords of light behind her. The first three boars that charged at her met these swords impaling themselves without much effort from Alice's singing. The next few charged and were also attacked. But the one that managed to survive was easily dodged by Alice. She had trained very hard to be able to move without losing her focus and singing. On the contrary, her song sped up and her swords reformed faster to battle around her.

"I would say it's time for us to join in. the rest of the pack knows we are here." Gil let loose a flurry of arrows aiming for the hips of the large fanged boars. Remey and Su charged in to team up with Alice since it was clear that the mana was being used fast and Alice would need some rest.

Walker and Midnight jumped in to the fray. Alice was not surprised to suddenly find Midnight nearby. She had pretended not to hear Walker when he had given the order for Midnight to protect her. The remaining fanged boars only lasted minutes. Gil was very right, he had said the remaining would run when they realized they would lose and that's exactly what happened.

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Chapter 1309 1309. Good Meal

"It's a good meal before a battle!" The dwarves were more than happy to help eat the heavy fanged boars that the party had hunted. Alice was taking great pride in the food since she had been able to face them down without fear.



The constant training she had done against Onyx who was larger than her was one main reason that she didn't find herself afraid when she faced the pack of heavy fanged boars. Onyx had some terrifying skills along with a larger size than expected. Other than that, Alice had to battle for control over the light elemental mana with him. It was a physical and mental strain that she had to learn to combat.

Therefore, when she had gotten in to the flow of battle against the boars she felt that they were nothing in comparison.

On top of all that, she had the fact that she was able to train against Midnight. For anyone, a dragon was one of the existences in the world considered the most fearsome. Just a roar alone was enough to cause many to fall in fear. Having fire breathed at her should have made Alice fall to her knees defeated, but after multiple times she had managed to stand against it and create light elemental shields from the light in the air. How could a mere boar stop her?

"You were moving like a pro! I thought that they might catch up to you before Su and I joined up but I was wrong. That was great!" Remey had been more than impressed by the way Alice had remembered to keep moving while singing. She had used the first song to injure most of them while flawlessly switching to the next song. This flow set the pace for a battle and was very important to Remey.

Since Remey had a very up close and personal fighting style, it was extremely important to her that she set the pace. That way she would be able to control the potential damage she took while also dealing heavy damage to weak points. This was an aspect of a brawler that many people didn't reference. The brawlers or related systems often had very advanced movement skills that came with whatever kind of fighting they did.

"I'm just glad that was the last of those boars. We managed to keep all the fangs and the furs but all that meat that we roasted seems to have been passed out." Besides the portion that the party ate, they had no intention of storing it all away. When Walker began to cook, Midnight was the first to volunteer to share it which was a surprise. Unfortunately, it was proven that she was attempting to make some trades and returned with bread and even some honey that another dwarf had on hand for the journey. She had been sneaky and managed to get herself a whole meal.

"We should be getting close about now, right?" Su stopped them and pointed in to the distance where a small camp had already been made by scouts sent ahead.

"You are right. Those are the golems sent ahead. I can already see the table set up with maps or whatever it is." Gil could see that there were many elite guards and even two familiar figures at the table ahead. He tried to use his sight to the peak but found that he could only guess as to what was on

the table. It was something he wished he could improve right away. An archer's keen vision was a valuable trait.

The last bot of the journey brought them to where the main groups in charge of the split armies were. "Just as planned. The remainder of our army arrived. The other two are just beginning to set up camp to rush in to the nest." The king of the deep caves had brought over the other two dwarven kings. They normally would have stayed in the city but this was a big problem for the dwarves. They had trusted advisors that could take over for them in dire circumstances.

"It's good to see you all together again. I wish it was under better circumstances." Walker made sure to let them know that he was glad to see all three kings.

"These are good circumstances. We are going to test out the new golems made using true spirit forging techniques." The king of the surface was very focused on the power behind the army. This was his main position in the kingdom after all and he would be sure to follow it properly.

"We will make a killing once we harvest these ants. The people won't go hungry for years to come!" The king of the middle was having a great time seeing the future that these ants could bring. They would be a great source of gold for their kingdom which meant they could build bigger and better.

