

## Master 1661

### Chapter 1661 1661. More Races?

To say that everyone was on high alert all night was not wrong. Everyone that had seen the tiny little beautiful lights become a massive danger had reached a new understanding of the ocean. They had gone from thinking that they were prepared to realizing that even the dangers that seemed small could be massive.

Ignus seemed to be the angriest. He had tried to burn up all the lunar algae. It was a simple matter but he had been unable to burn it with his higher ranking flame breath than others. It should have been simple, however, the saltwater, growth rate, and massive number of algae in the ocean had been too much. It had beaten him in a way.

The other dragons were in the same thought process. Rise had known that she could do nothing because her light would have made it worse. Terron had been under the deck and still avoid fighting, for the most part, he knew that he was the weakest in this situation.

Current had seen the issue and knew that he could not do much. If he used his skills and forced the water to move too much he would further spread out the lunar algae. That would have caused many more issues than help.

The same could be said for Ventus. She could have attacked using sharper wind blades. That would have cut away the lunar algae. Unfortunately, the fact that the wind would then carry the lunar algae to the top deck and cover all the dragonkin warriors that followed the royal dragons would have been much worse. She would have watched the ships and her loyal warriors become victims of her own attempt to help them.

These situations were few in their lives. The royal dragons had rarely found times when their strength would have been more of a problem than a solution. Most of dragon society was based on strength. That was why there was such a strong respect for the ancient dragons that had studied their affinity for so long. They had strength that could lead and protect their villages just by being there.

Walker understood this. He would have barely been able to protect one ship by using his mana. The lunar light was weaker than the sun but that didn't mean it would be easy to manipulate shadows on such a large scale. Mordant was able to do so because he had understood and learned about the darkness mana he had an affinity for.

The real key was that the natural mana had boosted things. The royal dragons had seen this. They were unsure about the true strength that the nature dragon had in the past. They had heard the stories and been guided by the elder in the royal court. But seeing what natural mana could do multiple times and even in a specific situation, they were impressed.

The small thing that Mordant had done was faster because of the elemental spirits helping. Normally, Mordant could have done this with more time. He hadn't been using a skill but just manipulating the mana in a way he was asked. Anyone would struggle with that to a degree if they were not prepared in advance. But that struggle had not occurred and even gone to cause Mordant to become enlightened in a way.

It was beyond what they had imagined could happen. From this point, they would have to wonder just how weak the dragons had gotten without a nature dragon for so long. The final royal dragon that they had heard about had undeniable strength, especially now that they had seen what a very young person with the same power could do.

This was all small scale though. They had trouble grasping what the scaling would be like as Walker became equally powerful in comparison to them. It was already easy to understand how the entire party had defeated beings stronger than the party itself. Now they could understand why there was such a drastic change in the other races too.

The way things evolved had been guided by unique thinking and the involvement of natural mana. "Walker, we need to clean things up. The sun will rise before we get this all done." Walker had taken the time to sit and also reflect. The new skills seemed useful but he had been more focused on one thing, the fact that one skill could be used by beings to ignore their weakness of light.

In particular, Walker had been caught on the fact that the skill mentioned vampires becoming daywalkers. "Sorry, I got a new skill. I was thinking about it a lot, but do you think this continent has monsters called vampires?" Su was caught by the question. She had originally been working to help others and saw that Walker had recovered a bit so she went to get him to help too.

"I think that they might not be monsters any more. From what the books I have read said, they were intelligent. They can even be created by humans. Maybe they are on the other continent and they are a respected race now." Su thought this for a moment but wasn't sure that Walker was going to let the thought go.

They both understood the world to be larger than they had imagined. Just the fact that there were a variety of races on their own continent made it clear that they did not know much. There could easily be multiple races on this new continent and even on other continents on the same world. That wasn't even taking in to account the elemental planes that might become a destination for the party in the future.

Too many things to think about and too many possibilities. They all made Walker's mind feel like he was in a fog. "I should stop thinking about this. It's already crazy that there are so many things happening. If we happen to run in to a race like that we will try to make allies if we can. Maybe the stories we read are not that bad."

Walker could try and think that the stories were just that, stories. However, he didn't forget the immortal king. The undead trapped in his home eternally. That ancient ruin was already evidence that races had existed on their continent before and did not anymore.

The one thing that immortal king had said though, was related to vampires that he had fought once upon a time. Vampires that were all hiding in slumber somewhere. This memory nagged at Walker for a few moments before he finally shook it out of his mind. There was always something to worry about but he had to remain focused. But it did make him wondered if he should look to return to the immortal king and have another conversation one day.

Bringing himself back to what was happening around him, Walker saw that the dead lunar algae was being gathered in one spot on the ship. Remey had emerged from the alchemy lab to examine it. She knew she had no way to help earlier but now she was able to look at things and find a way to avoid this danger again. What was better than using mana to defend against this every time? She might be able to make a potion that helped them resist it.

"Can you two get some people to bring this to the alchemy lab? It has a dormant state, right? That means that I might be able to find a potion that stops it from waking up at all. We can put it on the hull of the ship and it won't even grow on it!" Remey was taking this theory from the other potions made to prevent herbs from spreading.

Any herbalist or farmer would have experience with this. They would buy these herbicide potions to protect their livelihood and also to control dangerous herbs from growing. Remey just had to experiment. Once she was able to make it she would be able to protect every single ship every single night they were on the water. It would more than make up for her inability to help earlier.

"You can really make that happen? If you do we can fix it to my arrows too. I want to make sure that our path is clear as far as we can see." Gil joined in on this immediately. He had understood that any of his arrows would have caused more issues in this last event. Fire arrows would have failed to burn anything, ice arrows would make obstacles, and wind arrows would cause more lunar algae to breed around them.

"Looks like you have everyone's help. We will bring it to the alchemy lab." Walker Su and Gil immediately got to work so Remey could focus. It was just right for them to help out like this.

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#### Chapter 1662 1662. Feeding On Algae

The algae that Walker and the others brought down to Remey's lab proved not to be the last. They managed to be on the top deck when the sun was rising. It appeared that there had been a lot more lunar algae than they expected.

The sun had illuminated the waves which carried chunks of already dying lunar algae. It had been killed the moment that the sun rose and it had been overloaded with too much mana. The reason that the algae grew was the moonlight. It was gentle and not as harsh as the sun. note it was getting too much light all at once and unable to grow to compensate.

The glowing pieces of alga were turning brown and sticking together. They were more or less chunks of useless seaweed. The ships didn't need to worry about them while they moved. They could cut through them as long as they weren't too large of chunks. This was why those on lookout were guiding the steering of the fleet around the larger floating sections of lunar algae.

Naturally, Walker paid attention to the smaller chunks nearby. He saw that sem fish had already started swimming up to bite chunks off. What was surprising was the fact that there were even small rock crabs and other small monsters on it that were eating too. They were too young to hunt yet so this made sense, the algae was ideal food for them.

"Plenty of things to catch but I wouldn't do it." Leon had been making rounds and found that Walker was looking over the edge watching the little chunks of lunar algae.

"Let me guess, the defeated things we choose for your meals will end up attracting predators?" Leon nodded because Walker was exactly right. He had already learned that the best way to avoid trouble

was to avoid being a predator in general. The action of hunting attracted much worse than most other places here in the ocean.

"How did your warriors recover? Were they able to relax after last night?" Since it seemed that the merfolk had been busy helping where they could so they have clearly been worn thin.

"Some had to be ordered to rest but for the most part they got it through their heads. Some of them started to complain and wish they were mages. They liked that you and a royal dragon worked together to defeat a weird plant. Not that they hadn't seen lunar algae before. But they had not been afraid of it like that."

