

## Master 1571

### Chapter 1571 1571. Missing Mana

The high priest was moving as soon as Mordant had been set down. He had the highest quality skills that could discern what might be wrong with someone. Unfortunately, his face formed more and more wrinkles. He was clearly becoming stressed.

Alice was also moving. She had many ways to search for issues but from what she saw, there wasn't a scale out of place. "Walker.." Her question was already clear. She wanted him to take a look and tell her what he saw.

"If this isn't normal then there might be something else to cause it. Where is the grand elemental spirit that has been with him? Is he around?" The dragonkin warriors pointed right at Mordant.

"So he is in the spirit mark too?" The nodding heads of the worried dragonkin were clearly saying that this had been the case for some time. "That's not right. Mordant and his partner were not that close after the additional memories from being apart from him. I know they would both have been getting to know one another again. They would have stayed meditating to get on the same page."

Since Walker knew that the spirit wouldn't have dwelled within Mordant right away for a long period of time he felt that there had to be something wrong. Something wrong with both Mordant and the elemental spirit.

"Walker...is it the mana?" The mana that everyone had used during the meeting of elemental spirits had been higher but it was not something that should be causing issues.

"Coming through! Coming through!" Remey nearly knocked the dragonkin out of the way. She had been contacted by another dragonkin that had run for the alchemy guild as soon as Mordant fell down. This was because she would be able to bring the best potions in the fastest time.

"What did you bring? Mordant has a high fever and doesn't seem to be absorbing mana well." Walker didn't hesitate to report what he knew. That was all though. It was not much but enough to start on.

"That's what I want to know. The dark affinity potion he consumed should be working. I check it while coming here and I have no adverse reactions even though I lack a dark affinity. That means that

someone with the affinity would benefit. I should have felt a negative side effect if the potion was made wrong or if my body rejected it. There was nothing like that." The panic Remey had at first was that her potion had somehow become a poison.

"Then it's not the affinity potion. You two kids need to evaluate his ability to absorb mana. Walker, take my hand. I will be introducing my mana mixed with a healing skill. Use your all around appraisal and see what is happening." The high priest had seen healer's identification skills.

These skills were rare even when it came to healing. Mostly because when it came to them, they were particular about the illnesses or injuries that healers had. Some were even specific to one part of a being's body. "My skill can check the entire body, but I do not have the mana to fully analyze him. He is a much stronger person than I am. Your mana should help me make it through."

The pair took hands and placed their other hands on Mordant's chest. The mana that circulated while Walker used his skill gave them a very strange answer that they could not understand.

'Ancient Darkness dragon (Mordant)- Mana sickness

This is an older darkness dragon known as an ancient dragon. They hold some of the most power of their species and affinity. They have great potential that exceeds what most would imagine and can even ascend to the darkness plane of existence with proper training.

Due to the spirit mark and their relationship with a grand elemental spirit, they have absorbed purer darkness elemental mana. This has caused the adjustment of mana in their body. Unfortunately, the mana is not able to balance with the mana in the world surrounding them. The elemental spirit has fallen dormant due to the imbalance.

The balance must be restored to properly release the built up pure darkness mana. Until then the mana will be attracted to the ancient dragon causing negative reactions...'

There was a lot more information going on about the strengths Mordant had and what other things he had about him. But Walker had focused on the specifics that related to why Mordant was having issues with mana. "Are you seeing what I am? The mana is the problem. There is too much pure mana entering his body without balance. That shouldn't be the case. How could there be an issue if we just balanced the mana in the world?"

"I am seeing that his body naturally absorbs darkness mana. That's the same for anyone with the affinity. But a dragon is much faster at it. And I also feel that this mark on his scales is increasing that many times over." The high priest could see that this was not a good thing at all. It was much more than should be happening to anyone. "There are also blockages of pure mana holding it in place. It's like the mana wants to remain separate."

There was a rumbling as more commotion happened outside. Remey, Alice, and Walker were already on the move while the high priest and Onyx watched over Mordant.

"I knew you would all be here at a moment's notice. Mordant fell ill. He is having problems releasing mana to balance what he is absorbing. It has to be something with the elemental spirit. But that's not normal. The mana should all be balanced." Walker was desperately trying to sense what might be wrong around them. From his point of view it was all normal.

"Wait, where is Current." The other dragons had all rushed there. They were standing silently because they knew Walker had more information. However, Ventus saw the missing person easily.

"He should be here, how could that smug bastard think anything else is more important." Ignus was ready to fall in to a rage and chase Current down.

"Here...I am....here." The weak voice that greeted them was a pale looking Current.

"Don't tell me you are like this too?" Walker pushed himself to get next to Current immediately.

"No, I don't have an issue like that. It's like my mana doesn't want to react with anything. The elves are the same. The water elves can't gather mana. The water mana can't be gathered!" His response was shocking enough to make everyone stunned. This wasn't an issue just with balance but specifically with water elemental mana.

"What do you mean water elemental mana? That's not...water elemental mana?" Terron tried to respond but slowed his thinking. He was having trouble placing the water elemental mana in his memories.

"I know that water elemental mana exists. It does. I know your village resides close enough to mine. I look over it. You have many elders and young dragons. You were at the royal court. But I can not discern your mana." Rise finally spoke. Out. she was slightly shaken because she had never had such an experience.

"That's the problem! Water elemental mana isn't balanced! Why is it not balanced? The meeting of the grand spirits should have fixed that! I know that the water floor in the mage tower was....was not occupied." Remey reflected on what she had seen. "Why is there not a water grand elemental spirit? How did we not realize that!? We didn't actually balance anything but the world even responded saying that the quest was done." Remey was getting more and more worked up by the second.

'World Quest: Missing mana

The world has been greatly deceived. The balance sought by the meeting of grand elemental spirits has been attacked. The grand water elemental spirit Luna is remembered by history. Powerful figures related to the balance of mana will receive this quest

Requirement: find the grand water elemental spirit Luna and return balance.

Reward: Language skill, System adjustment, words of the world,'

This was a major quest. A major event that was drawing many beings in to a search for the grand water elemental spirit.

"The world remembered. This is a big deal." Walker mumbled. He was thinking that things must be worse than he realized.

"We must fix this. All of you must fix this. Every single water affinity being is suffering right now." Current understood why this was an issue. The other elemental manas had attempted to balance themselves. The problem was that the water elemental mana was being forced away because it didn't have an equally powerful force to bolster it. Now they were seeing the results.

"Just what could make us forget that though? How could we not realize or even remember there should be a water elemental spirit until now? Even the world was fooled..." Remey was angry but more confused than anything. Walker could only fall in to deep thought himself.

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#### Chapter 1572 1572. Rough Waters

"We just made it here. Su and I were at opposite ends of the city." Gil had felt the sudden weakening in Zephyr and immediately went looking for the others. Something like this was not good at all. He also had a strange sense of worry that was putting him on edge even though he didn't know the source.

"Good, we were just about to send for you. We have a problem. Everyone forgot about water elemental mana. Specifically, the water grand spirit." Walker was sure that Gil and Su had the same quest that he and the other royal dragons had just received.

"We must act now. In some way." Terron felt that they were not acting; he wasn't sure how but he needed to defend Mordant. The dragons were not some weak species that fell to something like mana sickness. A dragon could never have too much mana.

"If we rush in to this, the flow of the wind may shift in to tornado that only turns us back on our problems." Ventus tried to calm Terron a little. Unfortunately, Ignus was exasperating the situation by having the same feelings.

"Terron is correct. We must act and tear this spirit from wherever they are to properly balance the world." Since Ignus had heard of the event with the fire elemental spirit and felt the mana, he knew that someone should be able to find the water grand spirit.

