

Master 1361

Chapter 1361 1361. Burnt

"I can't say I am surprised that we already hear noise from the way that Gil went. He's most likely testing arrows in the small lava pools around." Su had already guessed what the distant sound was. She would be foolish not to assemble the pieces properly.

"I know, but he had to be excited to figure out more about arrows and elemental mana before they get to the flame elves. He wants to be able to show off and help Alma build relations." The possibility that the flame elves might not just accept Alma and join Genesis was there. But with Gil joining with his titles and abilities it might make things easier.

"I think they will succeed. Between the two showing what genesis has to offer it would be hard for anyone to remain separate. Plus, the water elves and forest elves are already joined. We even have the research from the desert elves. That means genesis is already a haven for the elves rejoining and returning to their historical roots."

Walker firmly believed that every elf would be swayed by these things. For the elves, their past as high elves was something that every single one held in very high regard. They had pride in their ancestry along with their records of accomplishments. That was why the records kept by the elves were so precise. Even the water elves had some records preserved with high tier skills after being abused by Lust.

"I am more worried that the fire dragons and dragonkin will be unhappy with our visit." Su had thought about how heated the attitude of Ignus had been. If they managed to anger him they might have a problem on their hands.

"That's why Remey gave me the affinity potions to use as a gift. It should help him while also showing that Genesis has more to offer. I know she also intends it as a way for her to make a connection with the alchemy guild and more dragons, but that's fine." The idea was good enough.

"So what if we get there and no one is there to meet us?" Su knew this was also a possibility. The dragons had their mission to defeat and clean up the rogue dragons they had caused to spread. It was a problem that was long overdue.

"Then we leave a note with whatever dragonkin are left and that's that. it won't be the best situation but we aren't going to throw any tantrums. I know other dragons might do that but we have to set ourselves above that kind of thing. It might even do better for us than we expect." The potential that Walker could build a better image for himself as a royal dragon is high. He could be the impartial nature dragon that had the ability to understand others' situations.

"That does remind me though, we should be careful of running in to any rogue dragons. It's not the worst place we could run in to them but still a chance." Walker recalled how some of the royal dragons had been said to kick more hatchlings out of their villages than others. Ignus may not be the worst offender but still higher than Current or Mordant.

"I am prepared for it. I know that Midnight is already keeping watch." Su pointed out that Midnight was carefully walking the area while sniffing here and there. The toxic fumes might cover some scents but the scent of a dragon or rogue dragon would stick out.

"Well, we need to change paths slightly up here. Midnight, come on!" Walker had barely left the tamer's guild outpost with everyone, however, the path they were on was one of the affected by the lava spill. From where the three of them were, they could see the moving red and yellow liquid stone. The heat was hitting them even from a distance.

"Do you think you can cool the air using your elemental manipulation? That way we can pass through the same spot we need to without changing routes." The idea was fine, but Walker wasn't sure if it would actually work.

"I would say yes, but there's that." Walker looked around carefully and picked out an odd looking spot. "See the way the stone looks like it is dipped? That has to be a small pool of magma. That spill isn't just one little section. It's the whole area around the trail too." This was the real challenge of the area.

"I see it now. Look closer at the edges and I can tell the hard black stone that has been long cooled against the newly cooled. It will take some time to adjust but I will focus on these things more." The incentive to improve her vision was what made Su more energetic. She had missed the small detail but luckily Walker had not missed it.

Hearing a soft growl, Su and Walker found Midnight looking even further.

'Burnt jackal

The burnt jackal is a rare undead and fire elemental monster. These are created when a flame hound perishes and is left exposed to the elements. The result is a zombified hound with high fire elemental resistance. These monsters will travel with the simple desire to attack any and all living beings. They can easily swim through lava while losing very little to the burns. They are best dealt with using water elemental attacks or being smashed with a heavy blunt object to break bones. They have nearly zero worth when it comes to materials due to their burned and decayed state.'

"Good find Midnight. That's a burnt jackal. They are undead and fire elemental monsters. We could avoid it but here it comes." Su took a stance in the front to block the incoming monster. However, as soon as it jumped in to the lava something even more drastic showed itself to the three.

Chapter 1362 1362. Here Fishy

' Trap fish

The trap fish has two species that are known but drastically different. One is a water elemental monster living in the oceans and the other is a fire elemental monster living in magma. They will hide just beneath the surface and wait for any moving prey to touch the surface of water or lava. They will then jump up and swallow whatever it was whole. They have extremely potent stomach acid to dissolve anything. The lining of their stomach is an extremely valuable material for those that want to go in to some of the toxic caves near volcanoes. The best way to defeat them is to expose their position and use al attacks.'

Su had tensed up much more seeing the large round fish open its mouth and chomp down on the burnt jackal. They had been about to fight the incoming undead and fire elemental monster. Now they were standing frozen.

"That thing is insane." Walker had already read out loud the all around appraisal. He knew that they would be at risk of that monster coming near them. It could clearly eat ten burn jackals if it so desired.

Even Midnight understood that battling this monster was not an easy task. If she were to rush at it the trap fish could swallow her whole and she would be hurt. If the others managed to rescue her she would be unable to venture far before needing immediate healing. That was if she was able to survive the wounds.

"We can't go around from here or to the left side. We need to go to the right, but I can see where the lava flow is changing. The trap fish is right there." The way the lava flowed showed Walker the slightly different current caused by the trap fish moving to wait again.

