

## **Master 1391**

### Chapter 1391 1391. Quality Forging

"Mordant, I hate to break it to you, but I would say that the hatchlings are asleep." Walker thought that the hatchlings were watching carefully at first. However, just like Midnight, they liked the warmth and had fallen asleep standing up.

"You understand that the age of these little ones requires a great deal of sleep to assist them in their growth." pretended that it was just normal but Walker could only hold himself back from laughing. The entire situation was a little too comical.

"I would say your dragonkin are doing well but it seems that they have been pushed to the limit. But that might be the fact that the wandering blacksmith is a beast of his own. He had stayed awake for days straight working on projects." Walker remembered one of the very first times the wandering blacksmith had forged in the mansion. He had been up for multiple days making preparations alone.

"There are many traits that the dedicated have. I can see those that this one possesses clearly. I would like a closer look." As Mordant approached he saw that there was a darkness elemental spirit working with them as well. As the wandering blacksmith tapped with a chisel, Midnight heated the metal and the darkness elemental spirit drew dark elemental mana toward them.

"Yes. It's the true spirit forging." Walker saw Mordant start to turn to ask for the name of the technique even though it was clear he already knew. "The spirit has to willingly help with it to bring in the specific elemental mana. That way it is perfectly shaped to allow the elemental spirit of that affinity to dwell within it. Of course, the spirit that created it will be more comfortable, yet, that is not a limit. Any darkness elemental spirit can dwell within that short sword."

The weapon that the wandering blacksmith was working on was not extremely different from anything else someone could make. The materials were basic steel while the darkness runes were a mix of draconic and his very own. The true spirit forging seemed to just be extra compared to what it seemed the wandering blacksmith was working out.

Besides the fact that the darkness affinity dragonkin all carried short swords or long daggers as their main weapons, the wandering blacksmith seemed to be experimenting. The runes were clearly newer in relation to the runes that most people used. Walker saw some similarities in the runes generally used along with the mage tower runes. The wandering blacksmith had taken the time to retrace some origins of the darkness elemental runes.

With those origins partially mapped out, the wandering blacksmith had been able to better add the draconic runes to the blade in proper form. The result was a powerful absorption of darkness elemental mana. The speed was already showing itself above that of regular runes or regular draconic runes. Mordant was already showing his teeth in a smile at this. It was beyond what he expected.

"It looks like you have been hard a work." The wandering blacksmith had waved for Midnight to stop adding heat with small bursts of black flame breath. This was a sign that the wandering blacksmith was moving on to the sharpening and polishing phase. Therefore, Midnight was free.

The response was a proud growl while Midnight turned to look at the hatchlings who had started to snore. She looked further to find that only three or four of the dragonkin were able to handle the long term forging. Some had passed out in the middle of forging something.

"We came to see how things were going only to find that most have been worked to the end of the line. You have been here for a while from the looks of it too. Nice work." Walker patted Midnight's head as she took the chance to sit down and relax. The wandering blacksmith had been at this for more than a few hours. Walker had finally found the table behind them covered in small rune carvings and daggers.

"Twenty three partially finished daggers, swords, and flat pieces of metal with runes. This is all from one session?" Mordant watched Walker nod. "Then this is truly the best work I will see yet. I wish to see how this all ends." Mordant was more and more energized seeing this creation.

The darkness elemental spirit moved out and floated by the darkness elemental spirit helping the wandering blacksmith. Before their eyes, the two began to pull in greater amounts of darkness elemental mana. Walker had not considered having multiple elemental spirits assist a true spirit forging creation. In theory, it could improve the item even more.

Mordant approached closer by a half step when the darkness elemental mana reached a pique and flowed in to the short sword. The runed glowed in an odd dark shadow before the to darkness elemental spirits retreated. Mordant's partner watched and waited as the wandering blacksmith moved toward another table.

The sharpening and polishing were done at a ridiculous speed that proved how well practiced the wandering blacksmith was. Mordant just clenched his fists in excitement. This was something he had

wanted to see since he came to Genesis. It was even one of the things that had been top of the list of reasons to come to Genesis at all.

Walker looked at the finished product and found that it was definitely higher quality than the others that had been tested before. Even the swords that the wandering blacksmith made previously with better materials might not match up to the current version because of the new hybrid runes.

"I have seen many weapons but this one is beautiful. No fancy materials, just simple perfection." Mordant found himself in love with it and wished he had taken the time to learn swordsmanship. But he was a royal dragon and did not need such weapons. His entire body was his weapon.

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Chapter 1392 1392. Perfect Prototype

' shadow blade dwelling sword

+7atk, increased darkness elemental damage

This sword has been made using a hybrid of draconic and original runes. The knowledge used to create it is extremely refined over many years. The materials are basic but the runes strengthen the short sword well beyond what it would normally have. The bonus of increased darkness elemental damage comes from the addition of draconic runes which are better suited to attacking than defending or absorbing elemental mana. This sword has the ability to house a darkness elemental spirit. When a spirit is dwelling within they have the ability to coat the sword's blade in shadow to increase the attack range.'

Walker read the appraisal out loud and saw the wandering blacksmith start to scribble on blueprints nearby. He had been testing things to make this prototype. But it had ended up much better than he imagined.

"It can have a darkness spirit dwell within while also providing additional darkness attack damage. But what's this about draconic runes being better for attacking? I did not know this was a possibility for runes." Most people did not know that runes were separated for their uses. However, it was easily understandable to someone who specialized in rune carving.

