

Master 1591

Chapter 1591 1591. Floating Off

The short speeches about the process of building a ship and the great work that had been done from many people were all that had to be said. The true reasons for the travel were already spoken. Some had argued against them while others had been happy to hear that the dangers would not be allowed to return.

The water mages were the most prevalent for the ship move. They were responsible with gathering the water in to the river to cause a water surge that would carry it in to the deeper waters downstream. The dwarven golems were the pushing force. However, this didn't stop many warriors from getting their hands on the hull of the ship to push it as well.

The final first ship had come together in magnificent shape. The feather steel had been coated and reinforced to resist many monster venoms that could corrode it in the ocean. There were also many spaces for archers, mages, and dwarven cannons to attack anything that would threaten the ship while sailing.

Even better, the top of the ship was made to have multiple small metal towers to use as vantage points for lookouts. They could double as attack towers as well which only made those witnessing the ship more impressed. It was one perfect example of why the races uniting would only become greater. This was just another of the many things that proved the races could create great things.

"Together we bring another day in to the Genesis history books. The day that the first of the Genesis fleet leaves the city to create a port on a new continent. A continent we have never set foot on. A place we can explore!" The king of the deep caves had come to lead the charge in releasing the ship in to the water. As soon as he shouted his last words, everyone moved in unison.

Together the ship slid off its wooden blocks while water surged around it. The river became bloated with the additional flood. But when the ship hit the deeper water, it bobbed and began moving down the river.

"Come on, on the ship!" The many rope ladders for those that had been off and pushing without being on it prior due to weight rushed the rope ladders. Walker stepped through the air and joined the rest of the party waving at the crowds. And their families that had gathered to see them off.

"We will be walking along the ship once we get to the deeper waters, but for now, let's enjoy this." Walker felt that this was not the biggest moment in Genesis history. He had already heard the rumors about someone designing blueprints for what they called an airship fueled by . The dwarves had become inspired and new geniuses were appearing out of every race to create new al technology.

Some things would take years, others could appear tomorrow. So many new paths had awakened as the races pooled their knowledge together. The bond with nature and the desire to create was becoming more and more prevalent. It only spelled good things for the future.

Once the sounds of people faded, Walker looked at those who had come with him. Leon had been focused on the merfolk that were preparing to take shifts underwater to patrol against monsters resting in the deeper river waters. It was a necessity.

Rise and Mordant had taken up opposing positions on the ship and in the sky. Mordant remained focused on providing the darkness elemental mana for Shade to return to his previous physical form after the trouble with mana. Rise just preferred to remain along.

The dragonkin were much more animated. They had been left to explore and learn the ship to the very core. The dwarven sailors and human sailors had become the teachers since they knew the most about the ship and how its sailing worked.

Since Alma had remained behind, Gil appeared to be a little disappointed. But Alma had said that she would be taking the elven mages with the ship directly behind them. The number of people allowed on a ship was limited due to weight and safety. Too many people could sink a ship or cause it to become too crowded during danger, equally leading to it being sunk.

"So, I meant to ask, but what does it mean that midnight is a dragon genius?" Remey had thought that Walker would have asked the other royal dragons about the title that Midnight had. She understood that Su had the half dragon title because she had mixed blood with Midnight to become a true guardian. That made a lot of sense. But the questions she had were not completely answered about genius. It was different for every situation and could cover an array of topics.

"Well, from what Midnight and I have read of the description, it's because she has grown mentally and physically faster than any dragon her age. It doesn't seem to mean she will die any younger but that she is well ahead of others because of her bloodline and intense training. Think of it, you train like crazy in alchemy and are already trying to make a grand potion." This seemed to agree with what Remey was thinking.

"I received the groundbreaking alchemist title though, so did the old man and Trish but mine has a slightly more in depth description. It states that I will have a greater chance to discover the proper path to creating new alchemical creations. Theirs says they will have a small chance to discover the same. I think it depends on what the person has done in that regard."

The in depth thinking Remey had been doing was purely because she had been amazed by the titles they did not even realize they had gained. It was very important to their strength but even more to their future battle abilities.

"I believe that you were the one that helped unite them so you would receive more benefit." Onyx finally spoke up. He too had been contemplating his own titles more and more since Walker had more or less let everyone come to terms with what they had not noticed.

"Onyx, you probably have one of the more amazing titles. You are the patriarch growing in your race now. It's not a recognized race but it will be soon with you leading it." Walker didn't want to get in to the details of what young patriarch could mean. It was a lot of responsibility for Onyx to grow in to.

"Brother, I also have the twinned serpent. An abyssal serpent that had realized and begun to awaken my ancient bloodline. I am unsure how that will affect myself or the hatchlings but I am ready to return to the strength in the murals we have seen. The books we have read." The dreams that Onyx had were clear cut but also larger than himself or any other. It was promising to see that he had such determination.

"The emancipator title that we all received is also good. It just symbolizes that we helped free an oppressed people but it's one that makes me very proud." Rmeey heard Su join the conversation instead of venturing in to the ship deeper.

"I agree. We share that title with everyone that participated in the freeing of the demons. It makes us all closer than any other could be. It's heartwarming." This brightened Gil's mood as he thought about those he shared the title with. They hadn't even gained this title when they helped the water elves and demons there but they did when they helped free all the demons.

"Saint of light." Alice had been silent for a while listening to the titles that the party had gained. However, she had not been silent just because of that, she was waiting for a chance to speak her own

title. One she had gained by studying under Horizon and getting to a deeper understanding of light and the true strength she holds.

"Wait, that saint of light title? Is that why the light is moving around you even though you aren't speaking?" Walker had heard of this title. A title that was given to a priestess that had only ever used a skill called healing light on people. The single use of this skill had given the title after fifty years of healing with it despite the fact that the priestess could have taken another path focusing on attacking with light based skills.

"Yes, and my blood...they work together." Alice became shy at the fact that everyone stared at her.

"It's what's to be expected from the one I chose to be my partner. Light is in her blood and the world was waiting to recognize her." Horizon's boasting just made everyone wonder a little more about the details of the title and what it did.

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Chapter 1592 1592. Saint Of Light

Before the entire party could ask Alice what her title was about, the ship hit the deeper waters of the river. There was a lot of commotion as the merfolk took to the water so that they could guard against the aquatic monsters they may face.

The water mages also began moving the ship by manipulating the water runes carved in to the hull. However, the majority of the water mages had a much more important job. They had to widen and break down any impediments in the river as they moved.

The ship had been designed with the highest craftsmanship. This assured everyone that even if they hit the odd rock or submerged tree, that it would not be an issue. However, there was the chance that the ship could be damaged or sustain a small flaw. This could spell the end of the ship and those upon it out in the open ocean where much stronger monsters lived.

"We are heading down in pairs. Let's walk the shore as the ship travels. It will be slow at first since the river has never been traveled and will have a lot of obstacles." Walker knew that the boats that had been on the river were smaller ones that easily maneuvered through the obstacles. Most would only be on the water for a short time if any time at all due to the dangers.

"Sounds good, I will pair up with a few of the dragonkin since I want to see if they have any dagger skills of their own." Gil wanted to compare his work on the dagger technique with the other race's dagger skills. The main point being that he could use the pressure to refine the skill and merge the different styles in to the high elf dagger technique again. It was a wise use of the time they would be traveling as the first ship.

"Brother, I will go with sister to travel the bank of the river." Onyx caught on to what Walker was thinking. Anyone with a pair of eyes could see that he wanted to speak with Alice one on one. They had not had much time alone due to their recent training or other distractions.

"Alright, we will all meet up in four hours after the ship changes guards." Leo had worked with Scylla to design an ideal guard shift for all the workers on the ship. Even the merfolk had alternates in Scylla's special aquatic demi-human troops.