"I can barely sense the water elemental mana anymore. It will not react, it's moving away from us. It's like something is taking it away and bottling it up." Current felt that there was more to it. However, he wasn't sure what the more was.

"There's no way that so much mana could be taken away like that. It's not normal. There should be some way for the mana to flow. It doesn't just get taken and disappear..." Su felt that she had just touched on a very solid topic. An idea was forming.

"This is just like that time. Mana being taken. People falling to illness because they are losing or can not control the mana they have. It's a little different but it's the same." It had taken one glance for Walker to understand what Si was thinking. Remy and Gil gave each other a look before they nodded.

"Come with us, we have an issue that can't be growing in the city. We had it guarded but it might be the cause." Su was taking the lead in this. She had to defend the city. Her energy seemed to be growing even though she could feel her strength in mana waning.

"What is this? You are hiding dangerous secrets here?" Rise was not happy to still be in the dark. She knew that there was danger here. She knew that Mordant could perish because of this. From what she saw, Walker was acting as if he had solutions already but was hiding it.

Moving through the city, the royal dragons constantly asked questions but received no answers. Instead, they saw the humans before them acting more and more serious before they reached a wall with iron gates. "The guards are still here so it might not be this." Gil had a sliver of hope but felt that it would be too easy.

"Sir Walker, what is your business here today." The guard that stopped them was on edge because of the dragons that came with Walker. However, Walker just waved a hand to move. His determined expression proved that there was a major reason for them to be there.

"This is the courtyard where the Demon, Greed, is sealed. We were able to fight and seal him but he was able to steal away mana. He controlled it as his own causing those around him to fall ill. He is immortal from what his title does. He is also obsessed with taking everything as his own." Walker pointed out the petrified statue.

"It's here." Current felt that his very heart was being pulled out with the mana he had in it. He fell to his knees as soon as he saw the statue ahead. Floating above it was a translucent blue shape. One that dripped water down on to the statue constantly.

"The Grand elemental spirit Luna is trapped by Greed even though he is in statue form and sealed. How can this-" Su was cut off by a swirl of water that kicked up around her. She was not sure why but the water directly pushed her away from the statue as she had approached.

"Stand away. You are interfering with nature by stopping the flow of what must be. You did not purify but sealed away the mana here. It is not the flow that should be." The voice that rang out was enough to make them all stand in silence.

"You are the Grand water elemental spirit Luna. you were trapped by Greed!?" Gil yelled the question loudly but received a scoff in reply.

"The flow of the waters can never be tamed. They move with the rise and fall of the mood. They flow with the desire to carve nature in to the earth. This is not what is intended. I will cut away the corruption of the world and free this being. Do not lay a hand on this. Your corruption shall not continue."

"We sealed him because he was taking all the mana. Sealing it within himself-"

"Nature spirit human. I can feel you. You are the one that sealed this Greed you call it. You were wrong. You must use the water to purify such things. Call on the elemental mana you are bonded with. But instead you desperately cried out and sealed it away. You panicked in battle. I can see it all through this one." The sudden lecture made all the royal dragons immediately fall in to anger.

Their fellow Royal dragons were suffering because this grand elemental spirit had halted itself here to fix a sin title holder. A being that they had been fighting. What was this?

"Stop your anger dragons. You do not understand. Generations of growth and you still cannot flow with nature. This being here is not some devil sent to claim the world. They fell victim to their Greed. I can see their memories. The water can tell all. You should know that." Current was still weak but his eyes widened.

"Water has the power to communicate in any way. To show others the hidden connections in the world." This whispered explanation made Walker feel somewhat off. He could tell that Current had been taught this somewhere. However, it was more of a rule. It felt like water was more deeply rooted in certain things than others.

"Walker, this spirit is trying to wash away the sin's title. It's... written in the teaching of the previous water dragons. There used to be a royal dragon that could purify even the most tainted ground with water. They were the most powerful water dragon in our history."

"You are correct. That was my first friend of any race. The dragon that asked me to teach it how to cleanse the world of suffering. In a time when even you dragons were not strong. You lacked homes. That dragon asked me to teach it and I did. But you have not grasped his words." the grand water spirit seemed to be shifting until finally, it took the form of a young girl.

"I will only teach one more. I have chosen to clean this one from his title. Bring him back to the world and the system he was born on to. If you assist, I will grant you a single lesson. If you deny, then leave me to my work alone." Walker could clearly see that the water alone could not do anything here. The grand water elemental spirit was feeding too much water elemental mana in to the statue. "Fleur, can you hear me? Can we do anything?" Walker felt that he wanted to argue. Shout at the spirit. Yell his questions at here to make a point that she was hurting more than helping. However, he also could tell that she was showing them a chance. A chance to free someone from their cursed past.

"I have no idea why the memory of you faded or why you made this decision alone. But Fleur, my partner wants me to help you so I will do it. If Greed escapes, we will not hesitate to seal him away again." Walker surprised everyone. They didn't believe that he would dare risk something so great just because a grand elemental spirit was angry with them. But Gil, Remey, and Su understood. Walker had promised himself to free Greed from an endless life of desire somehow someday. It was not Greed's fault for becoming this way.

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#### Chapter 1573 1573. Breaking Greed

"What do we do?" Remey stopped everyone by asking a simple question. "What do we do to help you? If you are telling us you can remove and fix him instead of sealing, then tell us. What do we do?" The question should have been asked sooner. There was a grand elemental spirit with answers to the problems that were happening, a spirit that could answer their questions later.

"That is the attitude you should have instead of coming another blockage of flow. You will join me with my equals. Only the proper fusion of elemental mana within this poor being's body can free them from the pain they carry. Then it shall flow away and bring them back to their intended flow."

From what Walker was hearing, the sin title was given to Greed for some treason. But the title had been a curse of sorts that the world had given. Not a blessing. "Remey, good job." Walker had refocused when he heard Remey. This was simply because she was able to put aside her other focuses and fears of this sin title holder going rampant again.

"You are missing my equal of darkness. Who will pick up the mana and raise it to equality?" Luna was a water spirit that demanded things to proceed as intended. The flow of nature and flow of water were the same in her eyes. It was the grand understanding she had come to by becoming a grand water spirit.

This wasn't all, she may have been younger out of the elemental spirits, but she had stood alone much longer. The other elemental spirits met each other. They had interacted. But Luna had not done so. She waited for nature to bring them together without the impending and changing the flow. This was the pure ideal she lived.

"I can manage that." Onyx slithered out from the direction of the cathedral. He had left Slice to maintain Mordant. He knew that he had the elemental affinity to make the shadows do what was needed.

"Then one that holds the blood of the ancients may join us." This surprised everyone again. Luna recognized that there was such a monster in front of them at a glance. It told them all she knew more than they expected. She remembered more than they expected.

"Come on." Su was already standing next to the statue of Greed. Luna had floated back to allow them all to take a space.

"We will help as well. One of our-" Ventus had started in before she saw that Current had already moved forward.

"I may be weak at the moment, but I am Current, the water royal dragon. I should be able to bolster the water here." Luna just glanced and nodded at him. This was of no issue to her. A grand elemental spirit without a partner was going to be held back by the others. She had to have a small back up to manage the same.

As much as everyone wanted to ask questions, or even fight this act, they could not. Gil was clearly biting his lip on the matter. The attack of Greed had caused a lot of people pain. However, he had to accept that people would have some issues if they didn't do as Luna desired. If they didn't properly bring the elemental energies and grand elemental spirits together that had falsely joined before.

