

## **Master 2031**

### Chapter 2031 2031. Great Weight

Walker could sense it more and more. The familiar feeling that he had been able to feel his entire life. That every single person had felt the entire life that they had loved.

Many people would only notice it when it worked against them. To be fair, it was something that they had all gotten so used to just by existing. Even the plants understood it.

The way that Walker had begun to delve in to the more unique manas, was what had truly spurred this. He had found earth manas that were dense and purer. Being around Terron had driven that home.

He had the mana senses to be able to greatly understand and use manas that were stronger than before. His learning was also well over what many people would be considering above average. These factors made Walker sense that earth mana was somewhat influenced by this but also partially made up of this.

However, the concept that another mana would help an elemental mana come in to existence was odd. It made his head hurt while he put more strength in to condensing the light ash wood. Again though, his mind was reminded of other manas.

Space mana was the most mysterious and Walker was still barely scratching the surface of what he could possibly know about it. But he had learned to displace other manas to make spatial mana react. To teleport things.

He had also begun to understand the space elemental mana runes. These things would be used by the rune carvers to make spatial teleportation formations. They would not rely on other runes at all sooner than later because of the many people working so hard to create and understand these runes.

Furthermore, Walker and started to theorize how to use spatial mana alone to teleport himself shorter distances. He was yet to be successful, but that was enough. The theory and the ability to sense it more was what he needed. It had allowed him to open his mind to space mana at a deeper level where he could grow more than he already was.

A thought appeared in his mind that suddenly halted all the manas. The light ash wood wasn't under pressure for just a split second. But that was not a bad thing, the manas reacted with double the strength as a new mana emanated around Walker.

Gil's focus became much sharper and he could tell that he was feeling something different than he had even felt before. His body felt more pressure. Heavier. As if it was being weighed down from every side. That was due to the mana that Walker had begun to emanate after unintentionally drawing it in.

'The unique mana, Gravity, has been discovered for the first time within the world due to the break in mana flow. The chaotic mana has been broken down in the immediate area to release the unique Gravity mana.'

Walker felt the notification from the system more than he could really understand at the moment. But in the back of his mind, he understood that the chaotic mana flowing in to the world was actually somewhat helpful.

Different unique forms of manas that were not the basic elemental manas were able to grow in larger amounts. This allowed the chaotic manas corrupting things, when purified, to allow people to potentially understand these manas. To be able to grasp where they come from and the other manas that they work well with.

Hot springs were an example of this. The water, earth, and fire manas together allowed for three to be very clear change when it came to the way the entire environment grew. They naturally worked with one another without volatile damage occurring to the land and even causing amazing al properties related to healing.

'The skill, gravitational condensation has been taken from the gravity mage system. The skill gravitational condensation had been automatically learned through the manipulation of earth and spatial mana related to natural mana.'

'Gravitational condensation- mana depending on the item being condensed.'

Using potent gravity mana, it is possible to increase the density of an item. The tougher and more powerful the material, matter, item... the more gravity mana, earth mana, and space mana is needed to make the item... condensed.

When condensed, the properties of the item material... are massively improved. The purity is also improved. Due to this, it becomes harder to forge, craft, and manipulate in any way. Specific skills are needed to do so. However, the quality of the end products will be many times greater. Especially if properly used with applicable skills.

There is a danger that the density will be causing too much pressure. When this occurs, the target will be greatly broken and cause an explosion which will harm the area....'

The explanation had multiple potential targets listed. But what Walker was focused on was that he could make this even more dense. He allowed the feeling of gravity mana to spread over him.

Due to this, he felt that his own body was weighed down much more. It made his body creak as he pushed for more mana to head toward the light ash wood piece. But it only caused it to condensed by half yet again.

Not that this was bad by any means. Not to mention that there was another bonus that came with Walker allowing this mana to permeate his body. To put stress on him that he had never felt before.

'The skill, gravity mana manipulations had been taken from the star fighter system. The skill weak gravity mana manipulation has been learned...

The skill gravity sense has been taken from the moonlight walker system. The passive skill gravity mana sense has been combined with existing high mana sense skills, and a hidden skill &^%^\*...'

Walker understood that this was the world censoring some things. Things that were beyond what he could push for right now. He knew that this was a unique mana that was part of the corrupted chaotic manas that always existed. But it had been too thin to allow people to properly delve in to it for way too long of a time. It would only happen one in a million if that.

His concentration broke as Gil tried to catch the light ash wood piece. However, it was the size of a single piece if light ash wood had become the size of a single arrow shaft. Gil's catch was rough since it knocked him off balance. "It is still the same weight!"

His surprise made Walker looked up. The throbbing of his body and mind were due to the unfamiliar mana flowing through him. His muscles had been damaged slightly due to the pressure on every aspect of himself. But he was not completely used up when it came to mana reserves.

Walker was able to use a healing skill and feel his body repairing the muscles. His heart calming as he felt a rush of adrenalin that blocked the pain. He had managed to delve in to something knew by using the right manas that he felt were proper. He had been able to do so because the corrupted manas had been calmed by the natural mana he used in the nature dragon domain skill.

All of this had provided the ideal environment so that he could sense a purer earth mana and ambient space mana nearby. That was when the gravity mana had shown itself. It would become even more abundant in the world now too. The world was growing to be what it should have been without so much interruption.

"Besides what you just did, how is this now?" Gil wanted to hear the results of the all around appraisal. He could be amazed by what Walker had learned and whatever skill it was later. This was how used to these events that Gil was. Just another day.

'Extremely condensed light ash wood

Due to being condensed, the wood is able to massively channel light mana. So greatly, that the mana will be drawn in making the area appear darker before it erupts with searing and blending light in a large area. The material can be crafter by unique carpentry, staff makers, carver... system users. But other skills may influence it.

This can be used as a rough arrow shaft due to its natural shape. However, it will require at least six light mages to add small veil of light mana around it when fired so that it does not immediately break due to the light mana rushing within it all at once.

It is extremely dangerous for any vampiric monster, even those that once boasted noble and pure vampire race blood. It can also harm true vampires, the race of vampires that is recognized by the world...'

There was more, but Walker and Gil had learned a lot. Walker was also focused on the feelings he had right now. But Gil was already wondering. "True vampire race should still exist then. The world didn't say the extinct true vampire race."

Chapter 2032 2032. Greatest Arrow Yet

Gil's laughter as he heard every word from Walker made him very excited. He had already started to dig out parts of arrows he wanted to use. The light affinity materials were being dismantled very quickly.

The skills that Gil had gained and used throughout his arrow making experiments were all related to him being an arcane archer. Beyond that they were also related to how he lived.

He was a part pure blood elf. It meant that with that high elf blood, he had gained some of the basic feelings of arrow making that connected the species to this style of fighting.

While that would sound odd to many people, it was true. Every race felt that they were great at something. For the dwarves, generations had forged. They had crafted. They had been more than good with their hands when it came to creating things. It had branched out over time.

With humans, it was words. It was adapting. It was the way that they took a problem and found solutions. This had been how they survived and were able to rival other races.

So, when it came to the elves, the connection to nature and archery were always very clear. That was why there were always so many elven archers. Why they had so much history when it came to these things? They were easily the best because they had a natural affinity for it.

Born to be an archer and create bows and arrows. That was why it was so amazing when a human had come from outside and changed so many ways that they made arrows. Gil had been responsible for a new age of arrow making. So much so that he was already loved by them before he gained everything he had afterwards.

Now, Gil felt that the connection was deepened. Like it had been forged into his very soul. He was able to sense the very small differences in the arrows he used to make. To be able to change the small imbalances that had made his arrows slightly shift to one side or another.

He had also been able to see the very specific skills that he had not expected to be able to see. Like the arrow shaft carving skill. The arrow head shaping skill. The feather splitting skill. These were all related to the creation of arrows together.