The perspective of the merfolk had always been that the lunar algae was weak and not worth looking at. But that was the life of those that didn't go to the surface to hunt when it grew, nor those that lived on the surface while it grew. They had never had to worry about it trapping them or anything.

"So they faced the danger for the first time last night. I'm glad we got everyone out of the water. If they had been stuck underneath they wouldn't have been able to get up at all." Walker breathed a sigh of relief. It was a truly good thing that they had made an appropriate call at the right time. Too many dangers existed and it was clear that the ships would need better building in the future to counter everything.

"Are you thinking that the ships might be too weak?" Leon seemed to be able to read Walker's mind today. It was exactly the thought on his mind at the moment.

"More or less. If the ships are having this much trouble... I just wonder what we will be able to do when we have more time to develop them. When we have the time to make better ships that can change the ocean from a dangerous and terrifying place into one with potential. Just imagine, what if we have farms of ocean plants floating on the ocean?"

This was not what many people would think about. But as Leon processed it, he understood that it was just another thing that set Walker and the party aside from others. They thought of these things constantly. Instead of being selfish and thinking about what they could get for themselves, they thought about what they could get for others. It was the real reason he believed that they had gotten the hero titles.

Leon had heard the stories about the party's actions. He even heard right from Walker how they got the hero titles originally. They had saved someone, yes, but that seemed too small of an act to be recognized as a hero. However, he could tell after getting to know the party that their actions were just part of it. The world had seen the party's potential. Their desire to care beyond reason for every race. A hero wasn't born of one action but consistent and many actions.

"Well, in any case, I have a nap that is calling my name. Get some rest too. Remey has to make some potions for later tonight." Leon said this like the day would be gone in the blink of an eye. There would surely be more to the day but Walker just nodded along. He wanted Leon to get to rest as soon as possible too. Before someone distracted him.

#### 'Salt fly

The salt fly loves the mornings after lunar algae blooms across the ocean. It will eat the salt that dies on top of the algae constantly. It will then fly in to a frenzy looking for a mate. They are just insect monsters with a small size but they are a delicacy to certain monsters. If there are many salt flies, be on the look out for the ribbon fish coming to the surface.'

The all around appraisal of the salt flies which were tiny but visible to walker made him wonder what a ribbon fish was. Luckily, his answer came with the sound of water being displaced. The smaller waves were being broken up by a snake like figure moving through them.

#### 'Ribbon fish

The ribbon fish blend in to the waters of the ocean easily. They have a light and water affinity that helps them alter the light around them in the water to remain nearly invisible. They have larger unhinged jaws that allow them to open their mouths and capture hundreds of infant salt flies at once. This is their favorite food.

The ribbon fish lack sharp teeth in comparison to the endless eel which it is related to. The endless eel has many teeth and can grow hundred of feet long whereas the ribbon fish can only grow ten feet long. It is often kept as a pet by those that enjoy exotic pets.'

The bit of information made Walker wonder what could keep these monsters as pets. It seemed like a tough job to have since they would need special enclosures. This wasn't like the tamer's guild which

would have a special way for them to exist on land or other waters. The ribbon fish would be limited to salt water and need certain foods.

In other terms, a pet of this kind of monster would be all cost and no benefit. The all around appraisal made him wonder what exactly would be keeping these as pets and why. But that was for another day. Right now, Walker was watching the ribbonfish reveal themselves and snap up large amounts of salt flies.

Here and there, a few small ribbon fish were caught in nets so that their blood didn't get in the waters. This was the best they could do to capture some additional food. Not that their storage of food was low but having more would be good. It was also a way for some of the experiences to learn about the ocean and what they might find there.

'Leech fish

These small fish latch on to any fish and draw nutrients from their bodies. They are always small. They are considered a pest and some fish specifically became poisonous so that the leech fish will not feed on them. But the leech fish are very tolerant of poisons making them still a pest. Some ancient alchemists used leech fish after they absorbed poisons to make antidotes.'

Walker saw this on one of the smaller ribbon fish that was brought aboard. He jumped to grab the leech fish and collect as many as possible. It was a good excuse to capture something valuable. He threw them in to a bubble of floating ocean water as he called for a bucket. He couldn't keep them floating in water that he controlled for long. Especially since his goal was to bring them to Remey. A perfect excuse to see what she had started to experiment on when it came to the lunar algae.

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Chapter 1663 1663. Future Potentials

Many of the soldiers netting the ribbon fish heard what Walker said. They worked together to gather the leech fish quickly. They were glad to hear that they could be used to make more advanced antidotes. This would help many of them.

Things went further when one of the tamers caught wind of what they were doing. He was a skinny man that had a signal hawk as a tamed monster. The signal hawk was a very small hawk known for using very loud chirps to warn entire forests of danger. They were a respected monster and hunted smaller insects but were still similar to hawks.

The tamer had started to hear that the leech fish were being caught for the respective reason of helping make antidote potions. "Excuse me, if you are catching those, can I take two? I can try to tame a breeding pair so that we can have more of them for later. I have a taming system that requires me to take only smaller monsters. It would be perfect for me."

The man had caught Walker just as he was about to go below deck toward Remey's alchemy lab. The lab would have just taken the leech fish and kept them alive to use on the poisonous or venomous monster bodies that they captured for the rest of the voyage. It would have been a simple way to create a quick potion that was tailored to the poison or venom that was ailing others.

But with the tamer volunteering, Walker had no issues. He allowed the tamer to check the buckets he was carrying and take the healthiest pair of leech fish with him. Now there would be more assurance that the ships would have longer term medicines. There was also the simple fact that the tamer could make a full business from this.

Many people would want the leech fish to be able to help their potion making. but, even more, the tamer could sell to healers so that the healer could have unique medicines made for every situation instead of using cleansing and purifying skills. It was a guarantee that these skills would always work without fail.

This left Walker a lot happier and even had a few of the healers talking before he went below deck. It was a good thing to be thinking ahead, especially since there were many people that would benefit. He could only hope that this was just another sign that things were going to continue to improve based on the actions of those that fought for Genesis.

The sounds coming from below deck were not that wild. Many of the dwarven blacksmiths had been checking the hull for any minor damages on the inside after the lunar algae had grown. A few had feared that the algae had caused distress by growing on the metal and bent the shape of the hull. They knew that it was very important that the hulls as streamlined so that the ship was able to keep up the speed it was moving at.



Many people had seen the trees and plants that had grown on a cobbled road and upheaved the entire thing. A single root could cause a lot of trouble for carriages and become a costly thing to fix. The ship was the same, if the algae had the same effect then it would have ruined the entire journey for a single ship. It would be a massive loss.

Luckily, it sounded like the blacksmiths checking things were in a very impressed mood. They had found nearly no damages. The damages they found were easily fixed because they were simple scratched or marks from the scraping off of the lunar algae but that had not caused any issue at all.

By the time that Walker made it to the alchemy lab, the herbal scents had filled his nose. He could tell that Remey had been breaking down and improving herb concentrates for some time after she had returned to the lab after taking a breather in the fresh air.

There were more people than Walker expected to be in the lab. He had expected that Ignus would have left to fly or gather more fire elemental mana in the forges. But he was sitting and watching Remey work carefully. It appeared that he was actually trying to understand the alchemy fire a little more.

"I wouldn't have expected you to be here." The other alchemists seemed to be fairly far away from where Ignus was. They were working silently so that they didn't interrupt his thoughts. It was easy to see that they were wary of his temper.

"I had things I wanted. The fire affinity potions made with alchemy flames seem interesting." This was a bit of a cold shoulder since Ignus didn't even look over after saying this. His eyes were fixed on the flames.