"Perfect! Su and I have a lot to talk about. There are plenty of good challengers around here." It seemed that Su was not reprimanding Remey as usual. Instead, Si actually looked energetic hearing that Remey wanted to go and pick a fight with someone.

"I worry about those two sometimes...But I think Su has been off lately and she needs to relax too." Walker was not sure what had happened between Su and Remey but he knew that it was strengthening their bond. The pair had been working on something together and it would only make them stronger at the end of the day. It wasn't his business to snoop.

Leaving the ship was easy for Walker since he could take Alice's hand and walk through the air. The others that left to walk the shore and scout ahead for the water mages used ropes, small boats, and a few just dove right in to the water.

"So, you have a title now?" The casual conversation started to make Alice a little nervous. She had been excited to show off but then became shy as soon as everyone had looked at her. Now she felt shy again but because she felt that Walker was going to be upset with her for hiding it.

"I bet that you missed it too since you were so busy. From what I hear, you have healed more people than even some of the veteran healers who have been doing it for forty years." The rumors around Genesis were not silent ones. They screamed these praises throughout the entire city.

"Horizon, I know you want to join us, but can you spend some time sharing your understanding of light elemental mana with Fleur for me?" Fleur seemed to grasp that Walker was asking her to distract Horizon who was hovering behind them. He didn't seem to have a sense of what humans wanted or how to read a situation.

"Sure, I can always help a future world spirit. Tell me what it's like to feel the heartbeat of nature. Wait, can you speak yet? Or do you only use natural mana? How about..." the constant talking faded away. Horizon was too talkative for an elemental spirit. All the others seemed to prefer their silence over much else.

"Yes, my title...saint of light." Alice finally managed to speak up even though it was quiet. Now that she was alone with Walker she was realizing just how long it had been since they could properly walk together without someone else interrupting or even being around.

"As long as we keep our eyes open I can listen to you all day. I wouldn't mind hearing about how you got your title and what it's about." Using the all around appraisal skill on Alice could have potentially given Walker answers. He knew this, but if he did that he would betray Alice's trust while also ruining a chance to bind with her. They were one of many scouting ahead on the riverbank. He had his senses spread around him as well, something he had learned while sensing mana.

"So many people were hurt or sick. I had to heal them. After training, before training, when I woke up...always." The desire to help others was just part of her life but also a value she had chosen to cherish. It led to Alice training her ability to heal even when she did not have the mana to do it.

The same preparations and assistance that Su had done because she lacked healing skills was what Alice had always done. Now after her entire life of doing so, she had a title to show for it. "I healed a hundred thousand times." This sounded impossible to Walker's ears. But using a healing skill or an act of healing, it made some sense. It wasn't just based on her healing but everything she did to heal people.

"That's amazing. A saint title is gained through a specific act at an incredible number of times. What does it do? I assume it boosts healing and your affinity with light?" The idea that it boosted her affinity for light was because Walker had seen the orbs of light around Alice since she had arrived at the mansion when they left.

"Control, affinity, and strength." These three things were the focus of the title. "And speed of healing for everyone around me." This last statement was where Alice raised her head in pride. Just having her

around meant that everyone would heal faster regardless of being healed or not. It was an impressive thing to boast about.

"Maybe I will need to use my healing skill more. I could be the second saint of light. We would have matching titles." Walker teased a little. He had a little trouble not being jealous of Alice's title even though he had multiple of his own. It was just the idea that Alice was able to help people just by being present now. She deserved the praise she got and was rewarded with a title that gave her the chance to do even more good.

"I will keep up with you." Alice's eyes burned with the light that she controlled. Her desire not to be left alone was stronger than Walker had imagined. He watched as the light around Alice formed a spike that shot forward.

'Purple bank frog

A poisonous purple frog that uses the poison it produces due to eating the purple lily flies. It hunts the flies and larger fish along the bank of the river. If one gets too close to it there is a chance it could poison them. The best way to defend against the poison is to dilute it with water.

They are very weak to physical attacks due to their soft skin but also strong jumpers and swimmers. It is recommended that their poison is used against larger beasts because it will wear away at their stamina while also not killing what it affects.'

Walker's all around appraisal of the purple bank frog that he had noticed after Alice had shown the danger they could face. "And with your new title, you are definitely stronger. I'll have to work even harder to stay ahead of you. I can't have you becoming everyone's idol alone. You'll need a heroic bodyguard." His teasing made Alice shake her head wanting to run away. The danger of monsters seemed too far away to them.

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Chapter 1593 1593. Purple Bank Frogs

"Alice, a little help here!" Gil was the first to recognize the purple bank frogs after Alice and Walker had caught themselves in battle with one. He had seen it being broken down at the adventurer's guild once. This experience gave him the knowledge that it was poisonous without anyone having to tell him in the moment.

Therefore, Gil was calling for Alice since she had the skills to purify those that got poisoned by it. "There are two elves here that need to be purified for the poison." Gil knew that if he called Remey she had some antidote potions. However, it was better to save those for the more dangerous poisons they may encounter while traveling the river bank. Water brought out many different monsters.

"Good call Gil!" Walker managed to grab Alice and step over the river to the opposite side where Gil was. She quickly got to work healing as Gil and Walker touched base on what they would do about the purple bank frogs.

"These things seem like they are more and more prevalent as we go. I would say it's breeding season for them. I wish we had discovered this sooner. It will make the journey slower." As much as they wanted to rush through the river, they were the first ship heading down this path. They had to do their best to make it safer. But Walker was still unsure if they had missed this information because they were too rushed to deal with the demon king.

"Walker, the ship is pretty far back because of all the rocks and trees in the river. We have some time to deal with these monsters safely. Rise and Mordant won't help with them since they are preparing for the large monsters in the ocean. Let's just use this as training."

"You're right." Walker knew Gil had a good point. But he felt that they needed to get to the ocean faster. Everything had to be done faster. They needed to get stronger faster. He had to push them faster. This train of thought was enough to shock him slightly. Walker could not remember when everything became about getting things done faster.

"Face it, if we don't slow down we will get beat by Midnight and Onyx. they have already taken down six each." Gil pointed out Midnight and Onyx working as a pair a little further up the riverbank. They were currently engaged in battle with a larger purple bank frog, an older purple bank frog.

The size that onyx revealed was easily five feet longer than what he had been the last time he revealed his true size from his shadow. It was clear that his training had been paying off and that he may have gone through a whole new growth spurt without realizing it. He had been kept very busy by the little hatchlings that he had nearly forgotten about himself. Walker had even brought that right to the front of his mind.

The darkness and the light seemed to be at Onyx's control. The light was less so than the darkness but that was enough for him to blind the purple bank frogs in a flash of light before using a shadow spike attached to his tail to pierce them. This effectively protected him from any poisons along with also defeating the purple bank frog.

Midnight had taken a different route. Due to her training with flying, elemental breath attacks, and guidance for Rise, she had decided to fight only from a distance. Since it was a short distance away, the purple bank frogs were able to shoot out their tongues to attack Midnight. The danger of poison was fresh in her mind.

Luckily, Midnight was prepared. She would jump back or duck under the tongue as it whipped out. The purple bank frogs had nothing they could do in the face of Midnight's agility. This gave Midnight the time to take quick deep breaths and breath out blasts of fire or light toward the frogs.

It had been tough for Midnight to keep consistent strength in breath attacks. This was because it needed more time to absorb elemental mana and fuse them with her golden heart flames. But while she did so, she had been able to train her speed at absorbing small amounts of the mana and efficiently fusing it with the flames. This had partially been her training with Rise but also what she had learned from Walker fusing elemental manas together.

