

## Master 271

### Chapter 271 - 271. Calm In The Chaos

Walker ran to the man laying on the ground nearest to the ruined building. He found that he had been burned all over one side of his body while he ran from the fire. Using his light heal skill Walker saw that there was almost no change in the man's appearance. This was well beyond his normal healing ability. "Let me help you, I can get him stable so he can be transported to the cathedral. He looks to have some internal wounds that your spell healed."

The young nun who stopped next to him had a white light emanating from her eyes. This was letting her see the insides of the man and the state in which they were. "He definitely fell, your spell has stopped the bleeding around his liver. I will start to add a splint to his broken leg. I need you to grab some of that broken wood over there for me."

Walker knew not to argue with the experience this nun obviously had. He ran over to the broken boards that definitely had fallen from the carpenters quarters as it collapsed in the what of the fire. They were similar lengths which was why the nun had pointed them out. Walker had see splints before but lacked the experience in setting them.

With the man's breath shallow but seemingly stable the nun had Walker hold the two boards in the opposite sides. She tore some of the fabric from his shirt to expose the burns. She spread some salve she carried on them making a notable difference. The blood from the wounds seemed to slow and the burns themselves looked like they were not as painful.

"I need you to stay as still as possible. I will tie it as tight as possible so that the bone won't damage the veins and arteries while he is moved. You will be in charge of holding his leg up the entire trip to the cathedral. If he starts to sweat you will need to use that healing spell a few times to bring down high fever from the burns." With his orders Walker acted. He kept pressure on the boards while she started to tie the torn fabric around them.

Small groans escaped the man's lips while they worked but he did not return to consciousness. The splint that was being made was rough but it did its job well, the nun had a huge amount of skill in this area. "Guards! This young man will go with you to watch this splint. Move slowly and do not twist this man's leg at all." The guards that carried a makeshift stretcher did not hesitate at all and instead went to work.

In tandem they moved the man in to the stretcher and lifter. Walker held the man's leg still and they began moving at a hearty pace. There was almost no jostling to the injured man making Walker believe

that the guards were doing more than just their usual effort. Within minutes they had made their way to the stairs of the cathedral where the high [priest was standing directing those who were arriving.

"Those who are not in serious pain or have serious injuries please stay outside and make way for those with serious wounds or in great pain. You there, take that young woman to the back. That boy there he needs to be as close to the crystal as possible." The high priest was barely stopping for a breath between orders and shouts. His eyes focused on Walker the second him and the guards began to climb the stairs. "Walker, get that man inside to the very front. Then I need you out here using you healing skills on those with small injuries. We need to clear out this crowd so that it is easier for everyone to work." there was no greeting necessary, they both knew that there was work to be done and everything else could wait.

Walker entered the cathedral and found that there were injured people everywhere. There were many that had been brought toward the healing light crystal to get the most benefit possible from it. The two guards maneuvered through the maze of injured and did their best to remain out of the way of the healers and nuns bustling about. One nun had already cleared a space seeing the incoming injured man. The guards slowly placed him down and removed the makeshift stretched. The nun took over the splint for Walker.

There were many people that were standing around toward the back of the cathedral that had minor burns and scrapes. Many looked to be customers that had stopped at the first floor of the carpenters quarters wanting to request jobs with specific carpenters. There were also plenty of family members who have been staying there as well. It had been a building for living instead of work. The carpenters had not ever built their own guild or organization in the kingdom, Instead they mutually rented living quarters and worked together often to promote their unique skills.

Walker approached a few children who had obviously fallen and hurt themselves while they escaped the crumbling building. "I'm going to heal you all up alright? After that I will need you all to find a place out of the healer's way so they can help your parents OK?" The three kids looked to understand but their terrified faces did not change much.

Walker used some light heal spells on them and saw a marked improvement. They relaxed a little, having their injuries healed and a woman with a burn in her arm pulled them back to the wall away from the commotion. "Miss let me deal with that first." Walker pressed himself to the wall and healed the woman's arm as well. It was a small burn and it healed easily. There were small tears in her eyes but she was holding herself back to stay strong for the children. "You are all going to be fine. If you can all find a place away from the chaos and wait, we will have everyone feeling better soon." Walker put every ounce of energy he had in to sounding reassuring. He wanted to put out a feeling of calm and strength.

'The skill calming waves has been taken from the motherhood system. The user has automatically learned the skill calming waves due to the emergency quests dire situations.

Calming waves- 4 mana cost

The user uses their mana to project a light elemental aura from their body. This aura has the ability to strengthen the mental prowess of those within a large area of the user.

+5Matck and +5Mdef to those within the area.

Healing skills used within the aura gain bonuses from natural light elemental mana drawn to the calming waves skill.'

Walker was still pressed against the wall but stopped when he started to read the skill. At first it looked like this was a skill just to calm those or buff others. But in this situation it was an ideal. Not only would this skill calm the panic in those that were injured but would also benefit the healers using light elemental healing .

Walker saw a passing nun and grabbed her arm. "I need to keep moving please let me go." The nun pulled against him seeing that he was not injured.

"Has Alice used her skills to sing yet? I have a skill that should boost her healing !" He yelled over the noise in the cathedral to get his meaning through to the nun before she broke his grip.

"No, she was instructed to wait until the high priest gave the order. Most of the musicians are already here and preparing for a concert. They are going to use all of their mana to heal everyone that gets brought here at once. They want to get those closest to death in to stable condition." The nun knew exactly what Walker was saying and she knew just how valuable a skill to increase healing was.

"Go let the high priest know that Walker can assist in the mass healing. Tell him to start the concert as soon as possible." Walker released her arm without an apology. The nun did not mind his rudeness, this was a dire situation that the cathedral rarely faces.

With his message passed on he made his way to the healing light crystal at a furious pace. He could see some of the musicians already starting to take the stage and channeling their mana in to their instruments to prepare for their healing concert. Most of them had not expected this kind of event when the emergency quest rang out; they were the first to get in to motion.

Seeing a crouched figure at the base of the crystal Walker knew it was Alice in a second. He could see the bracelet he had recently given her on her wrist. "Alice!" She turned to him without any hesitation. Her face was filled with worry over the sheer amount of injuries all at once. This was one of the worst events at the cathedral in her life.

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#### Chapter 272 - 272. No Rest

Alice was a mix of happy and unhappy to see Walker here. She knew that he could help healing the injured but she was unhappy that he came to check on her. There were more important things to be doing. Walker grabbed her and made sure he had her full attention. "I have a skill to help you heal everyone. We will do it together. I have already sent someone to let the high priest know. As soon as he sets the order I will be right here with you."

Hearing this Alice reaffirmed her mind to use all the mana possible to heal everyone. She had practiced her songs for years and this was the moment all of it would be tested. She saw more and more of the usual healing musicians entering through the front and side doors. She knew that they could be ready at the drop of a hat due to their constant training.

The high priest had sent out his own notifications through the system to bring as many of those capable of healing from the lower tier churches and even the castle back to the cathedral. The number of nuns and healers would keep increasing as time went on until the church was at full force. These times was why the people would donate their hard earned gold. The castle would spend resources to help them grow the promising youths with healing abilities as well, it was this moment that their investments would prove worth it.

A large group of healing musicians entered in to the cathedral lead by the high priest himself. His orders were obvious even from this distance. The healing musicians ran to the healing light crystal. One holding a fiddle stepped up, "Miss Alice, Sir Walker it is time to start the concert." The man did not hesitate but instead took the leading position to start the music.

The single slow note of his fiddle rang out causing the air to stir, he drew his bow so slowly that it felt time was slowing down as well. Walker saw that everything around him had begun to move in slow motion. Other musicians started to pick up the note bringing it to a large reverberating tone. The moment the fiddle player's bow stopped the real song began.

The notes danced in their ears starting to drown out the yells and chaos in the entire cathedral. However the crying and shouts of pain were still breaking through interrupting the flow of healing that had just started. " Alice, watch what I can do now." Walker smiled at her and brought himself to stand next to the fiddle player. He raised his hand and used his newly acquired calming waves skill.