"What do you want to do? You will need to use earth attacks from here. You can't get enough water around here and fire will do nothing to it." Su wanted to be as helpful as possible but knew that she had zero chance. She was a draconic guardian. She didn't have any ranged attacks.

What if I change the flow of the lava? Make a pit there so the lava flows in suddenly. It's so hot that it moves similar to water. That will expose the trap fish. Then I can use an earth spike to pierce it. The way it looked, the scales it has are very weak."

The trap fish had dark yellow scales made to easily swim through the magma. But they were not made for defensive purposes. They were made to move through high temperatures safely. The resistance was elemental without any other benefit. If it had an earth affinity at all then the sales might have told a different story.

Midnight prepared to pull Walker away at any moment. Su was watching their backs because she didn't trust that they would find just one burnt jackal in the area. They traveled in packs before they became undead monsters. Therefore, there was a very high chance that the three would encounter more.

Walker placed his hands on the dark burnt rocks. He could tell that lava flowed deep beneath where they stood but that was fine. He was just moving a single layer of the rocks, not all of them. His mana began to change the rocks and form a large space. This already caused a small shaking that should have alerted the trap fish. Yet it was only excited from the prey it thought to be coming.

With one push, Walker formed a single large pit for the lava to flow in to. The suddenly exposed trap fish tried to turn around and move deeper in to the moving lava. Instead, it moved toward where Walker had opened the hole in the stones.

"Let's go!" Walker poured more mana in to the stones to create a large black stone spike. Walker turned the spike toward the trap fish while Su turned around. The clang of her shield bashing the back of the spike thrusting it forward. Midnight didn't miss out either. She had jumped in to the air and spun her tail to add even more force to the stone spike.

The three watched as their improvised team attack pierced the trap fish. There was a pained sound as the fish began to flail aggressively. Normally, the trap fish would have escaped away before something like this happened, but the change in lava flow proved to be its downfall. Adding the flail of death, the trap fish flopped right on to the dark stones near the lava before completely losing its life.

The three looked at each other without saying a word. None of them needed to speak or even move for them to feel their energy. The attack they had all put energy in to was spectacular. Not only had they worked together flawlessly but they had succeeded.

"We will be doing that again." Walker finally snapped out of it while walking toward the trap fish body. He stored away the entire thing, impaled spike and all.

"Yes, Midnight, your last addition was perfectly timed. You will need to use your tail in training more." Midnight had felt it was the right move at the moment and was shocked as ever. Her improvisation was giving her more ideas for fighting. She had the idea that she might have more ways to use her tail than she had realized.

"You know, earth elemental dragons sometimes form the earth around their tails to use as bashing weapons. Maybe you can learn to do that. You have every elemental affinity as a true dragon champion." Walker already knew what Midnight was thinking. He pushed her in the right direction, it was his job as a big brother to give her some guidance.

Chapter 1363 1363. Monster Encounters

"Alma, on the right!" Walker was not the only one whose group was facing the burnt jackals. Gil and Alma had run in to three of three at once.

Blue ivy whipped out toward a burnt jackal. They wrapped the jackal and were easily pulled on by Alma. The weight of the burnt jackal was almost nothing since it had very little skin left on the bones. These three had clearly been rotting away for a much longer time.

"Gil, I need you to knock it in to the lava pool!" Alma and Gil were annoyed by the sudden show of the undead monster. These things had made their travels much harder by blocking the path they had to take. But even worse, they had to deal with the challenge that came with every undead monster. They needed to be thoroughly defeated or else they would be getting up again.

"Got it." Gil let loose a normal arrow that pushed the burnt jackal in to the lava pool. It also managed to break the bones in the spine so that the burnt jackal would not be climbing out. The slow burning that happened because the burnt jackals resisted the fire elemental mana would be able to properly do its job.

"Hold on while I deal with the other two. They are far enough away." Gil let fly two earth elemental wither spike arrows. He had found that they worked the best when it came to the environment.

Since the entire area was covered mostly in hardened magma rocks, the earth elemental arrow was perfect. When Gil released it the mana would gather fairly quickly causing earth spike to burst up in the spot where the arrow landed. On top of all that, it was the best for taking out the weak undead monsters that were a bane to the pairs' journey.

Two burnt jackals were pierced, having their bones broken and being defeated on the spot. Gil was left with awe at the perfection of the earth arrows. He had expected that out of all his arrows, the fire would end up being the best. He had only managed to test one of each arrow before so the effects were not easily recorded.

"That clears that path. Let's keep moving before more show themselves. They seem pretty...undesirable." The undead rotting burnt smell from the burnt jackals did not make anyone happy. Alma was not exempt from this. She pushed Gil to keep moving.

"The arrows are working pretty well. I thought the earth might be like the wind arrow where it just caused the fires to act up. But I was wrong." Gil was pretty happy with what he saw. And how he would be changing his fighting for the environment.

"What about the light elemental arrow? It didn't have a healing effect here. It had a dense gathering effect that caused it to pierce opponents better. Although it did blind us..." Alma wanted to help Gil decide on these things but realized she didn't have enough experience with the elemental arrows to give concrete advice.