Because these were specific crafting skills, they are only able to be used when making arrows. Many people would often look down on these skills because they were only useful to that one specific thing. But for Gil, it was amazing. He had already used such skills his entire life.

When he had developed them more with the arcane archer system, things had gotten even better. Right this second, he was amazed by the changes he could feel.

Every angle one of his old light affinity arrows that he touched were full of problems. He had known that they were not perfect, but he had been unable to sense the issues that were there. The flaws that made them weaker. If he had the time, he could alter them and make them the best possible light affinity arrows that he could.

However, he was focused on dismantling them right now. Repurposing the arrow heads to be melded and broken down to be used as just parts. The same for the feathers and other bits and pieces.

Walker was the one watching now. He could sense that Gil was unconscious using his mana to be able to break down the arrows. This was because Gil was fully focused on the act of creating and making the best. Therefore, he didn't need to worry about anything else.

The arrow heads were offered to Walker. Gil had attached multiple light affinity arrows heads together. The metals used to make them had light rune carvings that could easily fall apart. They were unlike the other arrows heads which held light mana.

The different types of arrows that Gil had made were too many to count at this rate. Especially since he had gained so many materials and methods through travel. But these materials were a light affinity metal called spark stone.

Most people thought that they would be related to fire since they were sparking. But it was small flashes of light that came after they sat in the sun for too long. This was the release of the light mana. Because it had this effect, Gil had liked them. They could flash and blind opponents which would be an amazing way to distract people in the dark.

This was an arrow that Gil had used before but not many times. He did not feel bad that he was breaking some of them so that they could be used here. Instead, he was excited. Mostly because he knew that if they were condensed, they would become even better.

Therefore, Walker began using the gravitational condensation skill. It crushed the light affinity metals together more and more drawing a lot of mana. Gil just waited with his hands moving to take apart feathers as well.

The light quail feather was a rare bird that he had been able to get feathers from. The Sigil continent had them in the mountains and the angels with light affinity used them to attract more light mana to themselves to use. It was valuable for them and not for many other people.

Yet, when Gil found them, he asked for an entire crate so that he could make his own arrows from them. This would speed up the way that the light mana entered the arrow and expand the range that it blinded people. It would just improve the arrows as a whole.

Now that Walker condensed the arrow head, Gil handed the feathers and asked the very same. The arrow head was being chipped away using the natural mana surrounding Gil's daggers. Using the high elf dagger technique, like this, would shock many. But it was surprisingly practical and worked amazingly.

Besides this, Gil was also focusing on the fact that he had to attach this. Using the clear vines that allowed light to flow through them, Gil was able to wrap the arrow head base to the light ash wood arrow shaft. It was odd since the clearness of the vines would make many people wonder if they were actually a paint at all. But they were, they just had a unique existence as they grew on mountain trees where the sunlight was powerful and harsh. Not much could handle that degree of sunlight all the time.

When Walker handed the surprisingly heavy feathers to Gil next. They were attached with some soft tree sap from the light ash wood trees. This was ideal since Gil used a small torch to melt it and then let it hit the perfect slashed grooves he had made earlier.

The entire process would be astounding to the average person. Especially since there was so much that Gil had done so quickly. But that came with thousands of arrows worth of practice.. That was why Gil could even use these materials. He had trained so much with the elves and even by himself. He found it fun. It was always new. Always experimental. And just brought him together with the elves and everyone else as a whole. Why would he hate it?

The arrow soon began to soak up the light elemental mana like it was thirsty. Like it was greedy for light mana. Even the areas nearby Gil and Walker felt a little dimmer due to the amounts of manas that it was absorbing.

The arrow was still not complete though. It was just forming together through this process. That Was why Gil was guiding light mana from a few light elemental crystals in to it.

This process was speeding up what it could do and improving the potency of the arrow. Therefore, when he had completed it, a natural light rune disappeared on it. He didn't even have to carve them the entire arrow was literally an embodiment of purer light mana that would normally not be able to form without a mage. That was the goal here.

This arrow would be the ideal arrow that would allow for them to fight and use against the monstrous vampires within the sealed ruins. Therefore, he would be stronger. He would be able to deal with the strongest leaders sending monsters at them. This was the end result of what they needed to do. The best of the best

Gil had made the best arrow that he had ever made with the most unique materials. It made him very happy before he stumbled in sudden tiredness.

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Chapter 2033 2033. Enslaved

'Legendary purifying arrow

Created specifically to purify evil monsters that have purposefully fallen from being a world recognized race, this arrow is incredibly powerful. The pure light mana that is focused on purifying will cause any vampiric monsters it comes in contact with to suffer immense damage.



Furthermore, it will cause multiple light blades to explode from it when it lands, which will cause large amounts of area of effect damage. From this effect, it will leave lingering purifying light mana that will radiate double the distance. This will make that land where the arrow fell to be damaging to vampiric monsters.

Along with all this, the arrow had incredible physical prowess. It can better pierce many tougher defenses due to the condensed materials it is made of. With the right archer, it can even pierce the toughest of dragon scales with the highest resistances to the elemental affinity of the arrow. While it is strongest against vampiric monsters, it can still cause great damage to other monsters...'

There was more specifics about how the arrow had been created. About the materials it was made of. About the unique skills that made the arrow come in to existence. It was all right there explained in the all around appraisal.

The fact that this arrow had the name, legendary purifying arrow, made things much clearer. Walker and Gil both knew that this arrow was well above whatever else that they had made when it came to archery. Yes, if it was compared to everything that they had made, there was the eternal codex which stuck out as the best thing Walker had a hand in making ever.

Regardless of that, Walker was amazed that Gil would be able to fire this arrow. He had just gained the trump card that they could play against whatever vampiric monster was within the ruins.

"There is movement from the ruins!" The shout came from one of the adventurers returning from the fight against the vampiric skeletons.

Since the forces of adventurers and dragonkin had managed to fend off the majority of the vampiric skeletons that had come out, there was a reason that the message had been brought back so quickly.

It had been a short time since Walker had burned more mana and consumed even more mana potions. Now that they had the best arrow made and every crafter and archer here had made numerous arrows with so many more potential arrows to make, it was important to begin the real attack on the ruins.

Walker also spotted Rise flying in the sky. She had lowered herself from well above the clouds where she had been absorbing as much light mana as possible. She was clearly ready to deal massive attacks from

the sky on the ruins. The only issue was that the seal on the ruins was also stopping the party and the forces from entering it.

"What did you spot within the ruins?" Walker saw that the adventurer was pale. A clear sign that he had run here with fear on his mind. Fear that made his heart work too hard and the man's head feel too light.

"There are more than just vampiric skeletons there. They appear to be humanoid beings covered in chains. It is not what we believe should be humans since they have pointed ears like elves. But they look like undead ghouls. They are pale and sickly looking." The report made Walker think of the things he had seen the system say earlier in the all around appraisals.

"I would be willing to bet that those humanoid beings are the vampire race. Trapped by their own people who became monsters. The monstrous vampires preying on their own kind within the sealed ruins. Now they send them out as slaves to fight or test the waters." Walker could sense that this was the truth. He felt it in his soul.

"Walker, I just managed to make this arrow. Even if we fight a monster vampire, then it would still harm the vampire race there. We have to save them first. Before the worst happens." Gil could only think that if they acted in the wrong way, that they would accidentally exterminate the last of an entire race. One that might be able to exist if they had the chance.

"You're right." Walker looked sound. He knew that they had to act and the seal that was holding the monsters within the ruins back was broken enough that it didn't matter if he forced his way in. "Su, we are charging in and breaking through that seal."

"Then why are we remaining here. Midnight is already nearby there. Onyx is resting safely with others here to guard him. Remey is on the move since Ignus is angry about the vampires being in chains. He heard already." Su was waiting for Walker and Gil to catch up. She didn't want to stop the production of their best weapon right now.