"We are ready." The mix of mana was already growing. Even though the other grand elemental spirits did not show themselves, the spirit marks showed that they were involved.

"So I must bring the elemental energy together within Greed's statue? That's all?" Walker wasn't sure what he was doing but could feel the natural mana that had caused the seal. He knew that he was directly interfering with it and was having a hard time trusting that Luna was correct.

"You must. You are the center of mana in the future. It will flow to you regardless now." Luna seemed to be looking ahead in time. It made Walker wonder just how great the flow of the world was. How great the understanding of a grand elemental spirit could reach if they focused on the ideals behind their existence.

With a deep breath, Walker reaches out and touched the statue of Greed that is now being bombarded by mana. The immediate response from the world is enough to tell that it is what should be happening.

'The world remembers, the dream walker.'

Mana converged on the group draining them of their energy while the statue seemed to shift faces. No longer was Greed a demonic monster. The statue was changing in shape. The obsessed eyes that were carved in madness had become calm and soft. The shapes of claws and scale on the body smoothed while the horns that had been turned downward shift in to a high up point. It was a totally different being.

'The records of Greed; the punished sin have been removed. Return, Dream walker. Bring your power from the abyss and revel in your lesson.'

The world seemed to speak with Fleur's voice as much as the system. It was a great feeling that made all of them understand that these sin titles that forcefully brought out these beings' negative traits were a punishment. That not all titles were considered a blessing. There were curses but those were grave. The titles that had negative effects were deserved and to teach.

With the united mana, the rest of the statue fell apart revealing an old demon standing a head shorter than most. His robes were a sandy gold while his facial features were soft. The sands that reached around him lowered him on to a bed of sand while he slumbered.

"I think I went too far." Onyx collapsed on the floor with a soft flood. He had used mana that was well out of his control but he had managed to do so through power of will. He had seen that Walker needed him. His family needed him. He had to do so, so that he could be one of the city's guardians. He had to

do so to help others. Onyx was not someone that could allow others to suffer, he had learned this from his family. They all cared.

' The title, Altruist has been granted to the Abyssal serpent Onyx. The title has been given because of the pure intention to help even at the cost of their own suffering. An altruist that helps in their every day life to teach and shine upon others.'

The world saw that Onyx was the only outlier of the group. The dragons were powerful. The partners of elemental spirits had strength that allowed them to act here. But Onyx? He was not a being equal in age or in mana that should have been able to assist here. Yet he had. It was not the actions of a hero that threw their life at an enemy to save others. It was the act of someone who purely wanted to help those around them to achieve their goals and dreams.

"I will rest, it has been many years since I rested. Many years since I was required to purify anything." The water condensed around Luna. The grand elemental spirit was suddenly encased in a frozen crystal that clinked on the ground.

"It went dormant?" Ventus had used a lot of her mana with Gil, they were the two wind elemental beings here. But she was stunned that the water spirit they had rushed to find had one such of these things. Had used all the mana they possessed to help at this moment.

"It feels better." Current felt that the mana control over water had returned to him. His body was warm but his exhaustion took him.

One by one. Walker saw the others seemingly passing out. He only grasped that the golden sands that made up a bed for the demon that had once been Greed were moving. The sand was in the air. The sand floated here and there making the entire room hazy.

"Was this too much or did we mess up?" there was a fearful tone in Remey's voice. She had pushed them to move to action and she feared that she had made them all take the wrong decision. A decision that had brought them all in to danger. Potential the entire city.

"I will..make it...right..." Remey collapsed in to slumber while the others followed. None of them knew what was happening.

"Welcome to my dream." The voice was soft and warm. It was also the last thing that Walker heard before his eyes closed as well. But it was not darkness that greeted him. It was far from it.

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Chapter 1574 1574. Foggy Dreams

Fog. That was all Walker could see as his eyes adjusted. A plane of fog covering dark green grasses for all the eye could see. "Welcome." The voice echoed through the fog. Walker could only spin around realizing that the others were all standing in the same situation as him.

"Where are we?" The grand elemental spirit Luna was floating idly next to Walker. She seemed to be formed again even though Walker knew she had gone dormant.

"Asleep. Just as I am right now." The calm and cool voice that responded was Luna. She was clearly happy to be there even though her body was not real.

"How can we be asleep?" Ignus was about to start in a rage. This was a foreign place with off mana around them. He also could not feel the fire elemental mana as he normally would be able to.

"Do not worry, you are safe." The first voice that had welcomed them came again as the fog shifted.

Appearing before them was a golden table full of foods that Walker had never seen. "Sit with me as I create my dream. Dine with me as we learn together." The voice came again and no one had any idea what to do. They were all glancing at one another with lost faces.

"Why should we bend to these demands?" Rise was finally opposing what was going on. She felt that no one should be able to tell a dragon what to do.

"I mean you no harm young dragon. I have invited you all here in appreciation. For many long years, I have been plagued by my own greed. By the very thing I thought drove me to protect my values. Unfortunately, I was rewarded for being true to my one single value over all else. It was a curse of my own making."

The echoing voice came from right in front of them where the golden table had formed. Chairs formed as well, one being was sitting in a chair staring at them with half opened eyes. The face of Greed was much softer. It lacked the demonic features it had gained through its corruption. Through its greed title.

"Please, sit. I will tell you a story of a foolish king trying to build a foolish kingdom." Su and Remey were holding each other's hand trying to keep a hold of their worries. It was clear that they feared that Greed would somehow change back and attack them.

"Gil, be ready to fight in any way possible." Gil just nodded with Walker's order. Onyx slithered around Walker's shoulders ready as well.

"No dragon will follow a weakling's demands. You will kneel and state your-" Terron was cut off as the fog enveloped him. He was gone in the next instant. Instead, he was able to be seen standing in the field far away from where they are now.

"Just because you are within my dream does not mean I will allow you to be rude. That is not something I shall tolerate since I have properly returned. And little dragons, you are the youngest of the beings here that are not elemental spirits. However, I am older than most." The weight of the situation finally fell on them.

"Our minds are here and that's all. Correct?" Since Walker was able to discern this fully he was prepared to try and learn a skill to resist.

"You are correct. This is my dream. I invited you with the sands of slumber that made up part of my body. It has been too long since the sands covered me and I lost my abilities. Since I locked them away out of fear that they would be taken."

"I also must apologize. A water spirit such as yourself spent a lot to free me from my self made curse. I even made the world forget you for some time. It was my grave mistake. I hope to properly atone for that." There was genuine sadness in Greed's voice as he looked at Luna.

"All must return to the flow of nature. You deserved to be free and return. It is a title the world gave you but the world allowed me to find you. That means you are meant to return to the flow pure of your sin. Pure of your past foolishness." There seemed to be a warm breeze as Luna said this.

"Let's sit." Walker made the first move. Ignus, Rise, Current, and Ventus were the only ones that remained standing.

"It is up to you." Greed waved a hand and the fog around them swirled in to a rough landscape. One that had only dried grasses and mountains. "When I was born I found nothing. I had nothing. No power. I could only dream of having more. Therefore, I slept. That was my first foolish mistake."

The fog changed again in to many monsters being defeated and taken. The great s used and radiant weapons showcasing power. "These dreams were all I had in that wasteland. I wanted them and I gave in to that desire. By the time I developed battle skills I was putting entire hoards of monsters to slumber. Defeating their minds and enslaving them while gathering everything I could."

"I absolutely needed them to make my dreams reality. I no longer desired just one thing but all my dreams to be reality. That was my second foolish mistake. The third came when I found other demons. Where I do not know my birth, they came from elsewhere. I do not know their history but I copied them. I began to take them to my kingdom."

