

## Master 1771

### Chapter 1771 1771. Muddled Thoughts And Rest

While Walker had shocked all of the royal dragons with the potentials of ancient legacies left behind for each of them to search out, the others had calmed themselves down quite a bit. Midnight was one that had remained the most observant of everything.

Since Midnight had not been able to battle, or even stand up in front of the wyvern queen to do anything, she was in a very poor mood. However, she felt that she had seen a great deal of things. The wyverns who had come from dragon blood many generations ago. The things left behind by ancient dragons. Now there was even the fact that Terron was taking a different role than any dragon ever as a guide to the wyvern race.

All of these things were bouncing around within her mind making her still and trapped in thought. This wasn't missed by Walker in the least. The massive battle that they all thought they would have had been reduced to a rushed attack and healing session to save someone they had originally come to fight.

"We need to do a lot more work now. The demons are definitely causing trouble here already. Do you want to look around the cave? The ruins might have something for you to learn from. There had to be hatchlings here many years ago." the glint on Midnight's eyes was all that he needed to see.

Whether Walker was tired or not didn't matter. He could tough it out to help Midnight find her own path. She was unique as well. Since she had affinity to all elemental manas, then she would be able to learn from every single ruin that the royal dragons found. Walker would have to learn as well, the real question was, what would he be able to learn and what Would Midnight be able to learn?

"I doubt you could learn everything from what the earth dominator dragon left behind. They are purely earth related, but the young earth dragons had to be somewhere within these ruins. That means there isn't a way to learn from them the way they would be taught as young dragons. The perfect level for you, right?" Midnight nudge on his side was strong enough that it almost knocked Walker down. "Alright, alright. I will start looking."

Gil saw Walker and Midnight leaving, he was sure that they would all be in the wyvern's home for some time. Especially since the royal dragons were all huddled around Terron who was immersed in learning. They were acting as one rather than apart. The change was drastic compared to the dragons he had seen argue. All because of Genesis and Walker's influence.

"Su, you're still awake, right?" Gil looked at Su who was sitting and dozing where she sat. He was sure that she would need some solid rest since she had been tempting the wyverns to chase her more than the others. Drawing their ire had been rough and caused her a lot of attacks. The majority of which missed since the life mages had buffered her agility. Yet they had still sent stones at her causing scratches and cuts before she had been healed by Alice's residual singing.

"What do you need? I can't do much but I can help." Su thought that Gil was going to start pushing to do more right then and there. She had the feeling that he wanted to keep training after seeing how weak they were against such massive adult wyverns.

"I want to see where this all goes. The wyverns aren't that bad. They were misguided and needed more than just a helping hands. It's like the elves and the goblins. They were all divided and fighting alone for the most part. Now they are together and have a chance." Gil could see the similarities. This made Su wonder just what he was thinking here.

"I want to make sure that they are part of everything. Walker keeps throwing himself alone at whatever is in front of him. I'm pretty much sitting here doing nothing. Making arrows without getting stronger myself. I haven't even finished the high elf dagger arts that I am putting back together." This was what Su had somewhat expected.

"If you want to stand for the elves, you want to do more and make more progress." Su could understand. She had been looking in to herself and the changes she was going through. The bonds with Midnight were changing her quickly. She was strong because of it along with the fact that she was gaining strength without advancing in levels. But that was just passive. It was using her bonds to grow instead of her own efforts.

"Yes. I want to make sure I can do more. So I want to learn a mastery skill. Using my bow and using the high elf dagger arts. I read about one that arcane marksmen can use and it's not the one I want. Instead, I want one that only the high elf arcane master archers should be able to use." Gil's ambitions were not small.

"I will help you. But I want to master more elemental manas. I need to increase my defenses. We are already higher levels than just about anyone our age of five to ten years older. But what if I could actually use all that strength and have an absolute defense? None of you would ever get hurt." Su shared her own current ambitions with Gil. The two of them rarely pushed one another in training because of their recent business. Now they had their goals to pursue so they wouldn't be left behind.

"You heard them, right?" Remey was half awake next to Onyx who had been watching over Alice.

"I did. They want to stay ahead of us and keep up with Walker and sister. Once Alice has woken up I will begin preparing to get stronger. I need to get to a level that is safe enough to protect Aurora and the other abyssal and heavenly serpents." Onyx's current goal would not be changing. He too had barely been able to bind and hold a single wyvern for a minute during the battle. He had been easily beaten by strength.

"I couldn't punch through their scales. The wyverns were tough. How can I fight some lord slime alone too? I didn't even have potions ready to use against it. I had to ask Ignus to help me at the moment. I was a risk. Not an attacker or protector or anything. A risk to everyone around me." Remey had taken it harder. Her alchemy knowledge had increased by leaps and bounds every day. But her battle and elemental strategy was suffering.

"Then we agree. We will also work harder to get stronger without relying on the others. We will not be a party then. Until we can stand alone." Remey and Onyx didn't really say they were leaving, but their goals to stand alone had been clear between them. Onyx would stand alone as the most powerful abyssal serpent. Remey as the best alchemical brawler there ever would be. Her heated words had to be backed up instead of used as loud sounds.

"Mountains. Ravines, earthquakes, there are even ways to work with a flame dominator dragon to create a volcano. This knowledge is something left behind by the most powerful-"

"You've said that ten times now. I need to know if it tells you where this flame dominator dragon was. How can they be known as a flame dominator? Huh? I am the most powerful fire dragon right now." Ignus was stubborn and clearly trying to get more from Terron who was barely able to keep his thoughts straight.

"All the knowledge of where other ruins could be is important. I have no knowledge of this continent that would tell us the locations." Ventus was the most focused on what they needed to do to find more ruins. More places that the things they seek might be hidden.

"I would guess that the darkness dominator dragon would be in the undead area of the Fel empire desert. Darkness and undead are closely related. That also goes for the light dominator dragon. Rise, you would have to be there to oppose the darkness, right? Two halves of a whole darkness and light. A

desert that gets the most light, right?" Mordant looked at Rise and saw that she was grudgingly agreeing.

"Then that leaves me. Maybe there is a hidden lake or something. A place where water is the top priority. There are floating cities, maybe there is a dragon made one for Ventus." Current was just amazed by everything and mixed in some comedy. He was breaking his normal character just out of the fact that he was incredibly happy to discover ancient dragon history. Naturally, this brought the conversation even deeper with the royal dragons. These conversations, rest, and inner thoughts went on for hours.

#### Chapter 1772 1772. Hatching Ground

The ruins were massive. The ancient dragons that had created this ruin were sure to be able to make the entire place accessible to the largest of dragons. But that was just how it should be. They didn't need to worry about the other races. They were the dragons that stood at the very top, they were more advanced and made their homes with many items that other races did not have.

The ancient dragons had access to the memory crystals that they stored their legacies within. They had the ability to be able to create statues and hide away secrets. They also had the power to make literal mountains. Overall, it was an amazing thing for anyone to be able to see.

When it came to the areas that Midnight and Walker were exploring, they were just stunned by them. The stone carvings in the wall made with incredibly advanced understanding of earth elemental mana could make any artist unsure if they were capable of art in the least.

When Walker examined the sculpting of statues and the walls, he recognized that the earth sculpting skill had been used. How could an earth dragon now have it? This was a basic skill that earth mages had. Walker had even learned it fairly early and had it as one of his most advanced earth mana skills. That was simply because he had the power to imagine buildings and things he had seen and memorized before.

This had been very useful in larger battles. Being able to create walls or towers using a lot of mana was very useful. But the earth dragons that had created this had done things with intricate details. Walker could not sculpt the intricate battle scenes of dragons fighting against massive ancient monsters. He could not create leaves that appeared to be real leaves from a tree just cast in stone. It was well beyond him.