"I would say that the dragons use their mana to assert their dominance in battle. The runes created over the years mirror this. But the runes made by the elves are focused on gathering mana while also defending things. The runes used by the dwarves are focused on defenses and strengthening the materials. I've managed to learn that much at least. A hybrid rune would be best for most things. But weaker in all aspects to gain a well rounded item."

Mordant was extremely impressed with the knowledge that Walker had. Out of all the things he had seen Walker do, Mordant had not truly seen Walker use his knowledge in a variety of aspects at once. Runes dealt with mana, elements, and even the ability to forge. Walker, being a master of none, was truly being exemplified in Mordant's eyes.

"Then I will need to begin to look at my armor. My proper battle armor." Mordant appeared to be much more serious. The shadows seemed to dance around him and every single dragonkin regardless of how exhausted stood up. It was muscle memory from their harsh training. They were all in battle stances awaiting an order.

"If you want to have such a thing made, then you will need to do better than play with shadows. The wandering blacksmith does not take orders unless he is interested. Even I could never force him to make a single pin if he didn't desire it." Walker nodded his head toward the wandering blacksmith.

The look in the wandering blacksmith's eyes showed a deep fire that was better off left undisturbed. Whether the wandering blacksmith had power or not was without concern. But having the will to resist any pain or power used against him was another matter. This unyielding will was why the wandering blacksmith had not stayed stagnant in his pursuit of new materials.

"I am willing to bet my pride on that. I will find the best possible materials and see if he can resist it." Mordant was acting much more like a domineering dragon than he had as of yet. But he instantly pulled back his mana. The appearance he was giving off was too much and had woken the hatchlings who felt a potential conflict.

"Midnight, I think now would be a good time to go and find Su. If I remember right she asked the adventurer's guild to clear the coliseum. She even got Scylla's permission to spar with the dragonkin warriors." Walker knew it had come at a cost. Scylla had snuck her warriors in to the arena battle too so that she could watch them improve against insanely powerful opponents.

"You want those three to watch battles? That is another interesting thing for the day. Mordant was like a child being offered their favorite treat. Constant entertainment and mystery could keep him wondering for years.

"Did you forget that Genesis is filled with endless potential? Don't you want to see everything that these hatchlings will learn?" Baiting Mordant in to more and more connections with Genesis was proving too easy for Walker. He almost felt that he was doing something cruel and addictive.

"My warriors will crush any that attempt to face them. They have the speed and affinity to beat your guards, adventurers, and friends." Mordant was too energetic. Walker felt that he may have started the wrong battle. But the wandering blacksmith, on the other hand, seemed happy to see them leaving. He wanted to return to his next project.

"My sword." These two words made Mordant place the shadow blade dwelling sword on a table. The wandering blacksmith was not letting it go. This wasn't his best work. He saw tiny flaws in his runes. He saw too much wasted material. He saw something he had not mastered yet."

"Don't work these dragonkin to death. Just leave them hanging right on the edge." Mordant nearly whispered this but saw all of his dragonkin craftsmen react. They would gladly give everything to achieve what their lord desired.

"Sorry for the interruption. Let's get moving." Walker waved slowly while Midnight pushed the hatchlings out the door in front of him. "And Midnight, those three will need to watch carefully. This is the first time they will see a lot of different people fighting. They will learn a lot." Walker didn't let Midnight forget this although he already knew she would take it seriously.

Moving to the coliseum was a little premature. It was still being finished. Luckily, the main battle arena had been done for some time. Many people had already attempted to train there to have a better understanding of the main field they would challenge their opponents on.

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Chapter 1393 1393. Different Dragonkin

"You call that a hit! Weak!" Su was blocking attack after attack from the dragonkin warriors. They had strength but compared to some of the hits from monsters, Su felt they were lacking power.

"Don't even think you can sneak up with shadows!" The real reason that Su wanted to train against Mordant's dragonkin warriors was not the fact that they were tough opponents. It was the fact that they could sneak around in shadows made by the moving sun.

The lack of power compared to some other dragonkin warriors came from the fact that the darkness affinity led the dragonkin on a different path. They would focus on more assassin like tendencies. Whereas Ignus's dragonkin or Current's dragonkin would focus on battle strength.

The dodging required to keep up with their movements should have been the biggest challenge for Su. However, the more she fought against them the more she became used to it. The movements were carefully trained so once Su had memorized a lot of their moves, she had started intentionally moving to block with her twin shields.

"I said hit harder!" The taunts went out one by one causing more of the dragonkin warriors to attempt to strike her. It was the perfect training to learn to counter groups of monsters in the wild. Especially since there was the potential that the party may end up in the ancient ruins to meet the immortal king again.

"Midnight, go and show them what you can do." Walker saw the intense stares of the three hatchlings as soon as they sighted Su battling it out between the dragonkin warriors. Midnight did not even pretend to want to hold back either. She immediately used the shadow wrapping skill to join the fray.

"I thought that there would be a difference in strength because of the high reliance on shadows and elemental affinity. But they really seem to move like shadows." Walker knew that the best route was to compliment Mordant about his dragonkin's abilities.

"I see that. They have been slacking off and they should work harder. They didn't even stop when I walked in. How can they be so distracted by training?" Mordant feigned being unhappy watching his dragonkin battle to their best abilities. He had not seen them take such focus on physical battles that didn't only rely on using the shadows to their advantage. This was different in a very good way.