"I thought I might use them because they move very fast. But since the wind elemental arrows move just as fast and can boost the flames, I might as well use those. I do wonder what would happen if I fired a wind and fire elemental arrow at the same place and time." The idea Gil was coming up with was a large explosion to deal with a tougher opponent. He didn't like the looks of the oath ahead with small lava pools along the side.

Since Gil had a plan to use multiple arrows at once, it sounded like he would be able to do more damage while protecting Alma. There was also the fact that the enforcers had been warned not to interfere with small monsters. Gil and Alma needed to train as well so that they could grow stronger. If they just went to the flame elf city by being escorted, then they would lose valuable experience in real life battles against different monsters.

"Should we change our course after this? There seems to be a few more of those monsters over there." Gil bounced his idea off of Alma. he was crouched behind some black rocks checking out the monsters in the distance.

"It looks like a whole pack of them are there. Shouldn't they be more spread out? What could defeat that many and leave them without eating them?" The answer that Alma wanted was not one that either wished to see. The danger of whatever was killing and not eating could be too high.

"Reporting in, there is a large monster ahead. It has created a nest in a small lava pool. It appears to be a dragon without wings." The enforcers had scouted ahead and seen the grave danger. This was exactly what Gil had been afraid of.

"Reporting, there is a force of dragonkin on the way to this location. Should we meet with them?" The next enforcer came up followed by the last two. They were ready to do whatever was necessary to help. It was their duty.

"We get to see the dragons before Walker. We will meet with the dragonkin forces and tell them of our findings. Prepare to make contact." Alma became much more professional. This was the main point of her position and she would need to act with high respect.

"Well, this is unexpected but much better than I thought it would be. We might be able to hold back and let them handle the issue before we move on." Gil felt that the bad luck they had was miraculously flipped upside down. They could have the dragonkin help them beat the rogue dragon that had made this its home. They would also be able to tell them about Walker's group heading toward their village. A win win.

Chapter 1364 1364. Stopped

"Who would dare to stop my warriors from marching." Ignus felt immediate rage when he saw the two figures emerge and stop the front line of dragonkin from proceeding. "I will squash these ants before we

move." It felt like a direct insult to his pride for his warriors to be stopped by those that did not hold any power in his lands.

"Let's wait and see what the kids have planned. They need a moment to learn here." Barry had been silent after the last battle with a rogue dragon. He was not one to waste the time that he needed to recover. His skills took a heavy toll on his body, hence why he had such a developed physique.

"You speak as if you know something I do not. Speak of it now." Ignus was barely able to hold the flames back since he was ready to fully transform back in to his dragon form to show power.

"That archer there is Gil. he's another hero title holder in Walker's party. Next to him, is Alma. She is the future queen of the forest elves. Well, at this rate, the future queen of all the elves. I would bet that they are heading toward the flame elf city." Barry felt a little like he had won a small battle letting this information spill.

"The elves hold no power over me...but I will allow them a moment before I demand their purpose for stopping me. These are my lands, not that hatchling claiming to be a nature dragon." There was a still lingering distaste for Walker since he had made a large splash in the royal dragon court.

"Think of it as you being the wise senior allowing two hatchlings to learn a lesson in communication. Your warriors seem to be upset that they are stopped as well. Won't it be interesting to see how they react to others? If they can't handle basic communication they may not be allowed in Genesis at all." This was the final nail in the coffin. Between the raising up of being a wise senior education his warriors and the threat of not being allowed in Genesis, Ignus was mute. Hit thoughts trapped.

"You dare stop the lord's march!? State your purpose before your punishment!" The leading dragonkin warrior was not fooling around. He immediately fell in to heated words against Gil and Alma.

"I am the future queen of the elves."

"I am the hero title holder Gil Representative of Genesis and family to the royal nature dragon Walker. Do you dare to insult the lord within my home!?" Gil didn't hold back. Alma had been unable to speak fully.

The force that Gil had put in to his words made Alma surprised. She had not seen him become so forceful and powerful when speaking. It was as if she was looking at a different person. One that hadn't allowed her to finish and one that could easily butt heads with every warrior here.

"This is the territory of the great flame dragon Ignus. Do not dare assume you have control here." The warriors seemed to hold back slightly while making this statement but it was progress.

"We would have passed you by. We have no need to bother with you. However, we know of the duty you have to clean up your mess. There is a single rogue dragon along with multiple zombie dogs ahead. Deal with them yourselves or build a bond and ask us to join you. I will give you five minutes to decide." The force was still within Gil's voice. It rivaled the power that dragonkin warriors attempted to add to their voices.

"Well isn't this a fun little meeting? Gil butting heads with a dragonkin warrior and even making them take a step back. I can't wait to tell everyone about this." Barry walked right to the front from where he had been standing. He was smiling with a devilish look in his eyes.

"I heard the same as you did. Watch the way you speak to my warriors. I will disregard it due to your information. But remember this, I am the lord of this territory and I can turn any I see fit to ash." The heat gathered slightly as a tall and large dragonkin form came in to sight. The warriors fell to a knee to greet their lord.

"Then you will also find it valuable to know that Lord Walker is on the way to your village with his champion and guardian. They have a gift from Genesis. The honorable Lord Mordant visited and is currently there now. They encouraged Lord Walker to invite you personally. It is respectable to do so instead of a flimsy letter." Alma was again shocked that Gil had not backed down but even pushed a little more.