"Could this all be beyond what earth sculpting can do? Even the high earth sculpting is nothing like this..." Walker's mumbling made Midnight examine everything more closely. She could not create earth

spikes or manipulate mountains. She could just use breath attacks that had earth mana within them. A sandstorm somewhat that came from her fusion of manas within her and outside of her.

As much as she wanted to do things like the other dragons, she was young still. She had barely scratched the surface of one elemental mana. How could she grasp many? The closest she had gotten to any elemental mana was darkness elemental mana because that was what she had been born with. Fire was second because she had used it the most often. Forging and just generally helping out. Not to mention the fact that she had slept near flames and fires since she had been born after joining Walker's party.

"Why not switch to your dragonkin form and practice normal human speech? It would help you out while we search." Walker knew that the wyverns were all forced to slumber. They were also unable to attack them now that the queen had used a massive amount of mana to exert her will unto them. It made sense that Midnight take advantage of that and move around in the form she used the least. She had already come further than any other dragon by taking a dragonkin form at the youngest age ever to be seen by dragons.

"Brother." Midnight did as she was told but let out a complaining response. She didn't want to train this way since she was more interested in getting stronger.

"Don't bother me. Elise should never have taught you that. I won't let you get away without being able to walk around and communicate with everyone the same way. Onyx won't always let you be a silent hero." Walker tried to poke Midnight on the cheek now that she was in her dragonkin form but she dodged him and nudged him right back.

If anyone was watching they would swear they were blood brother and sister fighting a little. But Walker and Midnight were closer than just blood now. The bonds that held them were by their souls, not just blood.

"I can already feel the earth mana all around that was left from years and years of work. But I have no idea what to do with this palace." The passageway that Walker and Midnight had traveled appeared much less used by the wyverns.

The wyverns had clearly kept the place clean. A surprising fact about how they respected the strength of the dragons they saw depicted her. But the wyverns had now shown that they were trying to take a path as their own race. They just had the powerful ancient dragons as motivation. Yet, there was also the simple fact that the wyverns had seen this area before.

The area that Walker and Midnight had made it to were somewhat smaller. They had many more pictures of dragons fighting one another. Fighting for strength over the other and taking the dominant positions above mountains. A clear way to show that dragons had fought to show they were the toughest and strongest among the elemental families.

Since this was dragon culture, it made sense that this was the same culture that had let the current dragons to toss aside the weaker hatchlings. Unfortunately, many had been lost before their minds had begun to change. Luckily, it had changed. Now the battles like these were not needed. Especially since the ancient monsters that could fight these powerful dragons were no longer around.

Instead, the picture showed history. Along with this, Midnight was able to catch on that there were smaller and smaller dragons being shown in the pictures. "Brother, this way." Her excited comment made Walker rush to catch up with Midnight who had run toward another large chamber. A dead end within the ruins.

To say that the chamber was large was only in comparison to Midnight and Walker. Compared to the others, it was somewhat smaller. What was left behind within it though, was what walker and Midnight had been looking for.

The larger divot in the ground surrounded by stones much denser than those of the walls or the statues proved that this had once been a nest of some kind. While time had taken its toll on the space, there were clearer signs of eggs hatching here and there on the walls. A place that many of the earth dragons had been brought to hatch.

Just smelling the air seemed to make Midnight even more enthusiastic. She could sense the mana around was purer than what was elsewhere. From what Walker could see, there were draconic runes on the walls that drew in the mana. They still functioned after so many years because they had been carved deeply in to the toughest of stones. A feat that only the ancient dragons could do and the current dragons would struggle with.

Even more, Walker was able to follow the carvings along the ends and realized that the entire chamber had been made to bring the mana to the center of the room. The draconic writings on the walls even gave descriptions of how the hatchlings would need to fight for dominance. To show their strength before they were allowed to leave the room.

"Midnight, I think this is the place to start training your earth mana. Not in your dragon form but your dragonkin form. What do you think? Want to try and use some skills like Su and I can with the earth?" The enticement of being able to copy Walker and Su was enough to bring a glint to Midnight's eyes and a toothy grin.

"Better. I can be better." Midnight's immediate rebuttal made Walker smile as he decided that the two of them would be training earth skills for a little bit. Walker saw the chance to learn from the walls and runes he saw. The high earth sculpting skill had to be able to change. He needed to understand how that change could come to be.

Midnight, on the other hand, had to learn to use skills and grow herself in a dragonkin form. She had the two forms. The downside right now was that she could barely do anything in her dragonkin form. Yes, she was stronger and could fight physically, but she had nothing else. She wasn't like the royal dragon that could attack like mages did with their elemental manas at a wave of their hand. Midnight could barely even breathe flames in her dragonkin form.

"The first one of us to learn something new wins. What will you try?" Walker looked at Midnight scrunching up her face in thought before she said something unexpected. Something that was definitely inspired by Su.

"Shield." The single word made Walker understand exactly why Midnight would want to learn this. Who she wanted to protect with an earth shield.

Chapter 1773 1773. Hard And Soft Stone

Walker's focus was not on gathering earth mana. It was a pure focus on the fact that the carving surrounding him were better than many things he could create. His mind had to focus on what kind of skills would have been used. Was it a sculpting skill better than a high sculpting skill? Or was it a skill of a better class altogether?

These questions were what Walker was stuck on and needed to figure out. Especially because he was unsure whether or not he would be able to use them. It was definitely a fact that the earth dominator dragons or the ancient earth dragons had not used mastery skills to make this. This brought him to the next theory, a mix of skills used in combination to create them.

The hardness of the stones around him was not natural. The only natural stone that would be this tough would be stones that were from naturally forming mountains found very deep underground. The party had seen this in the dwarven city all around them. Many of the dwarves had used it to become part of the city's structure. Nature provided their home in some part.

Glancing over at Midnight, Walker saw that she had mimicked his seated position and grabbed a nearby stone holding it in her hands. Her focused eyes were following the movements of her claws as they scratched it. Her hands were more or less like that of a human's hand in her dragonkin form, she could still show her claws when she desired. This ability was something that set aside dragonkin from dragons since the dragonkin could only lengthen their claws that always showed on their hands whereas the dragons could shift between the two forms easily.

The scratches that Midnight was making were very faint, they were testing the strength of the earth in her hand. How tough the stone was and what she could do to manipulate it without mana. As Walker watched, he felt that Midnight was on to something. She was focused on toughness whereas Walker had been focused on the shapes and how it was formed.

If the toughness of the stone was the focus first, then the shaping while making it tougher, then it made more sense. The walls could have been made more dense with a skill while the high earth sculpting was added slowly. It would take longer because Walker was less experienced and weaker than a real dragon. That would change as his experience changed and he grew more powerful. Especially if he watched how Terron concealed earth more.

"see if you can channel your mana in to your claws, then see if it cuts the stone more. You might be able to make that stone cover your claws as armor." Walker felt that Midnight should already be able to do this. She could wrap her claws in flames if she desired, why not stone as well?

Hearing Walker's sudden involvement made Midnight stop what she was doing. Her thoughts had been solely on the density of the stone. It was heavier in her hands and made her wonder why it was different than a stone just on the side of the paths they traveled.

As she focused her mana and used the earth mana around her, the stone seemed to resist her influence. Walker had felt this as well when he probed the ruins following Terron's use of earth mana. The reason was the strength of the mana within the stone and the singular fact that mana was left over from generations of earth dragons being here.



When the earth mana hit Midnight's claws, Walker saw the stone start to bend under her pressure. The stone was slightly scratched more than before but the earth formed up more easily came to where she was pressing the stone. It was easier for her to draw the softer earth in than the stone itself.

"Hard." Midnight declared the task harder than what she felt when it came to fire. She was comparing the two side by side. Her other hand had become covered in flames from the slight sparks she breathed out when she wanted to use the flame claws skill.

"Try pulling the earth than making it condense. If you can make the earth cover your hand, then you can make it larger and larger until it is a shield like Su's. But that's not enough to defend anything. You have to be able to make it tougher like this stone. I also need to learn that." Walker wanted to just mix in the natural mana to help them.