Since Walker could be sure that the light ash wood was valuable, he took various pieces with him. He knew well that he could shape the wood with mana and that the eternal codex could be used to make a weapon. Naturally, this caused him to create his own arrows using earth mana to cut the light ash wood in to crude arrows. Perfect for weak monsters like the vampiric skeletons.

Regardless of that, the crude arrows would be fueled by his mana, the eternal codex in bow form, and the fact that they could generally deal massive damage to vampiric monsters in general.

Their movements were swift. The party showed off their higher agility while they moved. The lands somewhat repaired due to the usage of the nature dragon domain skill. However, the marsh lands still showed significant damage. The waves of water had forced the silt and mud of the marsh to be smoothed out. Many of the spots with holes of deep water had been filled in and were a mix of muddy quick sand.

The party could easily dodge these areas though. They had the intuition to miss them without thinking much. But they all knew the length of time for this entire area to recover was growing. The longer that battles happened here the worse off that the ruins were. The more chance that the entire area would become full of corrupted chaotic manas.

When Walker spotted the black and rusting chains that were somewhat suffocating some of them nearly skeletal pale figures, he could only shiver. He could not imagine how many years these vampires had been trapped and used as food for the slumbering monster deeper in the ruins,.. The monster that the demon king was clearly here to use to his own advantage.

'Enslaved vampire

Due to the monstrous vampire skill, eternal enslavement, this vampire is trapped by chains that will not decay or rust away. The monstrous vampire can feed on them while being forced to follow every order. Due to this, the vampire will weaken until they become undead in all aspects of existence.

The only way to remove this eternal enslavement is to destroy the monstrous vampire that is controlling them and created the eternal enslavement skill...'

Walker barely read any of the all around appraisal. He was sure that these vampires had seen many of their loved ones perish. That they had watched others give in to the evil intentions and become monsters themselves. All of this had happened. All that suffering. And now they had been awakened to be used as pawns by one who had been an equal to them at some point.

"I will be breaking those chains. You understand that, right?" Gil looked at Walker. His eyes had become dead serious. They did not flicker with the intensity as they normally did. A cold and focused calm had

overtaken them. One that told Walker that Gil would not stop at anything to ensure this would happen. Everyone's eyes had the same look.

"That is the goal. Free the vampire race from the oppressive monster that caused them too much pain. Just like the demons, they will be allowed to live free of oppression and pain. They can learn and experience the joys of Genesis. This I swear to the world." Walker's words made mana become chaotic for a moment. It was the world itself reacting to a true hero's promise.

That moment, there was a roar from the royal dragons. They had begun to make their moves. They each had strength to attack and they knew it. But what they knew they had to do was something that the party could not do right now.

The mana that the royal dragons had could be used to attack the sealing pillars that both prevented the vampires from leaving but also stopped the Genesis forces from entering. They would also have the physical strength to do so. Therefore, it was what they were making their move to do.

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Chapter 2034 2034. In To The Vampire Nest

Years of neglect on a seal was a simple reason that they might fail. This was why the party had been able to get past a bone wall seal when they had been exploring the undead ruins in their younger days. But right now, these were seals much more ancient in a way.

These seals had been made by someone that wished the vampire race to be gone for good. That wanted the monstrous vampires to be out of the way and in now way their issues any longer.

Therefore, the seals had been made out of stones that naturally held a purifying light affinity. One that caused many of the vampiric monsters to become dormant or even perish when they went near it. The sheer amount of bones around the massive pillars showed the royal dragons that these sealed pillars were definitely valuable in a way.

Unfortunately, the way that they were made stopped the dragons from entering. If they waited, then the vampiric monsters within the sealed ruins would gain strength back and enter. The demon king was also a part of the people entering the ruins.

If they allowed this without stopping them, then the potential for more issues to arise would be exponential. Simply because there was the fact that the corrupted mana that the demon king was using to cause chaos was already an issue. A vampiric monster more ancient than that of which more of the Genesis forces had ever faced, would be much worse. It was hard to imagine what a corrupted monstrous vampire would be like.

When Ihgnus unleashed a flame breath concentrated on one of the pillars, various runes appeared. They held protective light manas that tried to resist the attack. They had been made to do so. But the runes were cracking and broken. The pillar was also showing signs of cracking.

As Mordant released a shadowy breath full of decaying darkness mana, the same could be seen. But worse. Mordant had pushed forward the chain reaction of breaking that was allowing more and more of the barriers in place to crack and fall.

This was only more evident as the sound and feelings of manas being broken and unsettled grew. The other royal dragons had also begun their attacks where they could. Terron released a devastating breath of deep, almost metallic, mana. This attack was the product of him becoming a dominator dragons.

While every single of the royal dragons had grown, they had not begun to delve in to all of their new skills and strengths. This was simply because of lack of time. They had been forced to use their enlarged and purer mana reserves constantly to field the attacks and defense of the Genesis forces. But they had no qualms doing so.

All of that had shown them how far the dragon race had fallen in terms of strength. They had not advanced in lifetimes due to their arrogance and their own forces being within small villages. They had been too prideful. Missed the chances to learn from other races. Therefore, they had not taken steps to become stronger in other ways than just mana purity.

Walker witnessed the pillars that had been barriers to the vampire ruins flailing, his breathing only increasing as the rest of the party had gathered with him to take the important steps within these dangerous ruins.

They all had lost some of their mana because of what they needed to do. But the weapons they needed were made and being made. The forces that came with them were prepared. There was many things that could be better, but this was just life. Nothing was going to be perfect at all times.

Screeching from vampiric monsters echoed through the ruins. The stone huts and homes were where these monsters had lived. Where they had been forced to lay dormant for years upon years beneath the waters of the salty ocean. Now they were free and they were following the orders of their master. They were happy to have a chance to fight and feats once again.

This would have been intimidating for anyone else, but the party could not stand idle. They wanted to eradicate the monsters here. "Try to stop the real vampires in chains from dying. They are not enemies. They are just a race held captive by a monster of their own kind. I assure you, that we will free them." Walker said this to one of the soldiers behind their party. He was certain this order would be passed to everyone.

The dragons were looking to return to the ground and begin to walk in to the fight. But when they had started to get nearer to the ground, large screeches that made everyone's ears ring with pain were heard. Walker darted his eyes to black shapes in the sky.

'Titan vampire bat

Bred by the pure vampire royals, this enslaved titan vampire bat is considered one of the most powerful vampiric familiars of the vampire race. They are enslaved currently and have been forced to slumber for generations. While still weak from that, they are a very hard monster to fight.

Due to their innate abilities to use sound to cause illusions and chaos with the senses of their opponents, they will be considered a tough opponent alone. But with their strong teeth, numbing saliva, and claws, they are even more dangerous.

They have great strength and ability while flying, especially within the night. They will fight as much as they can against their opponents as long as their master commands it. The only thing stronger than them is their loyalty when it comes to any vampiric monsters bred by the true noble vampire race...'

" Those are not a good opponent to see." Gil sighed as he drew an arrow back. One of the basic arrows made from the light ash wood trees.

"No they are not. But they are also enslaved. Have the royal dragons pin them down. They can't be allowed to fight and move. They should be connected to those enslaved vampires. If we save them, they would be the greatest allies for the genesis forces as they return to straight." Walker had to think of the future.

His mind was on the when, not the if. They would save these vampires held in chains. They would save their history and the goodness that they could have within them. It just needed to be done the right way with the right time.

"It looks like Ventus had already done that." One of the titan vampire bats was currently trapped in a wind stream of wind. It could not try and land without plummeting from the sky. Ventus knew her strengths. In the sky, she had the advantage. Even as a dragon, she was the dragon of wind. The wind dominator dragon that could control the very skies that others just flew in. How could any monster in the air fight her?