The mana drained out of Walker immediately sending out a white wave of light from his hand. The calming aura enveloped everyone within the cathedral and even spread a few streets down from it. This skill was most certainly a high class skill. There was no denying the instant effects throughout the entire cathedral. The musical notes being created became more crisp and clear. The healing light crystal generated more healing light. The screams and cries of pain instantly started to slow until there were barely any grunts or unrest. The healers and nuns seemed to have sped up and were working with a more focused efficient mannerism.

Alice saw this as her chance to begin her song. She started slow and soft, her voice piercing the air and reaching every ear. This was much stronger than it had ever been before. Despite her seriousness her own stress was melting away giving way to an easily flowing melody. The entire atmosphere began to shift as the light itself started to bend in to rainbow sparrows. These rainbow sparrows flew person to person letting themselves become absorbed in to those with injuries. The complexions of those seriously injured started to become more full of life and any with minor injuries visibly saw them healing at an incredible rate.

Walker could feel the first healing wave start to dissipate and cast it again. The wave of light from his hand brought a massive amount of calming aura to everyone. The strength of Alice and the musicians again increased. Walker was also affected by the first healing wave and had the second one boosted.

The high priest could not resist the call to heal others while all these skills were in place. To make the most of the situation he used his healing wave skill causing green rings to spread from him. Those that were being brought in to the cathedral quickly encountered this immense healing mana. Many were

able to instantly move and find a place to rest without assistance. Walker noticed out of the corner of his eyes that Remey and Gil were making multiple trips inside and out. The trips were much faster over the course of the concert.

Su had come inside at some point as well and was making the best use of her energy to move bandaged to any healer that was in need. She used her strength to carry large buckets of water to help clean wounds. She did not shy away from a single person in need and managed to find exactly what was needed.

Midnight and Onyx were making themselves useful as well. Onyx had surprisingly been surrounded by children who were terrified of what had happened but enamored in Onyx. He would slither up tall and make all of them giggle during the performance. Walker could see that Onyx had some hidden talents when it came to children, it was not only Maria who had taken a liking to him.

Midnight looked to have paired up with two guards and was using her strength to help carry some of the largest men that had been injured. With every trip into the cathedral she seemed to stand taller and her eyes shined brighter. Not a single person showed fear when she approached, instead they would reach out to her as she passed to pat her scales. She had become a pillar of strength that would protect them. A monster that could breathe fire that was currently rescuing them from fire. This strange happening would forever be recorded in to the kingdom's history.

Walker used the calming waves skill many times while the concert went on. The musicians with lesser mana began to drop their instruments and fall from their chairs. Soon the fiddle player was slumped against the pillar holding the healing light crystal, The only two left were Walker and Alice.

Her voice became soft and her eyes drooped. Walker could feel the weight of his body as well. The lack of sleep and the lack of mana both hitting him at once. He used the last of his energy to reach out and catch the falling Alice. "I'll be damned if I let you fall." Alice heard his words and smiled as her mind faded to darkness. Walker let himself and Alice down as softly as he could but he too was losing consciousness. It was up to the rest of the party and the remaining healers.

Walker's eyes shot open as he felt warmth coming from his chest. He could feel a liquid in his mouth bringing him energy. He gulped it down realizing that someone was holding a potion to his lips. His mana was starting to recover. The old man was looking at him with a hard expression on his face. "Nice job kid, you really outdid yourself. But they need you awake now."

Walker finished the mana potion and forced his achy body up. There was no rest to be had yet, there was still a lot to do. The healers were still on the move but the atmosphere was much more controlled than it had been. "How long-"

"Two hours. I was too busy with the seriously injured. I had some of my mana and health potions sent from my vault. Now that I have managed to get caught up I used one on you and your girlfriend here."

Walker wanted to refute him but seeing that Alice was looking around worried her had nothing to say but for one thing. "Alice, can you sing a short song?" Alice did not hesitate to nod. They both had about a third of their mana recovered and could not justify stopping to continue their rest.

Without another word Alice started to sing. Her words again resonated through the cathedral while Walker sent out more calming waves. They continued on until they both were about to pass out again.

The high priest had come up behind them while they did this and stopped them just before their mana ran out. "You two have done great. But we need to help the exhausted get to a place to rest." The high priest had dark circles under his eyes. This was taking a toll on him, however with the end in sight he pushed himself to his limit and issued more orders to those that could move. The healers and nuns that were near their end needed to rest.

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Chapter 273 - 273. Thanks

With the high priest's order. The two stopped their skills holding on to the last bit of their mana. Alice's bracelet glowed as it sent her the stored mana. Her complexion was much less pale and she seemed to hold a little more energy. The exhaustion was still clear though. Walker was not as lucky. The old man was not around with another mana potion so he was much slower moving. The guards that looked just as exhausted were being directed by some nuns. Alice also motioned for Walker to follow her.

Some cots and bed rolls had been stored in the closets off of the main cathedral hall. These were being set up for the injured and those without a place to sleep. Many of the benches had already been moved against the walls to make room for the switch to temporary sleeping quarters.

There were many of the carpenters and carpenters families watching as Walker and Alice moved things to set up. A few said their thank yous and nodded to them. "Walker!" Gil's ragged voice broke out from nearby. Gil was dragging along ten bed rolls to where Walker was setting up a cot. "Su and Remey are just about out of energy. Midnight and Onyx are over in the corner there. They nearly passed out on the move before I told them to go rest. The nuns and healers are on their way to rest, some assistance came from the military academy an hour ago. With them and the other students the guards are off to rest as well.." Gil looked like he had been moving nonstop.

With ash and blood on their clothing Walker and Gil looked about for Remey and Su. "Su!" Walker called out seeing that Su was still setting up a cot, Remey was walking around trying to help but nearly falling over herself. The two had pushed their stamina to its limits. "Leave the rest up to the academy students. Gil just told me they were sent here to heal and assist. It's part pf their emergency training. Take a look."

Su looked around as well seeing the military academy uniforms moving around taking over for nuns and healers alike. "Finally..." Su dropped the bedroll in her hands on the cot and shuffled towards where Midnight and Onyx had fallen asleep.

Walker had no more words for them and instead propped himself against the wall with the rest of the party. Alice came over looking at them all leaning against the wall and sat down next to Walker. "I brought your books." Walker smiled at Alice who just shook her head smiling too. They lacked the energy to speak or even attempt to converse farther and chose to drift off in to an exhausted sleep. The hours passed until the hustle and bustle of others woke them up.

By the time the entire party and Alice had opened their eyes there were five tall burly men standing in front of them. One had a guards uniform on and seemed ready to report. The other four were obviously carpenters that had been living in the carpenters quarters. They had some bandages or small burns still. One man seemed to be propped up just by a crutch yet he still stood tall in front of the party.

"Walker, these men are here to speak with you." The high priest looking more lively than hours ago came around from behind the group of men. He gave a nod to the guard to speak.

"Sir hero, the I am the guard captain in charge of the remaining guards on sight. The fire was fully extinguished, the injured have been transported, and those that are still injured will be resting here at the cathedral. The castle has sent for supplies to rebuild the quarters and are also supplying food to those without their home. May I please dismiss the remaining men back to their home?' Walker stood up as fast as his body allowed. He was shaken by the guard reporting to him.



"I told him that you are the person to report to. As the leader of the Omnipotent party it is only right. Without the hero title the emergency quest would not have been sent out to so many people. Actually I will also report." The high priest cleared his throat and straightened his back. The airs of professionalism he put on only with nobles spread off him. "The church has healed those that we can and will be housing as many as we can. Any in need of healing will still remain here until they are well enough to return to their family or to a new home."