The addition of the natural mana would make his skills stronger. He also would be able to learn how to add the natural mana to earth more efficiently. After a while, he was sure that the natural mana control that he possessed would start to increase at a faster rate as well. Furthermore, he would be able to push his knowledge of natural mana and the role that earth mana played in it.

Reissing this curiosity came from the fact that he wanted to purely understand earth mana. The earth that had been changed to stone and then to condensed stone. He and Midnight were entirely focused on this process.

Both could control the earth easily. That was nothing to them. Moving earth and making it follow them or stick to something was simple now. Midnight coil easily covered her hand in soft dust from the ground. Walker could feel that he would even be able to make a tougher earth wall or spikes here. That was not outside the realm of possibility for him.

As the two delved into the stone with their mana, the density resisted them. Walker grabbed another larger stone and held it firmly. He and Midnight both had their own piece and focused their mana into a single point. Their minds were separate but their instincts were one. Their bond showed through in this manner. Their knowledge would be shared as instinctual movements together.

'Due to the bonds between the contracted beings, Midnight and Walker, the skill low shared instincts had been learned. The skill can be learned by any contracted beast, monster, tamer, being, or equals depending on level of trust, bonds, and time working together between them. Other factors are also applied.'

'Low shared instincts- passive

Based on the bonds of two beings, they are able to share their innate instincts. This is different from other skills because it is only even activated when the two work on the exact same task together. This is used to share the instinctual feelings as the task is completed. These shared instincts can allow both to learn at a faster rate depending on the task and focus between the two. The closer the bonds the better this skill can grow.'

This feeling that the two had as they were hyper focused on the stone didn't feel unnatural. Walker didn't notice the skill, nor did Midnight, but they were gaining their knowledge faster. It felt that as they pushed on the stone with their mana to make it follow their will that it was becoming easier faster. As if they were under some form of inspiration. Walker had other skills that did this but he rarely used them since they came with some restrictions. It was also better to learn something through experimentation and learn more skills or advance his skills. That Was his thought on the matter.

As the two realized that the dense earth mana was just slow because of its state, Walker tried to separate the piece of stone in to a smaller pebble. When he succeeded he found that he could overwhelm it with his own mana easily. Midnight learned the same thing just seconds later.

The small pebble was easily shaped between their pressures. Midnight flattened it out using her fingers while Walker made it change in to a perfect circle. This showed that they could control something smaller and how the ancient earth dragons were able to make such defined details. They had so much control of the earth mana that they overwhelmed it and made it change in to extremely specific shapes.

The mental strength for this was easily trainable. It just took time and mediations along with imagination. The overwhelming mana was the tough part. That meant that both Midnight and Walker would need to condense the earth mana with their own mana before they were able to make a massive shield of such dense stone like the stone here. But a weaker stone? That would be easier. Especially later when Walker delved deeper in to the natural mana that he had to use in tandem with the earth mana.

"Midnight, let's make a shield together. Then we can separate and focus on it alone as we get better." Walker and Midnight agreed. The small yes that Midnight mumbled was enough to tell that he was not the only one in a hyper focused state of mind. Midnight was extremely focused on the challenge before her. Her dragon's pride did not allow her to hesitate when making these leaps and bounds for strength.

The others were all resting and focused on their own states of mind while Walker and Midnight did this. The wyverns still slumbering. However, the royal dragons had begun to refocus themselves on the potentials of other ancient ruins. They were preparing to change their plans if need be. Walker would just need to change his approach if they did.

#### Chapter 1774 1774. Stone Advice

When the entire room shook, Midnight looked up to see that walker had just failed in creating a small wall. She had sensed him gathering earth mana to try something. She had been doing the exact same thing. Yet, when the stones scattered across the floor from shattering, she was instantly up on her feet.

Walker was looking at the small scratches on his hands wondering just how he had messed up. It had been a long time since he had failed such a thing. The stones were sure to have caused issues to anyone that was so close to them when Walker had broken them. But the stones that had cut him were completely because of the unsettled mana that he had used.

Controlling too much mana was an issue that many mages worried about. The simple fact that they could cause such disasters when working with their affinity elemental mana made sense. Fire could explode, stone could shatter, water could spontaneously freeze, wind could make blades. The light could blind them and the darkness could cause rot to suddenly bloom on their body. All were possibilities.

The reason for Walker's failure was easy to see. The small piece of stone that he had started with had been overwhelmed with pressure. The idea that midnight and Walker had was to condense the stone through pressure. This seemed to work and the two had been playing with a fist sized piece of stone that was almost double as dense as what they had before when it came to the small pebble the size of a marble.

Unfortunately, Walker had tried to go bigger and released the pressure on a single point. that caused the stone to shatter at that point and send shards everywhere. Midnight had been fine since she still had scales over most of her body in her dragonkin form. But Walker had been cut because he was fighting against his own strength. Luckily, a quick healing skill fixed it.

The experience from the mistake was key though. Walker and Midnight just had to look at one another to understand the failure. This failure had attracted some attention though. Specifically from Su who had gone looking for the two after she had properly rested and made her own plans for her future growth.

Su didn't immediately approach the two. Due to her relationship with her partner, the grand earth spirit, she knew that they were training very closely in the earth mana that was naturally all around them in this secluded passageway. Especially in this palace where the carvings showed many young dragon hatchlings.

She had expected that midnight and Walker would go exploring. The royal dragons had also done this when they had finished speaking. Terron was too busy and the others had grown impatient waiting for him to have more things to tell them. Therefore, the royal dragons had taken it upon themselves to see what the wyverns had done with their section of dug out caves and also see what other secrets the ruins might have. Their history was right there before them.

When Su saw that Walker had healed his cuts and started to draw more of the weaker stone to him, she felt that he was trying too hard. The stone was stubborn and needed a lot of force, but that same force would break it. She didn't approach that mindset when she used the earth shield or created a thicker earth shield on her own twin shield.

The reason she didn't was that she believed that the earth was already open with her. Whether she had adapted that mindset because of her partner or because she had gained a much higher affinity for earth elemental mana, didn't matter. The mindset had let her learn and use the earth to strengthen her defenses better.

As she saw Walker and Midnight both controlling a part of stone, she was impressed to see that midnight was working so hard in her dragonkin form. She had not been using it much at all since they were on a long journey that required her toughest form. Her dragon form was massively more powerful when it came to protecting and defending. Survival was always at the top of the list.

The dragonkin form had almost no use in battle other than some physical attacks. Midnight could use flames on her claws and she had trained this with Su. However, now that Midnight was learning to use stone, that meant that Su would have a much harder time to defend against Midnight's attacks if they were to fight each other when Midnight was in this form. It was a good thing.

"Now let the earth wrap around your claws and the stone become one with you. It isn't separate from you. It is always part of you, you are just using it now. It's an extension of your own limbs." Su calmly walked toward them and gave the soft commands to Midnight. Walker also heard them but his mind was intently focused on the condensing earth that he was unable to try anything just yet.

The feeling was shared with him. Midnight found that Su was giving her advice and listened without hesitation. She trusted what Su said as she started to let the earth close in on her claws more closely. The idea of making a wall or shield was forgotten for the moment.

"Keep on doing that. The earth is where everything comes from. It is the ground you walk but also the origin of food. Let it stay close to you. It isn't malleable like water but it is your support. The thing that holds you up." the stone slowly coated just the claws on Midnight's hands. It was a small matter since it didn't cover her entire hand and arm as some dragonkin could when they learned attacks that Terron had shown them.

The tougher stone claws were easily better than what Midnight's normal claws could do. Even just by a little bit, they could cut in to tougher defenses more. "That is the start, let it expand more or make it support you with more strength. Ask it with your mana and it will bend to your will. It is stubborn but so are you because you are the same." These pieces of advice were just about changing mindset. Stone was tough but if you were tough as stone, why would it not move the same as you? A simple thought.