"He came a while ago. I said that I wasn't going to be asking anyone for help and that the flames I used would be simple alchemy fire." Remey was true to her word. Walker didn't see her partner anywhere. The grand fire spirit was certainly resting because of the flames it had used prior. But that was a good idea. The grand spirits should be resting to prepare for any danger that came while on the ocean.

This also went for Fleur who had quickly returned to the spirit mark after helping Walker with the darkness elemental mana. She had been trying to remain resting for the most part other than exploring the ship and watching people work. She couldn't quench her curiosity much at all.

"Well, if you are making affinity potions then it makes sense. But you do use alchemy fire more fluently than anyone else. I bet that it is more important to see what influence a grand fire spirit had on your flames like that." The fact that Ignus remained focused proved this. The grand elemental spirits had already proven their effects on mana. Add in unusual elemental variations and natural mana, and things were very interesting. Many things could be gleaned from just watching.

"If you take your head out from under a rock and think about what happened before then you'll do the same as I am. Mordant has a lead with affinity potions and natural mana now. I will not allow him to show off shadows over my fires!" Ignus was angry about this. He knew that Mordant had received an enlightenment of some sort after feeling the ways that darkness and natural mana reacted with one another.

"If that's what you need then just let me know. You have helped Midnight with flames a little so that will be a great help to all of us. I think that when you try to meditate again, I can see what I can do." Walker was sure that he would also learn something.

Ignus had a high control of flames. He even represented fire to a degree. He was matching his temperament with the fire he could control. But the fact that Walker would be able to see flames controlled at a much higher degree than what he had already seen was great.

Adding in natural mana would cause a bigger improvement. Walker wanted to be able to better understand everything before he faced the unknown of the new continent. He didn't doubt that everyone on the ships would band together to be able to make it through the ocean. He also believed that things would be much smoother once he grasped a better understanding of how every elemental mana rates with natural mana in the mix.

"You can help if you want. I will make the most of a single affinity potion. The more I can burn the better." It was clear that Ignus's pride had been injured after this lunar algae event. He had been unable to burn through the algae because of how fast it grew and the fact that it was wet with saltwater. This failure had rung heavily in his mind.

But that could be said for anyone. Walker would only have been able to protect a single ship if he had not had Mordant there. There was also a lack of dark affinity mages. They were rarer in the world in general but on the ships there were fewer than could be counted on hands.

They weren't even able to do much. They were mostly there for the scouting that they could do at night. Having eyes that could see through the dark better at night was the answer to many dangers in the ocean. Especially when it came to rocks and potential snags that the ships could hit.

"Stop just standing there. Tell me what's going on." Remey took Walker out of his train of thought and looked at the buckets he had brought.

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#### Chapter 1664 1664. Half Fire Half Water

The patience that Remey had for the two getting in to talks about getting stronger then interrupting her alchemy was done. Ignus had already been watching her every move for a while now and that alone had been enough to get on her nerves. The only thing that had stopped her from turning around to punch him was the fact that Ignus would surely hit back. And a fight in the lab could ruin her potion.

"I brought some leech fish for you to keep. If you let them consume the blood of a few poisonous or venomous monsters we run in to you should be able-"

"I can make better antidotes. I might even be able to keep them alive instead of killing them with every single feeding. That means a better everything. Instead of potions, I might be able to condense it in to a pill. That would require an herbalist or a better alchemist but it's possible." Remey had already heard of the leech fish and she was ready to see what she could do.

In the corner of the room there were barrels of water that were set up for use when making potions. But some of the barrels were filled with salt water for other uses. Now they would be used to house the leech fish. From what Remey could tell, they would be durable enough to live in them. If she spoke to the right tamer, they would even be able to go dormant until they were needed.

"That's why I brought them. The ribbon fish being netted on the surface are all carrying a few of the leech fish on them. I thought it better to gather them." Walker was still proud of this and was certain it was the correct call in the situation.

"It's perfect. If you hadn't gotten them I would have to beat you up in front of the whole crew and take over the ship entirely. That would just be embarrassing." Remey laughed a little and Walker knew she wouldn't actually do this. She just had her own ways of showing how she cared and was happy.

"I have a few of the affinity potions done. The high affinity potions are still too elusive but I have one mid tier affinity potion for most elemental affinities. Right now I am condensing one that will be low or mid tier fire elemental affinity potion. It depends, the ingredients are not cooperating." Remey seemed to not only have trouble with the herbs she was using but looked to be struggling with the actual condensing process.

"Think I can help?" This made Ignus look at Walker carefully. He had been listening intently to what Walker had brought for Remey. But now that he heard Walker might be making potions too it was more important to focus. Walker might use the natural mana he manipulated to add to the potion. If that was the case then he would have a chance to see the flames react here. It was a perfect start to getting ahead of the other royal dragons in terms of strength.

Coincidentally, every royal dragon was thinking the same. Even Rise had the idea that she needed to remain ahead of everyone. The singular reason she worried was because she was the strongest of the royal dragons and oldest. If she was not still ahead of them, it would be a massive insult to her pride. That could not be abided by.

"Sure, give me a boost and use the buffing skills you have." Remey didn't even flinch. She answered right away. Her thoughts were simple, if her body was buffed with whatever skills Walker had, then she would be able to work better. She could even use the extra mana around her to better condense and heat the potion.

The fact that the fire affinity potion had too much water in it was strange. That came from the impurities in the herbs since they were mostly dried. When Remey had added purified water to make the potion, the herbs had released small amounts of dust, impurities, and other things from storage. This alone could ruin a potion completely.

The reason that the potion would be a very low tier fire affinity potion was due to the fact that Remey had already altered the formula a little. She had added a few small ember herbs that she had fresh which normally were used to treat burns. But they had a useful effect on making the fire elemental mana in the dried herbs react with the fire elemental mana being used to heat the potion overall.

The reason that the potion was not fully losing the effects it should have was that the formula and ingredients were still good. It was a sort of balance between the impurities and the good qualities. Unfortunately, that meant that the potion was stuck. Therefore, more heat and control were needed.

It wasn't that Remey couldn't make that happen. If she really wanted she could have Ignus use his flame breath to heat the potion up much higher. The problem she had was control. The fine control that she had would make potions without issues. Yet, when it came to impurities, the level of control was much MUCH, higher. That was why she worked with the old master alchemist or Trish more often than not. They had the years of experience to have the extremely fine control in alchemy.

The other alchemists that came on the ship had that degree of control in some aspects. Unfortunately, they were not at all comfortable manipulating the affinity potions that Remey was much more experienced with. It would be the same as asking someone to do the hardest task on the first day on the job. A foolish expectation.

"If I use some natural mana to mix with the flames, then I can control the heat while you use other skills to make sure that the heat is being directed to the right places." Walker figured that all he had to do was use the natural mana around to increase and decrease temperature as he was told. That left Remey with the free mind to focus solely on the ways that the impurities were being removed.

"That's simple in context but I need you to change the temperature as I say exactly. It can't fluctuate at all. If I need it even a half step hotter, I need it exactly that. No more, no less." Remey's harsh words made Walker feel like one of her younger siblings in the orphanage. He could be scolded at any time and had to watch out for Remey's wrath.

"I can do that." With his full focus, this would not be an issue though. Walker had more experience with flames than other elemental manas. The water and earth were the next closest then air darkness and light. It was a long process and Walker believed that one day he would be considered a master in all elemental mana without having to have a mastery skill in all the elemental manas. But that was still far out. He had too much to learn at the moment.

"Then let's do this." Remey started to pull at the alchemy flames around the cauldron. The potion seemed to react and bubble within the blink of an eye. Without wasting time, Walker pulled at the elemental mana.

He could sense the water elemental mana being taken from the potion and also the fire elemental mana within it. They seemed stuck together making it feel like a fusion skill of some sort. It would have been interesting if Remey made it a water and fire affinity potion.