"Mine was not the only one, the monsters tried to come near but they failed, I had stopped them and others with wings came. They did not stay. They saw my desire to entrap them and left. I was stolen from. Or so I believed at the time. My final mistake was giving in to my values. The value that I needed to own the world to be able to achieve my dreams. That Was the day I received the Greed title. My personal curse."

"From then I was not me. I was no longer a dream walker. I was a curse upon the lands. I stole from all and made it mine. I changed forms. I even took pain. I took it all as my own. Bolstered my madness. That was until the winged race returned. They came with many and used mana I was unable to steal fast enough."

"Hundreds of them fell to my greed. Those that did not chain me up and dropped me in a hole. I was trapped until I felt a hand breaking away the stone that covered me. From there...I was worse than

before." The feeling around them was becoming darker. Almost as if the dream would become a nightmare at any moment.

"From there you became a general of the demon lord. Followed his will and helped form a kingdom under him. You owned him and let him do the work for you so that you could revel in your possessions. Then you came to take another city. And I sealed you again." Walker finished what Greed had been saying. He felt that he had attributed to what had come to be.

"Yes, but the water found me. I accepted every ounce of that purification. My mind had been somewhat found during the second sealing. I am unsure why but the world was whispering to me. Asking to return the dreams I had taken. I accepted." the world seemed to interfere more than any of them expected. Especially in the case of Greed.

"Please look at me, this is who I truly am. For what I have done, I do not expect you to accept me. But for now, you may call me sandman, the dream walker. The one that creates fantasy. The one that lives within the eternal slumbering woods. Born of peace and hope."

The titles that came out were not just titles. They were descriptions of who this dream walker was. Reasons that he had for being. It was a very big part of who Sandman was.

"You are a lot more than Greed. You are welcome to atone in Genesis as long as you can promise no harm. Promise that you will forsake Greed forever. Become the opposite. Become someone to look up to." Walker knew this was a dangerous offer to someone who had fallen in too easily before. But everyone deserved a chance at redemption.

"For that, I will be grateful. I never thought my mind would return and I would be able to look at the world through my dreams yet again. I am already blessed with too much." The table was silent as everyone began to absorb what they had heard.

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## Chapter 1575 1575. The World Changes

As Much as the being in front of them was Greed, it was clear that this was no longer the same person. The title of Greed had exasperated the thing he had let guide his life for too long. So much so that it had consumed him.

"So many years I was not even myself. So many years it was like living in a fog." The very fog that was all around them seemed to shift at this. There was a silent but saddening air around them. Mourning the lost chances.

"I can't even tell you how I was living. How I was acting. I can't remember it all, just the desire to take for myself."

"Was that really some title then? Did the world actually reward you?" Ventus had been contemplating this for some time. She was sure that the world had actually cursed him. "You say that the world gave you a title, but was that not a curse? Were you not cursed?"

"I wish it was a curse. I would be the same as the demon lord. Cursed to forsake his humanity and become a demonic monster that only cares for power. The power to control the world as he sees fit. That is what drives the one that became my possession at one point. That could walk around even though I constantly took mana from him."

The shocking words were enough to make everyone want to jump up. They had not received such specific information about the demon king at all. This was something that showed off the power he truly had over many.

"So the demon king has the power to resist a title that made us so weak..." Remey's voice trailed off as she felt a pit in her stomach. However, it was soon being filled with fiery anger. The flames of desire to be strong enough to combat such an existence that had the goal to harm others.

"We won't be letting him control anything. Whether you had a title or a curse, you are different now. You will make what you have done right then you will be able to help us fight that demon king. If it was a title, then the world would not do so for no reason." Since Su felt that the world was always looking out for the best of all within it, Su felt that there were hidden meanings in the Greed title.

"I agree. The title I had showed me the worst of myself. I was too weak to control myself and caused harm to the very place I came in to existence in. the slumbering forest doesn't even exist on this plane of existence after I damaged it. Now it lives within the in between of spaces. That is the price for my sin. I accept that I lost many years to it. Now I will fix that."

The fog started to swirl around all of them. It seemed that there was less and less they could hear of Sandman's rambling. The dream walker was losing the ability to hold them in his dream. It wasn't that he was trying to send them away, but Walker could tell it was a lack of mana. The person named Greed was gone, and with it, the mana he stole. Now he was the same as everyone else, his mana was limited.

Jolting awake, Walker found everyone else on the ground awakening too. He also saw that the sands had become a bed of golden sand. A perfect place for Sandman to rest and recover. The crystal that was the dormant grand water spirit Luna also sat upon a sand pedestal.

'The world has found the missing spirit. Nature turns as intended.'

The shift in mana was as if a lock had come undone. Walker felt a flow return brilliantly. The feeling that he had before when they had the meeting for grand elemental spirits was nothing compared to this. That in comparison was clearly missing something.

While this happened, Walker could feel a change in the system. It was as if he was looking at something different. The way the world appraised them seemed to be shifting. It wasn't clear what was changing but deep in his soul, Walker knew.

Adding to this, he suddenly felt clarity. The kind of clarity that most people would have when a specific thing was finally understood after studying for a long time.

'The united races have appeased the world's will. The world grants language upon all.'

This notification went through the entire world. Every single living being found that language had blossomed in their minds. No longer did the walls of different spoken languages burden them. They could understand what others were saying.

The draconic language that was incredibly hard to speak was not able to be spoken by others. However, it could be understood, read, and even written to a degree. This change was one example of the world's will. A uniting of the races was more than what anyone expected but it was a major change.

Not only would this improve how everyone grew and came together, it would change how other races looked at one another. The languages that gave power to words would be able to learn their language

and use their words still. But they would also be able to get their communication across to others without using that power in those words. It was a massive bridge for all that came in to contact with each other.

"I can not believe this lower being. Forced me to dream and speak to them. I was even treated as younger and lesser." Rise was the first to speak her mind. But Terron was the next to show his distaste.

"Speak down to you? I was forced in to a world of fog. I could not say a word. I could not fly. I could not sense the earth!" The ground seemed to shake a little as Terron yelled. His shouts made everyone realize that he had truly been angered.

"You are all missing one thing. That being. That dream walker that calls himself Sandman, is much older than you or any of us. He is clearly a being made of the world. A being that embodies a single purpose that had strayed from that purpose. The word itself recognizes them. Do not attempt to get revenge. It's clear that he could do much worse than speak down to you or put you in a dream of fog." The intuition that Ventus had was not unfounded.

"So you remember those stories as well. Those that the world recognizes as gods. The ones with systems so unique that they might not even be systems anymore. They become who the person is. The ideals and value that do not require the input of the world because they embody an aspect of the world, and potentially of more." Ignus's calm demeanor was shocking enough. Yet, Walker knew he was correct.

"So all that and here we are. Greed is not really Greed anymore. He is some powerful demon or maybe not even a demon? Whatever, he is Sandman now a dream walker from a place called the slumbering forest that might or might not exist anymore." Gil looked fairly stressed. He had a lot of questions but would be getting little to no answers anytime soon.

"All I know is that he deserves a solid punch to the face as payment for what he did. I was knocked out on the ground twice by him!" The frustration that Remey held also held a relieved breath. She was glad that nothing bad had happened again and that Genesis was not in danger.

"I am more interested in what the world changed. I feel that I have become closer to the world. That the system is less important than what I knew before. That it is less something I will find randomly but something that-" Su was cut off by the world.

'Millennia have passed by as hands of the world has guided the growth of man. No longer shall you search out your destinies. The hands that guide shall offer paths.'

