

Master 281

Chapter 281 - 281. Clear Your Minds

"Hello, working hard as always I see." Walker wanted to stay positive since he was about to tell her that Gil had run off to hunt without so much as a goodbye to her.

"Oh it's never work if it's something you love. How are things after the fire? Your father came back covered in ash and nearly asleep on his feet the other day. He was barely awake long enough to give us all the details before falling asleep with his dinner roll as a pillow." She laughed at this remembering how he hadn't even managed to take a bite.

"Well the cathedral pretty much exhausted themselves so the military academy had to come and help with the transporting and healing. I am pretty sure they are also cleaning up the previous carpenters quarters so they can rebuild."

"That's good, I hope all of them can recover swiftly. I am sure the King will have a speech to wish those who perished off properly." She looked a little sad but also relieved that there was such a dedicated force already at work.

"We were also pretty exhausted ourselves and ended up spending some time at the cathedral to rest. Not on purpose though. We completed a quest and ended up taking some time to get a handle on things." Walker was looking for the right way to say that Gil had run off for a while but he didn't even have a chance.

"And now Gil is off testing out some new skill without telling anyone but his father?" She had hit the nail on the head.

"Yes miss Jane, it sounds like he does this often." Su was pleasantly surprised by the insight Gil's mother had shown.

"Trust me if he had not run off to show his father a new skill he got as a kid then it was like it did not even happen. The two of them would run off in to the woods to hunt and test things. They are thick as thieves." She shook her head smiling at all the times the two had come back in a messy state having fooled around with a new skill too much.

"Should I assume that Remey is the same? She dragged the master alchemist in to the lab and there has been different colored smoke pouring from the smokestack since. I was worried she was starting to burn things for fun until I heard him telling out instructions and techniques. Since when can Remey make potions?" This was something that Jane had found extremely confusing since she was sure that Remey had a brawler system and not an alchemy based one. She had even went as far to double check with Hilda after noticing these developments.

"About that, we should get everyone together so we can tell them about a few things. We might need to hold back on some details but that won't change anything." Walker headed inside with Su and Midnight on his heels before he realized he should use the party chat function to let Gil know that he should keep his upgraded system under wraps for now.

This is easily done since Gil greeted him in a whisper. Walker made the warning short and sweet before the chat ended suddenly. He was sure that Gil had understood and gotten right back into his hunt. By the time Walker had made his own way to the dining hall every single member of the families and even Maria and the wandering Blacksmith were there, The only two missing were Remey and the old man who were locked in the lab training in their own ways.

Walker carefully began to unload the role the party played in the emergency quest along with the details of the titled quests they had. Walker left out most of the specifics when it came to what the upgrade systems were and instead used more generic names for them. He made sure that everyone understood that this was a major development and that the very kingdom would be influenced by it.

"Well that makes sense why the emergency quest even alerted the guards in the resting rooms. I was taking my break when it showed up. I needed to order those under me to get buckets and haul water before I have even sat down." Garret was happy to hear that the party was responsible even if it was just the system sending the emergency quest and not them specifically. "Just by being in the area you were the source of many more saved lives. The last fire that broke out ten years ago destroyed five homes and two merchant storage buildings. It was devastating." As a guard Garret had read and written reports on fires and wished for a way to keep them from happening at all.

"We were really surprised to see how fast everyone reacted, we got the same emergency quest as everyone else but when we read that the heroes needed help it was rather heart warming" Su was extremely happy to think back on the effect that the hero title was having. The more people they could help the better in her book.

"Well I am just surprised that the king issued the order to send the military academy students. They often won't be sent in to real situation like that. But I can say from the rumors I have heard they did very

well. There just might be something special in that academy." Hilda had met some friends so she could share some of her recipes earlier in the day and got an ear full on how well the healers from the academy had done. The entire lower tier was buzzing about the students they had been able to send making a difference so early in their lives to the kingdom.

Lisa was sitting in a chair nearly bouncing. With every word of what the party had done she became more and more in awe of what had happened. "Walker, can you use that new wave skill here? I want to see what it's like." She thought that a skill that could boost healing was very rare but the fact that it could also boost some stats and calm someone's mind was a very interesting effect she never thought her brother would have. Naturally she was also enamored with healing spells since her brother had learned one as his first skill and then used it to heal a prick on her finger.