Like lightning had struck him, Walker looked at Remey with a wild grin. "Why not make this a water and fire affinity potion? We don't have anyone that can use it but since the water elemental mana is trapped in the potion with the fire elemental mana and it seems stable..."

There was a single breath where Walker was sure that Remey was going to lose it. Yet, she slowly started to shake a little before a wicked grin bloomed. "You are a damn genius! I can beat that old man by making a fire and water affinity potion. I should have realized that the ember herbs had leaves that absorb water elemental mana too. They are from the desert. How could I miss this!"

The quick changes that Remey made involved dragging boxes and jars toward the cauldron. She was working like a mad man to get as many herbs as she needed to make it a true fire and water dual affinity potion. In the meantime, Ignus just sat there wondering how he had managed to lose the fire affinity potion he wanted. But he also wanted to see the opposing elemental manas balanced in a potion that didn't yet exist. He knew he would be the first to witness it. He also recalled the steam dragon child of his.

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#### Chapter 1665 1665. Fire Against Water

Ignus was thinking of too many things to remain focused on the potion for the moment. He was caught in the fact that the potion would be water and fire dual affinity potion. He knew that it was possible to make a dual elemental affinity potion. Remey bragged and made her theories out loud while she worked.

However, he was more caught in the memory of how he and Current had once fought at every turn. The two were literally opposites, water and fire never seemed to get along. Luckily, they had been forced to play nicely after they had exchanged four separate territories on the edge of their main territories.

The other royal dragons had not bothered them in their battling. It was normal for them to let the others do as they wished. But when Ignus had found part of his territory at the time coming close to the lake that Current called home, the two had become angry.

The territory that Ignus owned was, at the time, a smaller erupting volcano that fed magma in to the lake. This alone was enough for the two to become annoyed. The steam was constantly drifting toward Ignus's village while the magma heated up Currents' underwater village. they both had a lose lose situation.

Current believed that Ignus was causing the volcano to erupt more while Ignus believed that Current was forcing the steam to travel toward him. Neither would budge at the time due to their pride and had fought over the territory. Their dragonkin suffered the most as they attempted to take the lands between the two villages.

Sometimes one side would win over the other and take more land or villages. But one thing ended up stopping them. The elder had intervened citing the fact that when the royal dragons battled they had the potential to fall completely.

This had happened once in their history when a wind and an earth dragon had fought each other. The wind dragon had given everything to defeat the earth dragon. Luckily, neither were the royal dragon at the time but the damage had been done. The two lost all their dragonkin and the ability to rule a village. The elder wind dragon was even banished from the villages under any dragon for killing a fellow dragon without just reason.

This lesson had been told to the royal dragons many times. It had made them wonder just what could happen that would make any real elder dragon fight. Yet, here Current and Ignus were. If the elder dragon had not stopped them after they had fought for fifty years, then they could have escalated even further.

'The solution was simple, have themselves or the elders mix to share a village. Give birth to a dragon of both water and fire to rule that village one day. It would unite them and show them exactly how they could live in harmony.

Over time, the volcano stopped erupting and the lake had dried out. Both had moved their own territory naturally but the steam dragon had still been born. The village between the two had still be created. Now they were considered close to an elder dragon of water and fire but they were stuck where they stood.

The attempt to learn both flame and water was a harder endeavor than just a single element. The royal dragons were pure in theory elemental pursuit because that was their affinity and they could fully focus on the deepest meanings of the single elemental affinity. But when it came to dual elemental affinity things were harder.

The steam dragon had to remain balanced. If they focused on more than one elemental mana then they would suffer some backlash. There was a nice benefit of bonus higher resistances to water and fire

elemental mana which a single elemental dragon would lack. However, that was not the best thing since growing would be double as hard.

For most dragons that believed in elemental purity, they thought that a dual elemental dragon would always be weaker. Always be trapped never to go beyond an elder if they could even make it that far. But now, Ignus was looking at Remey and Walker trying to manipulate the mana in a potion that might be able to do exactly that.

If anyone were to say it out loud, Ignus would blow up in a huff. But he was a doting parent to every dragon that grew beyond adolescence in his village. Many young were cast out if they were deemed weak but that was the reason that every fire dragon was tough and could fight beyond expected limits. The best of the best were given everything.

This mentality had kept the fire dragons powerful over many generations. But in just a short time it had all changed. Walker had come in to their dragon culture and turned it all on its head. But ever since Ignus had started to listen, he had changed his mind slowly but surely. Now, he felt that he might have missed some chances.

This chance would not be missed though. "I will control your fire." Ignus took the lead and made his way to the alchemy fires he was unfamiliar with. He never used alchemy fire but he was sure that he could control it. The familiar feeling of flames were all around him. He had bathed in them for more years than anyone would count.

"Really? Are you going to use dragon fire?" Remey's excitement only grew as she saw Ignus give a slight nod. The dragon flames might be able to fuse the two manas perfectly. "Walker start balancing the water mana in the potion. I will start to add more herbs!" The order was prompt and Walker knew that he had no choice but to obey. This was a very big deal.

The flames grew and a small wisp of dragon fire escaped Ignus's lips. He felt the fire grow and change from the normal alchemy fire to a strange red and deeper red coloration. It was a mix of his dragon flames which burned lighter but hotter than any other flames that Remey could create. The alchemy flames mixed in were actually cooling spots of the potion which helped the inner balance.

The herbs fell in one after another as Remey ground some up or crushed others. The potion had a strange swirling as the fire and water manas chased one another. When Remey dropped in a piece of snowflake moss, Walker was forced to work harder.



The water elemental mana had spiked in the potion after seeing the snowflake moss. It was a rare moss that Current had been able to bring to the alchemy guild after speaking with Remey about the affinity potions. It had a high water elemental mana concentration that made it freeze things sound it when the colder seasons began.

Now, the water mana was resisting the flames that surrounded the cauldron. Yet, Walker felt Ignus's intentions with every single movement. He didn't hide what his flames would do. He was gradually increasing the heat and forcing the mana to reach a maximum. Walker could only rival this with his manipulation as well.

Both of them were waiting under pressure for Remey to do what she needed. The last handful of herbs fell in to the cauldron and it began to bubble wildly. Gray steam was released as more impurities were released from the potion. The fume would have made anyone cringe but the three were stalwart in their endeavors.

"This is it." Remey slammed a lid on the moment the last bubble popped. She tied it down quickly and waved Ignus and Walker away. She began dumping water on the cauldron to cool it rapidly. "This is it. This is it. This is it..." Remey's nearly silent chanting only grew as he watched the cauldron steam until it was no longer hot at all.

Ignus leaned forward waiting to hear good news. He was tenser than he had been. He wasn't thinking about the fact that Remey was not a dragon of equal standing as him. He didn't care that Walker had changed his mind. He wasn't even thinking about who he was giving the potion to anymore. It just mattered that they had completed it.

"Walker, open it while I get vials. We should have four left." Remey watched Walker open the cauldron with a pop. there had been some pressure in it when she sealed it. But the larger vials easily came to sit right in front of her. The lab had been made for perfect efficiency.

The three were greeted with a small amount of purple potion. It was reflective and seemed to have a pleasant scent compared to the toxic fumes from before. Ignus and Remey both looked to Walker for his all around appraisal. They wanted to hear in depth details while Remey filled the vials with what she could.

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Chapter 1666 1666. In Alchemy History

Walker was already doing the all around appraisal of the potion they had just made. How could he miss the chance to see what their work had made? He could already feel the balanced mana in the potion. The water and fire elemental mana was perfectly mixed without causing any volatile reaction.