Walker was trying to grip the words being spoken to him. He was still stunned when one of the carpenters spoke up as well. "Sir hero, thank you on behalf of our families and fellow carpenters. This fire was not anything we could have dealt with without your assistance. With the system sending out that emergency quest we received immediate help. If a hero was not around we would have lost valuable time. On behalf of every carpenter team, business, and family. Thank you, even if it was by chance, thank you. We will never forget the heroic actions every one of you have taken today. My son is alive because of your party member right there."

What surprised Walker was that the man was pointing at Midnight. "That little dragon of yours dragged him from the remains of the building. My son had hidden in the bathtub as the building collapsed. He survived the fall but was still surrounded by fire. No one but your little dragon could have gotten to him safely." Midnight stood tall next to Walker hearing this praise.

"Her name is Midnight, We were all just doing what was expected of us and deserve no thanks. Please attend to your family. High priest, I hope that every healer can rest now that it has calmed down, you included. Captain, thank you for bringing the water and your men. They were extremely important in the transportation of the wounded. Please send my thanks and let them rest fully."

"Understood sir." The captain left towards the cathedral doors where two of his officers stood looking on with dark circles in their eyes. When the captain reached them then relief on their faces was clear as day.

The carpenters went off towards other groups spreading their own news about the party and talking about the events that had occurred. "This was really a blessing, the hero title you kids hold made all the difference. It made the emergency quest spread to some citizens nearby that are already helping out. One of the nearby clothing shops is producing clothing, there is an order being transported by a stable owner, and even a bar has closed so it's staff can provide food and water to those in need. Whether you believe it or not you are all the catalyst to the lives saved today." The high priest left them on that note.

"That was...A lot to take in." Gil didn't quite have the words to explain how he felt over all this.

"I feel like we did the best we could, but I still feel we could have done more." Su could only think that she wanted to help more, but as she saw the scene in front of her she knew that everything that they had done had led to the safety that was now here.

"Walker, if every trip to the cathedral is like this then I think you scammed us. If we do this every time we might work to death." Remey was joking a little to break the tension. "I just never imagined this could all happen, everyone keeps looking at us and whispering." She was seeing many families or healers point their way. They were all still fulfilling the emergency quest.

"Sister says that she is very happy with the attention. They even told her they would ask her for help again in the future." Onyx spoke up for the first time in a while. "The children really seemed to like me, I think I should volunteer to baby sit some time." Onyx was dead serious about this, he had enjoyed distracting the children and keeping them in one spot and away from the working healers and guards.

"Today was a lot to take in. That emergency quest was a surprise to say the least. Let alone the fact that it got sent out to so many people. I feel like we shouldn't take credit for any of this but the way it looks we can't argue. I am sure the emergency quest will end any time now though. With so many people helping I think there will be a lot of leveling up, it will really help the cathedral have better healing power." Alice nodded over and over knowing that the more healers and nuns that leveled up the better they could do to help others. It was an ideal situation.

Having only rested a few hours the group was about to huddle back down and rest more. Before they could speak any longer and get to rest the system notified them. There were a lot of notifications incoming.

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Chapter 274 - 274. Heroic Party

'Emergency quest: Fire!

There had been a massive fire in the carpenters quarters of the high tier. The heroes are on their way and require all able bodied citizens to put in their strength. Stand as one and assist where you can.

Requirement:

Heal injured citizens

Transport injured citizens

Put out fires and hot coals

Keep citizens away from the danger

Reward:

Walker- experience points with title multiplier reached level fifteen requirement additional experience points delegated to party members.

Gil- experience points with title multiplier reached level fifteen requirement additional experience points delegated to party members

Remey- experience points with title multiplier reached level fifteen requirement additional experience points delegated to party members

Su- experience points with title multiplier reached level fifteen requirement additional experience points delegated to party members

Midnight- experience points with title multiplier reached level fifteen requirement additional experience points delegated to party members

Onyx- received remaining experience from party members, calculations commencing.

Emergency quest: Fire complete.'

"Wait so how much experience did we get?" Remey was trying to make sense of these system explanations. However the more she looked the more she noticed that the system was not responding.

"It said we reached level fifteen, so does that mean we are going to get the heroic leveling system? Leader, what was the quest again?" Su was also finding that her system would not respond to her.

"Well we needed to get to the silver tier adventurer party which we did. We needed to get to level fifteen which we did before the system stopped responding. Then...Oh yea complete daily quests which we have been doing when the pop up. Last It was to become known as a heroic party. That one is the last one I think." He was staring at his system window without any reaction as well. Even Midnight and Onyx were waiting to see what was happening.

Alice was looking at each of them completely lost. She had no idea what any of them were talking about. She reached out and tapped Onyx on the head giving him a nod. "Alice says that you are all considered heroes already. The nuns and healers were talking about it the second the emergency quest went out. She says that every person that visits the cathedral has gossiped about you lately as well."

Alice nodded along with this, much to the surprise of everyone. "So we are pretty much already known in the kingdom as a heroic party? I figured for sure in the demi-human kingdom but I thought it would be harder here..." Gil was scratching his head trying to figure out if that would mean their titles quest would be complete.

'System calculations have been completed.'

"Oh, the system changed!" Remey jumped seeing that her system window changed to this small message.

'Titled quest completed: Heroic party

Requirements:

Silver tier adventurer party- completed

Daily quests- completed

Known as a heroic party- completed and continuing

Party members reach level 15- completed.

Additional party member not included due to lack of hero title.

Rewards: Unlocked

100 exp multiplied to 1000 exp

Unlocked: System upgrade or title upgrade for certain party members

Unlocked: Heroic boost passive skill

+5 to all stats when in combat with other hero title holders

Unlocked: Heroic inspiration passive Skill

+5 to all stats to those assisting the hero title holder.'

Before any of them could even start to process these things another message forced the system screen to change.

'Congratulations the user has reached the proper requirements to unlock heroic leveling along with other benefits. The system maintenance shall begin. Please rest well user.'

Walker looked around but had no chance to say anything, his eyes started to close and his mind faded to sleep. Alice was the only one awake with Onyx as the two were shocked. Alice jumped up and sprinted to where she knew the high priest would be. Before even another moment passed there were ten healers checking the party and moving them on to cots.

"They all said something about a quest and now they are unconscious.." Onyx had told the high priest the situation, he was understandably worried and hovered over Walker. "If it was because of their system quest try not to worry too much. This might be a requirement of their quest."

"High priest, we have all evaluated the heroes and we have not found any illness. They seem to have full health and full mana now. There is no sign of poison or mental trauma. We did try to heal them but the system notified us that we were not able to use them as a target to heal. I believe this is something to do with the system and we can not influence it." The woman that spoke to him was one of the best healers in the cathedral. She was fully confident in her evaluation and had even been in a similar situation before.

"It has been some time since someone's system blocked a skill being used to heal. Do you think they are receiving the maintenance that some masters receive from the system when they make a massive breakthrough?"

"Yes high priest, I believe it is the same maintenance that happens when someone acquires their master skill for their system." Alice's jaw dropped hearing this. They were still young yet they were experiencing something that only those who had studied for years would have happened to them.

"Make sure you all return to resting. I will rest nearby with Alice and Onyx to watch over them. They are sure to wake up soon, let's move them to my private quarters first though. They will need peace to understand what ever is happening."

With his orders set they assisted in moving them to the private quarters the high priest would use. The cots and the bed rolls were placed side by side. Midnight proved a challenge to move at first but with a few guards who were still around helping friends they were able to get her there. Alice sat down on the floor watching them intently. Onyx had coiled up on her lap fidgeting. She stroked his scales softly trying to ease his stress but they both could not shake the feeling.

"You two need to rest as well, They will be fine. If they wake up and need us we will be right here." The high priest sat down on a couch taking a serious look at the party resting before him. He had heard many impossible things and even witnessed some of them. This was part of his life that would stand out over any other portion. He was witnessing a true piece of history right now. While he himself drifted off in to a nap the only thought on his mind was what would the future bring?