"Uninvited visitors..." Ignus softly spoke before the heat grew again, "You will join this battle and learn. See how powerful a true royal dragon is!" Ignus leaped in to the sky. The burst of flames around him caused his draconic form to be revealed.

Deep red scales with yellows and oranges patterned throughout. Harsh claws with matching teeth, both able to shred through any enemy. Trailing flames fell from the massive wings that fanned out and lifted Ignus even higher. He had kept himself held back in dragonkin form to hide from the prying eyes of rogue dragons. Now that he knew where one was, he didn't have the need to worry. Instead, he would show the true power he held. The power of flames hotter than any other could muster in his territory.

"I would stand back if I were you. He may have said you are joining the fight, but he is just showing off. He did the same to me when I first joined their little walk." Barry laughed when he saw Ignus preparing to breathe flames upon the rogue dragon.

Chapter 1365 1365. Unknown Improvement

"Get down!" Remey slammed her fist on top of a grotesque monster. "These stupid lava eels are getting on my nerves!" Her anger was a little too much for Onyx to handle so he had stepped back.

"Remey, they are just young lava eels. They aren't smart enough to avoid us even when we beat them back like this. You should use your defense breaking palm to break them in one hit." With the small encouragement from Onyx, Remey deemed it worthy not to hold back.

The crack of Remey's palm hitting the four small eels that had slithered from a nearby lava pool echoed off the dark rocks. The pair had been moving toward the lava pools with a few of the herbs they had in mind just out of reach.

The attacks seemed to make their dent in the young lava eels. They were either beaten with one solid strike or fled in fear. The two eels left behind were claimed by Remey who pulled them out of the small lava pool to cool, she would gladly drag them back to make Walker store them away or sell to the tamer's outpost.

"Where are those bushes now?" Remey saw that there were some burnt light bushes near the pool but they had all been stripped of leaves.

"They are completely cleaned up over here too. What would eat them like this?" This was a loss for Onyx since he wasn't sure what ate these leaves.

"Probably eaten by ember finches. They are little light and fire elemental birds that can eat ten to twenty leaves a day. That's one of the reasons that the burnt light bushes are so rare." Remey found it even more annoying that she had just dealt with the lava eels.

"We can try the next pool over there. But it looks like there are some more monsters around." Onyx could make out the moving shapes of something near the next pool.

"Onyx, you have great eyesight. Those are perfect ingredients!" Remey was instantly happier than she was a moment ago. She pushed herself toward the next lava pool. Just as they approached, Onyx began to make out the shapes he saw moving.

"Crabs? Made of rocks?" The reason that Remey was so excited to see them was a loss to Onyx. so far he had not been needed in battles or to find things.

"Onyx, they are a great find. Those are a type of golem. Yes, they look like crabs. It's weird, but they are great for alchemy. Because they live in very hot places and are formed from compressed magma rocks, they have a lot of trapped earth mana." Now Onyx was seeing why they might be important.

"We need to break their shells and toss their cores in to the lava pools. They will form new bodies eventually. But the rocks are ideal for a high earth affinity potion. It's not what we needed but perfect! I'm glad you saw it." This made onyx feel much more useful. "Use your tail to break a few and disorient them. I don't want them running back in to the lava pool."

Without any further waiting, Onyx enlarged himself and slammed his tail down on the group of seven small rock golem crabs. The back stone they were made of shattered under the sudden force. The crabs were tough against pressure but not from sudden striking force. The shards broke off and fell everywhere.

"See those little diamond shaped things? Those are the cores. Knock them in the lava. These things won't attack anyone anyways. Some alchemists will come just to hunt for them if they need them for a potion material. But most people just use the shards of stone for arrows or spear heads." Remey knew that the material would be somewhat of use for Gil. However, she also knew that he was after better arrow materials. Just because these were good alchemy materials did not mean that they were the best arrow materials.

"You will want to stop that." Onyx stopped Remey from smashing the next crab golem. The single reason sat before him. Just waiting for the two to notice.

"But the crabs' movement scares away the ember finch!" Remey started to pluck the burnt light leaves as quickly as possible. She wanted to bring as many back as possible. "The best part is they can be stored in these pouches without burning or losing their potency." Remey had brought specialized her pouches for fire elemental herbs. It was a simple preparation for the area she was exploring.

"Should we go and gather more of the crabs and leaves?" Onyx prepared to slam his tail down again. There were three more nearby lava pools with more crabs near them. Between them were more burnt light bushes.

The proceeding smash and grab tactic were very unusual for Onyx and Remey. They were moving like dwarven golems with their tasks assigned. It wasn't the challenge in beating the crab golems but instead the challenge of terrain.

Onyx had the added challenge of moving across the less hot parts of black stone so that he would not get burned. From this, he was able to focus on controlling his body movement to a much higher degree. The fear of severe burns was enough motivation for him to change the way he was used to moving. He had to get comfortable being uncomfortable.

Remey was much the same. She had a lot of movement techniques practiced. Because of how she fought, she had to be able to dodge. It was not something she liked to do but something she required. Because of this, she had to be light on her feet, a perfect skill to have moving over the potentially soft rocks. The closer she got to the lava pools the more carefully she had to feel her footing and the safety. Both she and Onyx made radical improvements in their bodily movement without even realizing it.