But what was making him more amazed was the sparkling purple color of the potion. It had become so little in volume yet had become much purer than expected. He was certain that the first attempt they had made to make a dual fire and water affinity potion was not going to be some low tier potion.

' mid tier Dual affinity potion; Fire and Water

The potion created by sudden inspiration used rare herbs which held both Fire and Water elemental mana naturally. Normally, the herbs would lose one mana or the other while being refined. Instead, they reached a balance using alchemy and dragon fire. Added water elemental manipulation also played a large role in this.

This potion can only be made by multiple individuals at the current time with the surrender formula. It has room to improve if fresher herbs and a better trained alchemist works on it.

The enhanced ability to understand and use Fire and Water elemental mana in tandem will greatly help educate whoever consumes it. They must have a prior affinity to both water and fire elemental mana to use this potion or else there will be heavy side effects that may even cause death.'

The appraisal was nothing to scoff at. All three of them were amazed by it. It might not be a high potion but it was a low tier potion that clearly only existed because they had worked together.

The risk taken hadn't been that great but the reward was massive. The herbs had mostly been dried or preserved herbs so high tier had been impossible. Yet, they had achieved mid tier as the first affinity potion due to their skills combined.

"It's way better than I thought! It even smells good and not like some of the experiments we have done making regular affinity potions. The earth affinity potion smells like swamp mud!" For whatever reason Remey was ecstatic about the smell over other things. However, Walker just added this up to being so excited about the entire potion and this was all she was able to say before she exploded with energy.

"This is ideal. I will take this when we return to your village and bring one of the children from my villages to try it. It will be a good learning opportunity for you to see a dual elemental dragon consume your potion." There was not a single drop of anger in Ignus. He was truly proud of this and how it could be used to improve the dragons.

"So, when you write the first formula down Ignus and I will have credit in the history of alchemy now?" Walker looked at Remey to see her nod before rushing to grab a notebook. She had nearly forgotten to write everything down so she could pass it on to others later for more experimentation.

"the ember herbs were the first change. Worth the investment but they have to be the newborn leaves next time. The snowflake moss helped with cooling but caused a drastic change. Next time we should use the ivory ice moss or snow crystal mold. It could be..."

"And that's how we lose Remey." Walker knew very well that Remey would be caught up in her own mind for some time. She had a lot to write about the potion they made. It would not be a surprise if she filled the entire journal about potential changes and how the potion reacted to certain herbs.

The depth that she went it to crushing and grinding some herbs had to be documented. The order and exact way of addition also had to play a large role. If some alchemists attempted to try this differently then they could cause an explosion or worse. Especially since the three had just used a combination of alchemy and dragon flames to make this potion in the first place.

"You will store two of those for me. They need to be protected in an alternate space where they must not be damaged!" Ignus made a solid order of this. It wasn't out of cruelty or anger but worry. If the potions broke during the trip then all their work would be lost.

"I wouldn't let them get broken. It's a great chance to meet a younger dragon from your village. But I am curious, have you decided to invest in Genesis without holding back anymore?" The reason Walker asked this was a simple one. He wanted to hear Ignus admit that he had changed and stopped being stubborn.

"If this is the future you see for dragons. To work I'm alchemy and ignore their true calling to be strong...then no. I do not accept it. If you mean to tell me that they can become powerful and create a hierarchy where the weaklings can help the strong rise, well, I would prefer that than sending them to the lava fields to fight for their right to live."

While Ignus had a slightly askew point of view, it was better than before everything had happened since Walker met him. If Ignus would completely change his methods in his village and allow the future weak fire dragon hatchlings to grow, it was spectacular.

"I promise you, when you see those hatchlings in Genesis when we return, you will see new dragons. They will not be what you expect but they will hold power in a new place. Maybe even as an alchemy genius." This seemed to appease Ignus. He moved to sit and growled slightly which Walker had heard Midnight do when she was happy.

"I will leave you to wait for Remey to make a fire affinity potion. I'm sure someone has gotten in to trouble on the top deck. I should check in." Walker wasn't clear on how long he had been in the alchemy lab. The thing about alchemy and focus was that it could take hours and only feel like minutes.

The sweat and build up of fumes on his clothing and skin made Walker feel that hours was more like it than minutes. Especially since he also had a surprising amount of soot on his hands from parts of herbs that burned off. "Ugh, I'll need to clean up too."

After changing and washing up a little, Walker made his way to the top deck and found that the ribbon fish netting had long ended. There was a normal patrol and the sun was actually setting. But Walker was not too surprised since he knew that he had the chance of missing the entire day just by focusing on alchemy in a windowless room. How could he have told the time?

"Finally out of seclusion somewhere? I was looking for you!" The energetic voice came from none other than Elise. She was holding a stack of papers and had been working constantly. "I wanted you to take a look at these plans to set up a port when we stop the ships on the new continent. I had them from when I left Genesis but we keep altering them the more we think. You should have a skill that draws plans and maps, right?"

"Umm, well...about that." Walker had not focused on paperwork. He had actually avoided it more than anything else. It wasn't that he didn't want to learn new skills. He just didn't want to sit and do a lot of work sitting. It just wasn't what he thought an adventurer should do.

"Then we will help you get one. Then we can do anything else. The faster you learn a skill the faster these can be gone. Great way to learn, right? You love learning new skills, right!?" Walker heard a small

laugh and caught Gil and Su looking his way. It was clear that the idea for Walker to help Elise had started somewhere. But he had been caught. He couldn't just say no.

"I have avoided it for too long. I might as well help out. But what is this about building a temporary port? That's what it says here. Why temporary? We should just make a permanent port if we don't see one when we first get to the land again."

"What about the races that live on the continent? We might be seen as invading their home if we make something permanent. That would start us off with a perfect chance at war." Walker felt like an idiot. How could he forget that the continent they were traveling was most likely full of other races with their own territories? He truly had been too tired after alchemy.

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Chapter 1667 1667. Arcane Threads (1)

"I've explained to you before, we need to ensure that our employees have a clearly written contract. You must take them to a contract specialist to write one that clearly tells them their job and payments." Hilda was lecturing Lisa for the fourth time about this matter.

Lisa may have stood out when it came to her skills as a seamstress. She had her own shop at such a young age and had grown mentally to match this. Unfortunately, Lisa still had a lot to learn and her mother was there to help her. Especially since Walker was away again and couldn't ally teleport back to help his little sister.

"I know I do but the appointments take too long to get. If they start working and learning now, they will be ready for bigger orders sooner." Lisa's train of thought was not bad but contracts were important for any business.

"I also promised them that they could start right away. They finally have a place to work so they can have their own homes. There are still a lot of demon children that came to live in our mansion because Walker helped them! They already found their systems because they started to help me." Lisa was dead set on this. She was not going to stop helping the demon children halfway.

The idea that her daughter was just like her son made Hilda very proud. She could see that they both cared for everyone in the world and not just themselves. "But this is a business. The other jobs you helped some of them find already contracted them. You are no exception. Today you will handle that

before you close shop. Is that understood?" Hilda saw Lisa nod and then decided it was enough scolding for the day.

"I have to get back to check on the bakery. I had three larger orders for a few small parties celebrating the building of new homes and the farm lands. I will see you at home later." Hilda left Lisa with this in good spirits. They all had a very prosperous position in the city making them all busy but very happy to be so.

"Miss Lisa, is it alright to keep working now?" One of the demons that Lisa had recently hired had been taken from the demon cities. She had been rescued from a fate that would surely be death or torture. Now she was able to find her way through many things to Genesis.

The travel for a lot of the demons had been hard. Some had found positions working along the way while others had gone to return to their homes and rebuild anew. One of the earliest demons rescued from Pride's army had taken up residence in Walker's mansion to become a maid which was already an amazing achievement for anyone due to the high status of the hero's families.