"You two know what the issues are with this. We could lose mines, caves, and lives if we don't handle these three colonies. Keep that in mind will you?" The king of the deep caves arrived back and slammed his foot to the ground. The other two seemed to flinch. Walker wasn't sure why but the other two kings clearly recognized the king of the deep caves as the one in charge. Part of Walker knew it came from the serious work from years in the mines, the king of the deep caves was clearly the strongest. Yet the tone was where the true strength was. It was hard and left no room to argue. It was a tone that came from many years of hard work and determination. "Now that you are here I expect that you will be joining me and my elites when we go to slay the queen?"

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Chapter 1310 1310. Prepare To March In

"Ranged attacks from the distance to clear the area around the ravine. Then we put the steel ropes in place for the golems to descend. By then there will be an attack response from the bugs." The king of the surface was very familiar with breaking in to the depths of a giant earth ant colony. He held the record for most successful invasions to remove them near the dwarven mines. It was easy to find the route to the surface so that the attack can be done from multiple angles.

"That leaves the unique golems to clear the path. They were made to flow through the tunnels with odd shapes. But I want to make sure we do not collapse the tunnels made by the bugs. They are fragile when first explored. Have the main golems enter as usual with their quick supports." The crumbling tunnels would be the worst concern. It was not common for the ants to make their tunnels so that just any being could enter them. As soon as the weight and rumbling exceeded what an ant could do then they had a very high chance of collapsing.

"From there we have the sweepers. We want them to clear the soldier ants, nurturing ants, and general workers. That should lead us to the queen's chamber where she lays eggs. That will be the last stop where forces come together to deal with the elite ant guardians and the queen. The queen has little battle capacity but boasts many buffs to the guardians she raised for herself. Just the frontline of the details." The king of the deep caves had seen a queen before and known that it was weaker when it came to defenses. However, that did not mean that it was weak, it was just weak in comparison to the specialized guardian ants.

The party was patiently listening along with a few other adventures that had come along. What surprised them was the fact that there were some city guards listening and learning about the battle tactics used. This may be a war against the giant earth ants, but many tactics could be used against other swarm type monsters. The experience would be very valuable for the city of Genesis in the coming years as they expanded and faced other unique problems like this.

"We will attack in half an hour. Return to your designated armies and be ready." The king of the deep caves was remaining there to deal with the ravine that the [party had explored. The other two kings split off with their commanders heading toward the stationed armies further away. They would sweep through the colonies within the night if possible.

"I expect this to take a day at most. The clean up should last a week. Once the queen is gone the bugs become aggressive until they die naturally. It's a side effect of this whole process but we need to get rid of them and any eggs with the potential to become queens. If a nurturer escapes with an egg that can become a queen ant then we will have a whole other colony in the next few years. It's happened before." The king of the deep caves shared this with the party. He trusted that they would use this information to keep a better eye. He also knew that they had unique luck that could show them the danger before anyone else noticed it.

"Just a quick question, how did you analyze the terrain and change what golems to bring based on it?" Rmeey was curious. She had seen the unique golems brought and liked that they resembled monsters

she was familiar with. However, she had been wondering why there were not more forms than she had seen in the dwarven city when they visited.

"For this battle? Size. The tunnels will vary in size based on what type of ant made them and what the tunnels are used for. Those wolf golems will be able to hunt through small openings and clear out small chambers. The serpent golem will clear out larger curving tunnels. The bears are for pure defense against the soldier and once we get to the queen chambers."

"So you had the prior knowledge of what kinds of tunnels the giant earth ants make and you based your golem army build on that. I see." Gil was glad to hear this as well as the guards that stayed with them. They had wanted to learn more by asking the very same question. Therefore, the fact that Remey and Gil were asking about this was very useful for them.

"That doesn't mean we cover everything. That's why we have soldiers not controlling golems, additional forces from the demi-human army with earth related skills, and you." The king of the deep caves pointed at the party and guards. "You will fill in the odds and ends we missed. Normally we would have to just hope we covered them or create a secondary sweeping group after the first clean up group. Now it's not necessary."

"I see, that means that we should be able to split up with our own groups and head inside to help where we are needed. Alice can assist on the surface where her light elemental skills will work the best, same with Gil and his arrows. Then Su and Remey can partner in the chambers while Midnight and I head in to deal with other things next to you."

"And now you are seeing the divisions we had in mind. Supplement and make what we are doing more efficient." The king of the deep caves was glad to see that some people were thinking critically in these situations. This was run of the mill for the dwarves but new to many of those who came to learn. The lessons would stick and be passed down for generations.

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