When Su looked over, she saw that Walker had coated five of his fingers on one hand with stone. The small shaping that followed was the stone moving to mimic claws like Midnight's. She had no idea how the two were mimicking each other but she smiled nonetheless. This was very interesting and proved that she would most likely be able to do something similar. She would be able to try and copy the skills that should be a dragon's. She already had the blood and the bonds, why not?

By the time that Su stopped speaking and sat down too, she had already removed her heavier armor to allow her to be closer to the stone. The three just sat calmly changing the stone in their hands while letting the soil pile up near them. Their clothes were getting fairly dirty but their learning was growing.

Su could feel a slightly stronger bond with Midnight when she started to try and pull stone toward her. She had no idea how she could also do as the two did since she had no mage skills like Walker. But with the help of her partner, she could make an earth shield. The real challenge was making her own without her partner.

Her training was different, yet, it was very similar to what the two had been doing. That was why she started making the earth shield flat on the ground between Midnight and Walker. That way she could just focus on making the shape. She didn't notice that Walker was also starting to copy the same thing.

'The skill, earth hardening has been taken from the stone cutter system. The skill earth hardening has been learned to a higher degree than necessary for a basic skill. The skill high earth hardening has been learned instead.

High earth hardening- 5+ mana depending on area

The earth focused when using earth related skills can be hardened to a denser level depending on the mana added. Further mana being added can condense search of a greater area or of a greater density. The dangers in doing so are greatly reduced through training for this skill. The mana used must be balanced and not overly forced.'

The skill appeared and Walker immediately felt it flowing more clearly. But he was getting a bit frustrated since he was still struggling to shape the earth in his ideal way.

#### Chapter 1775 1775. Refocused Training

"I could break that." Remey was sure that she could break the stone that Midnight and Walker were working on. She could be sure that a solid punch would be able to crush it and break through the defenses. However, she could definitely not break the defenses of the stone that Su had.

Between Remey and Gil, the two had realized that Su, Midnight, and Walker had been missing for quite some time. This wasn't abnormal since they were all doing their own training and resting while waiting for the wyverns to awaken. But it wasn't normal that they would not be around somewhere visible.

The small exploration after Remey and Gil had taken a break from their own matters had brought them to the same place that Su had gone to. But when Remey found the three, she saw that they were all trying the same thing. Walker was trying to make a shield just like Su could when it came to earth shields.

Su's was much stronger because of her higher earth affinity due to her partner. Having that affinity grand earth spirit proved to be the main boon when making such a skill. Especially when it came to toughness and dependability. Walker and Midnight had just started to do such things. It was a little odd since Su was not a mage, but taking in the account that she had used a shield primarily made of earth in the first place, it did make sense.

The only thing that Remey found herself wondering was, how she could fare against the shields. Could she break them with defense breaking punch? Or would she need to stop and use the earth affinity knuckles to do anything to them?

"They aren't just making shields. Look at them adding layers to the shields they are making. Walker and Midnight should be trying to make them denser. Su might be doing the same thing without too much help from her partner." Gil spotted the differences much more easily with his sharper eyes. But he was also wondering if his arrows would have any effect. Not that he had any of them with him right this second. He had another focus. One that he had set himself up to use no matter what.

The high elf dagger technique had been too stagnant lately. He hadn't focused on it in the past days since he had been too focused on the current journey, but he also knew that when they returned to the village along the border, that they would be seeing Alma again. Alma would certainly have more to say about his rate of progress. He would be letting her down if there was none.

Therefore, the focus on using daggers was all that Gil could do. The reason he had gone looking for Walker, Midnight, and Su was also due to the fact that he wanted to ensure that he could train against someone other than Remey. He wanted to fight multiple people that could defend every single attack he used. That was the pressure that could push him to another level. Especially since it would be enough to make sure that he would see the flaws in every step very clearly.

"Remey? Gil?" Midnight was the first to break her concentration and look at them. It was because she had smelled the two closer than they had been before. The strength of a dragon's nose was nothing to be underestimated.

"Midnight, we came to train with all of you. Feel like testing out that shield?" Remey put on the earth affinity knuckles and patted her armor a little. She was waiting to see if Midnight would get fired up a little for a battle.

"I need some battles too. I want everyone to attack me. I need to push the dagger technique more. It's stuck." Gil didn't hesitate to get himself in to it too. This brought Walker and Su back to focus.

"You two came looking to train? There is still no change in the wyverns yet? What about the royal dragons?" Walker was looking a little more tired than the other two. The issue for him was the constant expenditure of mana and mental strength. He was using the natural mana to help him pull at the earth mana now so that he could meld them together. It was a very tedious balance that should only be used

short term and not over the long term like this training. At least until he was better at using natural mana all the time.

"We had to come to train. The royal dragons have all started to meditate while waiting for Terron, Alice, and Onyx are training with light and darkness mana, even some soldiers are working with them. The angels have all calmed down finally and are basically just examining the wyverns without touching them to gather intelligence for their empires. The healers are the same. The life mages are actually the most interested." Gil sounded bored.

"It's not anything interesting. The life mages are talking about lifespan, and size. It's very boring. They are a lot less like healers now than they were." Remey grumbled a little. It was very clear that the life mages had tried to do this to Remey and Gil at some point. That just left them to want to train somewhere else even more. Therefore, here they were with multiple reasons to find the rest of the party.

"We could use a change of pace. I can only test my shield so much compared to what my partner and I can do. With this, I can break it many times. I might even be able to use the skills that Midnight is using to coat her claws in stone." Su looked at Minfight who had already shifted the shield shape to covering her claws.

The changes that Midnight had figured out were greater than the other two. She had managed to make stone claws and created a small stone shield. It wasn't necessarily as condensed as she wanted but compared to Walker, Midnight had an actual stone shield skill now. It was sure that she could learn a stone armor skill if she wanted later with more training.

Walker had been slightly behind. When he had focused on coating his body in stone, the stone claws skill was foreign to his human body. This led him to focusing on the claws he replicated more. It was very similar to the dragon aspect in that way. He was mimicking dragons. Now though, he was a little jealous that Midnight had gained a skill first.

"I don't think that we will be focused on the defenses really." Walker looked at Remey and Gil. But the one that responded to him the most was Remey. She grinned and cracked her knuckles.

"He wants to fight face to face. What, are you jealous that you can't get the skills you want?" Remey had picked up on Walker's frustration easily. It was just something that came with the fact that they all spent so much time together as a party. Anyone would be able to pick up on these things over time.



The single comment had started a battle right then and there. The desire to train taking over their minds as they knew they would have to begin their journey toward the Fel empire and the desert that held the undead causing issues. The real wonder was what would make the undead so powerful? What had awoken them after so long? And what would happen if they were to continue to grow to the point that they were able to leave the continent?

These thoughts were in the back of everyone's minds as they trained but it was much more forward in the royal dragon's minds. Their conversations about what would be happening after the wyverns awoke and where more ruins might be had been long. The eventual end of them before they all sat to meditate and prepare had been simple. What dragon ruins might be in the Fel empire where the desert is strong.

Were there light, wind, or fire ruins? They could find more legacies for the most powerful dragons that had sent their race to the other continent many years ago. So many that the dragons had not known they were once residents of the Sigil continent at all. That history had been lost to time since they were too young in a new place as a race.

This would have been thought about more if after hours more there had not been a stirring in the ruins. In the wyverns. Some had begun to show signs of waking up which pushed the royal dragons to send their dragonkin to get Walker and the others. Just a few hours of training had been left for all of them.

## Chapter 1776 1776. Half And Half

As much as the party could train for days and hours, the mana they were using was too much to allow that to happen. Their mentalities greatly outweighed their ability at this moment in life. However, that did not limit the pressure they could put on one another.