With a confident smirk, Walker's eyes fell on the monsters coming from the ruins. Many more grotesque monsters had started to show themselves. Some were even showing off their previous traits of where they had come from before they were made in to the vampiric monsters that they were.

Most had the same things in common though. Red eyes devoid of intelligence. They were just monsters used as pawns to fight and follow any order they were given. They were tools that did not deserve to exist because they only wanted death and blood.

"Barry moved to the left, Scylla to the right. So we are heading right in alone, right?" Remey took a step forward because moving in to a run. She didn't wait to hear what Walker said to her as a response. She was prepared to fight already.

The rough wooden gauntlets made for her could easily burn up, but she held back her flames. She was already very powerful. Every punch she threw would deal massive damage to the vampiric skeletons and the other vampiric monsters heading toward them with the foolish ideas that they could beat the party.

"I was going to make a path. No problem." Su seemed to be wondering who the shield wearing hero of their group was. She had thought her shield charge would carve them a path through the basic walls of these ruins. Yet, Remey had taken that job.

"Brother, wings." Midnight got Walker's attention. She didn't say much, but it was enough to call out the winged vampiric monsters coming from a nearby larger ruined home. He could tell that these monsters had once been somewhat humanoid. They were emaciated and weak looking, but their claws and teeth screamed that they could kill things easily even in that form.

"Thank you Midnight, I will end this." Walker prepared a large fire ball in the next instant.

Chapter 2035 2035. A Worse Vampiric Monster

'Vampiric harpies

Due to being captured and forcefully changed in to vampiric monsters, these harpies were never awakened as their race became world recognized. They do not even have the intelligence to understand the great loss that they have due to them being changed in to this bat like form.

Their wings were changes in to similar bat wings due to the vampiric influences. They were most likely changed as an experiment to be added to the vampiric monster forces of the monstrous vampire in control of them.

While they lost the ability to see easily, they now have sonic attacks using their voices. They also have an innate strength in flying and using talons. Where they lose out is the strength that they would have due to their feathers. Without these, they lose the water resistance and innate wind resistance. But they have other resistances due to their vampiric nature...'

Walker had read this from the all around appraisal. He knew very well that these monsters were dangerous. That they could cause some issue because they could make diving attacks of the surrounding forces. But right now, there were only three coming at the party from a nearby ruined stone house.

They were targeting Walker because he was the one in the front of the group. Su clouds move because she would be the one normally defending them. But seeing that Walker had a fire ball condensing in his hand, she knew that she would just block his line of sight.



Things only became more dangerous for the monster hurtling through the air at them with outstretched talons when Walker added light to the flames. They became a blinding white before he threw the fire ball at them.

When it struck the central vampiric harpy, it only emitted a pained screech for a moment before it was drowned out by the explosion of flames. The white flames burned it and the nearby two vampiric harpies to literal ash in seconds.

It was a tragic loss in a way. These could have been harpies that had a family line who lived to today, where harpies were their own recognized race. Instead, even though they managed to exist now, when that had come true for the harpy race, they were still monsters. Mindless and forced to serve the vampire that turned them in to truly evil monsters that targeted others for blood.

"Warn the others about that monster." Walker saw that there persisted a group of soldiers behind the party. Waiting to defend them but also waiting to learn more and pass on orders.

This was not something he had expected or asked for. But apparently, it had come from Alma. She knew very well that the party would take their own path. That alone was enough for her to want some of her better trained soldiers nearby. They could pass on the information going on to the others. Especially when the party had better access to the unique inner workings of any place that they went to. That was just the luck that they had.

Beyond this, it also sped up any of the changes that happened. Especially when there were monsters that were too strong for the average Genesis forces to deal with. This could appear at any time and the party might have to split up to handle them.

"Hurry up! I have these ones handles." Remey saw the fire ball but she was focused on the monsters she had fought. The entire force that had appeared from the nearby ruined homes were defeated by her punches. The remaining ones had directed themselves toward the other Genesis forces.

This was all clearly due to whatever master they served. They had eyes on what was happening to direct their soldiers. It was becoming even less and less believable that the monstrous vampire within the deepest of the ruined castle here would be slumbering still.

There was also the fear that the demon lord had managed to get within this castle to be able to take wherever they needed for whatever twisted purpose.

Partially to mock them, or at least that was the feeling, the party found that there were more vampiric monsters all around them. But far enough away that they would not be able to fight the party. It was the perfect show of mockery in this battle.

But the evidence for the Genesis forces winning as they began to move deeper in to this territory was clear. The weapons made from the light ash wood were doing their job amazingly. Every stab with a spear made from it or an arrow made from it was causing devastating injury or death to them.

Even the cries from the titan vampire bats were muffled with them being oppressed by the pure physical might of the dominator dragons. However, these things seemed just too small.

The ruins trembled as more vampiric skeletons tore through the ruined village walls. The place had once been an entire city. That was easy to see. The ruins of the stone homes were easily crumbled now that they were free from the sealed state.

As the chaos of fighting appeared, the ruins could not handle it. So much was happening that only the castle stood above everything. Seemingly stronger than all other things. The only possible place that had been unkempt by the vampiric monster living within.

However, the enslaved vampires had begun to throw themselves in harm's way. Placing themselves in danger while the soldiers tried to stop themselves from killing them. They were a race. World recognized and enslaved. The potential for their freedom had become the weapon used against the righteous forces of Genesis.

The stress now being placed on everyone, including the party, was not good. It slowed the progression and made the gap between the party and the Genesis forces much greater. They not only had a very small force of soldiers behind them. This made them in a much riskier situation than they were just moments ago.

"I will handle them. I can disable them quickly." Gil knew that he could use the daggers to harm these enslaved vampires just enough to where they could not move. They could also be healed later when they were free. He had the skills to do it.

"No, I will use the ice dragon domain skill. It will freeze them in place while we move forward." Walker took the burden on. He knew it was better for Gil to hold back. Cutting the enslaved vampires while in such a weak state might kill them slowly. He preferred to cause some frost bite instead. At least that damage could be healed and shouldn't kill them.

As the mana gathered, Su blocked rocks and other things thrown by the enslaved vampires. When they got near, they were pushed back. Su wondered how they could be so light and still be alive. Let alone withstanding their own small body weights. Their malnourished appearance definitely was not how it should be. Even if they were a being that needed to drink blood to live. They should still be heavier.

It all pointed to the fact that they had been abused even before they had been forced in to a slumber within this seal. It made Su much angrier than she had been when she learned about their state before.

"Large monster incoming. Walker, what is that thing?" Gil pulled out an arrow and fired it before even hearing a word. He was purposefully holding off on using the legendary purifying arrow. He wanted to ensure he used it when they needed it most. But right now, he wasn't sure. His regular light arrow didn't seem to make much of a dent.

'Vampiric oger

A very rare monster that mostly does not exist any longer in the world, this is an oger. Prized for its regenerative and strength abilities, it can not use its mana very much at all. Very rarely, they can develop some al skills.

Extremely resistant to attacks both physical and al, when it was forcefully turned with great effort in to a vampiric monster, it gained the better resistance to darkness attacks. They did gain a major weakness to light attacks and a mild weakness to fire attacks.

Due to their normally barbaric and dim witted attack methods, they were easy to defeat if one was smart about it. But under the control of a vampire, they are much harder to face since they are less foolish in the way that they move and fight...'

This was the large monster facing them. Its face appeared as if it had been smashed multiple times only to heal uglier. Beyond that, it carried a hefty metal club, seemingly shaped from a fence after it was

rolled up. Nothing appeared to be good about this opponent which Remey stood the closest to right this second.

## Chapter 2036 2036. Carved Path

"Mine." Midnight growled out as she wanted the vampiric ogre move forward. It was charging toward Remey since she was the closest to it. It had the strength to crush her with one hand. Use devastating strength over all else.