But seeing that many of the demons had integrated or begun to do so was a warm thought. Lisa was proud that she played a small role and could offer one of the many guestrooms of the mansion to anyone. But the fact that she had been lucky enough to find new employees was even better.

Some of the demons that were her age or even younger had found systems that were seamstresses as well. But she had a handful of new employees that specializes in money handling, sales, and even a few that had fabric making systems. It was a massive boon for her since she wanted to be the best of the best when it came to making clothing in the entire city.

"Miss Lisa? We have a guest that requests your attention." The same employee returned and pulled Lisa from the back work room. This time she looked a little stressed out which made Lisa question if there was an issue.

'Major Quest- royal order

Markus Raven has come with a large order to honor the birth of the new princess of the Diamond kingdom. The human child requires the best of the best baby clothes. Markus Raven wishes to send the best as a gift to the king he still represents even though he is now living within the new Genesis city.

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Lisa saw this pop up and was instantly excited. She knew that the first half she had just read meant that she was about to get one of the most important orders she had in a while. Lately, she had been bombarded with the elves coming to ask her for the rune sewn clothing in the human styles that she knew. Learning the rune stitching had made her fairly famous. Especially some of the adventurers who wanted the best underclothes for their travels.

Putting that aside, an order that was going to a princess was even more fantastic. That meant that Markus Raven trusted the quality that she could produce even though she was young and her business was still fairly new. This was a major growing point for her dreams. She had been so excited that she hadn't even read the requirements or the reward for the quest, Lisa was dead set on making it the best she could no matter what.

"Hello! My brother told me about you, Sir Raven!" Lisa had heard that Walker didn't like him at first but after getting to know him had learned of his extremely caring personality for the kingdom he lived and represented. Sometimes passion could be confused with other negative feelings when someone first met. It was a common mistake that many could make. But it was why it was best never to judge someone too harshly at first.

"And I have been told about you by many of the nobles that had moved here to Genesis to assist me with my duties. You have made a very large splash in fashion young miss Lisa. I have come today to ask a lot of you but I believe you will be up to the challenge." Markus was very polite. He had been impressed by the records he had seen so far from Lisa's business.

Being in charge of commerce and the treasury of Genesis meant that Markus Raven saw all kinds of paperwork from all kinds of businesses. Lisa had been seen and there were no issues which was impressive since she was so young. But a genius was a genius and it all came from passion and hard work. Markus knew this well since the two demons he had trained under him were exceptional when it came to managing money.

"My king has recently welcomed a daughter in to his household. I wish to place an order of royal clothes to be sent for her. The princess will need the best of the best. I specifically want rune clothing of all elemental attractions. I hope that she can have more than just an average passed down system. There are historical records of an elemental princess and elemental queen in the royal family after all."

Many people had heard of this. The oldest of the queens recorded in the Diamond royal family had a lucky princess that was born with affinities for the four main elemental manas. They became known as the elemental princess since they could use and rule over the kingdom. It was the start of a major growth period for the kingdom in a time of drought. Now would be an amazing time for another elemental princess to rise, even if it took years to show.

"Of course I can do that! I will personally come up with new designs that can be altered until she reaches the age of five!" Lisa was very confident. Baby clothes had long been designed to be altered to fit growing children. It was only practical since fabric could be scarce at times.

"I knew I was coming to the right place. I expected exactly this answer. And do not worry about find. I will spare no expenses when it comes to this. I will even procure the fabric-"

"Say no more Sir Raven. I can handle everything. I need to show off to my newest employees what we can do here. I will have them all in one week exactly. If I have to, I will make the fabrics myself!" The promise was made and Lisa's energetic smile put Markus at ease. He had nothing else to do other than sign some documents before leaving a downpayment for the clothing.

"Twenty rune sewn baby clothes. I will make this perfect!" Lisa's promise to herself had come on stronger than she imagined. In her joy she looked at the quest again and saw the rewards, the regards that she would never have imagined but many people had been whispering about within Genesis this last month.

'Reward: System advancement'

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Chapter 1668 1668. Arcane Threads (2)

The fire in Lisa's eyes was enough to tell every single employee that she had about her feelings. She had not had energy like this since she had shown them all the things they could be capable of. Now she was fired up and ready to work toward a new goal. A new potential that could further her abilities. How could she give up?



The desire to compete with Walker was strong. He was her older brother. Her amazing, hero title holding, older brother. Why would anyone accept that they would be second best? There had to be a better way to do this. A higher potential. And the world seemingly saw this.

Not only had Lisa already started to break the mold when it came to being a seamstress, she had been given the chance to fully shatter the mold entirely. The rune sewn fabrics had been the first step after making things for her brother and family.

She had stepped above what others her age were able to do and pursued things that they would be unable to even comprehend yet. It was the same that Walker and his entire party had done but in a different realm. The oldest master seamstresses and tailors had even seen her skill and gone to see her.

Many that had been in genesis for only a short while had seen her work and expected that she was just an apprentice. When they found that she was indeed in charge, they were shaken. In their world of clothing making, crafting, and general sewing, geniuses rarely surfaced. Lisa had already proven that she had stepped beyond the realm of normal but her system had not reflected that.

The elven techniques to sew runes using elemental energies and crystals was already beyond what a normal seamstress could do. Adding in the black needles set that Walker had given Lisa from Midnight's baby dragon scales, her work had become much more advanced.

Runes, , and higher quality materials led Lisa to a new paths that should have been impossible for an average seamstress. Now, she stood as a revered figure at a young age. A figure that was always looking for new designs to mimic. New designs to create. Some things she had done only came from her mind instead of trusted books that many would reference.

that was why the order she made would be representing the seasons. The heat of summer would represent the red fabrics and fire runes used on the first set of clothing. "Miss Lisa, we have the rouge, crimson, faded pink, and stripped scarlet fabrics for you here. Would you like the cherry wood stained thread?" The assistant already saw that all work needed to be halted to support Lisa.

Many had seen inspiration and drive before. But the state that Lisa had fallen in with the massive encouragement from the system reward was enough to fully fall in to a state of enlightenment. Focus so intense that no matter what Lisa did, she could not be distracted. She could barely even change her facial expressions.

"Miss Lisa, I have just taken the winter fabrics out. Would you like them?"

"Miss Lisa, the previously stored harvest season fabrics are here."

"Miss Lisa, I will spread the growing season fabrics left over and untouched for you. They will be ready in three minutes."

Four more demon assistants worked. They had seen the older assistant's actions and followed suit. They might not have much experience but they can copy what others did. They could follow and learn. They were about to see the forefront of fashion right before them. How could they not understand that they were being blessed right now?

The difference between seeing someone work and seeing a master's work was like night and day. There was a chance that they would be able to grasp skills and techniques ahead of what they normally would by following the system. They could work beyond their level just like Lisa did.

Fabric was unrolled and stencils created. Time was nothing to consider. The door had been shut and the orders for pick up paused. All business had ceased for a special order which was not unheard of. It even made the customers more excited because they knew that when this happened, new styles would arrive. For the fashion world, it was a major event to gossip about when a shop locked its doors for a special order.

Wind patterns were made on green spring fabrics. The matching sets of leaves and colors of sun became the base for the seasonal theme. The patterns slowly changed as the runes also did. Lisa had mimicked the seasons as inspiration while also letting the entire set of clothes match the gradual change.

The princess would have the influence of the elemental manas around her due to the immaculate sewn runes. But there would also be the feeling of the colors that matched the outside world. Just like Walker, Lisa had gotten in touch with nature by doing this. It was not unheard of for nature to be a theme for many seamstresses.