Midnight's roar pierced everyone's ears before her tail slammed in to Su. Naturally, she had managed to sneak up while Su was blocking another attack. Because Su had been distracted by the dragonkin and did not expect that Midnight would mix herself in with them, she was knocked over and rolled to her side. But that did not put her down.

"Who taught you to be so rude and sneaky! I will teach you a lesson today Midnight! It's my job as your family!" The intensity of Su's emotions showed brilliantly. Walker had not realized just how hard she had been trying to get stronger. The fact that she had stood up and gotten right back in to the battle proved it many times over.

Midnight had clearly been through this before. Walker had just not seen this battle between them enough. Midnight and Su would let their instincts take over during their one on one training. This pushed them further. Yet, at this moment, they were against the darkness elemental affinity dragonkin. They had more than each other to worry about.

A single clawed hand lashed out towards Midnight causing her to use her wings to jump and dodge. The dragonkin warrior had used the shadows to move with silence behind her. The only reason that Midnight had caught on was the fact that she had been focusing on her skills to sense the change in mana. Walker had recommended this so she had done so.

"That's an easy target!" Su taunted then immediately shield bashed the dragonkin that had snuck up behind Midnight. She did not lose the chance to stun them with a taunt and beat them down. The dragonkin may not have the same strength in attack power as other dragonkin warriors, but they were still plenty durable.

"Do you three understand the way Midnight is moving? Her wings don't just need to be used to fly. When you develop yours you will be able to use them to dodge. She didn't have to jump because she had her wings. That leaves here open for..." Walker trailed off as Midnight perfectly illustrated his point. She had used her wings to get height then slashed down with her claws. The attack was perfect for the hatchlings when they began to develop their wings.

"And see how she pulls at the shadows to make it harder for her opponents to come behind her again. She learned during the battle. If you can not do that then you will be an insult to every dragon." Mordant chimed in to help educate the hatchlings. It was unexpected but they three listened very well to his words.

"Oh, watch this, Su is going to use a good attack." Even Mordant didn't know what was coming so he watched just as intently as the hatchlings.

Su stomped her feet down then pushed off in a shield charge. This would have been normal except for the light elemental mana that formed a shield around her slammed together twin shields. The attack charged all the way through four of the dragonkin warriors and was narrowly dodged by Midnight.

"Midnight dodged that one instinct. It was close but look at her footing. That is what makes trouble." Su split the shield as Walker spoke and Midnight fell. It was a swift movement that came from a lot of training. "Now watch what happens when you add a wild card like me." Walker chuckled as he pulled the twin blitz swords from his storage.

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Chapter 1394 1394. Opposing Elements

"You two look like you are getting tired. Let me jump in to help." Walker rushed toward Midnight and Su. He had the twin blitz swords to improve his agility along with the lightning swordsmanship. The appearance of him on the battlefield was enough to make the dragonkin worry.

It was extremely rare for a dragonkin to have to battle against a royal dragon. The occurrence would often mean there was punishment or something worse happening. But now, Walker was smiling while striking out at Su's shield. The clang that echoed around snapped all of them back to attention.

"Come on, why are you all so slow today? Just because you were warming up doesn't mean you can't get more serious now." Walker was copying the taunts that Su had been using. He felt that it would be more fun to get a little more chaos in to the mix of what was happening.

'The skill taunting tongue had been taken from the great shield system. The user has learned the skill taunting tongue from multiple taunts used along with witnessing high class taunting skills.

Taunting tongue- passive

The user is able to make their words sound more annoying to an enemy. The user is also able to attract attention using their words from further away. The enemy will respond with rage if they are properly taunted with the correct words. The user must use their mental strength to enhance the taunts.'

The skill was not very impressive unless it was used with strong wit. That was why Su was able to use her taunts so well. There was no mana needed for it, however, it could have great effects to trap an opponent in their own emotions.

Midnight's roar came out from Walker's right side. She saw that Walker was right there to challenge her and she wanted to show him what she was made of. Naturally, Walker liked this and started to push himself further. He wanted to show off some of his skills while also pushing Su to do more than just dodge. He wanted to see the resistances that she and Midnight had been training.

"I might be using a sword, but that doesn't mean I can't make flames too!" Walker was issuing his grand elemental manipulation to pull at the torches along the arena walls. It was the best way for them to add ambiance to the battle, but also the best way for people who can manipulate fire elemental mana to attack easily. Walker would address that issue later, but for now, he had a rain of fire preparing.

The flames encased the twin blitz swords. While Walker pushed his lightning swordsmanship harder, the small bursts of lighting showed around him that wouldn't do damage to anything. However, adding the flames made him seem very dominant in the arena. So much so that Midnight was instantly thrown back by the slash heading towards her.

It wasn't that she was afraid of the damage, she knew that Walker would not attack her with the intention to do harm. What she felt was the radical change in temperature that came from colder air coming in to contact with hotter air. The reaction had caught Midnight's wings causing her to be pushed back. Something that Midnight had yet to encounter in her time flying.

"Su, Midnight, you trained against fire right? What do you think about your cold resistance? Can you handle it?" Walker was smirking. He wanted to show off the ice dragon's domain skill to Mordant while also using the opposite of water elemental mana; fire. If he could use both, he would be demonstrating the balance some dragons would have to learn. The balance that he was able to achieve and educate on from first hand experience.

"What cold. You think you can make things colder here? I won't even shiver!" The taunt from Su hit the mark. Walker could feel himself get more annoyed. It was strange since he had just tried to taunt those around him. He felt he had been flipped on his head.