"And there goes another frog. Midnight has really started to like using that elemental flame burst skill. I guess every dragon can do it because it's easier for younger dragons. But Midnight learned to breathe flames before she learned that since she didn't have a proper teacher. Now we get to see her backtrack a little." Even the skill that midnight had learned later than she should have was much stronger because of how she had already trained.

"She definitely filled in the gaps of her training. I just think that you are better off training with her than I am with my arrows. She would burn too many up." Gil laughed a little as he raised his bow, his eyes focused well ahead of where Onyx and Midnight were. "Let's catch up with them. There are a few crawling out of a hole by that hill there."

The sight that Gil had still exceeded, if not became better, while he had trained with the elves. An archer's eyes were always the main focus of their skills but Gil had already exceeded that with his skills in other aspects of arcane archery. His arrow easily sailed through the air and pierced through two of the purple bank frogs scraping their way out of the ground.

"A den? Let me get Su and Remey, we can clear that before any of the others need to get involved." A quick shout to Remey and Su who were back a little further spurred them to run up to Walker and Gil. Midnight and Onyx were also privy to what Gil had just pointed out now that they had handled the two purple frogs in front of them.

"Poison frogs, that is not good." Remey looked like she was more excited for the battle than the others. She could harvest the poison from the frogs to make some form of potion. She wasn't exactly sure what it would be but she knew it could be useful in some way.

"They move very quickly from what I can see. There are already seven that have crawled from that hole up there." Su was taking notice of the situation and doing her best to strategize. She had to remain sharp if she wanted to be able to block every attack that carried poison toward her party. "But they are getting smaller. Could that be the youngest of the frogs emerging for the first time?"

"That has to be it! They must have been born and raised in that den now they are coming out for food." Gil caught on that Su had perfectly picked out the reason for so many purple bank frogs being right in front of them.

"And we are that food. Let's work to clear that out." Walker started to gather water elemental mana and freeze it. He had seen how Onyx had used the shadows to cover his body and protect him from the poison of the frogs. Now he wanted to do something similar.

The ice that began to coat Walker in a thin layer moved easily with his manipulation. But taking another step further, he looked at Midnight's claws and decided to take inspiration. The ice began to elongate on to larger claws that cover Walker's hands. He had not considered doing this small portion of the elemental dragon aspect, but since water and ice were the easiest for him to shape other than earth, he might as well.

"Brother!" Midnight growled out slightly seeing that Walker was clearly trying to challenge her to a test of close combat strength. She was not going to let him make his own claws and beat her. She was a real dragon with real claws. She was jealous that Walker could just make his own. In a single breath of flames, Midnight's claws were wrapped in fire. Her flaming claws reaching out for the frogs as she and Midnight sprinted toward their targets.

"Well, we can't be left behind. Gil and them might beat them all before we even get to the den entrance." Remey cracked her knuckles and matched Su in stride. They were right behind Midnight and Walker.

"I will guard you Gil. Take your time." Onyx respected that Gil was already picking targets to shoot at long distance. Someone needed to hand back and be his guard. It was only proper.

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Chapter 1594 1594. Clear The Way

"I have officially lost my mind..." Gil's tone was that of someone who had just realized they had been living a dream for their whole life. He also had missed a shot with his bow for the first time in a very long time. "Onyx, you would tell me if this was all a hallucination, right?"

"You are not crazy. Your mind is intact. Sister Su has properly been training to use the dragon blood that had changed in her body lately. That is why she just breathed out a mouthful of flames." If Onyx had not been so calm, Gil would have surely let his mind keep running away with its ideas.

"I see, I missed a lot when it came to Su and Midnight training." The feeling that Gil had was a small sense of loss. But he also had a sense of annoyance because he had missed his party members getting much much stronger. It also spurred Gil to want to get even stronger himself.

"What is Gil doing? That was four arrows in a row?" Walker was about to face four of the purple bank frogs and suddenly saw them sprout arrows before collapsing defeated at his feet.

"If you can't be faster than Gil it explains why you aren't keeping up with Su and I!" Remey was showing off the training that she had been doing with Su.

The pair was taunting and attacking without flaw. Su would jump forward and get the attention of a purple bank frog. It would attack without question trying to defeat Su with its poison. But Remey was right there with a heavy right hook or solid heel kick before it could attack again. This was, the pair had taken down most of the purple bank frogs that were coming from the den.

"I will handle those last two!" Midnight, Su, and Remey left Walker to do so after having all his targets taken by the others. Even Gil backed off after seeing that Walker was making a move toward the two and he wanted to be safe. If he ever shot a family member with his arrows he would be crushed.

Meanwhile, Walker had created two swords out of ice to transition his battle ability. Unfortunately, a soft but sweet hum of song came to his ears. Before Walker could do so much as dash forward to close the distance between him and them. Three blades of light had already shot through the air piercing the purple bank frogs and leaving them defeated.

"Alice how did you-" Walker was shocked as soon as he saw how far Alice was from him. He had never seen her make such long distance attacks.

Since Alice had learned more about her abilities with Horizon's guidance. As talkative as Horizon was, he was able to see Alice's skills clearly. He gave ideal instructions about how to manipulate the light with her voice and also the mana itself. After that, Alice grasped a new concept. The travel of sound.

,m "Alice! How did you reach so far? I thought you were right next to me by the way I heard your voice humming." As soon as Walker returned to the group and where Alice had made it to after helping the poisoned soldier.

An adorable coy smile filled Alice's face, "sound travels" was the only answer Walker received. But he did wonder how far sound really traveled when someone sang. It was not an unusual to think that Alice could learn to throw her voice a further distance. There were people who had the skills to specifically do that. Alice did have the songstress system too, not a healer system.

"Walker can't even keep up with us. I guess we trained more than him." Naturally, Remey had to taunt Walker a little. It was part of her job at this point.

"It doesn't help that we all have been working more efficiently lately. It's been a while since we have faced a group of monsters that aren't a slime." The feeling that Gil had was just glad. The slimes had actually been very annoying because Gil was forced to aim for the cores instead of the whole body.

"So, we have figured out that it is the breeding season for these monsters and that they are going to be an issue for some time. What else do you think we will need to worry about?" Su managed to bring the topic back to what they should be thinking about while clearing the path ahead.

"I have no idea what might hunt the purple bank frogs. Bruh whatever it is, they will be larger and poison resistant." Part of Walker was thinking that they might see a river snake or some form of avian

monster. But he had not truly seen the purple bank from before so it was harder to narrow down what might hunt them.

"We can just have Gil keep a lookout for us. Then we can keep focused on what we are fighting down here." Remey didn't see much of an issue when it came to what monsters they would face. The odds were the entire party could handle whatever they faced because the path they were on was well enough traveled for now.

"So you want me to just tell you when a large bird with purple and yellow feathers is approaching? One that has sharp looking talons and a serrated beak?"

"Gil, that description seems..." Su sighed as she realized that Gil was already pointing an arrow at the sky. She looked up to see the large falcon that was approaching them.

'tearing falcon

The tearing falcon is named this for the separated beak that it uses to tear apart its prey. They feed on a variety of monsters regardless of their type. They have very high poison resistance and their blood is often used to make high tier antidotes.

Their feathers are very tough and can be used for arrows. The bones are also useful for various jewelry due to their ability to remain light but carved well.

They get their feather color from the various poisonous monsters they consume. The color changes from purple to yellow depending on what they have eaten in high amounts'

"Tearing falcons. That's what they are called and they do not look happy that we have just defeated and taken away one of their main food sources." Walker had used the all around appraisal as soon as he had gotten one in his sight line. He had to read it out loud too so that everyone was warned properly.