However, Lisa had gone above and beyond. The feelings of her mana and the manas that were pulled by the rune sewn fabrics were powerful. They were everything she felt while the season changed. Only a true master of any artisan technique could bring out the emotions behind something. The hidden feelings that everyone had but couldn't describe.

Those working with Lisa found themselves being pushed to their limits to keep up. Lisa had been sewing since she had found her system. She had been made to practice and fell in love with it more and more. She had a head start in her young age but now she had truly shown what they got her.

Many parents would be bad mouthed for making their child learn their system earlier than others. But Lisa was grateful. Her mother and father had seen her potential and passion. They had made her practice when she was lazy and stubborn which helped her learn the basics. Her brother had supported her through this as well. Giving gifts that let her mind expand.

This expanded view was enough for Lisa to lock herself away for five straight days. Mana potions were gathered and used. Sleep was taken only when it was impossible to work anymore. The rumors of amazing new designs for a princess had spread while the assistants learned many things.

Those that judged Lisa on her age were put to shame as she proved she was deserving of the many good things being said about her work. She was not simply living off the heroic brother of hers. She was forging her own path in another unique way. That was why Markus Raven rushed over and waited outside the door eagerly after the seven days had passed.

When he walked in to the showroom on the seventh day, he found everything moved away and multiple mannequins displayed the new baby clothes. The seams perfectly sewn to be adjusted without damage. The elegant runes that copied the very essence of seasons and their matching elemental manas.

The colors that seamlessly flowed as if they were the very embodiment of seasonal emotions. Joys and sorrows of winter to summer were reflected but the warmth he felt was all he needed. Even the cold and darkness of the ice and snow was reflected but still filled Markus with glee. It was a feat that none had achieved. He felt this way about the ancient artifacts he collected. Feeling this way about something new was foreign to him.

"Magnificent. Work that even I could never procure from a master."

"Miss Lisa worked tirelessly to present these to you today. She is currently unwell after her work and will be resting for some time. Please submit the final payment and host a display for these items before you send them to your preferred destination. We hope that you can understand why." The shrewd business woman that had taken up the front room for Lisa was exactly what Markus expected. He would do the same.

"I will be hosting a function to show this to many. I assure you of this. Please leave this for young miss Lisa. I will visit again." Markus had already planned to boast to other nobles the things he bought. He had come here for a reason. Lisa was surely the best of fashion in all of Genesis.

Meanwhile, Lisa had exhausted herself. Her age and the immense stress days of endless work put on her had taken their toll. She could not stay away and Hilda had come to check on her many times. She had brought food and did not interrupt her in the slightest. She had once felt this way during her baking too. But what Lisa had missed while being unconscious was a simple notification.

'The user has completed the quest with immeasurable success. The world has not seen such items in this age creating a new guiding light in the seamstress artisan careers and systems. The user has perfectly aligned multiple races' techniques while adjusting them to match nature and other aspects of the world.

The title; of elemental seamstress has been granted by the world.

The user will be able to better use elemental manas to create unique fabrics, threads, and overall items. This will be able to possess additional effects based on materials and the sewing used. The affinity for all four major elemental manas has been granted to the holder of this title and will gradually appear as the body of the user grows further.

The system advancement of the user had been changed from the projected path. The user will now be granted the Arcane thread master system instead of the arcane seamstress system. The first of the era to hold the arcane thread master system is one of great reverie.

" Stun the world with immeasurable . Let mana be weaved in to brilliant emotion. Let all the world see the brilliance of the heart and mind in clothed form."

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Chapter 1669 1669. Land Sighted!

"All hands on deck! Island spotted!" The single shout out had gotten everyone on every ship moving. Those that could were trying to see what details they could from the island. The more that they could discern the better.

Those that had the ability to do so, were preparing to leave the ships and search the island if the order was given. The odds were high that an island might have fruits and vegetables that could be eaten. One of the few things that were easily eaten completely on a journey since they could not be stored in the same ways as meat that was cured.

The dolphin golems were already sent out to survey the waters around the island. So far, no one had heard back anything important. But that was just the matter of waiting. They wouldn't see any results for the time being. Rushing things would only cause more issues.

"I heard that an island is sighted!?" Walker made it to the top deck from the cabin that he and Elise had been working in. He was secretly very happy that he had been freed from paperwork. Yes, Walker had gained the skills to more accurately draw maps and blueprints. It had taken some time and some very poor drawings but it had been worth it. But it was still very hard to make everything accurate enough for a real professional to alter them easily.

"I am going to mobilize the avian tamers I have to take a look." Elise was gone in a flash. Walker could only hear the gathered screeching and chirping of bird type beasts that were being told they could fly freely and explore a little. That was going to help a lot when it came to understanding what they might find on this island.

"I sent out my soldiers to scout the area. But should we be stopping? Our momentum has been very good. If we stop we may bring on unnecessary risks." Leon was playing the voice of reason. He was very right. The longer they were at a small land mass like this, the more dangerous it was.

"That's even better. If there are monsters around here then that means there is food on that island. We should gather what we can. Even if we have to send over more of the flying monsters tamed by the taming guild. The more that we get the better in case we don't see a single island for the rest of the journey." Scylla had an even better point. The risks of not having fresh fruits and vegetables was too high.

The experienced sailors had been clear that they had to bring extra fruits and vegetables because there were many illnesses that one could get after not having them on the ocean for too long. These things had been valuable pieces of information for anyone that had never been on the ocean. No one would have guessed that lacking certain food for a little too long could lead to fatal straits.

"I agree, we should look in to it." Walker found Leon and Scylla easily. He also saw that Gil, Remey, Su, Alice, Midnight, and Onyx had gathered at the railing to take a look as well. They all looked curious and excited which made him want to go to the island as well.

"If we can take a look, we can mark it on the map for other ships one day. They might be able to stop there and resupply or even if there is a danger, they can hide there. It is better to be able to leave more details for the future. Even the smallest things are important." Neither Leon nor Scylla argued with this. They both believed the same.

"General, the king of the surface is looking for your input. Will we be stopping? Should he send more golems to explore the waters around the island?" The soldier that came to report was one that had just spoken with a harpy. Having the harpies to help the ships communicate was a true blessing.

"Yes, we will be stopping. We have more reasons to do so than not. But the more golems we have investigated the safer it will be." Scylla was not going to hold back. She knew that it was better to be safe than sorry when it came to an unknown island in the middle of an ocean full of monsters.

"I thought we would see birds or something flying around the island. Wonder why there isn't anything?" Walker was trying his best to spot anything he could. But even though his eyes were fairly sharp compared to others, he was finding nearly nothing.

The shapes of green trees and some dunes of sand were all he could really make out on the entire island. The size was not much, they could easily traverse it three or four times in a day. The search of the island would most likely take all the patrols a few hours. But it was still odd that there were no animals on it.

"If you're wondering why there might not be many birds or other animals, it's simple. There are storms out in the ocean that never see large land masses like our homes. That means that we will miss the destruction that they bring. But islands like these get hit hard and often. There are no homes to be made there." Leon caught on to Walker's thoughts. He had learned this from his people but also the sailors that had traveled the shores.

Many people who lived near the oceans had seen storms on the horizon drifting by. Never to make it to shore but still bringing their powerful winds nearby. Those were the days when the waves would pick up and the damages to the docks would be high.

"I see, so that's why we don't see anything. But I won't doubt that there is nothing living on that island. It's places like that which seem calm that have more danger." This was what Walker could say about many places. In a way, even the ancient ruins seemed calm but held undead, traps, and other dangerous monsters just below the surface of what someone saw.

"Let's prepare the lifeboats for a journey. We won't go too close to the island in case there are rocks around it." Leon gave the final order and groups began to form.