Chapter 1366 1366. Fire Power

"He is really going all out." Gil was amazed by the strength of flames that he was witnessing. The simple breath that Ignus used was powerful enough to scorch the stones back in to slow moving lava. When he took a deep breath the stones became boiling magma.

"I don't know how that rogue dragon is still kicking. The thing is still roaring like it has a chance." Barry had already seen this sight before. He too was amazed with what Ignus could do. It wasn't the strength that Ignus had, but the elemental might. Barry knew that he could potentially punch Ignus aside doing some damage. But against flame breath that hot? Never in a million years.

,m "I do admit that it is impressive. I wonder how the flame elves have been able to live nearby the dragons for so long." Alma had her misgivings about the territory that Ignus kept. She had already heard the attitude that Ignus had from Walker and now seen it plain as day.

"The lord does not involve himself with others. The elves learned to stay away from our territory long ago. It is in their best interest to admire but not to cross the line." The dragonkin that had seen the two at first had relaxed greatly.

Since Barry had shown that he knew the two and the dragonkin respected his power, they all relaxed. On top of that, the fact that Gil was able to stand up and speak about his connection with another dragon proved valuable. The dragonkin under Ignus cared about power and a great deal more than other dragons. Therefore, there was a small amount of respect for Gil formed.

"That may not be the case any longer. If you wish to learn from genesis then you will need to get along with the flame elves better. There are many things you may be missing out on. I am certain that the flame elves have very good relationships with the fire spirits. That alone should be enough for you to want to know them. The potential that has with true spirit forging is immense." Alma snapped a little at the dragonkin that didn't seem to be giving her respect at all.

"The Lord will decide that. I will stand by the word he lays down." The harsh response was enough to make Alma turn a little more red.

"The heat is getting at you. Better to take a breath." Gil whispered in Alma's ear. He could tell she was letting it get to her.

The shaking of stones that redirected their attention back to Ignus brought a brutal vision. Ignus had clamped his sharp teeth around the rogue dragon's neck and lifted himself in to the air. Ignus dropped the rogue dragon right before the waiting warriors. "Clean this trash up. Prepare to march back to the village."

Ignus looked down upon Alma and Gil before looking away and taking back to the air. He was gone in just a moment. "He does that doesn't he?" Barry was a little annoyed since Ignus had done the same thing when they were facing multiple rogue dragons. Ignus had flown away to deal with another without saying a word.

"It looks like he found another. I can see the burst of fire from here." Gil pointed out the faint burst of flames to Alma who was a little more lost. She had less keen eyesight than Gil did.

"Well, I hate to be the one to say this, but goodbye again. I will follow them to their village. Check up on Walker, Su, and Midnight. Stay away from the lava flow ahead. There are word turtle things in there that have long necks. They like to bite." Barry followed the leaving warriors.

"Hey Gil, they have two hatchlings with them. They are larger but definitely dragon hatchlings." Gil put the puzzle together in a moment. It was very clear to him who the draconic warriors would have dragon hatchling with them.

"This must be hatchlings they kicked from the nest and reclaimed. Walker will have to take them back to genesis with him. But that's still wrong. He was rude, threatened us, and still had the nerve to kick those hatchlings from the nest just to take them back to give them away to someone else." To say that Gil had hatred for Ignus was an understatement. He felt that Ignus was the worst dragon he had met yet.

"Walker will figure that out. He is using his strength to do that." Seeing that Gil was so worked up she decided to distract him. "I haven't seen you act like that towards anyone before. You even threw Walker's title as royal dragon around."

"I had to. How else would they know that they were messing with an important delegation? Walker told me that dragons care about their pride and tradition more than anything. He did make some of them turn their heads but they are still dragons. It makes sense that they would hold back with the threat of another royal dragon coming after them." Gil had used his head and just rolled with it. But the look he was getting from Alma made him wonder if he had done something more than he meant.

"Well, when you stand beside me and say those things...I can't say I don't like it. But next time, I want you to speak my titles too." The slight red face made Gil wonder just what Alma was thinking. But he silently nodded and started to walk away. The dragonkin warriors left behind were dealing with the rogue dragon and Barry had given them a warning of the path ahead. Now they just needed to make it to the meeting point with the flame elves and they could begin negotiations for an even better future.

Chapter 1367 1367. Lowly Positions

"Walker, what's that sound?" Su heard a distant noise of air blowing harder than usual. Her words caused Walker and Midnight to look up and behind them.

"I would say that's Ignus. And what he had in his mouth...a rogue dragon." The sight of a very large deep red fire dragon carrying a defeated rogue dragon was powerful. Enough for Walker to wonder how on purpose this was. "And I would say that he is about to land right here."

The thundering sound of cracking stone and sizzling lava was all the three could hear for a moment. Ignus came to a crashing landing while dropping the large rogue dragon. "Midnight, that is why you should practice landings. If you do that in Genesis, people will be very unhappy." Midnight responded with a slight growl. She took careful mental notes to avoid landing destructively.

"An uninvited visit. I hope you have proper gifts to make up for that." Ignus's voice growled out while Walker stood calmly.

"It sounds like you may have met the others?" Letting Ignus know what the gift was right away would be too easy. Walker also wanted to see what else Ignus had to say since he had suddenly come toward them with a rogue dragon to show off.