Alice had taken up the spot next to Walker's cot with her head resting on it. She was half in to sleep and half out, her worry keeping her awake while she waited to see a sign of someone waking up. Onyx was still with her not even moving a muscle watching every one of them. The only sign that he was in fact alive was that he was breathing.

"Mhhhhuugg" Walker's arm shifted and he groaned. His eyes opened slowly causing Alice and Onyx to perk up immediately. The unfamiliar ceiling and silent space around him caused his eyebrows to scratch together, "Where...?" He turned his head to find Alice and Onyx right in his face wide eyed looking at him.

Lifting his hand he rested it on Alice's head, "Sorry, I got really tired all of the sudden. Onyx, thanks for standing guard." His voice was still full of sleep but his body was waking up. His voice seemed to cause a chain reaction making the rest of the party stir as well.

Walker pushed himself up looking around finding that they were all in the same room. The high priest was asleep with his hand on his chin holding himself up. "We really put you two out here...Thank you." His voice was much quieter but Alice only replied with a shake of her head.

"Ugh, why does my head feel like I have been slamming it against the walls." Remey was rubbing her temples as she rolled over and on to her feet.

"Your head hurts? I feel like I have a weight on my chest." Gil was rubbing the spot on his chest. "My chest is only ever sore like this when I use too much mana, but I didn't use any while sleeping..." He was inspecting his body wondering what was going on.

"Everything looks funny..." Su was sitting up now too but she was looking right ahead at the others. There was a strange glint in her eyes. A golden glow almost.

Midnight had roused herself as well. Her claws dug in to the floor as she flexed and shook herself out. She looked like she was uncomfortable in her own body.

"What's going on?" Walker looked to the system for answers.

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Chapter 275 - 275. Upgrade

Walker third to get words out but just made disgruntled choking sounds. He could not even speak; he was so surprised by what was going on.

'System maintenance has been done. System and/or title upgrades have been finished. One party member was excluded due to lack of title.

Level increase due to additional experience points:

Onyx

Level: 9

Exp until next level: 38300/51200

Species: abyssal serpent system

Hp-75

Atk-65



Matk-95

Def-65

Mdef-85

Agi-75

Mana-100

Species skills unlocked:

Shadow blade- 3 mana cost

Uses the user's own shadow to create a blade adhering to the users body.

Shadow spike- 3 mana cost

Creates spikes from the user's shadow. Can cause damage to others only when the user is in contact with the target's shadow.

Hero title holder Gil has received a system upgrade. Ranger system has been upgraded to Arcane Marksman due to balance between physical attack and al attack.

Gil

Level: 15

Exp until next level: 0/10000

Heroic quests until next level: 0/10

Arcane Marksman system

Title: Hero

Hp-26

Def-26

Mdef-26

Atk-32

Matk-32

Char-22

Agi-28

Mana-25

"You are at home within the forest. You have balanced the physical world and the mana realm. You shall never miss a target"

Unique passive skill gained through system upgrade:

Mana absorption- Passive

The mana within the air is absorbed by the user. The user will constantly absorb mana to use in their physical and al attacks.

Hero title holder Su has gained a system upgrade. Shield bearer system has been upgraded to Draconic guardian due to close relation to a dragon and the use of dragon scale infused equipment.

Su

Level:15

Exp until next level: 0/10000

Heroic quests until next level: 0/10

Draconic guardian system

Title: Hero

Hp-32

Def-35

Mdef-35

Atk-27

Matk-15

Char-15

Agi-27

Mana-26

"Your shield holds the strength of the mountains and skies. Those within your vision can hide nothing. How dare any foe attempt to harm those under your protection."

Unique skill gained from system upgrade:

Royal dragon eyes- passive skill

Royal dragons are known for their detail oriented vision. Due to this they are known to react the fastest and always have a jump on their opponent in battle.

Hero title holder Remey has gained a unique system fusion producing a system upgrade. Due to intense dreams and desires the Alchemical Brawler system has been created.

Remey

Level: 15

Exp until next level: 0/10000

Heroic quests until next level: 0/10

Alchemical Brawler system

Title: hero

Hp-32

Def-31

Mdef-23

Atk-36

Matk-17

Char-14

Agi-34

Mana-29

" One fist crushes opponents while the other creates al brews. There is both healing and fury in your eyes. No ally shall remain harmed and no enemy shall remain standing."

Due to system fusion the upgraded system has not yielded any unique skills. The hero title holder is now able to learn skills from the alchemist systems.

Hero title holder Midnight has received a unique system upgrade and species evolution due to the dormant blood line long diluted in the family tree. Skills and appearance shall be maintained. Characteristics and skills will now be expanded in future growth. Midnight has gained the true dragon champion species system.

Midnight

Level: 15

Exp until next level: 0/100000

Heroic quests until next level: 0/50

Species: True dragon champion system

Title: Hero

Hp-190

Def-120

Mdef-120

Atk-145

Matk-145

Agi-100

Mana-120

"The ancient royal dragons have long raised champions. The champion is known as the strongest of all dragons. No other shall stand at the peak of dragon kind but you."

No new skills have been gained due to unique system upgrade. The user must grow and learn of the changes to their bloodline.

The hero title holder Walker has been denied a system upgrade due to lack of a matching upgraded system. The hero title holder Walker has received an upgrade to the hero title. The Hero title has been upgraded to the True Hero title.

Walker

Level: 15

Exp until next level: 0/10000

Heroic quests until next level: 0/10

Jack of All Trades system

Title: True hero

Hp-23

Def-23

Mdef-19

Atk-24

Matk-28

Char-17

Agi-28

Mana-32

The title True Hero has only had four past holders. The Title grants multiplied experience along with +5 to all stats when performing heroic deeds. The True hero title allows the user access to one mastery skill from the hero system.

Mastery skill- :Locked:'

Walker drew in a sharp breath. He struggled to release it. The things he was reading were almost fantasy. "Am..am I really awake?" He managed to squeeze out this one question to the confusion of Alice.

Remey had fallen in to tears, there were sobs resounding from her while she smiled wider than any of them had ever witnessed before.

Gil rubbed his chest, "I am absorbing mana...I am absorbing mana!" He kept repeating this amazed it was actually happening.

Midnight was flexing her body and twisting trying to find every single difference. Her claws were scraping away at the stone floor but she barely noticed.

Su was mystified looking at everyone. To her everyone was moving just a tick slower. Her eyes were picking up on the slight muscle twitches before they actually made a movement.

The high priest startled awake to this scene and was shaken, "What's wrong? What's going on?" His heart was beating faster and faster seeing every single one of the party in a different state. Alice was looking the same as the high, completely confused and shaken.

The only one that seemed to be taking it in stride was Onyx, he was using his telepathy ability to converse with everyone at once sharing these system notifications and catching himself up in the



situation. Before the party could fall even further in to their own shock explanations flooded from the system

'Heroic leveling has been unlocked. Experience per level has been locked. The hero title holders will now be required to complete heroic quests. The daily quest will be changed to heroic quests without a time limit requirement. Both requirements must be filled to level up. Experience will be stored when reaching requirements. Heroic quests will not be stored and will be unique to each hero title holder unless multiple participate within a single heroic quest.'

The system unloaded the new way their heroic leveling would work. They would be set at a lower experience requirement to level up but also made to complete quests as a secondary requirement. This would keep their leveling ahead of many others but also limit them to their actions. However each other the party realized that it was only normal to act like a hero in the things they do. They would complete these heroic leveling quests no matter what anyways so it was nothing out of the ordinary.

"Walker! What's wrong? What happened to all of you?" The high priest had panic in his voice as he worried over their sudden freeze after their various strange actions after waking up.

Walker snapped out of his own thoughts and took a very deep breath. "Su and Gil have an upgraded system. Remey has a fused system that is unique to her. Midnight had a diluted blood line awakened. Lastly I had my title upgraded to True hero. We all also had our leveling requirements changed...It's a lot" After rambling these things off Alice and the high priest were left with more questions than answered.