"Midnight, Su, Onyx. We will go to the island together. Gil, Remey, Alice. You three will go together too. We can split up and go to opposite ends with the patrols. It will be easier to find more things that way." Walker split things quickly without thinking much. He intended to do this so that the patrols had help equally from them if need be.

No one objected to this since it made sense to split up on a smaller island. That didn't mean that Alice wasn't looking at Walker and wondering why she wasn't sticking with him though. Or why Remey and Gil wondered why they were stuck together since they could begin fighting at any moment. However, Walker had his reasons. Gil could cover for Remey as she fought and Alice to heal Remey's wounds since she was fighting up close.

It was much the same with Walker since he could act as a healer too. This was all just a small thought in Walker's mind. It really paid off having everything memorized. He had long memorized everyone's skills as they had grown. The real issue was understanding their strengths based on the training they had done. Just having a skill was not all that was needed, people had to have practice in them.

"The initial report is back! There are underwater caves around the island but no monsters sighted. There are also no fish or anything else. It is strange but it could be the ships that scared them off for now." The dwarf that arrived to report this was one of those that piloted the merfolk modeled golems.

"That is strange but if we have already made waves, we could be causing all the marine life to run." Scylla knew that this was also a big sign to invite monsters. However, they could need the fresh food on the island so she was going to push forward. "Maintain a tight communication with all patrol groups. Be ready to evacuate the island at the slightest shout. Understood?" Scylla watched everyone around her respond before she gave Walker the nod to begin leaving.

"You heard Scylla, be careful and stay focused. We will get what we need and then head out. But if you see anything strange, retreat and use one of the all around appraisal scrolls we brought with us." Walker knew that this would save many lives. Just knowing about danger was a head start against it.

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## Chapter 1670 1670. Island Explorers

Taking the life boats to the water made them all worry a little. They had not been in the life boats out in the open ocean and they felt too small. But in the grand scheme of things, the ships were even very small. They had already seen an island swallowing whale that could easily eat every single ship and still be hungry. Everything in the ocean was small by comparison.

But what was even stranger was the fact that as they moved, no one saw any movements in the water other than the merfolk, demi-humans, and the golems. That was all. Not a single fish or any monsters to be seen. It made everyone uncomfortable.

Walker was constantly using his all around appraisal skill on the water to make sure that he was not missing any monsters that had the skills to hide invisibly. He knew that in the open ocean that this might be the only way for some monsters to survive. What better place was there to hide than plain sight?

"There aren't any rocks that I can see below the waters. The ships should be safe to come closer. All I see is sand." Walker told this to the sailor that had taken control of the lifeboat. He was rowing carefully while keeping his eyes on the horizon.

"Kid, what's below that sand is always stone. Sand is just stone that the waves break. Keep the ships far away and we can use our muscles to get back." The sailor was very used to younger sailors asking these things. It was the dangers that hid just below the sands that would normally sink the wooden ships. The same would be said of the metal ships if experienced sailors like him weren't there to speak words of wisdom.

"I see, thank you for that." Walker was surprised that the sands would be like that. He had an idea of how they were formed but didn't expect that they could be perfectly hiding the rocks that made the island up. Since that was the case, one wrong move would trap a ship or even worse, sink it.

"Just keep in mind that there is always more than what you see." The sailor made a little more effort and got them to the shallow waters where the lifeboat stuck itself in the sand. The slight scratching made the sailor's words proof since that was rocks under it.



"We will be back sooner than later. The entire survey of this island should take a very short time."  
Midnight and Onyx were way ahead of Su and Walker. They were excited to explore someplace new. Midnight wanted to find whatever food might be hiding while Onyx was falling for the general curiosity anyone had over a new place.

"Stay close and remain focused. We didn't see any animals or monsters from the ships but they could still be here." The other survey teams were moving carefully while some of them had brought extra people with them to map the island. This would help when others stopped here in the future.

"These trees look off. They have a very rugged bark. What kind are they?" Su was looking at a tall tree with a single stem. It didn't have any branches but had a few long ruffled leaves at the top. The round brown buds at the top looked like they should be coconuts but were slightly different.

'Storm bloom

The storm bloom is a parasitic plant that grows on larger monsters. They will grow and absorb nutrients from the monster until they encounter a large storm. It will use the nutrients to grow rapidly in the manas that naturally form inside a storm and bloom.

Their flowers are rare and contain varying elemental manas. The most common fusion of these is known as a lightning bloom which can shock people just by touching it. Those killed while touching the plant can go to feed the host of this plant. It is a symbiotic relationship in some situations.

The flowers are valuable but even more so before they bloom. They hold seeds that can be used to create dense elemental medicines for those that have become ill due to absorbing too much of a single elemental mana. Not many alchemists or apothecaries can create this medicine.'

Walker read this out to everyone making them wonder what was going on. The nearby survey teams also heard him and looked at the rough blooms at the top. They weren't sure what to do with them since these plants could be parasitic. But for whatever reason, they had ended up on an island to live.

"So they are valuable for medicines. We will let the others harvest them. But it is very odd." Su was sure that there was a good reason that these would be here. But since there was nowhere else nearby for them to grow and she knew that there were larger monsters on the open ocean, this made sense. They could have just ended up here accidentally. Weirder things had happened before.

"I will let everyone know. There should be no chance of harm since they are not in a storm and won't bloom. I wouldn't mind seeing one bloom though. It could be beautiful." Walker did want to see how these pants worked. But he was still having a strange feeling about them. He couldn't put his finger on it and chose just to go with the theory that it was a coincidence that these were here.

Midnight was sniffing the trees carefully and was not happy that this was not yielding any fruits for them. She did feel like there was nothing much of a scent around at all though. She huffed out some air to try and clear her nose but found that nothing was blocking her. She just didn't smell anything.

"Sister, there is nothing on your face. This could just be the result of a recent storm. There is nothing to smell here." Onyx reassured Midnight as they moved. Midnight was still shaking her head a little but was more interested in exploring.

"Hmm, this bush isn't giving me an appraisal at all. I wonder why? Even the smaller things like sticks will give me something." Walker was very uncertain about what was going on. He kept finding more bushes and outcroppings of rocks that gave him nothing.

Soon he started to hear that the other survey teams were finding nothing as well. The teams they passed by had been talking loudly enough about the fact that there were no washed up driftwood from storms that would be all over the beaches. There were no toppled trees or overgrown patches of grass either. It was all too perfect and clean.

"Walker, maybe you should get a bird's eye view of the island. The harpies seem like they have seen things but if you use your skills on the island you might be able to figure out what is going on." Su had thought of this as a last ditch effort to figure out the secrets of this island. She had a few theories about why it might be odd.

Her first idea was that the island might have been hit by a large storm recently. The winds could have been strong enough to blow away debris and the currents strong enough to take them away completely. It was theoretically possible.

Her other theory was that the mana on the island was off. It could deter animals and monsters because it would be different. Walker and them just haven't sensed it because they were not used to being out on the ocean in general. This could explain a lot since they had already dealt with strange mana phenomena when the elemental mana was unbalanced because of certain people.

"That's a better idea than I have. Midnight, want to take a look in the sky with me?" Midnight jumped in to the air and spread her wings. She was well ahead of Walker without even saying a word. Walker was just smirking while watching her fly higher. He wished she would talk more but it was tough to force her since she always seemed to be enjoying herself nonetheless.

Walker let the sand and water make a pair of elemental wings behind him. He let them carry him in to the air while also manipulating the wind somewhat. He easily caught up to Midnight to take a look at the small island. He passed a few harpies and gave them a wave until he finally looked down at the island as a whole.

It wasn't the shape that shocked him. He expected it to be small and have nothing much on it. That he had already learned. What shocked him was the appraisal as soon as he had used the all around appraisal skill. It was why he used a lot more mana to rush back down to where the others were.