But Midnight had declared that it was her target. She would be fighting it and that was that. Her will was loud enough that the party knew that they could allow her the chance to handle this monster blocking their way forwards.

It wasn't that Midnight wanted to show off. She had been calm for the entire time. Calm when they had been pushed back by the waves of salt water. Calm when they had seen the many vampiric monsters showing themselves from the ruins. Calm when she remembered that Onyx was unconscious and resting behind them due to all his hard work.

But when she had felt the pains and worries of Walker and the rest of the party about the fact that the vampire race was literally being enslaved by their very own kind turned monster, she had decided to give this everything she had. Use every strength she had to break through the hurdles in front of them. To make it toward that castle ruins where they could destroy the evil within.

If she was able to handle all these issues with the greatest strength that she had grown, then she would be the one that could save these people. She had been lucky enough to be born and find people that she could grow with. She was blessed and became the first hero of her kind. Beyond that, she had lived and taken on so many new aspects of the world.

Why would she feel any kind of happiness if there were others missing the same opportunities that she had been blessed with? That was what her mind rested on now.

So much pain had come from this demon king or demon lord. Whatever he was, it was evil and it was hurting people all over the world. Even those that could not think enough to understand what was happening to them. That hurt her more than anything.

With all that, she was forced to focus on the fact that this vampiric monster was being sent at them. It lacked the mind and was just a body. If the demon lord managed to get what he wanted from the vampire monster within that castle, it would become stronger. Become more dangerous.

Just the level of danger and control that it had now was enough to show that there was an ancient evil well beyond what they knew here. That was why she swallowed any thoughts of working together with the others. Not because she did not trust their strength, but because she would carve the path for them to reach the real threat at full strength.

"Trust Midnight, she has more to work with than you think." Walker's words stopped Remey from trying to back Midnight up. Through his bond with her, he could sense that she was going to use something interesting.

Most of the royal dragons had helped Midnight. The same with their dragon champions and draconic guardians. Midnight had been the one to greatly learn from all of them. Especially as a true dragon champion.

Midnight wanted to live up to what that meant. Live up to the title that she was given and promise that she would stand tall in the name of dragon kind. She was already doing so in raising the hatchlings that would have been tossed away. Preventing them from being rogue dragons without their minds to keep them sane. Stop them from becoming monsters without purpose.

"Gil, fire an arrow toward her and watch Midnight fight." Gil didn't ignore what Walker said since it sounded odd. Instead, he trusted his family with this and fired a single arrow made of the light ash wood. The arrow was not meant to kill, instead, it appeared flying through the air right in front of Midnight between her and the vampiric ogre that had changed the direction of its attack on Remey who had dashed away.

Midnight's sharp teeth shattered the arrow as she swallowed it. This would have shocked everyone, but from the way that Su looked at Midnight, everyone understood that the reaction was pride. "She finally managed to learn how to do that, huh?"

"Learn what?" Remey was a little out of breath when she jumped back to the rest of the party. She was unsure what was happening. Gil was the same while Walker had a vague idea.

"It's a special dragon breath skill called item destruction. It makes the properties of whatever is being destroyed by their flames help their dragon breath. The last nature dragon had a true dragon champion too. That dragon was able to use this skill with various items instead of being able to use a normal dragon breath. It was a major aspect of dragon history that no one was able to understand."

"But when the royal dragons began to experiment to gain strength before they met us, they managed to match their own elemental affinities with the skill and make their dragon breath more unique. But they didn't see it as valuable enough. For Midnight though, this is ideal."

The white purifying flames that Midnight was using focused on light elemental mana. She had used this sort of dragon breath before. Walker had even trained her with light related flames so that they could both better grasp the light and fire combination of elemental mana attacks.

But the idea to mix the destruction of an item, such as the light ash wood arrow, in to the purifying flame breath, was amazing. The flames had taken on a greater and more intimidating light elemental mana. More dense. Stronger overall.

The dense white flames from Midnight's breath met the large hand of the vampiric ogre which was trying to smash her head. Midnight just kept forward with her breath and used her claws to dig in to the ground. It made every step burn away the ogre's arm more and more.

When she stopped and took a breath, the ogre was missing an arm. Completely unable to regenerate the arm with the incredibly powerful regeneration abilities that it had. The light elemental mana had been the weakness that the vampiric affliction it had was. But beyond that, the burning also stopped the potential for easy regeneration.

The ogre roared. Clearly angry that it had been so harmed. The next second, the ogre jumped with its other hand coming downwards toward Midnight with its full weight. Unfortunately, the dull mentality of the ogre was allowing it to act in anger. The control of the monstrous vampire behind it was not enough to allow even this monster to act with higher intelligence apparently.

Midnight's claws had become covered in the same white purifying flames with extremely powerful purifying strength. She had allowed some of the flames to cover her flames as she had done before. Using her training to split her attention and control her own skills was like second nature now.

Therefore, she was already prepared for her follow up attack. The combination that matched the fire breath she had already used.

Using her powerful wings, Midnight dodged the attack and met the ogres head face to face. Her claws spreading out to rend through more and more of his face. The flames slowly sparking and burning in to the vampiric afflicted body that should have been able to regenerate.

Midnight was the best opponent to handle this monster other than Remey. And in just a few short attacks, Midnight had left the vampiric ogre with devastating injuries. So badly that it couldn't even move or see.

When she saw this, she stomped right on to the chest of the massive vampiric ogre. Her jaws opening before she used her sharp teeth to tear away the space where the heart was. This allows Gil to fire the second arrow while Midnight began to walk ahead of the party.

The ogre's heart being destroyed and stopping it from ever regenerating whatsoever. Midnight just walking ahead with an air of pride and power. She was the true dragon champion. Her skills were both the history of the dragons themselves. But she was also a hero. She could not let an evil win. She must rise above them and ensure the safety of all.

"It's time we keep moving." Walker silently praised Midnight with how much she had grown. She was a truly powerful dragon that deserved every single good thing said about her. Truly deserved the many different praises of all Genesis had to offer.

This battle was not over though. There was more ahead. Many more vampiric monsters that Midnight was already slashing down with her claws. She was carving the path.

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Chapter 2037 2037. Butler

The showcase of Midnight's amazing strength and flexibility in battle stunned Walker. He knew he had to remain focused and serious, but before a single monster even neared the party, Midnight had handled them.

Her leaps were boosted by flaps of her wings. Her tail struck out, covered in different elemental manas to cause a large amount of damage to groups of vampiric skeletons of other odd vampiric monsters.

Whenever the enslaved vampires would near them, she would use the darkness mana to make the shadows move slightly. They would trip up the enslaved vampires and allow Walker to trap them in earth temporarily. Even more so, Walker would freeze them in place with the ice dragon domain skill which was still active.

This allowed Midnight to keep using her claws and vicious purifying light dragon breath to deal with vampiric monsters. It was a mind blowing showcase of her skills. The entire party could reserve as much mana, even recover some as they pursued the cause of these attacks. The monstrous vampire in charge of all this.

Since the other Genesis forces were occupied with their own battles, Walker was only able to receive some reports from the small group of soldiers behind them. If he had been in battle, he would have been lost in the current state of things.

The party was able to hear that the exhausted forces were being cared for, while the healers also helped any injured to recover. So far, the injured were not great in number. But unfortunately, some of the more vicious vampiric forces had caused some deaths to the Genesis and angel forces.

This had made Walker's steps falter. In his mind, they should have been strong enough not to perish at all. He already hated that some would be harmed, but die fighting? That was heartbreaking. He was a hero, not just some weak person. He should be able to end this battle all at once and not include anyone else that could die.

When he heard that Scylla had handled the larger vampiric monsters that caused the death of soldiers, he relaxed slightly knowing that they had been brought to justice. While some would call it vengeance, the vampiric monsters were not the kind of being that could be reasoned with. They were mindless monsters that only killed. Destroying them was a justice to the world itself.