"The elf and archer had the nerve to stand up and speak directly to me. If the human warrior had not spoken up I would have flattened them without a thought." Now it was Walker's turn to be confused. "His name is Barry. Your village sent him to help with the clean up effort. I can not say it makes a difference. Yet, he can handle the small ones." This was as close to praise as the party would hear from Ignus.

"Yes, that's right. I didn't think that Barry would end up in these lands at the same time as us. I hope to see him before we leave. It's a good thing we decided to come with Gil and Alma. They are meeting the flame elves to speak about the flame elves coming to Genesis. And I am here to speak to you about that."

Walker's words seemed to Make Ignus shuffle. It was all too clear a sign that he was unhappy about them coming to invite him to genesis. "I have already been told that Mordant has already ventured there. I was told he encouraged you to come here, is that true?" it was unknown if Ignus was happy or angry about this. But his eyes narrowed while waiting for a response.

"Well, he wanted you to see the first iteration of fire affinity potions we created. They are the gifts I brought. He is currently using the darkness affinity potions along with a floor in the mage tower to better understand darkness elemental mana. I believe he is improving very fast." Saying this little tidbit was enough to make Ignus feel that he may be falling behind a younger dragon than himself.

"Explain affinity potions and why I should care?" Ignus spoke but had less annoyance in his voice. He even began to change his form to dragonkin form in a burst of flames. It appeared that his curiosity had been piqued by this.

"The alchemist guild produced potions that work using specific materials. These fire affinity potions are low tier but can boost your affinity for fire elemental mana temporarily. It will be great for training.

Remey actually came with us, I suspect she is hunting for rare high tier ingredients to make a high tier fire elemental potion." Walker watched this sink in.

Before Ignus could speak, Walker continued. "Mordant promised to trade with the alchemy guild and Genesis in general. This will help him get affinity potions, true spirit forging materials, and even build new buildings in his village. He really liked the style of the mansion I live in. He's staying there. Although, he said that he enjoys the food. I have to be careful or he may steal a chef from Genesis." This too was another temptation for Ignus.

"I see, so you have lulled him in to practically living there. And what of the hatchling she brought. How many?" Now Ignus was prying in to what Mordant had invested for this information.

"We can talk about this while we walk to your village. It will be easier for you to ask all your questions while getting home right?" Ignus just walked with Walker ignoring Su ad Midnight. He wanted answers so he could decide his actions. His fire had not died down in the least. The heat was very strong around him.

"He brought three. One weak affinity to darkness elemental mana. But that hatchling has incredible physical potential. He will be the guard of the alchemy guild. It helps keep an eye on the affinity potions that will leave. Also protects the herbs being brought in that Mordant supplies." Ignus glared at a dragon being a guard.

"The second is somewhat of an assassin. But very weak body. They will be the perfect map maker and scout. We have very high hopes for her. She should be able to help every merchant in the entire country." Still, Ignus wondered if a dragon should do such lowly things.

"Lastly, a unique hatchling with weak affinity and body had the gift of small appraisal. She is currently at an auction house appraising the most valuable relics. I believe she will become the best talent for appraisal the world may ever see. She has many years to master it, and then some."

"Lowly positions. Dragons should show their power. Not this." Ignus looked down at Walker.

"No. They are not. They are positions that they can exceed in. they will stand at the top of those positions where everyone will revere them. People will come to them for guidance and advice. They are equals who will use their skills to rise to the very top." Walker held Ignus's gaze. Neither moved.

Chapter 1368 1368. Fire Dragon Village

After some time walking, Ignus had gone silent. He grumbled now and then to himself about Mordant showing off and using the resources to get one over on him. It was very clear that Walker was watching a small tantrum from the normally fiery royal dragon. But to be fair, he had been caught off guard.

"Is that the village?" Walker had made out the black stone caves and buildings. They were extremely rough and many dwarves would weep seeing them. However, the heat that radiated off of the entire place made it clear that the looks weren't for no reason. They were influenced by the fact that the heat constantly warped them.

"It is. Feel blessed that you are one of the few beings that may enjoy the heat we have found here. The lava carries the pure fire elemental mana to different locations every few years. My villages need to constantly shift to remain on top of it." The warped buildings made a lot more sense now.

"It must be a challenge. Does that mean you are saddled with rebuilding the caves and homes constantly?" The time it took to move so many residences would be astronomical. Walker was still marveling at the Genesis building projects. To move a village constantly would take most of the man power that Ignus had.

"We have that stubborn earth dragon do it. They owe us for the crystals created here. There are many earth elemental crystals formed in the magma that they can't touch because of the heat. I just send my dragonkin to harvest them. It is nothing to us." Ignus acted as if the lava was the same as a warm breeze. Nothing to be concerned about.

"I see, I can speak with the dwarves. They may be able to come up with a moveable home made of rune carved stones. It could make your life easier." Walker was not going to just go and do it. He would bait Ignus in to such things.

"And why do you think I would need that? Terron needs what I have and provides what I desire already." The pushback was immediate.

"That's fine. If you want to watch the walls melt like that constantly when you aren't around to control the heat, that's fine. I won't ruin what you have going on. I just thought a royal deserved better comforts. I guess it will just be Mordant with a new home for him and his dragonkin." The words were too taunting and it caused a small burst of flame to emanate from Ignus. He didn't like being made to feel inferior to anything, let alone another dragon.

"When I come to your village you will show me these runes and potential buildings. If I do not deem them good enough I will burn your entire village to the ground." The growled words made Walker ease off. He couldn't antagonize and bait Ignus too much. There were lines that he had to keep in mind.