"I heard arrow materials so they will be a great prize." Gil's frost arrow flew toward one of the falcons. He knew that these monsters were attacking them anyways but it was a bonus that he could gain valuable arrow making materials as well.

"You hear arrow I hear high tier potion making ingredient! Let's make a high antidote!" With Remey's fire they were in for a solid battle. Especially since one had angled downward at them with its talons open.

Walker watched as the group of six falcons lost a member to Gil's arrow and the first one that came close enough was dodged then smashed by a downward fist from Remey.

"That was Remey's ground breaking fist. She has been working on adding to properly to her battle flow. She said it's dangerous because it leaves her open to attacks. But with me here..."

Su dashed ahead and deflected the second falcon that was diving at them. The next two were slapped aside by Onyx's tail. Midnight followed up by pouncing on one and light arrows appeared around the second.

That left Walker to form a spear of ice and strike downward on the one that Su had deflected. Efficient and easy to defeat even though the falcons sounded powerful. It how was a clear demonstration of how the party had grown.

But it was also slightly bittersweet since they had once feared these sorts of monsters. It reminded them of where they had been when they first came together and how crazy things had progressed. None of what they had done was planned when they got together but it was a blessing in disguise now that they regarded each other as family.

"Time to keep pushing forward? Or do we want to switch shifts and let a few dragonkin take over?" Walker felt that moderation was the best process since they would be traveling the river for at least three or four days.

"Yes, we should make sure Alice can help heal those that get poisoned while Remey might be able to make some antidote potions. The ship has been set up for a small alchemy lab. Even a weapons repair shop was set up there to ensure that everyone is prepared." Su had heard this when they were leaving and thought it a great way to make the ship a core place for everyone mourning to another continent.

"Then we wait for the ship to catch up here." Everyone agreed to survey the area a little more as the ship caught up.

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Chapter 1595 1595. Antidote How To

"I assume you are here to tell us about the monster nests ahead as well as switch out?" Scylla was already at the top of the ship with a few of the other soldiers. She had dragonkin that were switching with some of her aquatic soldiers.

"We were going to warn you that there were tearing falcons in the area but we have not scouted out a best. We did take care of a den that had some purple bank frogs in it." Walker was not at all surprised to hear that there was a nest of tearing falcons.

"Well, one of the scouts saw the nest and decided to come back. Apparently, there are fifty falcons waiting there in nests. From what we have gathered there are no eggs meaning we will be scaring them out of their homes before any eggs have been laid. It's a lucky chance."

Just like everyone else, Scylla recognized that it was not the best thing to scare off all the monsters. Some of them belonged where they were because they were the natural predators of the other monsters that lived there. But since the tearing falcons had not laid eggs they still had time to make nests elsewhere. It was really a lucky break.

"What are the plans to handle them? I can do a little bit of work. It's not like I have to take a break right this second." Gil had his bow prepared so he figured it was pointless for him not to volunteer.

"No, you are going to take a break. From what Walker said, your party took out enough trouble ahead. Now you will rest there is no telling what else we will face. If you are worried you can remain above deck and watch in case you are needed." Scylla's firm orders were the same she had given a few of her soldiers that claimed they had the energy to spare.

This was not a simple journey. Because they were the first ship heading down river towards the ocean, they needed to be alert. There were many different obstacles that might stop them completely. The mages had already been switched twice over because the mana usage was higher than anyone else. If they burned everyone out, they could be beaten by the weakest monsters on the river.

"You heard her Gil, no more arguing. Let's see what we can do with what we hunted. Scylla, we will need the bodies of the tearing falcons for the archers and for antidote potions. The more we can get the

better." Scylla just gave Remey a nod since she trusted the judgment of someone who was able to make such good potions at such an age.

In Scylla's eyes, Remey had more than lived up and beyond what she had promised. The Demi-humans had been fearful of potions because of their poisoning issue after the demons had snuck in to their kingdom. It had truly changed their history and brought fear to the people completely shutting down all potion making for the foreseeable future.

Yet, Remey had boldly promised to create an entire organization that would prevent such potential things again. She had ensured that it rose to be a place full of strict learning and guidance above what was there before. Not only this, but it also helped ensure that potions were not sold well above what they were truly worth. Furthermore, herbs were even promoted so that there was a chance that rare herbs that were always in demand were more readily available.

"What is it even going to be like creating potions on a ship?" Su could not help her curiosity. She was unsure whether it would be harder or the same for Remey. She knew that the ship moved strangely in the river currents so that could be the major challenge.

"I'm not sure. I know we have a few other alchemists aboard so it would be a group effort." The idea that they might run out of ingredients was what Remey saw as the major downside of being isolated. However, this was always the issue since there was always the chance that the right herb would be just out of reach.

"Should I help with it? I'm sure that Midnight and I could help with any heating and cooling." Remey considered this for a moment before she half shook her head.

"Midnight can rest. I can use your fine control of temperature. Midnight might be better at helping Gil cut through the tough skin of the tearing falcons. Defeathering them is only part of what he will be doing." This was not too surprising since Midnight had tough dragon claws that would easily break through the tougher falcon skin that allowed for even tougher feathers to grow.

"Then I will go with Alice to ensure that the healers are getting on well. We will not waste our mana to heal those that are poisoned. But we will do what we can until you have stronger antidote potions." Su didn't mean that it wasn't worth healing people that had been poisoned by the purple bank frogs. Just that it would be more valuable to use potions rather than use mana to heal them. They were up for a long trip and mana usage would be more valuable. Everyone knew that well.

With that, the group split up. Onyx had returned to his smaller size and taken his signature place around Walker's shoulders as Remey moved through the lower parts of the ship. They had passed by the potion making lab when they had received a tour but it had been a quick pass. Walker would have been surprised that Remey remembered where and how to get there if she wasn't so dedicated to the discovery of new potions altogether.

"It's not much but check it all out. They brought in the last of the equipment the day before. I was sure that they would have made modifications and the dwarves did more than that." Remey pointed out the cauldrons that had been set up to rotate with the ship. This would ensure that they would not spill when the ship was in storms or anything worse. There were also many shelves that had been set up with locking doors. The perfect set up for rough waters.

"I think they outdid themselves. I know that it is hard to take everything in to account. But since the dwarves had sailors to give input, they ran with it." Walker was very impressed. The more he looked the more he noticed little things like locks on the tables so they would not slide or ropes to tie things down. Even the tools were all set in grooves to keep them on the tables. It was the perfect set up for the ship.

"I have been meaning to ask, how do you make potions using monster blood? I haven't heard of you using that technique." This was something that Walker had not seen Remey do yet. It was a less common form of potion making too.

"Easily. We need to heat it all with a blend of herbs and water. That will cause any impurities to rise to the top as we work. The best way is to take some sundew clover, thorny radish roots, and a hefty amount of salt. Add it to the water and start boiling. The sundew clover draws out the irons in blood while the thorny radish helps separate the blood from the toxins in it. Lastly, the salt helps the poison resistant aspects of the blood sink down the bottom." Walker was getting a little more confused because he wasn't sure how it worked like that since the manas would be complex.

"And the remnant at the bottom of the cauldron are the ingredient we will use. The blood of each falcon will vary in quality based on what they have eaten. But since they all have purple feathers I assume it's purple bank frogs. That should cover us well. I just wonder what they ate to give them the yellow feathers too. They are pretty bright so it might be a stronger poison than what the purple bank frogs have."

"I'm not sure either. Whatever it is we will have to keep an eye out." The idea that the river banks had another poisonous monster hiding away somewhere made Walker very uncomfortable. If he could help

them be avoided he would. However, all he could do for the time being was ensure that there would be a decent batch of antidote potions for those that discovered the monster first. He wouldn't be unhappy if they never found the monster in the first place though.