Barry was the same. He had been pushing his skills and the team of adventurers under him to handle the outlying powerful monsters appearing. So much so that they had become leaders of their own impromptu groups of soldiers. It could only be a good thing that they were melding so well with the rest of the forces.

What Walker was surprised about, was that Leon had managed to take to the waters surrounding the vampire ruins. He had encountered some monsters gathering around the ruins and begun to eliminate them. The merfolk forces were exceptional in their teamwork with the water elves.

This cut off the corrupted monsters that had gained the unfortunate boost from the corrupted manas that the demon lord released. Along with also limiting any new potential monsters joining the older awakening vampiric monster forces. There was also not an escape by water since the merfolk and water elves had managed to surround the entire ruins with the aquatic demi-human forces joining them.

Furthermore, the harpies had begun to take to the sky now that the titan vampire bats were all held down to the ground and unable to rejoin the battles. The royal dragons were acting with extreme care in this.

The harpies were able to help deal with communication much better. This sped up the assistance of each Genesis team to one another. Beyond that, they also showed that the harpy race was not weak at all. They were able to fight the vampiric monsters in the air and even clean up the old vampiric harpies that had never gained the chance to be a true race recognized by the world. It was a purifying battle for their race.

When a screech louder than before caused the stone of the vampire ruins to crumble slightly echoed out, it wasn't hard to understand why. Midnight had just pierced the heart of a massive vampiric monster guarding the gates of the vampire castle. Walker saw that it was an odd vampire thrall and the all around appraisal was clear on how it had been formed.

'Hulking vampiric thrall

This monster was created from the dead body of a half giant child. When it was forcefully awakened and used to become an undead under the command of a vampire, and later the monstrous vampire, it was filled with a lot of extra blood. Due to this, it developed the muscles that caused its body to tear slightly.

Now with massive physical strength, it is considered a great gate guardian. However, its slow movements just make it a moving wall. The lack of intelligence forces it to remain simple in its battle tactics. The only value left in it is the remnant giant blood mixed with another monster's blood.

This would make it a valuable monster to be consumed by undead that require these ancient blood lines to grow more...'

The all around appraisal showed how midnight was able to deftly move around this opponent. To find the optimal places to attack. To use her agility more than normal to pierce the undead heart of this monster. By doing so, it caused the dark rotting blood of the hulking vampiric thrall to spill out and it to collapse. lights

Years of remaining dormant took their toll on this monster. So much that it was certainly half as strong as it had once been. Walker could only imagine what the world would be like if the ancient giants still existed. But he wondered where their blood line had gone. Why he had never seen monsters of a race with giant blood in them.

Regardless, they stood in front of the castle gates. A single burst of flames melted the metal and burned the wood that made them up. Midnight just retreated after that attack. She was clearly tired from being in constant battle. But she trusted Su to protect her while the party handled the rest of the battle coming up.

From here, they would be seeing monsters with much more strength than what they had seen before. Beyond that, they would also risk fighting the demon lord outright. Not to mention the ancient monster that had once been a member of the vampire race.

"I regret to inform you, that you have not been invited to meet with my master. Therefore, I must ask you to leave or to lay your lives down before me to gift my master." The voice that echoed out was that of any proper butler. But instead of being old and weak, it sounded like it was annoyed. Almost angry to lay eyes on the party here to bother him.

The shadows around the center of the courtyard before the main castle entrance condensed as a tall slim figure appeared. Gray skin and a hairless head were unsettling enough. Not because of those facts, but before they were a telltale sign that something was wrong.

Even though this being looked like it should be human, it was not. However, it was also certainly a monster. The sunken and pin point eyes mixed with the many sharp teeth caused the entire party to feel chills. This was also due to the encroaching shadows that the monster was controlling.

"I didn't think they could actually talk, I figured they were all mindless things." Remey mocked it. She felt that it was the best way to throw this monster off its calm and collected attitude.

"Things? Is that how the cattle called humans understand the great masters nowadays? How times have changed since we were trapped here by those immortal seeking fools. And, since you have decided to leave your blood and bodies as gifts for my master, I will take your lives as quickly as possible."

The shadows lurched forward as Walker used his own mana to create a light orb. It was large enough to counter the sudden attacks of shadows, but also showcased the nature of their opponent.

The shadows coming from him weren't just shadows. They were part of him. Part of his body that had fused with the shadows in some form. It made Walker shiver slightly. Not because he was afraid, but because this monster was strong enough to be able to survive melding his physical body with enough darkness mana to be part shadow.

"Ah, while I could never walk in the daylight properly, the master brought out a storm to allow me to move about the castle. Since you insist on trying to remove it with meager force like this, I will respond in kind." With cruel tones and intentions, the shadows surged again.

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Chapter 2038 2038. Arrows And Punches

'Vampire spawn; shadow walker

This is a monster that the monstrous vampire corrupted when they also became a monster instead of following the natural flow of their own race. This would normally be one of their vampire kin, a turned vampire from a sentient race that would follow and serve them.

However, the monstrous change caused the shadow walker to become mentally unstable and fall in to madness. They also were forced to fuse with the darkness mana within their body and become partly made of shadow.

This made them incredibly closer to the darkness mana and able to control their shadow as a weapon and another extension of their body. However, damage to their shadow will also harm them. This drawback is why it is a very dangerous and taxing process. Only a true shadow walker would be able to do so without any dangers and mental damage. It would often take over sixty years of training to do this.

While the loyalty to his master is still present, the monstrous side had driven that loyalty to obsession. Due to this, many twisted and evil acts can be done without a second thought. The brutality of this monster is also massively increased making it exceptionally dangerous to face.

To properly counter it, all damage to the shadow and physical damage is recommended...'

Walker wanted to read more for the all around appraisal. There was so much information about what a vampire spawn was and what a shadow walker was. The information could be invaluable to everyone while they were fighting such beings. It would also be invaluable after they had completed the battle.

Unfortunatly, shadow whips were reaching out of the ground and striking at every member of the party. Midnight was defended by Su who easily deflected them with her light shield skill. The skill proved to weaken the direct damage the shadow whips tried to inflict, but still pushed her back a few feet, which in turn, caused midnight to brace Su's back so that they did not slide too far.

"Remey, get close to that monster and try to break its face." The rough words from Walker only made Remey grin in a slightly maniacal way that said she would gladly like to punch something in the face. She was an alchemical brawler, she liked alchemy and punching equally.

"Su, guard Gil and Midnight while they attack from range. Midnight, regain your mana while Gil handles the ranged attack. I will start to cut away those shadows." Walker had a plan in mind. He knew well that they had to damage the physical and shadow side of this monster before them.

This thing might be a butler of sorts. However, he was not kind and welcoming in any way. His obsession brought on due to becoming a monster controlled by another clearly made him a terribly dangerous threat. The shadows he used would be hard for anyone but the party to counter right now. The only other person that would handle him better would be Mordant, but he was occupied with one of the titan vampire bats which could cause even greater dangers if left alone.

The speed that Remey dashed out was surprising. She deftly dodged the shadows whips that reached out from the ground and around the butler's own shadow. She easily showed off the speed that came from her training and recent changes while becoming a unique existence within the world right now.

Remey's fist jabbed out trying to hit the body of the butler only to be dodged. It was easy to see that the butler knew that he had to dodge the first covered in light ash wood gauntlets or else he would be damaged severely.

Meanwhile, the shadows continued to lash out constantly. It was easy to see how many people would perish to this monster. The shadow whips acted like they were an entirely different being controlled without much through from the butler.

As the shadows whipped up and tried to strike Walker, he conjured up flames all around them. The ice dragon domain skill long ago released to conserve more mana for this singular opponent. Not to mention the fact that all those enslaved vampires that he had trapped would still remain so with the dense ice and stone he hand manipulated to hold them in place.