Walker was able to start pushing the earth condensing skill on to the earth sculpting skill. The two high level skills were mixing very well. Enough that it seemed that he would be able to do much more when it came to earth mana in general later in time. He also had started a competition to make the earth claws that Midnight was using tougher. The two had a simple goal of beating the shields that Su made.

While Midnight and Walker struggled to create a quick and tough earth shield, Su was able to make one much more easily once she was in battle. Something had clicked in her mind that was definitely related to her affinity. The shield she could make barely required any of the grand earth spirit's assistance now. She could make one whenever she needed as long as she had the earth mana to do so.

That didn't stop Remey from trying to make sure they all broke through. The fire elemental affinity knuckles have been forgotten momentarily for the earth affinity knuckles. Ones that Remey barely ever used since she had such a great affinity for fire now. In doing so, Remey had been able to greatly meld the defense breaking fist with the earth affinity of the knuckles.

The combination was proving to be tougher because of the added affinity of earth to her punches. The earth was tougher and allowed Remey to similarly pull earth or stone to her knuckles as a sort of gauntlets protecting her. This defense added to her fists allowed Remey to punch with more of her strength without any backlash that would normally come from adding too much force to a hit. Many brawlers struggled with the concept when they were younger because they believed that hitting harder meant that they would win a battle faster.

Faster wasn't always better though, Gil had shown this in his current state of training. The speed at which Gil had normally pushed himself was greatly held back as form and technique was completely followed. Especially when it came to the defensive abilities of the earth related dagger techniques from the elves.

The reason that Gil had slowed down was simply because he was able to focus on defensive measures that way. Where the defensive measures had taken place specifically were with his ability to deflect then counter attack. In doing so, he needed to focus on the qualities of earth and stone that the sand and stone elves had greatly focused on.

These aspects were able to resist the tougher attacks that the rest of the party could throw at him. Just like Remey's punches, when they hit, the effects would be different. To resist the defense breaking fist enhances by earth, Gil needed to understand what the earth affinity in them brought and how to alter that with his solid movements.

To resist through sheer defense was not a bright idea, but using the strength of the blade and the earth stance of his dagger technique, he could use his own force to deflect and alter the path the attack was taking. Such movements were a test of Remey's mentality while they were a challenge for Midnight who had not expected that Gil would make her attacks useless in a similar way that Su was able to deflect attacks.

Although, Midnight was still the one making the greatest progress. Since the entire group was using earth styled attacks, earth affinity items, or earth mana, she was able to make her own progress greater. Midnight had the earth affinity due to her blood and true dragon champion status among dragons. She

was able to access the earth affinity and train it through her actions. It had just been slumbering in a way. Waiting for her to adapt to it. To become familiar with her own defenses and strengths.

"Reporting from my lords! The wyverns have begun to stir. The wyvern queen still slumbers but the wyverns are going to awaken." The sudden interruption of a dragonkin reporting to Walker stopped everyone. None of them had been focused on time but their mana had run thin so this was surprisingly ideal. Not that they would have stopped if they didn't have no choice in the matter. The group was clearly on a roll with their training advancements.

"We will head there now." Walker didn't hesitate to follow the dragonkin immediately. He found that the words were very true as they all followed behind. The smaller wyverns that had rushed to the ruins and caves were twitching or beginning to grumble as they awoke. But that was not the half of it. Walker was able to see the changes using his all around appraisal.

'Half wyvern

Due to the awakening of the earth wyvern bloodline that was created through years of hard effort by the wyvern queen and the recognition of the world, the wyverns born with said bloodline had become half dragon half earth wyverns. Those born between them may be full wyverns or lesser dragons.

The half wyverns is much closer to a pure earth wyvern like some of the younger or more focused of their species. They are able to manipulate the earth to create tougher scales along their bodies. They will also be able to follow the teachings of the wyvern queen to learn other skills unique to their race.

The Wyvern is able to bring a berserker skill in to battle using their monstrous instincts. When in effect, the wyverns of older times is brought out of them. They will go in to a vicious physical battle...'

There was more but Walker could already see the differences. There were no mentions of mindless wyverns. Instead, there were skills that could bring them in and out of these instinctual battle mindsets if they needed to be. But there were also many more mentions of earth related skills that were directly linked to their earth wyvern blood. A very good change in the all around appraisal from what they had been before.

On the way toward the wyvern queen's chambers, the entire party stopped as they felt the clashing of manas. Specifically of condensed light and darkness mana that was not what they had expected in the

moment or at all. They all knew it was Alice and Onyx, but they had not expected that while they had been training in earth mana, that the two had been focused on the condensing of their own elemental manas.

Specifically, Onyx showing his ability to make the shadows around him bend to his will. To make the shadows act as his own personal place to hide and attack with. Adding in the nearly inaudible song that Alice was singing that seemed to be intentionally quiet to condense and attack more secretly, then there was an impressive scene of power and strength.

That didn't mean that Walker didn't want to know what the skills he saw were. What the shadow serpents clearly made of shadows that Onyx controlled were called and what the skill Alice was using was called. The two had changed their focus on condensing and created new skills to use or at least the start of two clearly powerful new skills.

When the rest of the party passed them by, Walker saw Onyx and Alice stop immediately and start to follow them. A dragonkin had told them as they went by what was happening, but the two were clearly worn out from their own training. Walker had expected that Alice would be resting for much longer after using a skill that had taken so much mana and focus. But she had pushed herself in to training the moment she had woken up from resting for just a short while. The few potion bottles around where they had been proved they had both used mana potions to push themselves along.

"Brother, we can help out here for a while." Onyx had changed his size to a smaller and more manageable one but he and Alice still looked too tired to do much.

"Just relax. We should let Terron take the lead. He is their guide for now. But you should tell me what skills that you two were using. They looked powerful. It's impressive." Remey and Gil backed Walker up on this, making both Alice and Onyx look slightly shy at the sudden praise. Yet it was well deserved. They had all taken their resting time and thrown it away for their desires to become stronger yet again. Even though they had not fully rested, their shoulders had less weight on them knowing they were even slightly better prepared for the future.

## Chapter 1777 1777. Awakening Wyverns

Alice looked more embarrassed that the group had just seen her and Onyx training. It was clever that she was not at all adapted to such a skill. But the almost entirely silent song had moved the light in a completely different way than they had all seen her use it. Therefore, everyone had some curiosity. It

was the same case for Onyx, they all wanted to hear what he had to say about his skill while they were walking towards the chamber of the wyvern queen.

"Lullaby" the single word made all of them feel a little dumb. The lullaby skill was one that a lot of mothers got regardless of their system. It was entirely because they were mothers that they would get the skill. Then they would have the ability to sing songs softly and peacefully for a small duration. Usually ending so softly that no one would hear it for a moment.

"So you use the lullaby skill with your other skills to make the large force of light with almost no sound?" This made Walker wonder if it was the singing that was the key to Alice's skills or if it was just the act of verbally adding will to her words. But who had to hear it to take effect? Was it just Alice? Or was it the person being affected by her skills?

Or did it not need to be heard at all since the skill was working with the light? Could it be that Alcie wasn't singing to anyone but the light elemental mana itself? That was what seemed to make the most sense. She was a songstress, yes, but what if her unique blood since she was somehow descended to angels that had long ago left their continent made her system slightly different?

"My skill is called shadow serpents. It allows me to make the shadows in smaller images of myself to attack and bind something with them." Onyx saw that Alice was getting a little more red faced. She was embarrassed by the attention on her. Therefore, Onyx came to rescue in a way.

"I assume they don't have venom?" Remey seemed to be more interested in this right away. She was already imagining that Onyx would trap monsters for her while she could brush in and beat them down.

"No, they are my shadows, I can't use them well enough to give them that. I never use my venom either." Onyx was very adamant in not using his venom when fighting. It wasn't because he was afraid of it, but because he knew the dangers.