"Come on, stop spacing out. Let's get to work." Remey was not going to let Walker fall in to his thoughts here and waste time.

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Chapter 1596 1596. Dull Tools

"Midnight, If you use your claws to cut so close to the neck you will get the feathers covered in blood. That will make them heavier or lighter. I would prefer not to have to wash them. Cut about an inch lower. That will be perfect to help pull the feathers and skin off in one motion later." Gil had been teaching Midnight how to best defeather and deskin the tearing hawks.

After using his knives, he had found that they were tougher than he had realized. Gil had received new daggers, upgraded his armor, and even his bow at one point. But he had neglected his skinning knife set that he used while hunting, it made him feel foolish since it was one of his main tool sets as an archer.

"I will be back in a few minutes. I want to take a walk to the armory or maybe even the blacksmiths that came with us on the ship. I need sharper skinning knives." Midnight just growled slightly in acceptance. She didn't have to communicate any real words, it was the same when someone nodded or grunted acknowledgment to another's words.

Moving through the ship was much easier than Gil had imagined. When he had received the tour he had thought it would be a complicated mess of dwarven creations. This was mainly because he had seen how complicated the blueprints were for the dwarven golems, some of which were impossible for him to understand in the first place.

Yet now, he was easily moving through the well labeled paths toward the armory that was housed in the center of the ship. This was also right next to the small forge that had been created to make parts if the ship broke in any way. That was the main focus of the forge.

While in the ocean, there were many things that could go wrong. Many sailors had created a list of the biggest issues they had faced or heard of. Some even described events of having to create makeshift

parts to ensure that they were able to get back to their homes. This was the disadvantage of easily broken wooden ships. Yes, they were faster because they were lighter, but they could break.

The ship that had been created out of feather steel and other unique materials had taken some time to build. If it wasn't for the dwarves it would have been over a year to create one. But the skilled building from the dwarves more than sped the building up to only weeks. It truly showcased their collective focus as a race.

Even more so, it showed their adaptability to new ideas and blueprints. The dwarves had created a ship that covered the flaws of previous wooden ships while also taking in to account the issues a metal ship would have. But Gil could only praise them in his mind so much before he found himself in the larger main hallway that connected the forge and the armory.

"Come for a new weapon already? Or having a repair? It's too soon to have damaged something but monsters are monsters." The dwarf that came to meet Gil was clearly one that was in charge of the area. He had an aura of confidence that made it seem he knew where every nail and screw was on the entire ship.

"Actually, I released a flaw I had. I have an old tool set for skinning. I was going to make some arrows in my downtime. But..."

"They can't cut through the monsters you are hunting. I see the issue. I can provide a new set easily. It's something a lot of people forget about. By choice or by accident. Sentimentality and all that about their old tools." This seemed to be a common thing for any forge employee to run in to with clients.

"Exactly, I thought they would just be fine but it's not something I thought would be an issue when I left home. I might have been forcing them to work for a while now." The looks of the blades had become dull and chipped in a few places. Anyone could see that Gil has used them diligently.

"Come and get a new set." The forge that he was brought through showed Gil another level of genius. There were many tools that were set up on the walls to preserve space. They were locked in place as well with metal clasps. The forge itself was part of the wall to keep it from moving under any weather or attack. Same with the anvils. They had been built right in to the floor making them immovable under any circumstance. It would prevent any shifting which in turn would cause injuries.

From there, the large armory was all too impressive. Metal racks were anchored to the floor holding many basic weapons. Swords, shields, small spears, and even assorted bows. There were even some more advanced unique weapons that were definitely made for some of the more specialized soldiers.

"Here is the knife kit you need. I will take the old one for repurposing unless you need it?" Gil hesitated before shaking his head.

"No, I will keep it. This is the one that my father gave me. If I can have it refurbished so I can keep it in the family, that would be great." The dwarf smiled and grabbed the kit. He waved for another to take it and gave the orders.

"If you need anything else feel free to ask. We have some arrow making materials here as well." The dwarf left Gil to collect the odds and ends materials that he might need. It was the least he could do for someone that would be providing arrows to the archers. The dwarves were not as good at making arrows as the elves and there were only so many elven arrow makers on the ship.

"Midnight! You did great!" by the time that Gil returned to Midnight, he found that he had more than put in the work. She had managed to cut every place that Gil had shown her. This was the best way for him to speed up his arrow making process.

"Now watch me work." The slight nod from Midnight was all Gil needed to show off. He knew she had worked hard and had to show off his skills.

Gil's hands moved in a somewhat elegant fashion. He was precisely pulling feathers and fully removing the skin from the tearing falcons. Their meat was exposed and cut off in a single motion. It was something that only a trained hunter could do.

The two were so absorbed by the work that they didn't even realize an hour had passed them by. But what was left was a perfect breakdown of the tearing falcons. Bones were lined up to be used in making arrows while the other bones set aside to be sent to the blacksmiths the feathers had been sorted by their colors. The beaks were going to be used to make unique weapons for the tamers since some had monsters that incorporated other monsters body parts in to their physiology as armor. It was all going to have a use.

"Now the real question is, what can I do with these poison affected feathers? The purple will have some decent damaging potential if the arrow can pierce through an enemy. But they definitely can soak in poison and drip it down the arrow shaft." This was a harder technique to use but Gil was willing to try it.

"Poison?" Midnight's question was what Gil was waiting for.

"You know how we have so many of the purple bank frogs? Well, their poison should work in tandem with the purple feathers. If I make it correctly with Remey's help we can use it to deter or scare off monsters in our path. It will be better than fighting some. We just need to find a poison that works with the yellow feathers." Gil had returned to wonder what the yellow feathers could be signaling. The curiosity of what monster had caused the tearing falcons to grow yellow feathers rose yet again.

"We'll go meet brother!" This was all Midnight seemed to gather from what Gil had said. But she wasn't wrong. Gil needed to see Remey and Walker to keep moving forward after had created the arrows properly. They would still be usable and decent arrows but without the poison of the monsters that matched them, they would be less effective. Gil could only hope that he would be able to find all the necessary materials.

"Alright, let's go and see how they are doing." The pair cleaned up their mess and made way for the alchemy lab. Gil was also curious about how the antidotes were going.

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Chapter 1597 1597. The Smell!

"Holy heavens! What's that smell!?" Gil and Midnight were nearly put on the floor with the wave of toxic smells coming from the alchemy lab.

"Oh stop your crying. It's just the dregs of an antidote potion. It will be fine." Remey's taunting voice called Gil and Midnight in but Midnight quickly retreated.

A dragon had a much more sensitive nose than most other beings. Therefore, Midnight found that the intense smell was not worth the trouble. She backed right out of it and was gone. Gil couldn't even get a word in before she had made her way toward the top deck.

"Well this awful smell was enough to scare Midnight away." Covering his nose did not help Gil at all as he walked in to the lab. He managed to find Walker and Remey over different cauldrons boiling away.

"It made Onyx leave too. I'm sure they will be fine." Walker had a cloth over his face but Remey was seemingly fine. She had become used to these smells long ago.

"This is the last batch from what you had sent to us while you worked." Gil and Midnight had someone take away any of the tearing falcon blood while they worked. It wasn't something that they could just run back and forth doing since the bodies needed to be taken care of quickly.

"So what about the actual potion? This can't be it..." Gil couldn't fathom that the potion would be so gross.

"Really? It's right next to you Gil." Remey shook her head and focused on the current cauldrons. This left Walker to explain.