As much as all of them wanted to say they had no idea what the world meant, Walker could feel that he did know. "The world changed things so that systems aren't random anymore. People will get quests to guide them toward the systems they are best at now!" He could feel it. Deep within him. This was the change. This was what had been altered to make the world better.

"That means the world saw what we have done. It not only gave those without systems a chance at systems but now will guide everyone born right away." Su spoke again with a few small tears in her eyes. This was a day to be celebrated.

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Chapter 1576 1576. Clear Communication

The air of the entire city seemed sweeter. The sun seemed brighter. Everyone in all of Genesis felt that everything had been made right. They had not been sure what was wrong but they knew it had been solved. As they saw the system notifications and the words of the world, many children were rushing to their parents or even the nearest person.

The shouts of them being able to follow quests that guided them toward their best possible skills or even toward their best possible system were unbelievable. However, everyone felt that this was the way it was meant to be. That all of history had been waiting for the moment that this would be the way of life.

There was an even larger commotion going on when people encountered the harpies and the grey haired spider. Instead of being unable to understand the chittering or high pitched words, they understood exactly what was being said.

Their minds seemed to have been unlocked and a something that had always been there was free to be used. The languages were still different but the understanding of each word bloomed within them. This was another major event that caused many people to rush around the city in joy.

As much as the guards believed things would become chaotic, they were wrong. Every time someone rushed to them, it was a joyful celebratory report. Instead of being told that something bad was

happening or a riot had broken out, they were told that they were invited to a tavern or to drink in someone's home. It was a beautiful display of Genesis and how it was growing.

This supportive atmosphere didn't just stay in Genesis, however, it had reached out to other cities. The dwarven city being one due to the recent bonding of elves and grey haired spiders.

The grey haired spiders had found some comfort in the underground of the dwarven city. Some had split from Genesis and traveled there after deciding that they did not wish to remain in the forests. This decision had proven to be a great boon for them and the dwarves when it came to the many different ways that their silk was used in crafting.

The language barrier was all that stopped them. They had trouble making things understandable when it came to what they were trying to accomplish. Even then they needed food, it had been a tough thing. Now, it was perfect. Things could evolve in their bond by leaps and bounds.

But nothing could prepare Walker for what he would be handling once he returned to the mansion.

The guards had reported to guard Sandman where he rested. Luna, in her dormant form, had been taken to the water elves' living area. This was because they were preparing a specific place for her to absorb mana. It was decided that the mage tower would not be able to keep her in touch with the flow of nature. It was also very clear that Current wanted to rest nearby.

The flow that Luna had described was a level of understanding in water that he had never grasped. That he could wish to learn but never had a teacher for. He understood water, the mana, and how it worked in the world. But he did not understand what the flow of the world was. How water was more than just mana and an element.

Naturally, Gil took the lead to bring both Luna and Current there. He said he had to find Alma and explain that the illness would fade. He also had to explain everything that had happened here and how it would influence Genesis in the future. Walker was sure that Gil also wanted to ask some of the enforcers to keep an eye on Sandman since he was still a sin title holder that had attacked many cities.

The other royal dragons, Su, and Onyx made their way toward the cathedral. They understood that Walker would be dragged away at any moment by one of the other representatives or even Clara. The

adventurers were definitely going to be finding that they could speak to some of the other races of the world clearly without assistance.

It wasn't that many other races spoke different languages, but with the addition of goblins, grey haired spiders, and harpies, many of the adventurers had chosen to accept them in to their groups or taken quests regarding them. This was tough because of the language barriers. With them suddenly gone, Clara would surely have more work to deal with.

Leaving just Remey and Waller together, Remey decided that heading to the mansion was the only choice to make. She knew that Midnight had wandered off and had long been missing for the time being. It was pretty clear that she might have gone after the dragon hatchlings somewhere so she wanted to make sure they didn't need potions.

"You really need to keep an eye on kids. They can get themselves in to trouble. Midnight has to already realize this. They will rush away, get in trouble then cause more trouble while trying to hide it." This was the rant that Walker had begun to listen to as Remey charged towards the mansion.

"Then when they get somewhere more comfortable like the mansion, they will try to hide their issues. I was the same way you know. I am sure you would rush to your bed if you were in trouble too." Remey's words stopped when she realized the commotion coming from inside. She turned back to Walker who was a little out of breath having to keep up with her., "See? There is already a bunch of trouble since Midnight was caught up in other things."

"Wait, Remey, those sound like child's voices. Or in my head it does..." Walker grasped what he was hearing. This made him move ahead of Remey and grab the door to open it.

When he revealed the hatchlings and Midnight rushing around the entrance hall, he noticed that there was not a saddened face to be seen. None of the little hatchlings seemed upset at all. Instead, they seemed overjoyed. They were running around with Midnight who was desperately trying to chase them. Even Walker's mother and little sister had joined the fun.

"Brother!!!!!!!" The roar that came out from Midnight in her dragon form was more than what had met the eye. It wasn't a greeting that got her attention. It was a shout for Walker to come to her and greet her as well.

"Midnight! We can talk! We can talk normally. You just started to learn the human language too and now this. It's amazing. We should talk all night!" He easily gave in to what had been feeling for so long. All the worries of not being able to properly communicate had washed away in to nothing.

"You would not believe how she and all the other little ones have been saying that they are waiting to see their friends. They want to go to the auction house, the crafting guild, and Even the adventurers guild. All sorts of places so that they can be able to see everyone they have been meeting. If they had any more energy they might just start a fire beneath their heels." The glee in Hilda's voice was the same that she held every time she saw a toddler running through the streets. They all reminded her of her own children.

"Midnight has been telling me all about how she is going to be stronger than you. She said that she's going to be the strongest sister!" Lisa rushed up to Walker. She had definitely taken the day off from her work to be here. As much as he wanted to reprimand her, he knew that she was still much younger and deserved to be a kid a little more than she had been. He did still admire that Lisa had taken so much on to herself so that she could follow her dreams even though she was little. It was something he hoped she had gained by watching him through the years.

"Let's see what everyone has to say." Walker stood up as tall as he could and looked at all the hatchlings who were still making small growls and hisses that didn't equal any real words. "As you know, I am Walker. The royal nature dragon that has opened the city to you and all dragons. It is nice to meet you again. Especially now that we can speak and understand each other."

The roars that responded to his greeting were a mix of yeses, hoorays, and even a few I am the strongest dragons. Naturally, those shouting about being the strongest were the fire dragon hatchlings. The two that showed off the fire of fire dragons best.

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Chapter 1577 1577. Leon Takes Charge

"So, are you going to sleep there all day?" The voice that woke Walker up was fairly nice. But he could tell that there was some sarcasm in it.

"Gil, if you want to start a little fight we can have a little fight." Of course, Walker knew it was Gil's voice that was waking him up. "I was caught up all night playing with the dragon hatchlings. They were very happy to be able to understand what everyone was saying even though they haven't really learned much when it comes to language."

"I know, I came back and found you first. They were all sprawled out by the fire place before your mother got them to move to actual beds. Even the other royal dragons were hard to get to move because they wanted to keep checking on things. Apparently, they are very impressed by the language changes in the world."

This was to be expected. Genesis was going to be amazed for some time. But in a few years, it would be the most common thing. So much so that people might all begin speaking the same languages without even realizing it.

"So, why are you waking me up? Is it just because you want to sit on the couch here?" Gil's shaking head showed that there was something else going on.

"I already woke everyone else up. There is news from the ancient library. Because the languages were suddenly changed by the world...well, you should come. I don't have rough information either." The messenger that had arrived said that she was sent because she was the fastest. She had letters but because of the change in communication, she was able to speak directly to Gil.