Walker thought on this for a moment and realized that Su's parents were leaning forward with anticipation. The two of them had seen many healing skills and were focused on seeing one they had yet to experience.

Knowing that he could not avoid his audience he raised his hands and used his calming waves skill. The wave of white light moved through the room and passed through everyone. They could all feel their minds becoming clearer and the stress of the day beginning to melt away. Walker even felt the effects himself and realized how useful this could be for training.

"Oh, Oooooohhh...OHHHHHH! I figured it out!" Lisa slowly grew more animated as her mind cleared and she came to realization. "I have been stitching it backwards!" She jumped up in a rush to get the fabric she had been working with. She had been struggling with a new stitch that just seemed to fall apart every time. Having this clear mind she was able to take a new perspective and notice that she had been stitching it from the front and into the back. Now she could find a way to move forward with her ideas.

The rest of them watched this occurrence and began to think that they needed to take advantage of their cleared minds as well. "I will be reviewing some recipes just for some practice." Hilda was off to the kitchen forgetting the tea she had just poured.

Su's parents were already hand in hand and wandering towards the library to share a novel. The two had started their very own tradition of sharing a novel so they could debate on it afterward. It was a very endearing activity that Walker would strive for in his marriage one day.

Garret on the other hand just hummed to himself pleased with the newfound clarity. He was often muddled with thoughts of work and what kind of day he would have as a guard. It was a very stressful job because at any point something bad could happen calling him off in to a dangerous situation.

Su was watching everyone's movements to practice her new sought. She was incredibly frustrated while she had walked back to the mansion. She had tripped in places she never would have before and it was all due to her lack of understanding. This was more of a driving force for her to become better, she would face this new challenge so she could fully use this great gift.

Midnight was another odd ball in this. She had laid herself down in her normal spot and looked to be asleep, However her slight twitches and flaps of her wings slowly made it look like she was actually hard at work understanding how her muscles moved and were developing. Walker swore that the skeletal wings had gained a little bit more muscle under the skeletal scales. Walker could only think about how cute it was that she was trying to hide it.

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Chapter 282 - 282. Back To The Cathedral

Giggling to himself like a fool Walker left the dining hall where even Maria had abandoned for the library herself. It seemed that he would need to be careful with the healing waves skill due to the calming and clearing of people's minds. This would make them want to focus on other tasks to get farther ahead than they would when more stressed out. Even more facts backing this up was the fact that Gil's mother had already rushed to the garden and begun to use skills to prune down of the growing plants to change the way they would grow.

Walker wanted to head off immediately to the cathedral but he felt it would be too early. The high priest and Alice would definitely still be resting and if he used the calming waves skill until he was too low on mana then the two best healers he knew would not have their healing boosted. In the end it was about quality and efficiency to get the injured back in to full health sooner.

With the little free time he had he decided to head towards the forge where he saw the wandering blacksmith enter in after the calming waves skill. He was not surprised to find that the wandering blacksmith was fully focused on repairing and changing his tools. There were new carvings being made and new al patterns.

He had even started to heat up the forge so he could remake a few that he had thought up better and stronger designs for. Since Walker had just entered he made room for him to sit. "I was thinking I would come here to see what is going on while everyone works some things out themselves. I also thought I should ask you if you would like to start working on the equipment tomorrow?"

Walker didn't even need to look for a response but he still did to see that the wandering blacksmith was nodding and smiling while still working. There was something about watching a master work on something that just brought about a feeling of tranquility. It was like watching the first art or dance in motion.

The wandering blacksmith did not mind the audience since he would be working with Walker for days on end. Instead he was happy to have someone who is as interested in the art he was practicing as he was. Not to mention Walker had already proven that he would go hunting for better materials and even spend all of his mana to help in the preparation for the best gear. That was all he needed to properly show what his heart was forged from to the wandering blacksmith.

The time wandered away on them before the blacksmith started to lose his high focus. He had managed to make three different engraving tools and map out many designs in to parchment. They were things he would add to the forge to prevent more decay affect from the flames they would use along with pulling any of the natural impurities from the materials. These natural impurities could cause the final product to rest or crack unexpectedly and very few blacksmiths could fully pull them from the metals they used.

"Leader, I have gotten a better grasp now. I think we can head out." Su had been standing at the door trying to get Walker's attention and finally succeeded now that the wandering blacksmith had finished his creations. When Walker turned about he saw that Midnight was also with Su. She looked like she was keeping her wings tight to her back now.