"The potion needs the blood purified to be used as an ingredient. I was surprised that the rest of the process was mixing our smelly ingredient and some herbs to soak. This is the antidote and it will be done in an hour after we add what's left here." The process was more interesting than Walker had originally thought.

The fact that the process went so in depth as purifying one single ingredient then turned around and just left the others to soak was off. But he had managed to see Remey cutting and mincing some herbs to soak. The same reason as I'm cooking was given, to let them spread the medicines within.

"So that will become this?" The difference in color was the most drastic thing Gil had picked out. The rusty brown color of the purified blood turned in to a somewhat clear red potion that could just be dyed water. And when Gil leaned his head close he smelled a pleasant floral scent. Much better than the singular ingredient.

"Exactly, the best part is that this potion can be drunk or applied. Apparently, only a handful of potions are like that but because of the weaker potion this one is like that." As far as Walker could see, this would increase the ability to heal those encountering the purple bank frogs many times over.

"Well that's good." Gil wasn't sure how it all really worked since potions were not his specialty. However, he did see the value. "I was wondering if you could help derive the purple bank frog poison for a poison drip arrow I'm making? The purple feathers are perfect for it. I just don't have anything to do with the yellow feathers other than regular arrows."

"We were wondering about the yellow color on the arrows too. This antidote potion will work for that poison as well but who knows how well. Remey said that we would have to add ingredients or change the potion completely depending on what the monster was and what the poison did." Walker felt that he was somewhat letting everyone down.

The reason for this was that there could be a person that encountered this poisonous monster before they had any inkling of what it was. That left them without an antidote and the pure home that someone would defeat one. Other than that, they would also need the body of the monster to be somewhat intact so that they could extract the poison from it.

"Well, I think we can head to the top deck while Remey works. That way we will be able to get out of Remey's way and also keep an eye out for any fighting." Walker knew that there was a tough chance they would be able to see what the monster was ahead of the ship. There were many of the scouting and clearing groups ahead of the ship. However, it was worth the shot, especially since they could climb a look out tower.

"That means we can work on our sight while we make arrows. And Yes, you helped Remey, scared away Midnight who was helping me, so that means you are now helping me. Sound good Remey?" Gil completely captured Walker without even asking Walker's permission.

"Fine by me, he already kept the ingredients in good condition through the toughest part. I should be fine here. I already called for the alchemists on board to help bottling and cooling these potions after they are done. They are good for five months. A pretty solid amount of time." Remey was happy with this as the efficacy time for the potion. It was above the average four months meaning she did well in asking Walker to help control temperature.

"Well...I guess that's alright." Walker actually wanted to take some time to meditate but had already been dragged in to something else. After a quick check that Remey really didn't need him, he followed Gil back up to the top deck where a few more groups had returned to change shifts.

"It looks like everyone has been busy. The purple bank frogs must be more prevalent than we thought." Gil was both happy and annoyed by this. He knew that there would be more treating falcon materials if

there was more of their prey around. He would be missing out on them because the other elves would lay claim to them. But he was happy because that meant that the route was being well cleared for the other ships. Especially Alma's.

"It's good, a lot of the healers are getting some experience working in a ship. I'm sure Alice has partnered up with Su by now to completely take charge of the healing. Honestly, she might be changing things around as we speak." Walker could imagine it now. Su and Alice ordering around the healers and the nuns that had come on the ship to make the entire healing floors more efficient.

The tower that they were climbing was just shorter than the masts that were set up to carry the massive wind catching sails. The sails himself had been made from a special braided fabric that was later made with wind elemental runes. This allowed them to be able to catch the wind under any circumstance to push the ship faster. It was also the last fallback when the ship lost all power to move or steam power. The dwarves had many back up plans.

Climbing the steps of the tower brought them past a few people moving up and down. They were mostly elves since the elves had the best archers and in relation, the best eyesight. They had proven to be the best to take the lookout while a few of the demi-humans with certain monster or animal traits had also taken the positions as watchers.

"See, from up here we can see forever. Now let's start work on carving some arrow shafts." Gil tossed Walker a knife and pointed out the one he had already carved from the tearing falcon bones. "Just straighten it out, remove the ends, and focus on creating notches here, here, and here." Gil showed off the speed of his skill by making one in the blink of an eye.

"You know you will need to check my work over and over. I doubt I will be able to watch the banks much." This wasn't really an issue. Walker had not helped Gil make arrows in a long time. They would have the chance to bond while Walker worked on a skill he didn't use.

"Just keep trying to copy me and we will be fine. I have all the bones from the tearing falcons. If we mess some up it's not the end of the world. But if you mess too many up...well, someone needs to test the arrows." Gil's evil smile made Walker question if Gil was truly a hero or if he had somehow managed to become a hidden villain.

"By any means, I will see what I can do." Walker took the carving knife and started to carve away at the bone using the same technique that Gil did. He was sure that this would end up being a new skill as long as he spent the time on it. He just had to put in the work.

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Chapter 1598 1598. Yellow

For the moment that Walker had before he tried to focus on the bone in his hand, he looked out at the scenery. Being on the water was misleading, now one would imagine that they were up as high as they were. They would normally be impeded by the riverbanks therefore they would see nothing. But at the moment, he saw a lot.

The expansive wilderness that stretched out around the river and even beyond. He could see the mountain range in the far distance while he could swear he could make out a city or two. Whether it was all in his head or not, there was great beauty in the sight. There was a sense of peace that burrowed right in to his heart to settle down.

"I think I will bring Alice to share a watch with me later. It would only be fair to help out here too." Gil smirked when he heard Walker saying this. He had the same thought process about wanting to share the view with Alma. But that would wait until later.

It was only another moment of looking before Walker returned his focus to the bone. He had to try and keep up with Gil in even a little sense of the phrase. He didn't want to be useless when it came to arrow making. Plus, he had the feeling that he could get another skill that might be useful one day other than arrows.

The slow carving of the bone was something that would normally make someone on edge. Most people would lack the patience to do this sort of task. However, for walkers, it was a challenge of the mind. Similar to meditating and feeling the mana in the air. It required a firm focus that ignored even time itself.

This thought process consumed Walker as he ran the knife along the bone smoothing out the imperfection. Since it was a fresh bone, it had not dried and become tough. There was an easier process of cutting in to it for Walker and Gil. But what Walker noticed was that it was easier to carve it when he used his mana to add in water elemental mana to the blade of the knife.

The change in the way Walker cut surprised Gil but not enough to stop his own work. The flow of Walker's blade was smoother and cut cleaner. The sudden crack as the bone fell on to two halves was shocking to Walker but he did not hesitate to pick up another bone and try again.

Unfortunately, just like the first bone, it cracked in a few moments because Walker had used too much force and too much mana. "Third try's the charm." The reciting of a common phrase was thought to bring luck and that was what Walker hoped he was bringing to him as he spoke.

With swift strokes of the knife, thinner bone pieces came off leaving perfectly smooth parts of the bone that resembled an arrow shaft. The more that he did this, the more that Walker wondered if he could even carve a rune into the bone. Naturally, he had to pursue this curiosity. He could not leave himself wondering just what was and was not possible.

There was a sudden strength in the elemental mana around Gil that drew his attention. He was captured by the sight of Walker coating the blade of the knife he was using in water and carving into the bone. The tearing falcon bone was not only being shaped but Gil could see the water elemental runes that Walker was copying from a piece of fabric he had taken from his storage.

'The skill bone carving has been learned through continued work and guidance from an experienced hunter.

Bone carving- passive

The user is able to better carve any type of bone as long as they are using better tools. Not many people have the ability to do so due to the strength of bones or the skill required. The user can better carve bones the more they work with them over time.