Su and Midnight knew what would happen. When the dragonkin saw that they were backing away from Walker, they did not even dare to miss the hint. Walker, on the other hand, sent a large burst of wind around him then gathered the water elemental mana as fast as he could. This required him to pull the eternal orb in to staff form for speed, but it was better that way. The twin blitz swords were easily stored away temporarily.

With a large burst of water elemental mana, Walker slammed the eternal orb staff form down upon the ground. The water elemental mana caused ice crystals to form and the air to become chilling. Not just the small arena that the group trained in was affected. The arenas set up throughout the entire coliseum had been frozen to some degree. Many found the challenge annoying while some were ready to brave the added training.

"He seems to be showing me a few things on purpose today." Mordant saw through the reason that Walker had actually begun to battle it out. Since he had said that he had worried about the mixed blood dragons learning how to use their opposing elemental affinities, Walker had shown the change of heat and cold with water and fire elemental mana.

"The fire elemental mana evaporated the water in the ground while he gathered it faster. I wonder if I can force the shadows to oppose light and create a blinding effect that's not with my darkness." Mordant felt slightly inspired by trying to use his dark elemental mana to manipulate the light elemental mana. It was not a path many would travel in their goal to purify their mana.

Meanwhile, the dragonkin found themselves with a whole new challenge. They were looking at a royal dragon in human form. A monster above any that they had imagined. It came with a deep respect that only the dragons or dragonkin would have.

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Chapter 1395 1395. Remy's Motivations

"Remy, what do we need to do?" Onyx had checked on the hatchlings only to find that they had been constantly sleeping to absorb more light elemental mana. Their days had been filled with an attempt to grow with Ibis there to care for them.

"Well, first things first. We need to prepare the herbs that we have. Walker dropped them off and they are not even close to being properly dried and cured." The fact that the brunt light leaves still had moisture in them was fairly amazing. They had grown in such a tough environment where heat would evaporate everything.

"What do you recommend?" Onyx was a novice when it came to alchemy or herbalism knowledge. Everything he had heard had mostly come from Remy.

"That's simple. I have skills that help dry them properly. Add the alchemy fire from my partner, and we have it done in half an hour." Remy was very proud of this and set to work pulling the leaves from the crate they had been stored in. She was extremely careful not to break them.

Separating them in to different qualities was also a must. Since Remy had been careful to show Onyx the difference in quality, she had mostly mature burning light leaves. The few that were too only or too young would be used in lesser potions.

"Now we wash them in water that has been boiled. The boiling process kills anything we can't see living in the water. The trick is passed down to every alchemist because if the water isn't boiled and cooled the right way, mold might grow on what you wash later." This trick was used for food and many other places. Some people didn't have the skills to purify water without boiling it. Therefore, this was the best method for cleaning most things.

Remy lit the flames with the help of the alchemy fire spirit. She noticed that the fire was a little more powerful than usual but that could have just been the fire elemental crystals used as fuel. She had to avoid using wood to boil today since it could more easily catch the burning light leaves on fire.

Onyx watched carefully as Remy used her skills to add heat then pull it from the water. The way she moved was well trained. Part of Onyx was actually jealous, he felt that he had trouble controlling his body to such a strict level. "Remy, do you move that way because you have practiced this often or because you are a brawler?"

"Hm?" The unexpected question was not one that Remy had expected, but she answered honestly. "Both, I have watched the old man do this more times than I can count. But I have fought with my siblings, anyone that made fun of them, and even sparred against trees so I could get stronger. It sounds dumb, but it made me who I am..." Remy trailed off remembering the days.

"You know, my last little brother and sister moved out of the mansion this morning. They both unlocked their systems. They are going to be sailors. Apparently, they saw a small boat in the merfolk and water elf side of Genesis. They touched it and then they had a system. They found someone to teach them that day."

"Then it's a good thing I'm not going anywhere. I would hate to lose an older sister like you. And if you tried to run, I am bigger than you, so." Onyx could tell that Remy was both happy and sad. She had achieved one of the major goals of becoming an adventurer.

Since she had come to Genesis, every day her siblings from the orphanage that had journeyed with them had found their path to walk. It made Remy feel that her feet were being pulled from under her. However, it only gave her the time to push for her dreams. For her to continue to ensure that no more would lose their families. Especially the demons who had lost them due to cruelty.

"Onyx, do you know how I became an orphan? What happened?" Remy was not one to look for pity. She had never spoken of this at all. It just wasn't something brought up in conversation.

"Apparently, before I could even open my eyes my parents were moving from another village to come to the city. They wanted to make a better future around a safer place than a small village. Can't say that's a bad idea. But out of everyone that left with them in a caravan, myself and four older siblings were left alive. They never told me what monsters attacked because they didn't want to talk about it before they got older and left the orphanage. It doesn't matter though. If none of that happened I wouldn't be Remy the alchemical brawler, master of the alchemy guild, hero, and older sister."

Remy's hand fell roughly on Onyx's head. She struggled to maintain her composure before refocusing on the drying leaves. Neither of them needed to say another word. Onyx was filled with more motivation to help than ever. This led him to move right next to Remy and use his tail to fan the air helping the leaves to dry.

"Next we will use your control of dark and light elemental mana to maintain the balance while I create a base potion. The materials will be simple until they collide. The two separate base potions will be mixed with these leaves to balance it. From there we will use a few special methods the dwarves came up with to create light and darkness affinity potions. But we will use my skills to make you a balanced potion of light and darkness."