This was not what the high priest had expected to be said. Instead he expected something along the lines of, ""We unlocked mastery skill"" But instead it was a list of impossible sounding things. "That...How?...why?...I don't..." The high priest was sifting through every possible memory he had and found no proper answers. The system had thrown yet another curve at him. "The world is truly mysterious in it's ways. Oh Holy Lord, please bring calm to my mind." The high priest said a small prayer before he looked back at Walker who was looking for words to explain his feelings.

"I can't believe-eve, I-I-I can finally learn Alch-chemy" Remey was still sobbing as she spoke her first words after reading the system over and over. She felt that her deepest wish had been answered. This was the greatest blessing she could ever think of obtaining.

Suddenly gathering herself Remey's face became serious. "Thank you." These two words drew every person's attention. "Without all of you as my family I would still be running around trying to make

money for the orphanage. I probably would have been injured or killed by now. Thank you." This was all she could say. There were no words that could portray the feelings bursting from her heart in this moment.

Su was the only one to react and moved to hug Remey who fell back in to sobbing. There was no sadness in her vying, just unfiltered happiness. She had always wanted to be able to properly help those in her family that were sick but lacked the skills, with those fusion system she would be able to pursue that dream constantly.

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#### Chapter 276 - 276. Remey's Promise

Gil stood himself and sat behind Remey leaning his back up against her, "Give that old alchemist a run for his money now alright?" He was still stunned by the change within his own system but it was plain to see just how greatly this affected Remey.

Midnight was even taking notice and stuck her head near Remey's lap. While Walker started to stand Remey was able to calm herself again. Her blurry eyes glanced at Midnight and Onyx. "Walker...I will find the ingredients to that potion we talked about before...it might take a year or two but I will make it as many times as we need."

This caught Walker off guard again, it was true he had been angry with Remey when she hadn't told him about potions that could increase the strength of a dragon or serpents scales. But he had been able to move away from it knowing that Remey had not spoken of it since pursuing it would take them far from their party goals. "I would appreciate that, But take your time, our adventures won't be ending any time soon. I won't hold anything like that against you..." Walker was having a hard time looking Remey in her eyes.

It was clear as day that this had been eating at her silently. She thought that she had let them down and now with such an amazing thing happening it gave her the power to make up for it with her own two hands. Walker may be unable to prevent her from doing this but with her new personal goal established he could tell she would be stronger than ever.

Su calmed Remey down significantly while looking at everything around her in awe. "I just didn't realize how much I was missing. I can tell by the way your jaw clenches when you will take a step with your right foot. The tiny muscle movements are amazing." Su was watching Walker stand and walk to them, she had already picked up on the different muscle twitches connecting to each other.

"I think the best way to describe how i feel now is that I have a flame burning in my chest. There is mana being pulled directly through my heart and flowing in my body. I wonder how many wind elemental arrows I can let fly now..." The two were having these new sensations while Midnight had moved on to flexing her wings.

She was able to extend them just slightly farther, and when she gave a soft flap it looked to create more wind beneath her. "Midnight, if I were to guess you would be flying around in a month or so. By the time we return from the deep sun hollow forest you might be an expert in the sky like Stella." The encouragement was not missed and Midnight nearly tackled Walker in glee.

Onyx was still seated with Alice, he had been catching her and the High priest up on the specifics to a small degree so they could understand all the things that had just happened at one. The two of them were looking at the party like they were completely different people.

"You kids really are put to give all of us old folks a heart attack. You might just send the king for a ride too." The high priest was still unsure of everything but he had recovered enough of his mentality to joke around.

Alice stood up and reached out a finger hesitantly poking Walker in the face. "Hey, Alice I am still me. My system stayed the same I just have an upgraded title." He tried to poke her back but she swiftly dodged his slow attack. Onyx took the opportunity to slither up to Walker's shoulders and get comfortable. "Onyx I swear you got heavier. You are level nine now, and I am pretty sure you will have a growth spurt coming so relish this while you can." Onyx tightend himself a bit in protest.

Alice switched her target and poked Onyx who joined in the small battle with the end of his tail. He was moving faster than Walker but still letting Alice dodge the attacks.

Loud footsteps started to resound outside the door to the high priests quarters. BANG!!! The door flew open presenting the old man was standing there sweating with an empty bag in his hands. "I'm out of potions but when I woke up they to-..." He looked at them surrounding Remey who had obviously been crying. "Who do I force to drink purple toad poison?" The death glare on his face was full of evil promises.

Walker was about to explain but Remey broke Su's grip and stood in front of the old man. "How about I make you drink it when I extract my own from the bones of a purple bog toad." She didn't even flinch saying this. Her tear stained face holding no room for argument.

"Oh really, and you think your party leader can do that with just your advice?" The old man looked at her knowing that this was not a joke but had been a serious accusation.

"No, with my skills and two hands I will do it. My Alchemical Brawler system will let me do anything you can do. So don't think for a second that you won't be guiding me through every single skill you've ever used or seen when it comes to alchemy." Remey stood as tall as possible and held a clenched hand up to the old man.

"You're actually serious.." he could see in her eyes that she wasn't playing with him at all and that Remey was seriously saying she would learn his skills. In all his years he had only ever seen her act this way when one of her siblings was sick and she wanted medicine for them. He would ignore her sometimes and she would leave but when it was dire she would strike this same pose and face. "How?"

Without any reason to doubt her he asked the simple question. Remet grabbed his hand and dragged him off. "I will be back. I have a lot to learn before we go to the sun hollow forest. I will be living in the alchemy lab so I can keep you all healed on our journey." Not a single one of them could argue this. She had pure flame in her eyes and it spoke of future strength. This inspired them beyond what they had expected.

"Walker" Gil looked at where Remey was running off to and then at Walker.

"Go on a hunting trip Gil. Your father said he wanted to go after some wild boar right? Take some time to figure things out." Gil nodded and ran off out the door as well. He did not want to be left behind. Remey could now do a much larger part in the party and even made promises to create things with her own two hands. How could he let her get ahead. He was technically the second in command for the party after all.

"Leader, Is it really OK to let them go off on their own right now?" Su was worried that Remey would have a hard time adjusting no matter how much she pushed. She had finally realized a lifelong dream but it was not going to be as easy as she hoped. Not to mention Gil would need to relearn how to use his mana, with the absorption coming in he would need to learn the usage balance.

"Yes, I think this is best for them. They are the main rivals in our party. If Remey learns how to make even low tier potions with skills then she will be a huge asset to us. Not to mention she is still our main close combat roll. Gil now has full access to the attack that he has been limited by. Plus as much as he denies it, he feels weak. You have seen him practicing all this time, he is just like me that way. We both feel the need to get stronger."

Su understood where Walker was coming from but she still worried that if they all split up they would lose their ability to work as a team. "Also they will be back to get fitted for their new gear so then we can drag them in to some real training. I'm also not going to make you train with a group until you are used to your new vision skill." Walker's point was logical. Su could have a ton of accidents while adjusting to this new way of sight. Whether someone's vision improved or worsened they would need to adjust.

Walker and Su looked at Midnight who was bugging the high priest who had noticed the floor she had started to accidentally tear up while flexing and getting used to her body starting to change. "Hey Alice, is there any way we won't need to fix that?" Walker looked at her and felt his heart fall. She was shaking her head no.

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#### Chapter 277 - 277. Special Guest

"Let me use my high earth sculpting on that. I should be able to fix it." Walker placed his hands over the scratches dug in to the stone floor and slowly used mana to make them close up and smooth to match the rest of the floor.

"Hmm good, now no more testing your upgrades and new skills in my room. I plan to get some real sleep after checking on the healers from the military academy. Alice you better be off to sleep too. You have stayed up all day and night waiting for them." The high priest took a strict tone, this was the same time Walker's father used on him.