The center of my village is over the main flow from the volcano nearby. It provides the perfect underground magma river to place pure fire elemental mana where I need it." Ignus had walked the three in to the fire dragon village. He waved a hand out to show the space for meditation that he clearly used. "Your champion will use this spot to catch up while she is here. I will have it no other way."

Since Midnight was weaker than his champion, Ignus did take a little pity. A dragon champion should be powerful and one that represented the nature dragon royal should have powerful fire elemental strength as well as other elemental strengths. "Midnight, he has a point. Take advantage of it and train. Su, I know you trained your fire elemental resistance but you should do that more as well. Also, lose the bark you are chewing on. Train poison resistance as well."

Su had already been considering this. However, seeing that Walker was making a point in front of Ignus she followed the order at the moment. "Hmm, Not as different as I thought. You are studying the traditions enough to have underlings that follow you." Ignus had a slightly better opinion of Walker at this point.

"We can move to speak more in depth about Genesis and what you may need while I am here. I assume you have a cave to yourself?" Walker knew that Ignus wanted this already. It was more than clear that Ignus preferred to be in the warmest part of his village.

"Yes, follow me." The pair moved under the main black stones in to a cave. The bright flow of magma illuminated it and caused Walker to circulate more mana to avoid being burnt. No matter the items he wore, he was still feeling the heat. Ignus enjoyed seeing Walker start to sweat. It made him feel that even one considered to be the center of all elemental dragons was still unable to handle flames.

"So, what else do you need to know? I want every dragon to come to Genesis. There are problems easier to solve together than apart. Especially if the wyverns are becoming problematic. I already gave the information to Genesis council to investigate." Walker became much more serious.

"Longevity. You are human and I understand you may live longer with your unique standing. But I have seen cities change, move, and fall. Can you say Genesis will last?" The main crux of how Ignus felt was

plain as day. He could have all the feelings he wanted about traditions and Walker. But he could not commit to something that may fall in a few years.

"That's why I want the dragons, elves, and more. A united people that can live for many years together." Walker prepared another breath to go more in depth with his future goals for Genesis. Especially the demon lands.

Chapter 1369 1369. Odd Feelings

Gil and Alma had chatted for some time while walking away from where they had encountered the dragons. They were both still surprised that Walker was able to easily go head to head with Ignus. The power he had shown was enough to send anyone a few steps back. Even Barry had shown a little reservation.

"Oh, they don't look too good." Gil spotted two elves wearing red monster leather uniforms carrying thin throwing spears. "One has a broken arm. The other looks scratched up."

Alma made a simple gesture to send the enforcers with them to check it out. After a short conversation one returned. "The pair sent to meet us and escort us seem to have encountered one of the rogue dragons before the royal dragon dealt with it. They were minorly involved but say they are ready to finish their quest."

"Welcome to the flame elf territory. In the name of our king, we greet you." The two gave a slight bow as they approached.

"King? You have a king now and not a queen?" Alma couldn't help but speak out in wonder. The elves were not known for having kings. They naturally had queens for most of their historical past.

"Our great king gave up his name for us after the loss of our esteemed queen sixty two years ago. He has established tougher borders and brought the flame elves in to an honorable peace." The way the two spoke put Gil and Alma off. There was too much proper attitude regarding the topic but it could just have been a difference in culture. Therefore, they pushed the feeling aside.

"I am Alma, future queen of the forest elves and Genesis representative of the water and forest elves. With me is the hero title holder Gil, friend to the goblins, educationist, and an extremely important friend to the elves united under Genesis. I also have with me four elite enforcers tasked as my guard."

Alma raised her head high and allowed the blue ivy to wrap her arms giving off the mana she knew the flame elves could only respect.

"We welcome you. Please follow us to the hidden city. You have arrived during the perfect time of year to see the crag trees bloom." The crag tree was a tree that grew with extremely tough bark. It didn't need water and instead lived off of fire elemental mana. It could bloom in to literal burning flowers which slowly burned at very low temperatures until a single seed fell. This illuminated the flame elf city along with made up their homes.

"Before that. Come here." Gil handed the two a healing potion he had received from Remey. My fellow hero title holder Remey is an alchemical brawler. She made these potions herself. They should help you both recover your wounds." This act seemed to make the two flame elves relax greatly. They were unsure of who would be coming and their attitude. They just had their orders.

"It is a blessing to be given important items such as these. We will repay you before you leave.' The pair was very glad to see their smaller wounds healing. The larger bruises and broken arm were on the mend now which took a lot of stress from their shoulder.

Before long, Gil had begun to get them chatting. He was sure that he would be able to learn about their culture. "We mostly use thrown spears due to the toughness of the monsters here. They can lodge in to their skin causing more damage. But there was once a man that used large daggers. That may be the technique you are looking for."

"I will have to ask around then. I want to put the elven dagger arts back together. The elves have been divided too long." Gil's sudden admittance to his dream caused both flame elves to stumble.

"I agree, it may sound odd, but we desire to unite all people. The elves being one. The times of the high elves may return again. Elves used to work together before small disagreements tore us apart. I have read that much in history books." Alma made the two flame elves stumble again. The dreams of these two foreigners were stunning. The flame elves rarely considered the possibility.