"Oh, then I do need to get moving." Walker pushed his hair in place while standing up. He didn't hesitate to walk right to the door. He could use some of his skills to freshen up on the way. But even if he was a mess, this was a very important moment. They had thought that this information would take much longer. The world had been to praise with this development.

"I just wonder what else we will find out. We know there were experiment books, elemental theories, and even theories about other aspects of, well, existence." The multitude of knowledge in the ancient ruins was too much to fathom.

"If we are able to get back to the desert city, the tunnel where we found the eggs, and the royal library we may be able to perfectly track their history. That could change a lot just know what kind of people that race was. Even though I do have an idea." Walker's and others' theories were coming together. But none of them had solid proof just yet. This was because of a simple issue, they could not read the changing runic languages of the ancient race.

"Then we should run. Remey, Su, Midnight, Onyx, and the other royal dragons are already there. The dwarves are listening through their crystal wires that they invented. Alma was on the way when I left the elf district, and the other representatives should be there or notified soon."

The pair rushed with their newfound energy. Walker was taking the lead substantially out of his growing curiosity. What he didn't expect to see when he arrived was that the dragonkin had all lined up around the Genesis building.

"We welcome the nature royal dragon!" The chant made Walker hesitate but not completely stop. He ran right in to the building to find that it was nearly silent as many of the staff were processing smaller matters. They knew that things could change as soon as the meeting ended. Therefore, they were preparing for anything to happen.

"I am here. The dragonkin outside are a little much though." Walker's slightly teasing tone did not make anyone relax. "I really hoped you all could take a breath. This is important. I know. But if you face it with steel you may be hurt by the vibrations when you strike stone." The saying was one he had only heard a few times but it had stuck with him for life.

"Now that is a good saying. Humans captured a dwarven saying well!" The king of the deep caves had not been there physically, but it was for good reason. He was very deep in to the caves that were being built as a dwarven trade route for the cities. Even a few of the earth dragonkin were with him assisting due to the recent underground caves found.

"The faster everyone is here the faster we can prepare the battle plans we will need. Having the dragonkin was the natural answer." Scylla appeared to have arrived full of fire. She was ready to rush in to the battle that they needed to be in. This also proved that some of the information found was exactly what they had needed to make their next move.

"I am here. I was just preparing the next ship building plans with a few of the dwarven ship builders." Leon had a rushed appearance since he was clearly working hard. But what caught with Walker and the others that had yet to hear any information was that Leon had been focused on the ship building efforts that the city was working on.

"Do I need to take that as we are crossing the oceans for certain?" Walker had hoped they would figure out some form of teleportation. But it was not going to be that easy. From what it appeared, they would have a lot of trouble getting across the vast oceans.

"Yes, that is what I was notified of while I was working in the office set aside for me. I was the first to hear what has been found." Leon and the others had all been given offices since they were

representatives of Genesis. It would make their work much easier than having to take everything away with them every single time they needed to work as a representative.

"When I was working on the canal proposals for building, I discovered a rushed harpy mail carrier. She explained to me the discoveries and handed me these documents. The teleportation that cost the mana of hundreds of demons and demon soldiers did, in fact, send the demon lord and his two sin title holders to the other continent." There was a collected sigh. Everyone had hope that this was not truly the case.

"What about any other details?" Gil spoke up with Alma at his side. Walker had not noticed the two get closer together but it seemed that Gil was taking the lead. Alma had more or less become the inner representative of the elves while Gil was slowly becoming the face of the elven masses. They revered him more every day since he worked so hard to make things easier for them.

"The records and were found near each other in the ancient library. Getting it recorded was a slight issue due to the fact that the library continually moved. But with the explanation left by the first explorers, your party, they managed. When they began to translate it they discovered the changes in communication that the world has blessed us with."

"The researchers discovered an old partial map. The ancient race used this after divining the state of the other continent. They went there for the resources and to flee from ancient monsters. Some apparently ascended to other planes of existence while others stayed here and split their races in two. But both left for the new continent together. There is a lot more history but this will be the main point."

"They arrived at a mountain, that was their goal. According to the map," Leon placed the aged paper on the main table, "there is a massive mountain range triple the size of ours. There are multiple springs and a few volcanoes but it is a very tough place to live. However, it was safe from monsters in a sense. We will have to go there."

"So even when we journey there we will need to find this mountain range that the demons teleported to at the cost of their own comrades," Scylla spoke with a growl in her voice. She would never betray her fellow soldier to make it where she needed to be. There was a difference between righteous sacrifice and harming someone for personal gain.

"That is the case. It also means we will face dangers we do not know. Especially in the open seas. Even my people had not managed to go there due to the strange and terrible monsters out there. It will take

us all together so I ask that everyone focus on the ship building. I also want aquatic golems." The things that Leon asked for were not small. But they were necessary.

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#### Chapter 1578 1578. Ships

"Dragons will fly across the seas. If we have the need to land we may stop at your ships. We will not be involved in the building." Terron was sure that he would be hating the travel regardless. Therefore he decided not to even be involved with it. He could do more good down in the caves with the king of the deep caves.

"I will continue mining. Whether the dragons or anyone travels I will remain here. Someone needs to fully establish the trade route and begin the proper building of the underground city." The king of the deep caves had a better direction and reasoning for staying behind.

He had taken a lot on himself in the building of Genesis. Many of the metals had come from the excavation of the underground tunnel that would be the main trade route to the dwarf city. On top of this, the dirt that he had brought was used in the fields so that it could be fertilizer. The unfarmed soil had proven to be great as a seed bed for new crops.

"I agree, I will not be sitting on a ship. I will fly above the water close to the sun. If you need assistance you can ask Current." Rise dismissed herself. Ignus nodded in agreement and Terron left as well.

"Hmm, they are correct. They will remain in the sky along with myself. My children are protecting the demon villages while some of them rebuild. I do not wish to leave so far from them. I will though. It would be dangerous to send every dragon but myself. My strength may be needed to reclaim all the skies." The wyverns were a monster that could kill her children, of course, Ventus would leave them far behind if it meant their safety.

"I agree, whatever the cost of it, I will be there." Mordant had arrived silently. He was still a little shaky after the incident with Greed and his freedom from the sin title. He had not expected that Luna, the elemental water spirit, had arrived. He also did not expect that the dream abilities of Sandman could collectively affect memories. All that proved to be a major surprise and problem to work around.

There was also the fact that Sandman was considered one to the more powerful beings that the Genesis council knew of other than the man that had arrived to share teleportation. Many of the beings that

roamed the world or the other planes of existence were very different. They had power that was currently unknown to all of them.

The dragons seemed to have the most trouble with this since they had always believed themselves the most powerful. They may not be as strong as their race was in ancient times, but they were still well above other races. Unfortunately, they lacked the power to meet the beings on other planes. That was one reason why ascending to another elemental plane was a taboo for the most part.

"I have no issue traveling in the waters. I want to protect the ships we bring along with the important quest we will undertake." Naturally, Current was thinking about traveling in the waters himself. He wanted to see what monsters called the vast oceans home. The monsters that they might have never seen before. The monsters that might be able to be cooked by top notch chefs. He had truly fallen from the unique cooking of other races.

"General Scylla, what do you think?" Leon was preparing to lead those who wanted to see the current state of ship building to the place they were being built. This was because he wanted to show them the safety and power that the dwarves had created.

"Whether it is in the water or skies, I don't care. I will be there, the wyverns were found to have destroyed farms when they were defeated. More records of them being found are showing up as we search. Some even stated that they were seen flying high in the sky. They may be traveling the world looking for more land to burden."