Remy couldn't say if this would be successful. They had gathered enough leaves to try fifteen times. But with their motivation and focus, she didn't doubt they would succeed before the tenth attempt.

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Chapter 1396 1396. Overboard

"You kids will make me look weak if I do not come to join you." Scylla stepped foot on to the colosseum battle arenas. Every single person battling or training felt the atmosphere change as a hardened fighter appeared.

"Who said I wasn't waiting for you to show up to get serious?" Walker held the twin blitz swords with flames burning around them. The ice was crunching under his feet as he moved around Su.

Su on the other hand was matching Walker's movements. She was noticeably worn out because she had only been able to block the attacks from all around her. She had purposefully taunted more and more opponents so she could find her limit.

The goal of those specifically, was to test her perception. She could block Walker and Midnight when they teamed up. It was tough and she would find herself being attacked at odd angles causing her to work harder. But the dragonkin warriors were still more predictable due to the way they used the shadows.

"Now I would say this is interesting. I know more about you, general Scylla, than I let on when we first saw each other. Current spoke highly of a demi-human with ancient monster bloodline traits. You hold the blood of a monster only recorded by the most ancient records we have and even they deem them to be mythology. You hold the blood of the great sea monster Scylla."

Mordant couldn't hold back any longer. He could feel the battle energy around him paired with Walker's draconic skills. The fact that Walker was rubbing his face in the balanced elemental manas while attacking with them caused Mordant to get even itchier for a battle. But there was a line he could not cross. He was too strong.

If Mordant were to fight anyone there, he would come out on top in a mere handful of moves. It would be less fun than anything he could possibly do. After so many years of training, Mordant had reached a point where the only beings that could go against him were fellow dragons. It was part of being an ancient dragon.

"Scylla used to be known for the leviathan heads that she used to attack ships. The hounds' bodies that grew from her waist. And the massive storms that she could conjure with the movement of her massive body. You look nothing like that, but I feel your strength. You have long left many others behind in your pursuit of strength. I would say you even remind me of a few others in this city. You won't fall easily."

This was extremely high praise. The dragonkin warriors that had come with Mordant were without words. They had never heard their lord speak with such certainty about another being's strength. Even when he spoke about fellow dragons, he would put them lower because of his own pride as a dragon.

"As you can see, I do not have multiple heads or hounds that sprout from my body. I may have the ability to make such hounds out of water when in a certain state, but for leviathans," Scylla spread her arms and her leviathans swam through the air around her in their smaller forms. "These are both leviathans and myself. We were all born across the continent and in the ocean at the same time. We are unmistakably bound together at the soul."

When it came to uniqueness, Scylla exceeded most people. She was a demi-human who had been through hardships with a very powerful bloodline. On top of that, she was born divided. She was not one being but multiple with their own minds. However, she was whole now making her extremely powerful.

"Wonderful, then I permit you to face me in a battle of five moves." Mordant set this limit for the simple reason that they wouldn't destroy the elegant coliseum he admired. The dwarven craftsmanship mixed with the demi-human plans produced a wonder that Mordant envied.

"You said we create storms? Right?" Scylla and the leviathans whipped out at the same time causing a massive burst of wind and water to rush toward Mordant. He sunk in to the shadows dodging while the water collided with the coliseum wall. Cracks formed but the coliseum did not break. "Hm, I will need to ask the dwarves to strengthen the earth runes."

"Impressive. I see you can easily mix the affinities. What do you think about the darkness?" Mordant tapped a foot and a large blade of pure shadow jumped up falling toward Scylla. She twisted aside watching it hit the ground and melt back in to the shadows as if it was never there.

"The same way I feel when we have a downpour." The water that Scylla had stirred up from the ice fell around her. The leviathans opened their mouths and directed it at Mordant in a flurry of water drops able to pierce tough armor.

"Brilliant use of your water. Almost as good as my use of shadows." Mordant pointed and shadows wrapped around Scylla and the leviathans like chains. She couldn't move an inch.

"You said five moves, little dragon," Scylla growled as she used her mastery skill. Her words echoed off the coliseum walls while she fused with her leviathan counterparts. Her size increased, shattering the shadow chains.

"Truly someone worth knowing," Mordant mumbled while he faced a true opponent. Scylla on the other hand knew that she was abusing her skill for something that she shouldn't. But she was making a point. The hounds formed from water while the leviathan heads whipped out water bullets at Mordant.

"A single powerful roar echoed through the coliseum making everyone freeze in their tracks. Walker was standing beside the three hatchlings with an earth wall that had cracked in to pieces. "Tell me why you two have decided to get out of hand in my city!" While the two returned from the over excited states of mind, they realized just what they had allowed themselves to do.

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Chapter 1397 1397. Reprimand

Walker stood in front of Scylla and Mordant. He was not at all happy with how fast they had allowed themselves to begin to lose their mentality. "You both may not be used to having proper opponents. I understand that. But you, are a royal dragon. You let yourself get so caught up in a potential opponent that you fully relaxed. And you, are a general in charge of representing the demi-humans. How could you challenge an ally so easily with your mastery skill? Don't even tell me you were going to keep holding back. I could see the look in both of your eyes. Five moves was about to become a hundred!"

Walker's annoyance was very clear. He didn't want everyone to look at him as a strict and domineering person, however, if that was what he needed to be to maintain the peace within the city he would do so gladly.