"Let me carry the books for you, I will come back after stopping at the adventurers guild and home to explain what happened. Knowing Gil he is going to find his father and rush off without telling his mother." Su nodded her head agreeing that this was exactly what Gil would do.

The high priest checked the door making sure that the old alchemist had not damaged it in his worry. Seeing that it was fine she moved forward glancing at all of them to make sure they were following. He was wary of them scraping up the floor more.

Alice grabbed the edge of Walkers cloak and pulled him down a side hallway. Su saw this, "I will wait outside with Midnight, we can all go to report this together."

Alice pulled him down hallway after hallway and out a back door. This was not her room at all but a large back garden. There were many yellow flowers starting to bloom in the warming spring air. She kept pulling Walker farther to a small gazebo by a tall white tree. She patted the table in the gazebo showing him the place for the books.

"Don't tell me you are going to start reading now?" she nodded in response. "Well, I won't tell you not to but just get some rest too." He knew that Alice had also felt the motivation Remey had sparked in Gil. She had seen just how far away from her her new friends were. She needed to get stronger as well.

Walker pulled the books from his storage and placed them on the table. Alice looked at the, approvingly. "I should head back. I can't leave them waiting all day, I've already rested long enough." He turned to leave and head around the cathedral when he felt two arms wrap around him from the back.

"I am sorry if I worried you...I will be better about that in the future..." Walker felt Alice tighten her grip before she eventually released him. "I will be back to see you again soon, Don't let the high priest catch you reading instead of sleeping." Walker gave her his best smile and headed around the cathedral. Before he had even gotten halfway to the front Alice had already fallen asleep cuddling a book she had just opened to the first page.

The high priest had followed the pair out and walked to stand next to Alice. "I swear no matter how many times I tell you not to sleep out here, this is the only place I find you." He grabbed a book from the stack and started to read himself. He had not had a new book himself for quite some time.

"Hey, sorry I took so long!" Walker spotted Midnight and Su standing at the bottom of the steps to the cathedral.

"It's fine, Midnight was just practicing her flapping. It looks like she can extend them more easily now. I bet she will have a growth spurt like Onyx will too." Walker recoiled at this.

"Midnight, what will we do if you can't fit in the house?" Su made a surprised oh face at this realization as well.

"Sister says that you can build a new house that she can fit in." Walker almost tripped while walking hearing this. She wanted him to build a whole new mansion if she grew too big for it.

"Maybe we should look in to a way for you to get a skill that makes you smaller instead. I have read some story books about ancient dragons using a transformation ability to look human when they go traveling. They were just story books but maybe they hold some truth." This brought a hop to Midnight step. She pranced along imagining herself on the move just like the others in her party.

"I think more and more that we should go looking for an ancient dragon's village in the mountains. I never know enough about dragons to give any firm answers." Walker lamented his lack of knowledge. He hated not being able to help in this way.

"Well first we need to get through the sun hollow forest and investigate those purple slime's rotting away the forest." Su was logical as ever and made sure Walker remembered their current goal.

"If Remey can learn some rot and poison antidote potions we will have a better chance of defeating and gaining more knowledge. That would be plenty of stress off our backs." Walker had made the connection that with Remey's new upgraded system she would be their best chance to stay poison free. The only one that had poison resistance was Su.

This fact was one they needed to figure out sooner or later and having such a perfect solution all of the sudden was a blessing. They would just need to gather the power herbs for Remey before they left and let her have the time she needed. The old master alchemist was sure to have some very effective antidote potion formulas he would share with them.

"You know, I don't think I will need to try to hard to learn alchemy now. Remey will most likely take over that role in the party completely." Walker said this more stating a fact than really worrying about it.

"Leader, you know Remey will find a way to force you to learn the skills. She will want to show off everything she can do and since you will actually be able to learn the skills it is expected that she will drag you in to is." Su's logic was true but Walker was no a little afraid of the alchemy lab and the future tortures learning from Remey may bring.

When they started to see the Guild building Midnight stopped looking at the entrance. "What's wrong?" Walker saw her stop and followed her gaze. Clara was standing with her arms crossed in front of the entrance glaring the three of them, down. "Is it just me or does she look really really angry?" Walker shivered knowing that they may be getting the talk of their life from Clara. He wished that Gil and Remey had come too so that they would get the same treatment. Even Onyx would miss it because he had long since turned back in to his tattoo form to rest.

The three of them approached Clara slowly, "Guild master's office, now." This was all that Clara said and the tone she used caused the, all to feel more shivers.

They followed the same steps that they were used to towards the guild master's office, however Su was having some trouble getting up the steps easily. Her new vision passive skill was causing her trouble. The details in the wood were messing with her perception and she was either lifting her foot too high or not high enough making her stumble slightly. Walker slowed himself so that if she started to fall he was there to be someone to hold on to for support.

Clara saw this but still said nothing more. She was just as curious about why this was happening but her anger was not letting her ask at the moment. Walker saw the constant glances she gave them, and each time he felt that there was more ice crawling up his spine. He had not expected this reaction from Clara.

When they reached the office spaces they found that every single employees was missing from the floor. It was dead silent and the guild office door was already open. Ibis was standing instead of sitting at his desk. Instead of Barry like they had expected the only other person in the room was someone they did not expect to see at all.

The queen sat in Ibis's chair looking rather pleased while she drank tea from one of the finest tea cups the guild had in possession. There was a single guard who wore red and white armor. This was a style of armor not a single one of them had ever seen. The guard was covering their face with a similar helm and had blades all over them ready to be pulled from their sheaths at any second.



Upon seeing the three come upstairs the queen placed her tea cup down and motioned for them to come in. "Well I have heard your party caused quite the commotion the last day or so. Why do you think I am here?"

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The queens sweet voice dripped with sarcasm. "Ah yes, do not worry my husband is not hiding around the corner. He is too busy with the hoards of horned rabbits. He needs to be ready to send off troops to wherever the worst hoards surface. He received a certain notification that threw him in to a rather strange mood." The queen looked like she was both happy and unhappy at the same time. Her face was almost impossible to properly read.

Pausing for a moment to let it all sink in, Can you explain how you managed to change your title from hero to true hero?" This question was exactly what Walker was thinking she would be here about. If the king was occupied with the military the queen would need to be the one that had to deal with it. Naturally for her to be this unhappy about something so important for the kingdom she would have been busy with something important as well.

Walker did not hesitate to spill out the entire story and even their quests that they had completed. With every word he spoke the queens jaw seemed to drop lower. It may have been unbecoming of royalty to act in such a way but since the entire floor had been evacuated just for her there was no fear or reason to act as a perfect noble.

When he had finished telling her of every single detail and even reading some things directly from the system the queen looked much less satisfied than before. "There is so much that you just said that I believed to be impossible. Not only that but you have even said a few things that will change our relations with other kingdoms. Do you know what it means to have a dragon with a dragon champion blood line? Do you know what it means to have an arcane archer?" The queen emphasized these two systems over the others since they were systems that were very important to other kingdoms.

She looked at each and every person present in the room before speaking again. "On top of all that you somehow managed to upgrade a title to a true title. These titles are only ever found as ancient knowledge passed down from hundreds of years ago. That is just how rare they are. They Were thought to be a myth until just a few years ago when someone brought some ancient scrolls from across the sea that spoke of true titles. Then just like that we heard word than another continent across the sea that had such a title holder. However that is of no concern. You are now a true hero." The queen was very serious about this and how much this could affect the kingdom.

Ibis approached the party and gave them a look over. "It is unfortunate that your other two members are not here right now but with everything that happened I can understand why they would not be. You already know that your hero titles had the effect of widening the area of an emergency quest so much so that it even reached the king who sent the military academy students to assist. What do you think your true hero title can do?"

Ibis watched as Walker started to fully understand the weight of these upgraded titles. With this true hero title he may have the chance of sending out quests to an entire kingdom or more. It was a major development for every single ruling power on the continent. The waves this would make would not be stopping at any moment.