The venom of an abyssal serpent was potent. Onyx knew this and Walker had seen the skill. It could easily harm monsters larger than Onyx but it could also destroy them now that Onyx had gotten much stronger. Due to this, Onyx had realized the danger and the fact that he could destroy parts of monsters unintentionally. It would hurt the party overall in that means, thus, he had decided not to use his venom.

"A very effective skill that will be very helpful. Congratulations Onyx. Alice, I also think your skill will be very good to use. Many people can be healed or attacked without the enemy hearing it. I think I would want to train against you using that kind of skill. I would have to heighten my instincts." Su was appreciating both skills for what they were and how they would force her to adapt to them.

Entangled by shadows would be troublesome for her movement. Especially since she was always working to improve her agility due to carrying heavier armor and shields as a draconic guardian. But knowing that silent attacks made of light could attack her from anywhere was rough. It would mean that she had to be able to react without thinning. A perfect chance to train her instincts.

"So a silent light attack and a silent shadow tangling attack. Pretty crazy, I'm not going to lie." Gil was just as impressed but he was wondering if he would see them both getting higher class skills as they trained them. Especially since they had just learned them and started to push toward them due to their personal goals recently.

"It took you long enough. Terron got all of us up and ready in just a minute. Now you are all here after many!?" Ignus showed a clear annoyance for the party not being right there when things had started to change with the wyverns. Some of the youngest had already awoken and were moving near the queen. They were slightly defensive even if not all of them were her direct children.

"We are here as well. Please show us what you are planning." The tension that came with Seran's words as every single angel stood at the ready made everyone wonder if they were planning to have a battle right here and now. Especially since they had not wanted the wyverns to be alive at all. The ideal for the Rize empire would have been defeating the wyverns completely so that they would not be causing in further issues with the empires.

"What i am planning?" I am planning to raise them as if they were their own village. The mountains will be theirs. Your empire will need permission to pass through certain areas. They will have their young guard it. But you should understand, that also means you will have safe travels through here. A dragon's word is unbendable. So the wyverns shall live that as well." Teron was an earth dragon. They were stubborn and powerful. The wyverns were earth affinity was well. It was easy to believe they would have the exact same stubbornness.

"But we will make sure that it is understood when she decided to stand up and look at us." Terron and the other royal dragon had all been looking at the wyvern queen's body. She was still solidly curled up over her eggs but she was not breathing the same way. Her soft breathing had stopped and she was taking a long deep breath. She had heard them.

The time it was supposed to take for her to finish healing had been constantly shortened by the life mages. They had not stopped helping her since they were given the task. They had rested and some had completely passed out, which was normal for any healer. Yet, when they had woken up with enough mana, they had gone right back to the task assigned.

This wasn't because they cared for the wyverns greatly or because they had a great attachment to their orders. They were healers. Healers sent because they were considered some of the best available at the time. Therefore, they would be pushing themselves to do the very best they possibly could based on their honor as healers and the skills they had. No healer would leave someone harmed to heal by themselves just because they had been brought back from death's door. They would spend as much effort as needed to bring them back to near perfect condition.

As the wyvern queen's voice rumbled, she spoke before rising up. "I feel new." The three words made everyone understand. They knew that the wyverns were awakening their own race and bloodline that was taking clear control. Some of the wyverns had more pronounced bone horns or spikes along their body to show this fact off.

The wyvern queen was the same. She showed off the fact that her scales had more or less regenerated where Terron had brought earth to cover the open wounds. They were different colors because they were still new and were not fully finished healing. The color would never be the same since they were scars. Yet, the scales themselves were more pointed and sharp. They would cut something by rubbing on them the wrong way.

"You are now a wyvern queen. The blood of dragons is but little in your body now. Your children will be fully pure earth wyverns. You have what you would risk everything for. Now what?" Terron did not add pressure but showed equal standing out of respect.

A deep rumble echoed before the wyvern queen took the more human form again. The rush of dust that kicked up this time was more impressive before revealing the scared face and scales from the attack. Yet, she looked somewhat calmer. Happier than before as of a large weight that had been on top of her was gone.

"Those that built our home are our reason. I will learn to rule a village first. As you and those I followed have done." Terron seemed to like this answer and nodded his head slowly.

"Then I shall share with you the strength of earth that you have missed. Until your children hatch. After that, you will need to return this land to prosperity since you are the one that ruined it. The angels will only respect your strength if you can raise and destroy your territory with wisdom." Seran appeared surprised at Terron's words but the respect that appeared was true to the core. The angels would allow the wyverns to live if this was possible. A powerful dragon was saying it and they understood the potential for this to happen

## Chapter 1778 1778. One Step Behind

The wyvern queen was clearly very different. There was a lot more control over her movements even though she would have lasting injuries from the attack of the yellow acid slime. But what contributed to the sudden change in mentality wasn't only the fact that she was seeing the beings that she had seen in the ruins as statues. She was different because of her bloodline changing.

The wyvern queen was not influenced by the simple brutality of dragon blood within her anymore. She was now able to discern the differences in a proper intelligent species and a real species. The differences that had been between them and their race before was simple, anger and instincts.

The wyverns had been many in number, enough that if they were more intellectual, then they would have already been recognized as a race. When the dragons had appeared to take the lead of them, the world had enough reason to push for a world quest. A racial quest to help the wyverns.

This turn had shown everyone that the wyverns were not necessarily evil. They were mostly victims of their blood and beastly instinct to battle, fight for their territory, and kill whatever they could for food when they lacked it. These instinctual drivers were too much to resist causing a loss of intellect. By overcoming them, the wyvern queen had already given birth to eggs that would be separate from that brutality and be able to be real earth wyverns.

Therefore, the wyvern race had already been separated, it was just a matter of time before the wyverns would be recognized properly. By finishing the quest, the world was able to place its influence in again and free the existing wyverns of their burdens. Their blood was still mixed, but some of the clouded judgment and brutality had been washed away. Now they would be able to live.

While the world seemed mysterious, the clear message of all of this was simple. The world or mysterious existence that governed everything, the systems, races, and even the mana around did not want to just watch war and death. It wanted everything and everyone to live a pure and true existence. That filled Walker and the others with a great amount of pride and joy.



As Terron had taken the full lead, the other royal dragons had backed off slightly. This wasn't fear or anything related to that. It was respect. Terron had taken the wyverns as a race under him. It was the safe and a dragon taking a village under their own territory. That made the wyverns and everything they claimed as their homes, theirs.

On top of this, the entire mountain had been created by an ancient dragon. One of Terron's blood. An earth dominator dragon had left everything behind so that the dragons could one day find it when there was not war any longer. It was something meant for Terron and the same would be elsewhere for the other dragons. How could they trample on that? It would be a great disrespect.

The wyvern queen was listening to Terron as he spoke talking about the rules of a territory, the control one would need over their people. But when the wyvern queen glanced at the royal dragons and to the party, she looked back at Terron before he gave her a nod.

"You are not like them. How are you able to stand with them?" The curiosity was something that had bloomed when the wyvern queen first saw that Walker had acted and used skills to mimic dragons. It was clear to her that he had power she did not. Yet, with this new clarity in mind after becoming her very own race, she did not understand anything. The world was larger than she knew.

"I am human. Just that. But I have friends with dragons, abyssal serpents, and many other friends. I am not necessarily human anymore due to all of that. But I started simple, I believed in things and stood up for that. I met people that changed the course of my life and got stronger. As I did, I embraced many things. That put me here in front of you and gave us the chance to help you instead of the full war which would have happened if we did not appear on this continent." Walker knew this wasn't really an answer.

"One day, when your wyverns are ready, they can come visit the home that myself and my family, my bonds, my friends, and so many more are making. It is open to every race. Monster races like you, ancient races like the dragons, and younger races as well. Everyone has a chance there. I wouldn't mind seeing the world like that."