"My actions within the coliseum are justified. However, I can see why you are unhappy. I may have harmed the younger generations and for that, I will take responsibility. You three are welcome here to train when you are prepared. I will personally arrange whatever you shall need." This was saying a lot. Many people could ask Scylla for training but only a few would ever get it with the little time Scylla had free from her duties.

"I was holding back very much. It was an interesting experience to see someone capable of battling me in my dragonkin form. If I had used more effort I would have reverted to my original form. I understand that it may cause you problems. Allow me to amend this. I will send some unique resources to assist the building of your coliseum." Mordant took a much more rehearsed response. This was not an unusual occurrence when dragons met strong opponents.

Yet, Mordant did understand that he had nearly allowed harm to come to hatchlings when using his skills. That would have been an insult to the very purpose for being within the walls of Genesis. He could have undone the work he put in to learning true spirit forging for his people. He could have lost a lot of potential for growth within his villages.

"Walker, the hatchlings are fine and you can relax now." Su knew that Walker was letting himself get too worked up. She knew very well how Walker felt about anyone getting harmed within Genesis. It was actually a good thing to see this though, she would be able to better stop him when he let his emotion start to take over.

"I will, Midnight seems to have calmed them down as well. And Mordant's dragonkin are well enough. Minus their exhausted looks. They were not left unscathed from those attacks." The dragonkin that Walker was looking at were on the fence when it came to how well they looked. They had been hit by some of the attacks making them worn out.

However, the true defenses of a dragonkin were showing. Even though the darkness affinity dragonkin did not boast the strongest defenses, they had easily withstood the blows. It allowed Walker to understand the relationship of dragons and even those that possess an extremely small amount of dragon bloodline.

"I see, they have slacked too much on their physical training. I will ask you to remedy this for me. I can see your warriors over on the edges of the coliseum arenas perfectly resisted your attacks." Mordant had been watching the demi-human warriors out of the corner of his eyes. It seemed to him that they were used to Scylla going a little harder on the training.

"I could arrange that. I have a few personal guards that have very tough bodies. They can deliver some hard hits that should help your warriors ignite their physical strengths." Scylla appeared to grin evilly. The training plans she had were nothing but brutal.

"And neither of you stayed on your thought process of holding back. If you start another sparring match, then I will ask you both to leave the city for it." Walker was not going to pretend that he would be able to stop them if they ignored him. The only reason that they had stopped was the surprise that Walker had roared like a dragon. Such a roar was one that could not be easily ignored.

"I think it's about time that we go and see Ignus," Walker spoke at the same time Mordant seemed to look up at the sky. They had been able to sense the incoming powerful fire elemental mana nearing them.

,m "Another royal dragon? Should I come to greet them?" Scylla flexed her hands wanting to see another battle. Another opponent.

"I wonder how you have the energy for that. You used all of your mana the last two times I saw you use that mastery skill." Walker wasn't sure if he was impressed or unhappy seeing how easily Scylla had been able to regain her strength.

"I train very hard to use the skills I have. Things are not as easy for us as they are for you. We are not able to learn things at your speed. But that is alright. I can still teach you a thing or two." Scylla laughed slightly at Walker shaking his head. She started to step in to the air to head toward the main square in front of the Genesis building. That was the place that Ignus was sure to land.

"We are heading there too. Su, Midnight, get there with the hatchlings as fast as you can. There will be two fire dragon hatchlings to meet." Walker knew that they were coming with Ignus. From the way Ignus had acted, he would not have allowed them to be brought by his dragonkin separate from him. He wanted to see Walker's words take form before his eyes while he was in Genesis.

Chapter 1398 1398. Ignus Lands

Walker still felt it was amazing seeing the large dragon that Ignus was. He had many more characteristics than Mordant did due to the difference in affinity. It also radically changed compared to Current who was more streamlined and less bulky. The difference between all dragons was hard to discern without seeing their forms clearly.

"Now that looks like someone I could butt heads with." Scylla could tell that any attacks using water elemental mana would prove fruitless against Ignus. However, that did not mean that she wanted to push against that thought process.

"I swear, if you even try it." Walker caught himself before he started on another rant about appearances. He felt like an old man watching a bunch of children.

"Midnight, keep the hatchlings back a little so that they don't get themselves in to trouble. The two hatchlings coming might be a little older than them." Walker wanted to ensure that everything would work out well in the end. He didn't want Midnight to play peacemaker. She had to teach them to live in Genesis and find their own paths. Not to keep from fighting all the time due to any differences they may have.

Ignus landed with a rumble that was stronger than any other dragon that had landed before. Walker was already manipulating the earth elemental mana to fix the cracks in the streets or else he would hear it from the hard working dwarves that had built it.

"You are faster than I expected. Welcome to Genesis." Walker looked at one of Ignus's talons and saw two very silent and still hatchlings. In the matter of a single burst of flames, Ignus had changed to his dragonkin form to stand in front of Walker with the two hatchlings by his side.

"This is slightly larger than I believed your village would be. I do enjoy this landing area. It is made very well for my visit." Ignus thought that the square had been made just for him to land. However, Walker was not allowing that to go on.

"This is the main square outside of the Genesis building. It will take a little time to call a meeting of representatives to meet you. Until then, how about we have something to eat?" Walker had yet to eat properly. He also knew that Mordant had been eyeing some of the street stalls.

p "If you offer him food immediately upon arrival you may not have anything for winter." Mordant didn't even take time before antagonizing Ignus.