"Esteemed guests. Please take a deep breath as we cross the seal." The land ahead looked barren, however, all of them felt the rune's mana. The runes placed used the natural steam and gas from the lava to create a similar invisible barrier to what the forest elves had.

Stepping through, Gil and Alma were blown away. It was very similar to the forest elves' homes. Large black and red trees grew from the ground. The large five pointed flowers that burned in soft yellow flames made the scene even more stunning. Many elves moved around in bright red and yellow attire. Some even caught sight of the new people entering and waited expectantly.

"Please enjoy the view. We maintain a very careful cleaning of the city to live in the best environment possible. I will bring you to the eternal flame garden at a later time as part of the tour. For now, I will guide you to the king's chambers so you may meet him and pay respects." Being proud of the city was an understatement. Every flame elf believed in the beauty hidden within fire. It was the same appreciation for plants that the forest elves had.

Gil felt Zephyr leave the bow and view the fire spirits moving here and there through the crag trees. They were also interested in her. But what really struck Zephyr as odd was the fact that there were only fire elemental spirits there. "Something is odd. There should be earth spirits in the least. Or more wind spirits to grow the flames. Be careful." Her warning was met with a nod from Gil before Zephyr decided to rest upon his shoulder to keep vigilant.

Chapter 1370 1370 Bad Intel

With Zephyr's warning, Gil began to look more carefully. The people he saw moving about were too perfect. Too organized. The worst part was, that the more he paid attention the more he noticed things standing out. There was not a market. The stalls open selling food were perfect and untouched. No one was stopped buying a single thing. they just wandered about.

Even more, when Gil began to look at people closely, they would step away and avoid walking past them. "Alma, look at all the fire spirits. There are SO many." Gil emphasized this, making Alma look around. She saw that Zephyr was defensively waiting on Gil's shoulder which was radically different from the free flying wind spirit she usually was.

"I know. Everything is so vibrant and bright here. The fire spirits really show off the flowers of the crag tree. I feel like your mother would love to grow them in her garden if it was possible." Her response was perfectly timed to respond to Gil after she had looked at the way everything had been shaped.

Normally, the forest elves would have mages moving around to tend to the trees they lived in. the crag trees should be no different. Yet, no matter how hard Alma looked she did not see a mage or gardener at all. This was extremely odd for any elven village. Even the water elves had underwater gardens they maintained before their unfortunate events with Lust.

The hall they were brought to had large black stone carved statues of flame elves standing tall. It was made so that the crag trees grew around the tunnel in perfect twisting branches. To say it was a work of art would be an understatement. For just a moment the two flame elves guiding the six were waiting for them to take it all in.

"Please, right this way." The hall expanded in to one large room with more crag flowers blooming along the walls. The large throne that was at the far end had a single elf on it. He was older than most other elves in the room but still young when it came to the terms of an elf. He had sharp eyes and stared down at them. Attendants sat far to the sides while some armored elven guards lined the walls.

"You stand in the presence of the honored flame elf king. Pay your respects!" An announcer spoke with force before the flame elf king stood to accept his guests.

"We are honored to meet with you and your people after so many years. It is a shame that we have been divided. Seeing the care you take in your city makes it clear that the beauty of nature is respected by all elves regardless of elemental affinity. I am Alma, future queen of the forest elves and representative of elves on the Genesis council. My sincerest well wishes from the forest and water elves."

The flame elf king was appearing to speak when he saw Gil step forward as well. But he was not going to allow this, "I am glad you received my letter. Please feel free to enjoy the elegance of a city tour after you have rested. But I do wish to get to the business we have long awaited. It has been many years and I can promise we have thought things through to great depth."

There was an elegance but a pride in the way the forest elf spoke. Not just Gil, but Alma felt their skin crawl slightly. But the reactions of the elite enforcers when Gil was obviously overlooked became tense. They slightly lowered their stature so they could move at any moment.

"I have sent a few of my scouts to the outside world. Many things have been changing and I had to ensure safety. It is already evident that the dragons have been more active. I have to care for my borders after all." The chuckle the flame elf king had further put them on edge. It wasn't malicious but off putting.

"News of your achievements was a surprise and I thought to myself, what a wonderful thing to do. It is only right that the elves return together under a powerful leader. The other races coming underneath that same leader is a testament to that." The information the king seemed to have put together was not all correct. They could see that clearly.

"That is why I sent a letter. I can not sit aside any longer and pretend that I do not hold a vested interest. I can see by your attendant here that you have anchored the human race as personal guards. A very fitting position for them. Defending the elegant beings that stand for nature is honorable and will surely allow the world to bless them." The elite enforcers became much more tense. But Gil did not lack a backbone.

"I did not have the chance to introduce myself yet. I am Gil, hero title holder, friend of the goblins, educationist, founder of the archery academy, and a member of the Omnipotent adventurer party. My family consists of many, but one such is the royal nature dragon Walker. I am pleased to meet you here today with my fellow representative Alma." His words sounded sweet but they could cut like a knife.

"Comedy is not a strong suit for the humans. How unfortunate." The look of disdain from the flame elf came and went quickly. "Since you seem to need to rest and calm yourselves after a trying journey I will be blunt." The flame elf king paused while still looking down.

"I have extended a hand so that the future forest elf queen may join me by my side. I would take you as my bride so that we may properly rule the elves as it should be."