A small glint flashes in the eyes of the wyvern queen as she absorbed this information. A potential where she would not be fighting and killing for her chance to grow the race she desired. It would be different, very much so, but it would be better. It would be better. "Terron might even bring you there one day. He has some of the young earth dragons there to learn things. Not many yet, but I know he will be happy with what they learn there."

"First though, Terron should be showing you to help your people become organized. He has already created entire spaces for a village near the water. I bet he will show you things I haven't seen yet. I bet he will also show you a way to live with the angels instead of fighting them. In the future, they should also help you in return. Food, safety, and family. You'll have it all."

Walker seemed to be putting words in Terron's mouth but Terron didn't even flinch. What Walker was saying was true. Terron intended all of this as the guiding dragon for the wyvern race. The earth wyverns would be able to learn all that and more. They might even become a dramatically different society because of their time in the world compared to what would have happened if the eggs the wyvern queen had birthed hatched in to a world of battle instead.

"Seran, you should have already reported this, right?" Walker looked at Seran who nodded quickly. "Then we should head away. Terron has a lot of work to do and the wyverns are calmed down a lot. Even the little ones that came back are waiting for their queen to say something, we can't get in the way of that, right?"

This was a little pushy but Terron appeared to be grateful for it. He had a lot to do and had just shouldered a large amount of work. Things that would keep him from his own territory. "As agreed, we will watch your home. Nothing will touch your elder dragons." Current made a simple promise before following the party away. None of them stayed in the same chamber. But just as they left, Walker swore he saw one of the wyvern queens' eggs shake just slightly. Even if it didn't really happen, it made him that much happier.

"The things we are left with is a loss of a dragon to our cause. Terron is strong. He is not with us now." Su was torn because she knew the importance of Terron being here.

"I will manage without him. One dragon would be enough to handle this issue. My light will cause those undead to fall and we will find those demons. They have the bodies of wyverns and have dared touch a dragon's ruins." Rise was understandably worked up. She was just showing now.

"These slimes are what I'm worried about. That slime breeder had more lord slimes with him and managed to get whatever wyvern bodies using them. He even left one to attack as a disposable attack against the wyverns. If the queen died, they would have gone berserk." Gil made a clear point that the worst could have happened. But they hadn't actually thwarted any plans. Just prevented the side effects.

"It feels like we are just reacting every time we have to deal with the demons. How do we get ahead" Remey spoke with a frustrated tone that everyone felt. They all felt the same way when the demons were brought up.

"I have a feeling that they will be with the undead too. They took a wyvern's body, why would they need it?" Mordant growled a little after saying this. "We will take down the undead and erase that potential. We just need to speed up our plans." Mordant seemed willing to make some sacrifices for this. He would not be fooling around now.

"Then that's that. We will start moving in a few hours. Seran, we can leave you here to handle things. You fought wyverns so you can help show them the opposite of battle. It should be better for those that were at odds for them to learn about their future. You can be biased and have your view altered by what you see changing." Seran didn't respond for some time until he nodded a little.

Walker had imagined some pushback but saw that Seran truly wanted to keep the Wyverns accountable. His soldiers would be the same as well. "The Fel empire might not be ready for us, but we are coming. We will need to rely on the life mages, crystal healers, and everyone else we meet to help us out. Hopefully they can handle a speedy movement to assist." Walker looked at everyone and saw they were already prepared to move. No one had expected a long rest after this. It was a little sad but just the truth they had to face with their goals and ambitions.

## Chapter 1779 1779. A World View

To say that the angels were pushed in to disarray by this didn't even sum up a little of what was going on. Seran had rushed to report things and so did the healers and life mages from the Fel empire. Even though they all had their more specific reason for being there, they also had their duties to the empires they served.

Seran had told the archangels about what had happened. None had liked it much and the information had already been passed on. The Rize empire was slightly shocked to hear that they might have something safe in the mountains now.

Unfortunately, the information had spread like wildfire as soon as the earth wyverns had been recognized as a race. Some of the less knowledgeable angels in the Rize empire believed that this was the start of a different war. A racial war where they would be fighting a race of monsters that wanted them all dead for food and territory.

Others knew that something was happening with Genesis. They knew that Genesis had taken the lead fully without enough influence from the archangels at all. This made them very unhappy because they would have preferred that the wyverns were gone forever. Having another race made things complicated.

Unfortunately, these thoughts had already been stomped out when the archangels and their superiors heard that the earth dragon Terron would be staying to lead the earth wyvern race. That alone was enough to hold off. Every single angel with strength had heard of the power that a single dragon had. It was why the reaction against Genesis had not been a battle. It had been to create a working relationship with them.

Furthermore, the thought that the earth wyverns might be brought over to their side also bloomed. The thoughts of having their enemies somehow controlled by a dragon that could send them to war for them was very tempting. Those that raised this potential were given a lot of face in their meetings.

One thing that didn't sit well with anyone was the fact that Genesis was immediately leaving to help the Fel empire. This meant that the Fel empire could take away the thing that the Rize empire had already grown with the Genesis people. Unfortunately, there was nothing the Rize empire could figure out.

The shocking addition that the dragons of Genesis had worked to save the wyvern queen hit even harder. The fact that some demon had come and let loose a monster that could have killed the powerful wyvern queen they had been unable to hint so far made things worse. This demon had control of lord slimes that could easily rival their top warriors. That could destroy their prized floating city. The gem of each empire.

If the lord slimes escaped on to their well protected floating city, the elemental halls, knowledge of generations, and many of their race would be destroyed. It was the core safe haven for the Rize empire overall. Losing it was the same as losing everything in the eyes of the Rize empire top angels.

The Fel empire was slightly different. There was a massive halt in research. Not because they wanted to stop, but because they were receiving the detailed reports of things they could not understand. Dragons were barely recorded in their research, the skills and systems that Genesis used were also not recorded anywhere also. Add in the mystery that was Walker and how he could use skills of other races and even some monsters. Well, that brought even the most reclusive researchers out.

They had also received the report that lord slimes had appeared. Some of the Fel empire knew about this monster. What place in the world had not seen a slime of some form? They were just too common for the Fel empire not to know of them. Yet someone who could breed them in to such powerful monsters that did what they desired of the lord slimes? Impossible.

Becoming a tamer was a research field that some of the Fel empire angels focused on. The specific reasons usually related to skills that would alter the tamer's body or the way they acted through the binds of the tamer and their tamed monster. Specifically the sharing of blood and spirit. A mystery that caused many researchers to feel lost for words over and over.

It truly made them wonder what was going on with demons that had come to their continent. Especially since they had somehow managed to steal away a wyvern body and body parts from a wyvern burial in the mountains of the Rize empire. It made them laugh that the Rize empire had lost something, but that wasn't it.

Every single member of the Fel empire that mattered knew exactly the sanger in their core deserts. The undead that were being held back but could not be killed. If a powerful monster joined them, that would be a ridiculous tragedy that could deem all their research useless.

Along with this, the Fel empire understood that this Genesis alliance had been damaged to help a monster become a race. Something that seemed too impossible. Too hard to manage. Yet, they were hearing that this had been done more than once. Shocking, dramatic, and just impossible. The archangels for the Fel empire had shouted out with this over and over since they had no data to support this being possible. No matter what manas they had studied. They were at a loss.

On the exact flip side of the two empires, Genesis was rejoicing. They had seen the world announcement and they had also received some reports using communication crystals. None of them had wondered if they would hear of failure from the ships that had sailed. It had actually been a great talking point.

For some of the authors, storytellers, and more creative people, this was a great chance. They all had begun to fashion stories and arts that depicted what might have been going on while the ships were away. Those who had actually heard of reports were able to create grand tales compared to the imagination of others.

Those that had been unable to take the journey had been glad to hear of the current success. They had also begun to worry since they were sure that trouble would be around every corner in the ocean. Not

that they believed anyone that left would fail to make it back. They knew that the heroes that represented genesis would come out of this using their greatest strength to ensure that everyone would remain safe.