"From the shadow that has been stealing away food, I think that means nothing." Ignus stood taller cursing the two hatchlings beside him to shudder slightly.

"Those two seem to need food as well. Midnight, Take care of them while I speak to Ignus. We have a lot to discuss between the three of us. Su, I will trust the meeting to start with you. You know what I will do when I introduce Ignus." Walker knew that the hatchlings needed space and an examination. Leaving it up to Midnight was the perfect way to get it done. He also trusted that Su would quickly gather everyone to speak in the meeting room.

"You have a banquet set up for me I assume?" Ignus was not going to accept just anything, however, both Walker and Mordant were heading away from the large building that they were near.

"Hurry up. We are showing you the best spots to get food. I have spent hours being guided to these stalls. I assure you they are better than the plain roast meat you have in your village." Mordant did not even falter. He too was a glutton for the mixed spice foods that Genesis had brought together.

Mere moments after hesitantly following the two in to the market road, Ignus found himself overwhelmed. The scents of foods cooking and being prepared were extremely potent. To a dragon, the scents were much stronger than it would be to a human. "There are a lot of people here but this is the market road. The main stalls and shops are on this road. I recommended those smoked chicken skewers over there. They are made using the trees from an elven farm and the techniques of the dwarves." Walker moved to purchase three skewers for each of them. He had placed his in his storage to share with the hatchlings later.

"I am willing to ignore the foolish greeting. I did not maintain my schedule. Yet this is not right! A mere street food with whatever this is-" Walker cut Ignus off. With the help of Mordant's shadows, they stuffed a skewer in his mouth. It was not elegant in any form but it was the best way to counter the stubborn fire dragon.

"These people eat things like this every single day. Even Walker's mother creates things like this. For a human, she has a wonderful choice of food. I would say that the food we have eaten has been garbage by comparison. We all must raise chefs in the future." Mordant spoke as if he was an expert in cuisine. The relaxed attitude caused Ignus to begin an internal battle. Tradition against the desire to eat more.

"Just don't think about it too hard. You are my guest here so you do not need to follow traditions so strictly. You are living the laws of Genesis while you are a guest here. It means you are equal and walk among the citizens of Genesis. But it also means that I will thank you for your help with Gil and Alma. Now come cash in on the foods I am buying you." Walker used the internal confusion make a few points to Ignus.

"Since you are repaying my kindness then I shall accept it. Do not expect me to fall in to your ways." Ignus spoke but had eyes darting to the other food stalls. He had been hooked.

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#### Chapter 1399 1399. Tempting The Dwarves

The change in Ignus as soon as he was offered food he had never even imagined tasting was the same that Mordant had. They were both much more interested in things once they had discovered that there was such a potential within Genesis.

"This is why you came here so early?" Ignus made sure that Walker wouldn't hear his conversation with Mordant.

"There is much more than you think here. It may go against some of our traditions. However, you will feel much more free to pursue your own strength here. How many times do you need to stop your growth and fall in to the same boring routines because of traditions that can no longer empower dragons? This place does not force that upon us. There wasn't anyone forcing us to follow them. It was just how it has been for generations." Mordant had reached his own conclusions.

Genesis had done one thing. It had offered the dragons another route to expand and travel. A path that their race had not taken due to their pride and taught tradition. This new path was a curious temptation that Mordant had already accepted. Sure, there would be some traditions that would never die. That was respect for the past that created their race.

"I see. It angers me that we would forsake our traditions. My father ensured me that he would show me how to be a powerful dragon above all others in the lands of fire. The question is, will I achieve a greater position than that by joining here? Can my villages grow without the constant requirement for guidance?" Ignus asked his questions without any desire for answers. They were the same questions that Mordant was mulling over.

"They should be ready for you now. We can introduce the representative of Genesis to you.' Walker knew that the pair of royal dragons would eat much more if he allowed them to continue to look for new things. "Tonight we will eat at my mansion. I will offer the same to you, If you like it we can speak to the dwarves about having one made. I am considering asking for something to be made for any visiting royal dragon in the future."

The idea to have a new mansion built was simply because he knew the royal dragons would be coming to use the mage tower elemental floors. There was too much temptation there for them to give up. They could become stronger faster without having to hunt down the naturally occurring places with dense elemental mana of their specific affinity.

"That is a very good idea. I will support that. I will not share the space though, it would be in opposition to my rest." Mordant was already pushing back if he would have to share.

"It shouldn't be the case that all of you are here at once. That is for the royal dragon court. I can easily set up a plan for all of you to visit in rotation though." Walker knew that genesis would be unable to handle every royal dragon as it was.

"As I said before. This is the Genesis building. The main governing building of the city..." Walker found the tour and introductions to fly by very quickly. The representatives had come quickly and met Ignus. Scylla had drifted off to the Genesis building when Ignus had gotten there making it easier for her to give everyone a heads up about what they may face along with Su who had even more information.

Ignus did not show any negative expressions. He was interested in the events that happened with the flame elves and the conclusions drawn. He even offered the basic records he had of his territory which really surprised Walker. Their experiences in his territory had greatly improved Walker's relationship with him. So much so that Ignus was not letting his fiery temperament get in their way.

"I want to see your blacksmith. I want to see that man I once met in my lands. I desire new armor." Ignus knew exactly who the wandering blacksmith was. He could smell him. A dragon would rarely forget a scent.