Since Scylla saw the dangers that the wyverns possessed she did not hold back her words. She was ready to battle them right away if necessary. "Even though some of the elves have suffered because of the mana imbalance, they will come. All the elves want to see these lands where the ancient race came to live. They want to know what else is in the world. I will be the first queen to go there."

"That means that there will be a very large force of expert elves on the ships. It also means that we will be relying on the dwarves' craftsmanship even more." Gil made this clear. He wanted to ensure that they were perfectly ready.

"I will not doubt the craftsmanship that the dwarves have. I have surveyed the building area personally when allocating some funds. It is better than you may think." Markus Raven spoke up more than usual. His words were held by fact and he did not have to prove them. He knew that they would all see it as well.

"Then it sounds like it is time to follow Leon." Su stood up and looked at Leon who had already prepared to leave the room. The others were quick to follow.

Current and Mordant had already decided to trust the dwarven ship builders. This was also because they wanted to take the time to properly prepare. They needed to absorb more of their elemental mana so that they were in pique performance for the battle. The wyverns would take a great deal of their time to handle. Not to mention the injuries they might take from the wild wyverns that lacked sentence.

"The ships are being built far from the ocean because we will be able to use to create a false flood. It will allow the ships to make it through the rivers to the ocean easily. From there it will be simple as getting our bearings. We already have some astrologers charting courses using the stars. The only issue will be the undiscovered currents, storms, and potential monsters." Leon had perfectly prepared himself.

Since Leon had a very strong father to live up to, he had decided that he needed more than just battle strength to be a proper king. He had to be able to use his mind to lead a people in every path they chose. This was also why he had been putting so much effort in to helping his people build their homes along the rivers. The merfolk would have a solid place in Genesis.

"So that means we will need to create a map of the oceans as well?" Remey was not sure she would be of much use on the ships at all. Her best ability was to punch things, not swim.

"Yes, the currents are a tough thing for many that sail. We have been able to gather some information from merchants along the shores and also from past experiences. Most attempts to travel across the ocean are failures or unknown. No one has come from there." Leon knew that the danger was great but he believed they would be able to handle things.

"OI will just focus on seas sickness medicines then. You can all worry about the other things." Remey felt useless so ended up stopping halfway to the building area.

"That's a ship?" Walker had never seen a ship like the one he was looking at. Instead of the wooden boards being bent to create the ship he was imagining, he was looking at rune carved metals.

"Oh, you didn't expect this? The dwarves are already using some new runes that were discovered after the change in communications. Half of that side was taken off to change things this morning. It will be a very tough ship that is able to withstand the tides and monsters." Leon was brimming with confidence.

"You mentioned that you wish the dwarves to create some of the golems they normally do but with the ability to swim. Do you think that will work?" Su was concerned for the safety and use of golems in the water.

"Yes, the runes can be used to better create them. From there they will be able to act as warnings, scouts, and battlers in the water." Since Leon had been working with the dwarven craftsmen closely, he knew that they were capable of this.

"That just leaves how they will move. Care to show us?" Walker needed more information. He knew he lacked a lot and wanted to absorb as much knowledge as he could. The more he learned the better it would be. He could help and potentially save them if things went poorly in the ocean.

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Chapter 1579 1579. Ship Tour

"This is the dwarven feather steel. It is made from the steel mined from the wind dragon mountain village. We were lucky enough to be able to speak with Lady Ventus and have her trade us some. It is just as tough as steel but it is even lighter than any other steel we have ever used. Take a try." The dwarf explaining this to them looked at Walker, Gil, and Alma first.

"Wow!" Gil seemed to have expected much more weight in the ingot of feather steel. He lifted it and nearly toppled over because he had put more force than necessary. He passed it to Alma, then Walker, and finally to Su. They were all surprised.

"This would be ideal for some cavalry armor. We should look in to developing cavalry troops for the fields. Especially when we must fight the horned rabbits again." Scylla had plenty of battle ideas for this. Leon just smiled seeing that others were already seeing the amazing values that this steel had.

"So this is why the ships will be able to float when they looked so heavy before?" Since Walker was very unfamiliar with ships, let alone steel ships, he felt that he had to keep asking questions. Only then would he be able to sit upon the ship safely.

"That is exactly right. Paired with the wind runes that our researchers keep sharing we have been able to do a great thing. We have made this ship weigh much less than normal. We have to add some earth runes along the bottom to keep the buoyancy proper. To be honest, this is the most developed ship we have ever crafted. And it is one of eight."

"Eight!?" This shocked Su. she was sure that they were only making one. But now she was completely awestruck by the skills the dwarves had. "That must be a massive work load for you. How are the workers holding up? Is everyone able to maintain their pace?" The worry that Su had in her voice made the dwarf thank the world that he had come to Genesis again.

"Yes, we are able to easily maintain this work load. The elves have been helping along with a few of the water dragonkin. The heavy lifting is much easier while the other skills our workers possess make the process much smoother. What I am more interested to show you is the inside of the most developed ship though. Please follow me."

Leon was giving Walker a proud smirk as the dwarven ship builder was leading them. He was sure that Walker was already impressed. "Should I tell you a few more secrets before we see them?" Leon was struggling to keep everything in.

"I think we will be able to see enough from here. As a merfolk, are you truly this excited about a ship? I thought you would be swimming in the waters around us?" Alma couldn't resist the questions. The small teasing that anyone would have wanted to give out a response.

"Of course that will be the case at some times. There may be battles, and other issues. But we will mostly need to rest on the boat. We will be unable to travel to the bottom of the ocean so that we may rest. That alone is enough for us to enjoy this ship. A safe haven for while we are deep in the oceans where no merfolk has ever been."

The oceans were a dangerous place that the merfolk had never been able to travel freely. The monsters were too dangerous and they lacked the overall strength to casually go there. Some brave merfolk had been deeper than others but not so far before in their history.

Once upon a time, Leon had heard of an ancient merfolk city that was deeper in the ocean. But that was more of a child's myth than anything. The city was well recorded as only being slightly deeper in the oceans and abandoned because of their weakening strength as a race. Now that they were members of Genesis, the merfolk may have a chance to become stronger and create a deeper city than before.

"This inside hull will have multiple cabins. Workers will be in this lower area. We have decided to use a steam engine. It is slightly different from how we make golems with cores. The cores needed for one of these shops would be estimated to be numbering over five thousand. To counter that cost of mana, we are using fire crystals and the sea water. We cut the cores down to five hundred and installed special rune furnaces." The dwarf began teaching in a very proud tone. This was the best dwarven technology.

"We have some golems that have used this method in the past but it was rarely used due to necessity. Now we will use them more often. The water that filters inside the furnace cools it down rapidly causing steam. Then the fire crystals and runes heat the furnace again. It will repeat over and over. From there, these gears turn causing the propellers to turn. It also allows us to steer with much more ease."

"There will be no issues with the left over salts?" Scylla knew that as the water dried the salt would be left behind. She knew that this was one danger of ocean battle or battle near an ocean. Salt was a dangerous build up that wore down armors and weapons. A massive ship like this was definitely going to have some wear and tear.

"That will be a minor issue. We have made a special coating for the steel made from the green rubber trees. We spoke with the water elves and they used those trees' sap to make sure their village was water proof for the most part. It was a very good collaboration that even brought a few alchemists to the projects."

The coating that the ship builder pointed out was a somewhat clear substance that had been thinned out with oils. It was easily spread and hardened on the steel runes keeping them sealed without causing any issues with the or with the metal.

Walker stopped in his tracks looking at another part of the ship. They had moved up a set of stairs, they were looking at another floor of what he thought would just be cabins to sleep in. "And those are?" The holes he pointed out seemed like they would cause problems for the ship in the waters. Especially when waves hit.