The faith that was kept was great, but that didn't stop family like Lisa from using everything she heard as inspiration. Her clothing business had birth in to an even busier time as the season had changed again. She had been making more and more that she had expanded from just one shop to multiple. Seamstress had come from many different kingdoms to learn and work with her. The lure of rune sewn clothing was enough for them. But the rumors that she was making rune pattern clothing as well was something larger.

The research of runes was giving birth to new system users. Rune cravers became more prevalent since they had a place to study now. This brought in the rune carpenters. Rune stitchers, and even a rune swordsman from the lands. They had not had homes or just been travelers, but genesis was not a hub for the rune research of the continent.

There were two continents in dramatically different emotional states. Whether it was good or bad, it didn't matter. Problems had been solved, things were growing, and the heroes were on the hunt for evil. What else would the people of the world want to hear?

Meanwhile, the party was back preparing to leave again. Their minds could not bother to care for the states of the places around them. They trusted everyone in Genesis to maintain its safety and prosperity. They knew that the Rize empire might try and halt them, but they would handle that when they saw it. They had to stop the undead in the south before things got worse and the entire Sigil continent was a victim.

The Fel empire would surely hold many temptations. Walker already steeled himself against this. He could stay there and research unique manas for years and still not be satisfied. That was a fact. But if he stopped, he would miss the criminals he pursued and the dangers he promised to save the angels from. That would be a crime of its own.

"Are you certain you want to carry everyone? All of you?" Walker saw that all the royal dragons were certain that they would carry along every soldier possible. They were truly angry at this slime Breeder. They could ignore some distaste for carrying others so that they could capture this villain. Seeing the nods from the dragons, Walker nodded as well. They would be off in the air shortly.

## Chapter 1780 1780. Push To Get Moving

Many of the soldiers had not been carried by dragons. However, they knew that the dragonkin and some of the others had been before. What struck them was the fact that the dragonkin all moved to thank the dragons immediately when this was decided. The respect they had was ingrained within them. But to be carried by their lords was more than just an honor. It was a great promise that they were trusted to be with their lords under any circumstance.

That was why the strongest dragonkin had come with them. The royal dragons had not selected just any dragonkin. They had brought their best of the best with them. While some had remained at the ships, at the embassy, and would also remain with Terron in the earth wyvern cave, they still moved with the entire army.

Luckily, the dragonkin had not just kept their mouths shut. They had been bonding with the other soldiers of Genesis closely. They had already figured out that there were many ways for them to get along. whether it was training or just general learning about their races. The dragonkin had expressed their beliefs and the fact that the dragons were their lords. protectors and leaders. Therefore, the soldiers knew how big a deal it was to be carried anywhere by the royal dragons.

"I will make you the stone carriers you want. I have no reason not to." Terron had been sure that the others would reject this idea as they thought more. He knew that they were not stubborn as he was, yet, he knew that they were more prideful.

"We have to deal with the things causing us issues. We already have allowed for certain insults from the demons, now we are insulted again. Our history was nearly destroyed. One of those that fell under the dragon's protection was harmed. It was a threat, an insult, and a blunt attack." Rise showed her teeth more and more as she spoke.

From what Walker could see, she was already unhappy about undead gaining strength around here. But with the ancient dragon ruins as treasures hidden away within the Sigil continent available for them to find, even the slightest little thing was enough to add to her anger. The demon king and his slime breeder were enough to push her right to an edge.

"I would normally disagree with the violent intentions, but right now I am in complete agreement. Terron, while you stay here and guide the new race to represent their ancestors and our ancestors properly, we will clean up the mess of our ancestors as well." Current spoke out against for the first time in a little while. He was thinking about the dragon history on Sigil and how to properly reclaim it and clean the remnants that had become dishonest.

The rest of the party including a few of the soldiers that witnessed this ongoing conversations started to get the feeling that they were now being swept up in things and not really putting things in to action themselves. Walker had seen this coming though and was sure that it would work out for the best. '

The main reason that Walker felt this way was that the dragons had a good attitude. They wanted to help others while also keeping their reputation on high. That meant that the dragons had already altered their mindset to stop thinking of just themselves. They had begun to add in other races and the state of the world around them to their plans.

The rumbling of stone becoming multiple large carriers that were similar to the one that Walker had in his storage made the angels wonder what was happening. A few of the wyverns even approached against their better judgment. It seemed the curiosity that the awakening young wyverns had for Terron was blooming already.

Now that the earth wyverns had lessened their anger and instinctual anger, they were able to think more clearly. The older wyverns were the fastest to begin to rethink their actions and try to understand themselves. The younger wyverns started to explore and try different things. That meant that Terron was now the most interesting thing to them. A powerful source of mysteries when it came to earth affinity along with strength. Whether they were afraid or not, they tried to look at him.

This also made Su a small target for their curiosity. She was easier to approach and the earth affinity they felt from her and the grand earth spirit made certain that she was a strong mystery. They could sense it and Su didn't hide that she knew they were looking at her. Those that approached were not pushed away by strength either. That meant she was willing to let them near her for a while to learn what she might be able to do.

Unfortunately, time was of the essence and Su could not show them the same time and kindness she would show curious children or any other person. She had to make sure she was leaving with the others. The wyverns also felt the slight stress and understood they would be in the way. The instincts monsters and beasts had was enough for them to know to stay slightly away as the dragons took their full forms again and the angels started to truly push themselves to follow.

Seran saw the Genesis forces moving to leave and started to sweat a bit. He couldn't leave. He had a duty to be here with the wyverns and monitor them. That took precedence over leaving for anything else. Even though the threat might eat away at him, he had to focus on the promises he made and the



world quest he was given. Not that he believed the other royal dragons needed him. It was better for them to pursue this matter.

Terron was defensive by nature. Earth was strong and tough. That meant that the royal dragons were losing a defender. Where would the defender be best? Protecting a new race or leaving to become an attacking force? Not that a dragon could be labeled as just a defender or attacker. Their strength was more than just that.

"We have a general location for where we are going, but the life mages should be able to guide us further." Walker interrupted and made sure that the royal dragons heard him. He wanted to make sure that they would not keep harping on their negative feelings for the situations they were in. He also wanted to make sure that they were keeping in mind that everyone going with them would be preparing to push themselves to battle as much as possible regardless of the enemy.

"The sooner we leave together the better. I would use my skills to move all of us if I could. Unfortunately, that would leave me weaker than flying will." Mordant lamented the lack of strength he had in this means. He had taken Walker in to the shadows. The very edge of what was between the world as it was and the darkness plane of existence. A dangerous and taxing skill. If he could do this with an army... Well, the uses were unprecedented.

"Forget that, we are leaving now or we will be forced to stay forever. The more we push this off the worse it becomes." Ignus growled out making sure to push everyone in to movement. The silent agreement from Ventus made certain that they were under the gaze of her eyes. She was sure that the desert would hold a lot of secrets. Dragon or otherwise.

"They are really just going to carry us?" Walker heard one of the life mages asking Alice this. Her nod in approval made them wonder just how things would work out. But what made the party smile was the fact that all of those who had not traveled with a dragon would soon understand things.

Their experiences had not been simple the first time they were carried as such. They were forced to endure the powerful wind that came with the strength that dragons had while flying. Even worse would be the fact that Ventus was clearly ready to help all of them fly even faster. "I think I will make sure that Zephyr and I keep everyone a little more protected. Walker, can you help me with some wind buffing skills?" Gil's idea was brilliant and Walker had no reason to argue with it.

While the royal dragons looked at the two a little unhappy, they understood the need to keep the soldiers ready for battle at the drop of a hat. Plus, Walker was ready to try to learn a new buff. A skill

that defended from wind and boosted wind resistance would be useful if a sandstorm blew up. Not to mention useful to prove his theories about more elemental resistance buffs he had from a while ago.