"He is testing the hybrid runes that work with draconic and what we have begun to call origin runes. I have sent a significant amount of mined materials to him from the current mining project to create a road to my city." The king of the deep caves remained present when the introductions had finished. He wanted to speak to a dragon that could potentially offer the best forging flames for the dwarves.

"Good, there will be a substantial need for materials. I have this armor for my dragonkin form but lack proper armor for my dragon form." Ignus was planning to have the wandering blacksmith design the armor and teach his dragonkin to create it for him.

p "That would be a very costly project-"

"Cost is nothing. I have stores of valuable materials. I can offer steel and gold forged in magma fires. You know that gold forged within the heart of a magma pool is no longer the same as the ringgit you use as currency. It is powerful and absorbs an immense amount of mana." Ignus knew exactly what he had of value and how to use it.

"If you offer even a handful we can get you any materials you need for such armor. We will even forge them in to ingots for easier transport to your blacksmiths." The king of the deep caves became very happy and proper. Walker wasn't even sure who he was looking at. Ignus just nodded in approval and handed a small ball of gold. The purest gold Walker had ever seen.

"This is what I brought for payment. It should be enough." Ignus turned away. He desired to see the wandering blacksmith immediately and Walker knew if he did not guide him then would just follow the scent until he got there.

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Chapter 1400 1400. Gold

"Why do you have so many shops? I see at least ten blacksmiths here. Four merchants with various trinkets, and many food sellers." Ignus did not fully comprehend the way the markets worked. This was not a normal occurrence within the dragon culture. They would work for the village and not sell anything.

"We have them from multiple cities. They bring the goods of every race associated with Genesis so that they can trade and mix cultures. The forest elves had water spikes which help the fields attract water during the hotter days. This was great for the demi-humans who have an abundance of food. There are crops brought from the demi-human farms that can't grow here. Dwarves bring high quality goods and tools. Merfolk bring ocean related materials and goods. And one day the demons will bring things as well. Don't even get me started on the goblins and grey haired spider. Their contributions are small now but will grow infinitely."

"I have seen them here and there. The world ensured that all knew of them becoming a proper race. I can not fight the world." Ignus had some distaste for the fact that monsters were being recognized as equals to other races. Yet he could not argue since the dragons kicked from their village fell and became monsters.

"We hope that the harpies will become a race recognized by the world soon. It just depends on how soon they can stand alone without the demi-human support they have now. I have seen the harpy queen a few times but she is very reliant on the help she receives. But I have a feeling that it might change when she chooses a successor." Walker could only imagine Elise helping Stella to become a harpy queen one day. It was a fun thought to have.

"That little shop there has small charms carved from simple wood. But the runes on them are different from ours. They focus on mana gathering. I have seen those runes taken and used by the dwarves here. It is experimental but very useful." The difference in runes was something that Mordant would chat with Ignus about later. However, it was worth mentioning at the moment since Mordant had visited the shop and place an order already.

"I have noticed that there is a greater density of mana here. I can see that tower is the cause. The mage tower you said you have. I will explore that later. I do not wish to ruin that experience if I will remain there for a longer period of time." The way Ignus saw it, was that he would spend too much time there when he got to the elemental floors Walker had described. It was better to see other things first before fully focusing on fire elemental mana purification.

Walker knew that the dragonkin in the forge would still be exhausted. However, he was opening the door regardless. "You are exactly the same as when I saw you by the river of lava" Ignus looked at the wandering blacksmith who raised his head from a pile of blueprints. The rune drawings on them were all experimental.

"Sorry to bother you again. Ignus wanted to come and make a request for blueprints that could be used by the dragonkin that come to learn from you." Walker would have finished his sentence but Ignus took over with obvious excitement.

"The armor you made me is still very functional. I am here to ask for armor that can fit my dragon form properly. It is a very large project which is why my dragonkin will create it from your guidelines. I have enemies coming from over the ocean. The dragons will need to be at their best." Walker knew this was the preparation that Ignus wanted to make for when the wyverns made their way to the mountains.

"There is no immediate threat. This is preparation." Mordent ensured the wandering blacksmith of this before there was a major rush. It would keep the learning smooth and without any additional stress.

"The dwarves have already been paid for materials and I shall play you with this as well. The gold forged within the magma pools. Only someone like myself can reach in to such depths for this." Another ball of gold was handed over to the wandering blacksmith. He knew exactly what it was.

"Lava forged gold

This is the rarest form of gold on the planet. The gold that is condensed and melted naturally within massive lava pools has amazing properties. Unlike regular gold, it is not as soft. It also allows for tremendous amounts of mana to flow through it or become stored within. This makes it the best possible materials for filling in rune carvings. Very few pieces of this gold is found and used properly.'

Since Walker had not seen something so valuable before he was very impressed. The fact that this could greatly improve the mana flow of runes and store more mana was spectacular. However, just because it was tougher than normal gold, did not mean it was ideal for armor. It was easy to guess that the runes carved with only the lava forged gold could be damaged.

While Walker considered this, Ignus was going over the design he wanted, Mordant was carefully looking through the stacks of darkness hybrid runes. He was very impressed by what the wandering blacksmith had come up with. Many flat sheets of metal had test runes on them allowing Mordant to see how well they gathered mana. Some that clearly broken because of the high amount of mana they drew towards the metal without proper control.

"I'm surprised you aren't asking for armor now." Since Walker knew this was in Mordant's mind, he had to ask. Walker was about to regret asking the question though...

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