"Even more you did not notify us that there was even a possibility that you would all gain these from a quest. How do you think I reacted when I saw that the only party I manage suddenly changed to a completely different system description. A different title description. And even changed to such a drastically different level. Not to mention that you all received an emergency quest that when completed changed my own system interface because it somehow completed another main quest for you." Walker was feeling bad that he had not contacted Clara the second he woke up. It was plain to she had been stressed out about this. However when he wanted to apologize what she said last caught him.

"What do you mean your system interface changed?' He was curious how she was affected by all this too. As far as he knew she was not included in their titles quest and should not have received an upgrade. The system had also not notified him that Clara had received an upgrade either.

"Oh you want to know do you? Well now I have a second set of quests on my selection. They are divided up by the usual tiered quests that I could send to you then also organized by tier and a term of heroic quests. So now with your new level up system I can directly send you quests that would complete that level up requirement of yours. Do you think the system explained this or that it just showed up and I had to sit here confused waiting for you?" This made Walker and Su feel bad all at once. Midnight could feel this in the air as well and lowered her head trying to avoid Clara's looks.

"We are sorry...we got very caught up in trying to understand ourselves." Walker almost whispered the apology but was not greeted with more talking to. Instead Clara stepped back as she looked at the queen who was holding up a hand.

Clara had bowed slightly in apology for getting carried away with something that could wait until later. "You all still have the task the king assigned you. However now that your systems have changed I need to tell you a few things that may prove to be slightly troublesome. First since Midnight is here I will start with the blood line you unlocked." The queen looked at Midnight in the eyes who was now listening intently.

"You have a blood line that is specifically fostered by royal dragons. These are often ancient dragons that have the blood of the first dragon within them. They are the most powerful dragons and rarely come off the mountains. This would be fine but when they decide to battle they often choose to send a champion to battle for them. This champion will be a young royal with slightly more of the royal bloodline than others. They would be supported since birth to be a champion above all other dragons. Now if they fight that means some ancient dragons currently do not have a living champion. That means one ancient may come looking for a champion to fill the position."

This was a very scary possibility for them. Not even the entire army could stand up against an ancient dragon that had been alive for nearly a thousand years. They could be an extremely high leveled opponent with endless battle experience. Midnight was stepping back hearing this. She was definitely excited that she could become one of the most powerful dragons in the world. But hearing that a dragon more powerful than she was now, more powerful than any of them in the kingdom was, could now come looking for her and put her in to fight or flight mode.

"It will be fine, if they come we will try to reason with them first. Worst case we find a way to run." Walker had placed his hand on her back letting her know he was there. Midnight visibly calmed down after that. But was still acting slightly skittish.

"You understand that this alone is enough to cause many of our kingdom's nobles to fall in to panic, hence the abandoned floor and my personal guard being here to use their skills to block the sound from leaving this room." The queen pointed at the guard in the red and white armor who was still standing straight. Walker still couldn't get a read on them at all. "Secondly you have an arcane Marksman system holder now. This is a system that man of the elven kingdom has. However the problem with that is there has never been a moment in history where a human has ever had such a system. The elves are sure to try and take him so that he will not let any of their skills be analyzed by us or an enemy."

"So Gil will be at risk too. Aren't we on good terms with the elves? Can we negotiate with them somehow?" Walker did not want anything to happen to his party. He felt that the ancient dragon actually leaving the mountains was less likely than the elves sending someone to retrieve Gil.

"Oh we can, but we have nothing to use as leverage to stop them from saying that it is a catalyst for war. The only benefit we have is that the demons have them too occupied at the moment. There is also you, your title should be enough to make them hesitate. They are long lived species that have great respect for the way the world works. Systems are something that attract them to their very core, if you are willing to bargain with information they may let you keep your party member if he binds his soul to a promise not to give away the facts of their system. Of course it would bind all of you too since you already know some details I assume?"

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#### Chapter 279 - 279. Walker's Favorite Game

Walker heard the words that the queen had said and silently nodded, he would be lying if he did not know the details of Gil's unique skill and that he was off practicing to figure more out. As the party leader he would be able to see every skill whenever it was learned. Even Clara would be able to figure these things out since she was their manager. It would be possible for Ibis as well, the guild master had certain control over many things when it came to the guild members.

"I hate to ask what on our souls would mean, but what comes with binding a soul?" Walker had a feeling that he already knew what it meant.

"soul bind is a rare piece of that only a very small amount of soul mages in the elven kingdom have been able to reach. They place a soul bind on a living being's soul. Basically it is carved in to the soul putting some restriction on it. Most of the time for information or the use of a skill." The queen did not look happy about this. "Long ago a demon captured an elf with such a soul bind on them. One of our scouts watched the battle field interrogation. The results of the elf being tortured for this information were...not good to say the least. The mana in their body exploded out at once, completely dissolving the elves' soul. The demon perished as well."

The queen looked like she had just swallowed something bitter and could not stand it. Walker wanted to think of something to say but he was coming up with a loss. This sounded like a brutal way to die and nobody deserves it. "You see why I do not wish you all to be affected by this . My hope is that there will be a way to get the elves to trust you all instead. Before the word of your parties upgraded systems reaches outside the kingdom you will all need to be working on the problems with the slimes in the deep sun hollow forest." The queen was basically telling them that they were fighting the clock on this. If they did not find a way to gain favor with the elves by protecting the forest they call home then they would be facing a much worse alternative.

"Then that's what we will do, I believe that my party can do much better than anyone expects. You can rely on us." Walker knew that they had no choice, he refused to accept such a dangerous alternative.

The queen nodded hoping that Walker's words would be true. "Now that my queenly duties are taken care of..." Her gaze fell on the three. "Care to show me anything interesting?" Her curiosity was always ready to drag out something interesting.

"Well...I really have not learned much lately. One skill really just boosts clarity of mind and calms people but I don't mind showing it off..." Walker was thinking about the most recent experience. "Oh actually Midnight had learned Decaying breath. It's a black fire. It is really cool but super dangerous."

The queen's eye lit up wanting to see it, however she realized that it would be too dangerous to try out an attack like that indoors. She also knew that it was not wise for her to venture outside without a proper way to hide herself. "Hmm maybe when you all visit the castle again." She seemed like the air had just been taken from her.

Seeing this Walker conjured up his purple blurry orb which brightened her curiosity back. "This is a kind of light . Want to know what it does?" Walker kept his eyes on the ground and refused to look at the orb. However the queen had looked directly at it the second it appeared.

"Well of course, it is a nice color but is that all it does?" She thought that he had just learned to make light orbs of other colors.

Walker stepped closer to the desk making the guard turn their head just slightly. "I bet you can't give me a high five?" The queen was not afraid of this challenge and instead looked at him and raised her hand holding on to a smirk. How could she not be able to give him a high five?

The queen swept her hand towards Walker's raised hand and missed hitting nothing but air. "Huh?"

"Ah, try again. Maybe it was just bad luck." Walker concealing his mischievous smile while the queen tried again. This was quickly becoming one of his favorite tricks to play on anyone. Visibly annoyed the queen gave two more tries before realizing that she definitely did not have some form of sight problem.

"So that's what it does huh? Makes someone miss an attack?" She narrowed her eyes at Walker and he immediately made the purple blurry orb disappear.

"More or less yes. It messes with vision. It's almost as cool as the black flames I learned while helping practice Midnight's decaying breath." Walker made a small black fireball appear in his hand which captivated the queen. He had already had his own fun so now it was only fair for him to give up something she would like.

"Is her decaying breath like this color?" She was still dead set on seeing Midnight breath out fire. This was definitely something the king had not seen and if she had the chance she could get one up on him."

"Yes very similar. I would say hers will be better though because she can use it to do a lot more than just make fire balls. Well if i practice with them I might be able to do other things too. But I need to train in some close combat weapons before I focus on again." Walker did not hide his current goals when it came to training. The wandering blacksmith was going to make him hammers so he needed to give his best effort to learn how to use them for combat.