"Those will be where the cannons are set in place. The cannon is a tough weapon that we can charge with mana. It fires a projectile at an angle. They are rarely used due to their weight, slow ability to be

reloaded, and overall high mana costs. But in the ocean, we needed power. A hard hitting attack to deter or defeat ocean monsters. Therefore, it was the winning weapon we decided to use. It is also similar to the normal cannons used by merchant ships."

"I have seen the normal cannons. They use spiked pieces of metal or harpoons to catch or scare off monsters. How will this be different?" Since Scylla was the expert in battle there, no one intruded on what she was asking about.

"They have the ability to fire when used by mages and dwarves working in tandem. They will be able to be aimed and focused. They will also have some elven inspiration. Specifically-"

"The arcane archers! That's why you asked if they were able to assist you a few weeks ago." Alma put everything together. A dwarf had come asking about the arcane archer and had taken a few to help with a project.

"Exactly, we were able to have the elven arcane archers to help with cannon ball creations. So far we have a water cannon ball that can create a frozen attack on the enemy. The development of a wind cannonball is the next step. It is slow because it is very different from an arrow, but similar enough to create."

"I am glad that there is a clear bond between the races here." Su felt her heart beat a little faster. She was very proud that Genesis was fostering growth between the races. So much so that she felt invigorated to prepare even more for this journey.

"This is a very good idea. I have seen the arcane archers battle. Adding their styles here will increase survivability. Take me to the top of the ship. Wish to see the measures that are being taken in case the furnaces fail." Scylla was in full evaluation mode. She was acting as general now instead of just a council member. They were preparing for battle on another continent after all.

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## Chapter 1580 1580. Thoughts Of The Future

"As I was trying to show, the top floor is the main deck. But if we travel up the side here we will have the main storage rooms for the supplies we may need to chart the course, take samples of rare plants, and store some bodies of monsters." The first floor was set up so that they could do the most with it and the ship builder showed this before pointing out the stairs to the deck of the boat.

"Then that is the way we should go." Scylla had the troubles of the waters on her mind. She wanted to see the preventative measure that would keep everyone from being trapped in the ocean.

The only reason she had this in mind most of all after seeing the other things was simple. Not everyone had the skills to swim and travel through the air or water. If they did, she would question the need for a ship. But the ship was their protection and safe travel. If they found themselves trapped in it, they would lose many people.

"They have a lot planned out. I raised the same questions as Scylla earlier in these projects. You will see that there is already a lot of things set up in case the worst happens. Between the water elves, my people, and the dwarves, we have come up with a lot of safety measures." Leon was very proud to be a part of this.

He too had thought of the many people that could become stranded if the ship went down or was attacked. "These are the life boats we set up. They are simple feather steel with a simple rune and mana gem within it. They are made so that they can last for long times floating. The reason we called them life boats was that they would save your life if the ship is attacked and sinks." The dwarven ship builder pointed out the runes and the strengthening steel parts on the little life boat.

"It looks like they can fit ten people each. How many people will we have on each ship?" Su was trying to do the math but found that she was unable to do so without any more knowledge about ships overall.

"Each ship can host two hundred people that are not crew. The last fifty will be crew that must run the ship even under attack. That leaves us with twenty six life boats. We provided an extra in case one is damaged as well. But ideally, the ship will remain near the others and we will have them to rescue and retrieve the life boats." The procedure had already been written and all that was needed was for the dwarf to explain it.

"What about the transportation? Will we have to rely on if the ship stops moving with the furnaces?" Walker's next question was exactly what Gil and Alma were about to ask. This was the next important risk they might face while on the ocean.

"Yes, as you can see, we have a spire here in the middle. It is the same as the mast but we have made it larger to hold a special sail being sewn by arcane weavers. We have altered the wind runes to be sewn through it. This will attract the wind to push the ship entirely. Much slower but also more silent if we

need to travel in silence." The idea that stealth was also taken in to account made everyone much more comfortable. That was something even they had not yet considered.

"So, how are we feeling? The ships will be built in one more week. Then we can leave. That is much faster than what was previously planned for the ships and building some form of port by the mouth of the river." The pride that Leon had was not completely mirrored. Scylla realized that she had a lot more preparation to do and had to get moving.

"I will leave then. I have soldiers to prepare. Semi-aquatic forces will need to be retrained to handle the open oceans. Have the supplies ready as well..." Scylla's rushed mumbling faded away as she left them standing there.

"I will also leave to help prepare the water elves. they will be the best mages to have with us even though they may not be experts in the salt waters. But they should have some history remember about when they used to take trips in the to the deeper waters." Since Alma knew that any knowledge would be valuable, she decided to get it. Even the smallest thing would help.

"I will hang out here with Walker. I want to try and get a little training in before I head back to the archers." This was a surprise to Walker since Gil rarely said that he wanted to train against him.

"Do you need me as well?" Su was thinking of returning to the mansion to clean her armor and shields. She also wanted to go and speak to the wandering blacksmith about making a new earth shield since it was about time she did so.

"No, you can go if you are busy. I just figured I wanted to speak with Walker a little." The atmosphere was a little awkward but Su gave them both a wave leaving Walker and Gil alone. Leon had continued on with the ship builder to keep working on thighs. And Midnight was still an unknown since she and Onyx were more known to do their own things than stick with the group lately.

"Let's walk and talk. We can head to the training ground behind the mansion and train there if you want." Walker felt that Gil had a few things he wanted to focus on that were a little more important than just training. It was just a sixth sense.

"Well, about that...I think I am ready to make some big decisions. Like, we are getting older and aren't going to be kids forever." This made it seem that there was something larger on Gil's mind than Walker had expected.

The pair walked down the stairs and hallways of the ship that they had been led up before. Walker was still a little in awe of how the ship had come together so quickly.

"And? I know we are growing up mentally a little faster than physically. But that's normal. People get married and buy houses at eighteen or twenty. It's just how things go." Walker and Gil saw all this as normal. Their society was always at risk for monster attacks. The life spans often depended on systems and strength of a person. But that was why people grew fast. They had the entire wonderful world at their fingertips.

"I know that, Walker, That's why I want to ask Alma to stay with me forever. I am already considered a representative of the elves. We are going to be of age sooner than later. So I want to establish it now..." Walker had frozen in place. He knew that Gil and Alma were closer every day. Very much so to the point that everyone expected Gil to be by her side or vice versa.

"I know it sounds like I am getting ahead of myself. But Walker, I have never been so sure about anything in my life. I am sure that it is what I want for the rest of my life. My father and mother decided they would be together before they were officially of age to marry. They spent three years engaged and only grew closer. And since we are going to another continent..."

"Then you want to make sure that everyone knows the level of your commitment to someone you love." Walker finished Gil's sentence. He knew that Gil was struggling a little. This was a sensitive subject.

"Listen, I know you have these feelings and I will not stop you. You are my brother as far as I am concerned. So do it. Tell Alma how you feel about her. I am sure she feels the same. Why else would she lean on you so often? Even if someone raises concerns like lifespan, you have the grand elemental wind spirit as a partner. We already know that that will rival your lifespan with elves and dragons. So do it. I will be there by your side."

The reassurances was exactly why Gil had come to Walker. He had probed his parents already but knew he wanted his closest friend there. Walker had trained with him and supported his archery endeavors. He was also the team leader whose back he watched and relied on.

"Thank you. I will speak to her later. Until then, I need you to train with me. The high elf dagger technique is close to done. I just need to clean it up a little. I have been training every single night lately." Gil's smile was more than Walker had ever seen.