Where things seemed dangerous was when Remey had to dodge the attacks. Every time she tried to make a combination of jabs and heavy punches, she would find that the shadows wrapped the butler's hands and claws. It allowed him to increase his range of attack and force him back.

This left only a small window for Gil to fire an arrow which was also blocked by the shadow whips coming around the butler. It acted as part of his body but also as if it had eyes elsewhere. "Su, keep things safe, I found the source of trouble for us." Gil smirked with a victorious tone in his voice.

This open courtyard would be easy to handle if someone was looking down and telling that butler how to fight them. It was easy to see all their movement. So understand how to dodge Remey's fists and also block Gil's arrows without turning a head.

When Gil looked up, he saw a single strand of dense shadow. This had crawled up the wall and held out to look over the entire courtyard. In the center of it, was a singular eye. None of the party had noticed that as part of the butler's shadow walker abilities and fusion to the shadows, that he had created another eye.

As a monster, this shouldn't be out of the realm of possibility. Especially since he was a race that was turned monster. Not a natural monster that the world recognized as a part of its flow. With his eyes opened to this, Gil used his skill to fire arrows rapidly. Remey had already been forced a few steps back to defend the shadow claw strike that was used against her.

With four arrows hurtling toward the butler, shadow whips had to be forced upwards to defend. But the fifth arrow had not gone with the first four. Gil had waited to the last second and changed his focus. The fifth arrow fired upwards at a much faster pace. It had been boosted by wind mana.

The sudden pain from a light ash wood arrow piercing the shadow eye boosted by wind mana caused the shadow whips to suddenly freeze. The pain was not normal for the butler. He had never been beaten like this or ever felt such pain since taking on the new form as a monster. He could not allow himself to fall though.

The sudden freeze in attacks let Remey close the gap. Her combination of punches delivering severe damage to the butler. When the first punch landed, the shadows started to whip out trying to do anything that they could to defend the main body that was also being struck.

Walker was prepared for this though. He had seen what Gil had done. He was proud to see that Gil's sharp eyes were already working perfectly. That as a hunter, Gil knew exactly what the source of their issues had been here.

Therefore, Walker created more purifying light flames and began to pour them out along the ground. They interacted with the shadow greatly overwhelming them and forcing the retreat toward the main body of the butler.

These combinations of attacks caused the butler to be unable to defend from the next punch and then the defense breaking punch following that one up. This further caused more destruction to the inside of the butler's body before Walker tossed a small ball of white purifying flames that hit Remey's gauntlets.

She clashed her hands together and brought down a heavy hammer stroke on the head of the butler. This spread the flames out all over his body and direct shadow.

The shaking of the shadows ceased instantly as the devastating force of Remey's attack had more than done its job. Walker quickly extinguished the flames he had tossed in the gauntlets since Remey was conserving her own flames for the right timing. But regardless of that, they all watched the powerful monster burn to ash leaving nothing behind.

They could all only be amazed by the oddity that came with the way that vampires existed and what happened when they lost their recognition as a race and became monsters. It was similar to so many other races who had forsaken their own race. But this wasn't the end. Now the party could only walk through the main doors of the vampire castle. They could only leave the courtyard behind to face the next and worse threat within.

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Chapter 2039 2039. A Greeting

It was like walking in to another world. The party had used some mana but were overall uninjured. Small scrapes and scratches, nothing major. But still, the entrance to the vampire castle was like a barrier.

As soon as they stepped through that threshold, the air felt stale and dense. The sounds of battle outside also were dampened. It was an entirely different environment filled with much more darkness mana than what Walker expected to find.

Not that he was sure what they would find at all. He was very confused why there were not many monsters in here. There were so many vampiric monsters forced to slumber and wait for orders within

the city around the vampire castle. Yet, there were none here other than the vampire spawn; shadow walker.

Yet, that was just a butler. A servant left to guard the courtyard and the gates. What else could there be? What other members of the castle were sitting in waiting with unique methods of attack. Unique skills. Different forms that the party had no idea how to handle right away.

The area was not as dark as what they had all expected. Not that a little darkness would be hard. The party had grown much stronger than what they had been at the very start of adventuring. They could easily handle themselves a lot better in dark places. They could even see fairly well. especially Midnight out of all of them.

They could see the surprisingly well unkempt stone walls made of carved bricks from some unknown quarry or sculpting skill. There were even rugs, red with gold trip along the floors and the two massive staircases that moved on the sides of the walls to allow a larger opening for a grand entrance.

Paintings adorned the walls, some that made sense since they were landscapes, others that were odd. Monsters or oddly twisted figures that were hard to say what they were. It was very hard to imagine that this ancient race had been so sophisticated even though the one that lived within this castle had fallen to become a monster and not a race at all.

The vampires were from years and years ago. So long that it was hard to track their history. The very same with the immortal king's people. The only race that was somewhat understandable were the angels. This was because of the sheer multitude of different ruins left behind due to the leaving one continent for another. But they had been a reclusive race.

The vampire race and the immortal king's race had lived out in the open at some point. The angels had always been locked up away from things. Underground where they could hide from the many ancient monsters which could easily kill off an entire race. That was just the dangers of the world back then. Chaos and survival within that chaos.

Surprisingly, there were event tables. The only issue with the tables were that Walker noticed some odd adornments.



"I know that some times monster materials are used to build furniture and whatever else, but those are other more human bones put inside the wood." Gil's sharper eyes caught the teeth of what might have been humans or other similar race's body parts. The tables were the scariest things, not mentioning the chairs placed here and there.

"I would assume they found it interesting. The vampires and the immortal king's races were always fighting. They fed on blood or used others as experiments. While it might have been the more ancient times, it definitely shows...well, it shows something." Walker lost track of what he was saying. He was unsettled by the furniture and potential ancient human remains used on them.

They had literally been called cattle by the butler. A clear cut example of what the ancient humans had been to the vampire race. This might change as the Genesis alliance focused on saving the enslaved vampires, it would still be something the more ancient vampires remembered. They would have had changed and overcome their own mentality on how the world was radically different from what they knew when they had freedom all that time ago.

"Wait, there's movement on the two staircases." Su caught the movements from where she stood in front of Midnight. Her eyes focusing on them as they moved.

"The master greets you. You are welcome in to the main hall for a meal." The chorus of raspy voices matched what clearly was incredible suffering.

Through the dim lighting, Walker could make out enslaved vampires. All forced in to the normal maid uniforms that any noble would have their staff wear. The general staff that would clean the mansion they lived in. that would serve food. That would take care of general household needs.

These were not the same. While the uniforms must have been created by some race at some time, these uniforms showed the wear and tear from being unkempt for years upon years. The bodies of the enslaved vampires were the same. They were skeletally thin. Their faces appeared to have paper thin skin on them. It was almost a surety that if they did not receive proper nutrition soon, they would perish.

"They must have been forced to wake up during the years to maintain this place. They weren't dormant like the others in the village houses out there. They have been slaving away..." Remey's voice was small but it held so much rage that Walker worried she would lose her mind here. lights

Due to her changes in the path of becoming her own form of dominator dragon, she had become a dragon soul. A unique race but one that still held pride and used incredibly pure forms of mana. Remey had to adjust herself. It took her great control not to run rampant right now and show whatever monster was ahead of them just how she felt about the cruelty it showed the strength she had, but that didn't mean that the fuse would last forever on that bomb.

The enslaved vampires moved. It appeared that they had only been sent to tell the party their message. "Walking in to a trap." Walker was plain and simple on that. Clearly this was a trap. But since they had just walked in to a place without much knowledge of what might be around the corner, they had no choice in where they should go.