The skill water blade has been taken from the water splitting sword system. The user has used their knowledge of water elemental mana, swordsmanship, and elemental control to learn this skill.

Water blade- 3 mana cost an hour

This skill requires a blade to use as the base made of metal. The user is able to manifest the water from the air to add on to the blade. The rotating water will sharpen the blade making it easier to cut through tougher materials. This skill comes at a slightly higher mana cost to maintain but can be lowered as the user's understanding of mana expands. It may also slowly damage the bladed weapon being used.'

"I swear he learns skill just by breathing...wait, has he?" Gil was wondering just how many skills Walker had learned but realized that Walker probably had too many skills to keep track of at this point. It was clear that Walker used some skills without even thinking at this point. They were becoming instinctual for him.

"I think I am done." Walker raised the arrow shaft he had created in to the sun so that they could look at it clearer. "I know I only made one so far but I had an idea that I could use the water elemental mana to help cut the bone since it was soft. Then I started thinking that the runes we know would be perfect for this."

It was not the first rune that Walker had carved but it was still a little rough. The rune was working well and Gil could feel the water elemental mana adhering to it. "It's pretty good. I was not going to make arrows like this because I know they can get lost easily. The rune inscribed arrows that some of the elves use are considered priceless because of the time it takes them. But since you want to make them."

"I am not making you a hundred of those. Just one took more mana than it should." Walker could sense that Gil was going to use him to make even more if he was not careful.

"Finnnnneeeee. But you can help me when I get to making the wind elemental arrows. I figure I will make unique arrows that just Zephyr and I can use. The other elemental arrows will be normal so that I can use them without worry." As an archer, Gil knew the pain of losing arrows. Any hunter or archer would want to recover the arrows they had slaved away making. But sometimes battle and hunting took the arrows away in the form of broken shafts, arrowheads, and even being burned to ashes. Any number of things could happen.

"I can help you as soon as I figure out what all that yelling is about." Walker heard a few of the look outs starting to shout and pass messages down the stairs to others on the top deck. They had definitely spotted something.

"Then let's just take a look." Gil was up in a flash with Walker by his side. The pair looked ahead, easily finding the movement that had been spotted.

"It's yellow." Gil felt that they had finally found the yellow monster that was providing the tearing falcons with another food source.

"Yes, it is yellow. Let's get a closer look from the top deck. The team that was on that side of the riverbank is retreating." Walker knew that the team was mostly physical attackers. The mages were mostly stationed on the ship to maintain ranged protection from monsters.

It only took a minute to rush down the stairs. Walker had stored the materials that Gil and him had been working on so that there would be no issues. Once they had gotten to the top of the ship they found multiple mages preparing to attack when the monsters came in to range. The cloud of yellow was easier to make out as multiple monsters buzzing around together.

'Assassin jackets

These are monsters with extremely weak bodies. However, they will travel in large groups that make underground nests. They will easily become disturbed causing them to fly from their nests and attack with deadly poison. The poison is weak when in small doses just causing stress and pain. In large doses, it can completely break down a body leaving food for the hive.

Many adventurers and travelers have fallen victim to the hidden monsters. Some will try to raise them for their poison but it is not advised due to the danger. They are extremely weak to fire and will often remain in damp or cooler climates to avoid fire. They do not like ice either and will hibernate during the colder seasons.'

"Assassin Jackets. That is what those are."

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Chapter 1599 1599. Tandem

"Nothing about them sounds good. They are too large and poisonous?" Gil had a hard time believing that they were about to face a swarm of bugs that could stop them in their tracks. These things were clearly going to be a lot of trouble.

"Well, you wanted to know what the monster was that made the tearing falcon's feathers yellow. Now you have them. But let's start to help. Can you hit them with an arrow from here? Or do you need a boost?" Walker had a feeling that Gil could fire an arrow close to where the soldiers were retreating from the cloud of assassin jackets. But it would be rough actually hitting the monsters.

"If you can help add some fire to the wind, I should be good. We can use a fire and wind arrow in the same shot, with you boosting the elemental mana then we should reach with a decent attack." Gil had come up with the idea some time ago but had not had the chance to train with a mage.

Arcane archery was a mix of physician and al attacks. Many people were jealous of this. However, there was a challenge in mixing the two. Gil had to focus on this every single day so that he would be able to be the best arcane archer he could be without causing a al issue or just firing a pointless only physical arrow.

"Then let's try this," Gil took out a fire and a wind arrow. This was a combination he had used to boost the fire damage when the arrows landed together. It was more challenging but it would be worth it. But with the boost from Walker, Gil was sure that they would do major damage to the swarm of assassin jackets heading after the soldiers.

"The distance between them and the monsters has grown, now is the chance while they are gaining space." Walker had already focused on the wind and the fire elemental mana in the air. It was gathering behind Gil waiting for the right moment.

Walker and Gil had spent enough time together that they didn't need to say much. Just a look or a turn of the head was enough to match their heartbeats. To begin combining the mana that Gil was using to push the arrow along even faster.

This on the top of the deck hesitated when they saw the brilliant burst of twirling flames form around the pair. They had not expected that they would be attacking from such a long distance. Even the mages and snipers were unable to fire from such a distance. It was very rare that a marksman of this caliber was able to walk the earth. Many tales would be told if this arrow hit and no one wanted to miss it happening.

'The skill tandem archery had been taken from the system. The users Gil and Walker have both gained half the skill of tandem archer.

Tandem archer- mana cost variable based on the users.

The twin archers famous for creating this skill have gone down in elven history. Between them, one was gifted in the creation of arrows made of elemental mana while the other was a perfect marksman. Together they became the twin archers that could fire devastating elemental arrows.

This skill allows two beings to form arrows while taking aim. Both of their manas are taken to fuel the arrows that can do double the damage of a normal arcane arrow. The skill comes with the requirement that the two are extremely close and can speak without words. Training a relationship to this level is not as easy as many would imagine.

The two will be able to better harness elemental mana to create arrows that attack from a distance when together. They will have fewer chances of creating an explosion of mana before they fire the arrow. They have less chance of destroying the arrow that is their medium.'

The system had given the two of them a new skill that sounded more emotional than anything. But it was fitting. Unfortunately, Gil and Walker had no idea they had received a skill that was helping them create their attack even better than before.

The mana surged behind Gil and Walker struggled to hold it back. The change had been dramatic but perfect for Gil to know that it was time to release the mana he had held back with the arrow.

The flames were perfectly mixed with the wind in a single breath. Gil let the arrows slip away in to the sky. The brilliant fire arced through the air making everyone aboard the ship look up as if they were seeing a small comet.

Wind whipped around the ship before the arrow made its way behind the running soldiers. "It should be now."

"Agreed, now." Walker and Gil shared just these words before the arrows landed together in the center of the assassin jacket swarm.

It felt like time had stopped for just a second before a large burst of flames and winds whipped the assassin jackets in to oblivion. They had either been burned too severely to move or the wind had sliced in to their bodies.

The soldiers on the river bank had halted after realizing that their enemies had turned in to less than ten enemies. The entire swarm had nearly been defeated with a single pair of arrows. "I can't say we will do that a lot, but nice job." Gil held out a fist to Walker to bump. He was impressed with what they had done but even more with the speed at which they had done it.

There had been a feeling of power that flowed through him when he had let the wind and fire arrows out of his hand. As if there was more than just wind and fire elemental mana coursing through the arrows. All Gil could guess was that there was a little natural mana that had mixed in to smooth out the elemental mana's bonds.

"That was a lot more than I thought it would be. But since we're brothers, I don't know what I would have expected. Shall we go down and help them out?" Walker felt that he and Gil had long been closer than just party members. Many times they had said they were family or brothers. Their new skill had highlighted this. It had given them another way to work together to deal with tougher opponents.