"Actually my queen, I may be able to do something interesting. I did gain a passive skill from my system upgrading and I do need to train it. Will you help me?" Su spoke up which was rare for her when they were in a meeting like this. The queen's curiosity had relaxed her and made her more open to showing off.

"Alright, what do you intend to have me do?" The queen looked at Su wondering what her angle would be.

"Have your guard take a step forward. Before they do we will guess with their right or with their left foot. However guesses right which foot they step with will win." The queen had no idea how this would be interesting but decided to humor Su.

The queen nodded to the guard who turned their head and relaxed their stance waiting for the two to guess. The queen was looking at Su to speak first since she was the one to offer this game. "Left." Su did not hesitate in her answer. She had seen the armor on the guards body twitch and adjust slightly as the guard unconsciously stiffened the muscles underneath.

"Then I shall take right." The guard started to take their step forward and the left foot made a small metallic tink sound on the floor. "How lucky. Let's try again." The guard moved their foot back and relaxed balancing on both feet evenly.

Su did not hesitate and guessed again, "Left"

The queen respond instantly as well. "Left" they both chose left and the guard stepped forward with their left foot. If Walker did not know better he would say that the guard was just moving the foot they were both guessing on. However since he knew of Su's new passive skill in detail he expected she was guessing which he would move before it was even in motion.

They continued on this nearly ten times which Su guessed correctly every time and the queen only being correct four times. "How did you manage to predict first. Did you gain a foresight ability in your upgraded system?" She wanted the answers since she had slowly become more and more curious about what would allow someone to have such a perfect way of guessing something they could not control.

"Well I am not sure if you have noticed, but my eyes are a little different." Su looked at the queen in her eyes. The queen could see the slight yellowish gold glint in them now. "I can see fine details with a new passive skill that I gained in my system upgrade. Every time your guard decided what foot to step with they subconsciously tensed their muscles and then I saw the slight change in their armor. With that I made my guess." The queen was impressed. This skill was not something so simple as foresight, it actually required large mental processing to properly guess. She smiled at this surprise, she had found something unexpected.

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The guard actually turned their head looking at Su through their metal helm. It would seem that this passive skill had not only attracted the curiosity and attention of the queen but her guard as well. "I will be able to block many more attacks before my party members even know they are coming." Su proudly said this wanting to emphasize what she would be using it to do.

"That is a great thing to hear. Having an exceptional guardian is what every single party needs. If any of the academy teachers were here I am sure they would be fighting and tripping over themselves to convince you to join." The queen seemed to find this much funnier than it was. However her guard made a small nod.

Midnight was a little disappointed at being unable to show anything off, however Walker's reassuring pats kept her from trying to show off her decaying breath ignoring the dangers. "Well, I have come to speak with you as I needed to for my duty and even had a little fun. I will return to my king and share what is necessary. We expect great things." The queen stood and was escorted from the room by the guard. She was handed a basic brown cloak from the rack by the door and seemed to blend in to the surrounding the second it was fastened around her.

Clara and Ibis released great sighs after she had finally descended the stairs, her guard was long gone as well. "You just had to keep us all waiting, didn't you? I spent hours explaining the current state of the guild and who was on the frontlines of the horned rabbit hoard extermination." Ibis sat in his chair feeling much more comfortable being in his usual spot. "Do you know how much I needed to explain that Barry was not the proper standard to hold for the guild? He had slain more than triple the other adventurers..." Ibis looked like he had lost years of his life from this meeting.

"We even had to send home almost all of the staff. I will be weeks behind due to this sudden visit. Don't get me wrong I am happy that you were all able to help with the fire. Fires are very dangerous in the kingdom and can easily spread to other buildings. The injured are also the hardest to take care of since they have many different internal and external injuries." Clara had read documentation on past instances of fire and how the sooner a quest was issued the less people would be hurt. "But it was still an ordeal for the guild. I had to send away plenty of parties before. This is the first time the guild doors have been locked in years." Clara spun a small golden key on her finger showing off the key to the front door which she had never used in her career.

"We really did not expect any of this to happen. We were just trying to help then as soon as the quest completed we couldn't even keep our eyes open. We definitely shocked some of the church members since they saw us all pass out at the same time." Walker tried to apologize and explain that it was a completely unexpected situation.



"Don't worry too much, we know it was unexpected but we just need to say it all to get it off our chests." Ibis seemed to be a little less rattled now that the queen was gone and he had taken his own deep calming breaths.

"Now any idea what the difference between the heroic quests and regular quests are? Because As far as I can see they are quests that hold almost no merit and have almost no reward." Clara had been fiddling with her system window and only found that these quests were worse in these standards.

"So pretty much they won't help us rank up to the next tier in the guild and they won't really make us rich or gain a lot of experience?" Walker clarified since he had a theory that had started to form

"Oh, it sounds like these are for the people who really need something done or could save someone's life." Su realized this before Walker could articulate his own thoughts. Su saw the annoyance in his face. "Sorry leader." She smiled as she said this, not really sorry at all.

"I see, so since you all have the hero title then you are required to take quests that are right and just instead of those that would just boost your merit selfishly. That would make a lot of sense." Ibis had already assumed this but having more supporting facts made him stand firmer on the theory.

"Well then all I am left with is to ask what you would prefer, the heroic quests or the regular quests?" Clara knew that not gaining gold and experience would possibly slow their growth as a party. It would also hold them back for moving up to the next tier of the adventurers guild.

Walker did not even need to ponder this, there was only one answer. "We will take the heroic quests. We have embraced the hero title by now and we should focus on both of the requirements to level up." He looked towards Midnight who he knew had gotten the tougher level up requirements. It was obvious that this was because she had such higher stats as a monster. She could handle opponents much stronger than the party without her. But with this difference she could easily miss out on valuable battle experience.

"Then that is what I will send your way. Be ready for some tough jobs with little reward in the future." Clara seemed to become more motivated as she checked through the quests and sorted them. "I will be nice and not send you to the sewers or the garbage facility." She gave this as both a little revenge and kindness. If the party left her out of the loop again she would send them only these quests.

"Well go get some rest. We need to call back the employees and start on the work we missed." Ibis had accepted that this was the only break he would have for a few days and begun in on the stack of paperwork he was sure would grow before his eyes.

Clara gave them a wave while she was completely absorbed by the system and the new way her quests were organized. Walker and Su tried to say goodbye but were met with no response so just showed themselves out.

"You know, I might start making these quests required to be taken." Clara said this soon after the three had left down the stairs.

"It would be a good change to make to how we rank the tiers and who receives a test for promotion." Ibis had the same idea. If Clara could find the quests that were deemed justified to take even with poor reward then she could pass them more often to parties. There was also the fact that she could note a party that was taking only these quests or at least a higher number and reward them for doing what was right.

This would mark a change in the way the guild operated for the entire kingdom.

"Well that was a surprise to say the least." Walker had just stepped back on to the street.

"Yes it was. Of all the people to come see us it was her. I would have imagined she would be stuck where she was." Su made sure not to slip anything unsafe from her mouth while speaking in the open.

Midnight herself shook her head and huffed. She had grown a soft spot for the queen since she was often greeted with praise from her. However this time she was surprised like the others, but for her it was mostly surprising because she was told that another dragon could come looking for her.

The three of them wanted the most to head off towards home but Walker had already committed to returning to the cathedral after they stopped home just to let the family know they were fine. "Let's get on our way. We don't get to sleep in a bed until we tell everyone we are safe then go and help more at the cathedral." Walker summoned his energy and made his way in the direction of the mansion.

By the time the front gates and garden started to come in to view so did much more green then they had seen the other morning when they left. The sounds of a shovel hitting soil and stones being raked echoed from the walls as the three walked in through the gates. "Oh, finally back are you?" Gil's mother was working in the garden on the pathways through the garden. Some where she had procured some white stones that she was putting onto the path making it stand out amongst the earth. Things were really taking shape.

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