Carefully, they walked up the right staircase. Su in the lead while Midnight gathered her strength and watched the rear. Remey was prepared to lash out at anything foolish enough to attack Su and get blocked by her shield. Walker and Gil also at the ready to send ranged attacks. Walker even had the eternal codex in staff form to assist his attacks better.

As they moved, the enslaved vampires moved in to side rooms. It was as if they did not have the right to even walk ahead down the hall and through the two massive wooden doors that opened up to a main hall.

Before they even made it to the doors, they opened. Two large armors had moved and opened the doors. The vampire wings on the back along with red dyed metals proving that they had been made with vampires and blood in mind. To represent the more brutal side of the vampire race.

Their slow movement toward the large hall. They could already see the massive tables along the walls. The ornate and shiny red crystal chandeliers. Massive tapestries depicting vampires plaguing other monsters, races, and even each other. It was something that someone clearly took pride in. but would be horrifying to anyone walking inside.

"Oh how the times have changed. My poor army has been weakened to such a level. Those angelic fools still let their cities float about the world. And I can even smell that false immortal on you cattle. But I smell a delicacy. A dragon."

The rough voice echoed off the stones. Enough that it made the words even more uncomfortable. However, Walker still could not spot the source of the voice. He could only see the dim outline of a massive throne made of what only could be the bones of many different creatures.

"Free the enslaved vampires and we may allow you a better death. You are not part of the world's true form." Walker's voice spoke up with strength. He was using whatever confidence he had to ensure that he did not appear weak to this monster.

"I am much too old for a child to cause me any form of fear. Refrain from those attempts. It was many years ago that I took this throne from the other nobles. Now you walk in my domain." the castle grew darker at these words.

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Chapter 2040 2040. A Meal For Me

Walker thought that they would see some elder figure or some stronger looking vampire. However, he had not imagined what they would see would be more twisted and broken in the grand scheme of things.

"What? Do you not find this existence beautiful to your eyes? Let me tell you child, the world was not some brilliant and bright place. The ancient years...were dark." The monstrous vampire's voice sounded as if it was full of seething rage even with the rough tone it had.

The all around appraisal was used three times before Walker saw a proper response. It appeared that the years and years of life that this ancient monster had were able to resist even the world showing off what it was. What it had become.

'Twisted elder vampire

Due to the various attacks and brutal effects of multiple damaging skills, the only way for this vampire to survive was to fall even further in to the depths of monsterhood.

Giving up the naturally elegant and slim form, this vampiric monster sacrificed even more of the body that had survived countless battles against both ancient monsters and other races. Due to the damages suffered, they eventually lost partial control of their own skills and manas. This caused them to easily lose their mind and believe in only claiming victory for their race. Becoming a monster that enslaved his very own race.

After this, the battle between the immortal chasing race caused him to give in to the changes even more before a vastly powerful sealing skill used by the lord of light with the support of the other elemental lords sealed him and his entire army.

The loss of mobility gave better control over the enslaved monsters and vampire race. Using them as methods to see and battle constantly. However, the many years within this sealed state caused him to be unable to heal his wounds any longer. Therefore, the state currently seen, is the end of a lifespan useless darker skills are used to build a new body.

Using darkness and a unique skill related to blood and even the soul, this monster can manipulate the body to alter its shape and control it. This was used by the three trusted generals he controlled to ensure that they never perished even with the loss of their first bodies...'

Walker could have read more, but he spotted the skeletal remains of two figures on smaller thrones next to this monster. The twisted elder vampire.

"Oh, not so foolish after all. I was saving the last of my generals. So that I may rise again!" there was a burst of mana then a sickening sound of flash testing.

The result was a vampire standing covered in a sheen of red that had broken out of the twisted elder vampire form they had seen. While emaciated, the form was slim and clearly more spry. "Mild loss of strength, but you are a meal welcomed to my dining room. So give me your blood so that I may begin making this world as it should be. I will handle that little angel city later."

The speed which the twisted elder vampire lashed out was too fast to spot. The only reason that Walker did not get caught by the sharp claws covered in blood and darkness was that he could sense the mana. His body could innately sense the manas moving toward him, which caused him to lean back.

"How impressive. But you are still too young." the body that he had just taken control of to attack twisted. The bones broke as an arm became a bloody sharp bone sword. It was even worse to see this happen.

This time Su was ready though. Her shield slammed forward and blocked the attack. But the blood melded itself and began to grind against her twin shields. The control that the twisted elder vampire had was strong enough over blood that it could cause large cuts in the shield.

"You are too slow little one." The vampire twisted its body and slashed Su. her armor breaking as she gained a red line along her arm. It might have been a shallow cut, but it was sudden how easily she had been injured.

"Su, use that other form of battle. Remey, time to get serious. Gil, the other things back there. Midnight, Support Gil." Walker shouted out as he used his mana to force the darkness mana that the twisted elder vampire attempted to use for a binding attack to turn away from the party.

He had spotted more things moving behind the throne. They had been still, almost like statues. However, they were alive. He had managed to understand them using the all around appraisal skill. Know the dangers that they were to the group since they would not remain idle while their master fought for food.

'Vampiric hound

Using darkness as the main method of decaying and wearing away at their prey for their master, the vampiric hound is a shadow hound forced to change due to the control of an elder vampire. It is incredibly tough to make this change happen and only the strongest mentally fit vampires can manage this.

The ferocity and loyalty to their master makes these monsters incredibly dangerous. They will not only throw themselves at anything that threatens their master, they will also use potent darkness mana to

infect everything that touches their black fur, is pierced by their black teeth, or scraped by their black claws. lights

They can not survive without their master. Therefore, if they are cut off from them, they will perish. This was the downside for them to be turned in to vampiric hounds...'

"Do not hide yourself behind shields. You are the nutrients needed to change the world as it should be. In MY IMAGE!" The madness that oozed from these words came as a great insult but also as a clear example of what losing their way would come with. A race falling to become a monster would lose all sanity. Just like this vampire.

As the next attack slashed toward Reney this time, the clang of Su's shields dropping and parts of her armor were heard. She had known exactly what Walker meant by changing how she fought. She had understood him because she had been thinking the exact same way.

The shields and armor that weighed her down were lost, but this freed Su to move faster. For her hands to take the claw forms that they could take since she had accepted the dragon blood within her to become a proper half dragon.

This was why the twisted elder vampire was unable to adjust fast enough. He had been slashing at Remey who had just ignited the ash wood gauntlets to create white purifying flames. How Su managed to slash through the arm of the twisted elder vampire before she needed to leap back from the vampiric hounds trying to bite her from the shadows.

The follow up was more dramatic though. As the twisted elder vampire took a leap back, Remey leaped forward and punched down on the head for the vampiric hound. Not a sound could overcome that of the cracking skull and flare of flames burning it up.

"Worthless cattles. I raised those guard dogs!" The twisted elder vampire seemed to be down with the party after witnessing one of his vampiric hounds perish instantly. It could not accept that humans were strong enough to harm it. Not that anyone in the party was actually a human.

Without hesitation, Gil fired arrows toward s the other vampiric hounds. He might not be killing them, but he was getting their legs as they tried to encircle the party while their master gathered strength.

"My little maids, come and offer your blood." The appearance of two enslaved vampires who bowed at his feet made Walker's heart lurch. He didn't expect that this would happen.

These enslaved vampires were already weak, yet this monster had them bow before him and even cut their own throats to take the blood from them. "Bow before the eldest of the vampires remaining alive."

The party felt that there was more to this, but the monster had seemingly forgotten his own name. That was the result of becoming a monster. Besides that, the two enslaved vampires slumped to the ground. Their lives completely gone. But the blood taken, although meager, was enough.

Crimson armor covered the twisted elder vampire. An aura of pain and cruelty emanated from him as the party prepared for the next encounter. They had just barely started this battle. They had just been toyed with. They had yet to truly fight.

All they managed to do, was anger this ancient monster.

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