"I would say they are waiting to see just who caused them a shock like that. A sudden boom of flames and wind? I would have some questions." Gil laughed a little as Walker used the elemental dragon wings to make a simple pair of wind wings to carry them down to the river bank where the group of soldiers were fighting the last of the assassin jackets.

It was a fight that was complete before they had even set foot back on the earth. However, they had easily drawn the attention of the elf captain that led the group. "Thank you for the help. We seem to have disturbed a large nest. This is only a small group of what we saw up ahead. We need to stop the ship."

"Well, we didn't expect that." Gil was stunned. There were so many defeated assassin jackets on the ground behind the captain and his soldiers. Yet, he was saying that there were many more ahead on a large nest.

"I don't know why we would be surprised. This is just how our luck goes. But I will ask you this, if there are so many, what do you think we will find?" This question tempted Gil a lot.

The idea that a massive nest of poisonous monsters was up ahead meant that there would be rare materials for arrows. But even more, there might be a reason that they made such a large nest there. One that had gone beyond what was normal for their species. All this together meant that those on the ship would be receiving valuable supplies that they could take to the ocean for defense.

"I am going to be making a lot of arrows with the elves." Walker laughed a little. He knew that Gil was not going to let him off the hook.

"You can worry about that after we clean up here and report this to Scylla. We might have to stop the ship and lead an attack ahead of the ship to avoid the swarm attacking the ship completely." Gil and Walker continued like this as they cleaned up the remains of the monsters. Walker was already building an attack plan on a larger hive of assassin jackets to offer to Scylla when they returned to the ship.

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Chapter 1600 1600. Group Up

"Stop? Why would we stop?" Scylla had heard that there was a very large assassin jacket nest up ahead which posed a danger but had already decided that it was no reason to stop.

"We have to get rid of it first. If it is as large as the soldiers said then it will be a huge issue." Gil was adamant about stopping while Waker thought that it might not be as necessary.

If we don't stop then we have to ensure that we wipe it out right away. Mordant and Rise are not going to be responsible for it. You shouldn't either since you are going to need your strength if we face a tough situation as well." Walker wanted to keep his mind focused on the dangers ahead.

There was a very good chance that the ship would encounter larger water monsters as they reached the ocean or even the mouth of the river. If they were not prepared then they could not only lose a ship, but lose their lives. It would be a disastrous loss for Genesis and its people.

"We can not stop because the ships may catch up to us. If you believe a nest of monsters to be dangerous then you should hear what I have been told about ships colliding with one another." Since Scylla had been given command, the dwarves had ensured that captions of other ships had given her a rundown.

Scylla had also been on wooden ships before. She never had to worry about falling in the waters because she had the ability to swim and walk through the air. That was normal for her. But for others, the waters were a place where they could drown in darkness or be consumed by monsters they never thought existed. Add in the fire or the impact of a ship crash, and it was never going to be a small event.

"We will need to handle it before the ship gets there then. And if it isn't that far ahead..."

"Then we need to act now." Walker knew where Gil was going with this and was already formulating a plan. "We need the mages to come with us for a long ranged attack. The archers can come too if they can shoot either explosive potions attached to their arrows or arcane arrows." The idea was that the mages and archers would cause damage to the massive swarm before anything else could happen.

"From there we will have the small groups left that can be handled by patrolling groups or the rest of the mages on the ship as it passes. But we need everyone now." Scylla nodded along, agreeing that this plan would work.

"Listen here, all mages with large area spells, arcane archers, and archers that can fire heavy arrows report to Gil and Walker immediately!" The sudden orders revolved around the ship. Scylla had called out loud enough to let multiple of her demi-human soldiers know what was happening.

The sounds of thundering feet on metal became common as many mages and archers lined up. Remy burst on to the roof with fire in her eyes hearing that they had mentioned explosive potions. Walker wasn't even sure how she heard that because Scylla hadn't even shouted it. But he knew not to question it.

"I have some newer and improved potions to test out. They will be perfect for this. They will explode in a ball of fire but won't poison the land. It will actually leave behind a residue that should help plants grow. It was a potion being developed for fertilizer but ended up causing fires. It's a great test for the altered formula." Gil and Walker had no issue with this but they were slightly worried.

"Then start picking out a team of archers to lead. We are going to fire arrows and spells from multiple arrears to destroy and split the assassin jacket swarm in to parts that we can deal with. They are a pest that needs to be defeated anyways. There will never be enough tearing falcons to deal with the amount reported." As Walker and many others knew, there was a balance in nature. If there were too many of one monster it could cause damage to the flow of nature in the area. The number of assassin jackets reported were definitely a danger to the natural flow and more.

"What's the problem?" Su and Alice reached the top deck with Midnight and Onyx behind them. It seemed that the four had been teamed up working on the healing areas of the ship. The addition of

Remey's potions had definitely sped things up but also required more hands to give them out. Especially to those that were switching shifts.

"There was a very large assassin jacket swarm found nesting ahead. There was a group of soldiers attacked by them. Gil and I handled it but now we have to deal with the man nest before we get there or else the ship will be attacked by more than we can handle." The explanation Walker gave was simple and updated the four of them without issue.

"I've heard of those. The nests can be hidden in the ground or worse. Some farmers even open sheds and find that they have a small nest of five or six starting. But that's enough to end a life." Su was told about these before by a farmer. It was true that it was an issue for some farmers but they did not often appear anywhere near a city farm. They stuck by moving water which was why Gil had not encountered them before.

"Actually, Alice and Midnight will be a great help. Alice can attack with light from a distance or even make a wall to protect the mages. Then Midnight can help burn them up with her flames." Gil's point made Alice and Midnight very attentive to what was going on. If they could help they wanted to.

"I will do it. The less injured the better." Since Alice could not see someone get hurt without needing to heal them, she thought it better to prevent the injury in the first place. This was a common thought that most good hearted people had. On the other hand, Midnight just started growling with determination, her words escaping her but everyone understood her feelings.

"Then you will all take a group of five archers and mages each. Take up positions as you see fit and eradicate the threat. Retreat and return here so we can defend the ship as it passes. From the location to here based on what I have been told, you have forty five minutes." Scylla waved for everyone to begin moving off the ship. She would remain with the ship for protection since it was her main focus.

"Alright, we split up. Onyx, go with Alice as her guardian, alright?" Walker would have preferred to go with Alice but he knew that she was skilled enough to be in charge of her own group. It would also waste time to try to make things so they could be together. He had to focus on the bigger picture.

Leaving the ship was easier than it seemed because of the ropes and multiple boats that could depart from the ship in a very efficient process. Having the sailors that had trained the dwarves was a massive boon. Adding in the soldiers that Leon had in the waters helping guide the ships was even better. He had been flawlessly directing them unseen for hours to ensure that things were smooth sailing. It was the biggest unspoken contribution so far.

Groups formed on the river banks as soon as they reached the land while the small boats were taken back to the ship to maintain the pace. They would be moved back out to the banks when they all returned from their mission.

"We can not stop here. Form up with me and make way!" Walker took control of his group. The five archers and five mages were moving quickly behind with. The archers were more adept at traveling at this speed with fewer disturbances while the mages seemed to struggle slightly. However, the speed was the main point here.

"The reports said that we could easily reach the start of the nest. Apparently, it is large enough that we can see many of them on the top of the soil. That means there are even more below the ground. Be ready to attack when I give a signal. But until we can see all the other groups at the ready, we will hide." Walker wanted to ensure that the attack went well. But he was not prepared for the sight ahead of him. The size of the assassin jacket nest that he was about to encounter.