"Had some good practice?" He gave Midnight a slight smile and was given a small whine in return. She was definitely feeling sore from flexing the muscles on her wings to get used to them, but it was a necessary practice if she wanted to fly properly one day.

The wandering blacksmith didn't pay them any mind as the three left the forge, he had already moved on to his next task in changing the tools in the forge.

"I should be able to move about without tripping so much now. My mind was not focused enough when I was walking so i was not properly paying attention to where I stepped and how. There are so many

things I have never noticed before." Su was realizing that the things she had missed were innumerable. The sight that humans had was good but it was not the best.

"Well I am glad you were able to figure that out, but do you think you will be able to help safely?" he was concerned that Su could accidentally do something that could harm someone. It was just a cautious thought due to her still adjusting.

"I should be fine if I don't move around so fast. I will just stay in one place and help with the bandaging." Su was more concerned that she may be unable to help as much as she had been.

Seeing that she was starting to worry, Walker tried to cheer her up, "The healers should have gotten a good hold of the situation so we don't need to burn ourselves out. It is a slow run to the finish now." Su nodded in agreement but she was stubborn when it came to her personal expectations.

Midnight took the lead to the cathedral making sure to stay on the way, however as the three approached the scene of the fire they were surprised by what they saw. The guards and the military students had hauled out all of the burned wood and ashes leaving an almost completely clear place for the new building. There was still a pile of rubble that needed to be taken away along with all the metal bits and pieces they had found. It looked like as much as possible would be salvaged to use and make the new carpenter quarters.

The guards and even some of the military academy students waved or nodded at them. Through a lot of the activities they had seen or been told about the party and what happened. On top of this they had also received the emergency quest that was passed down to them. All together the party was again the talk of gossip.

"You know we should make a stop at the military academy after our next journey. If we can form some better bonds then maybe we can help Remey out to get the orphans accepted. I know the king would just have them accepted if we asked but it would be better if we could give them a path to be accepted themselves." Walker's idea had come out of nowhere.

"That would be nice, I know she has mentioned she is worried about them not having a way to move up in the kingdom well. But the military takes very many different systems. They need to have a large variety of skills to perform their duties." Su gestured to the students clearing the rubble and also starting to build temporary structures to start rebuilding.

Walker could only think about just how true this was, they had come to heal and even build. There were definitely those who could cook, make armor, and scout too. The army had such a wide range that he almost reconsidered being an adventurer. But if he moved to the academy then he would lose the freedom to take the quests he wanted over others.

Midnight had started to get way ahead of them causing Walker and Su to need to run to catch up. The two of them had gotten too caught up in their ideas and plans. Soon they came in to view of the cathedral. The door was wide open and there was a steady stream of people coming in and out. When the three entered there were already some of the healers that had worked themselves to exhaustion back on the job.

Many of the families and carpenters were still there taking up temporary residence until they would be able to return to a carpenter's quarters. These people seemed to be the most in and out visiting with friends who were coming to check on them and make sure that they were safe and sound. The guards and students were the second busiest looking since they were constantly carrying in clean water and other supplies for the healers to use. They assisted in moving those that needed to be closer to the healing light crystal.

Having the extra muscle was really making the healers work more efficiently since they would often become much more tired performing these jobs. From the looks of the resting patients they had been moved in to a way that highlighted the healing of these most severely injured. There were people who had received the greatest burns or crushing injuries from the falling building. The healers that surrounded them were constantly checking and maintaining their condition until they could be healed enough to be stable. This had been going on in shifts and only calmed down after the great number of injured had decreased. Seeing that the job was still far from done Walker started to look around for any sign of Alice or the healing musicians.

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Chapter 283 - 283. Babysitting

"I can see a few healers I have worked with before, I am going to join them." Su moved off toward a group of healers that were preparing bandages. It was nice to know that she was making some new and good friends here, they would easily understand that she would be a little limited when it came to the activities she could perform at the moment.

"Are you coming with me?" Walker asked Midnight since she looked like she had no idea where she would be going. She was not as used to healing as Su and Walker were yet, but since Walker was saving his mana to use it for the best possible amount of healing he could help her find a place to fit in for a while.

Midnight looked at him unsure if she would but then gave a slight nod, "Well then off we go, we need to find Alice or the high priest. Or even just who is in charge for now so I can plan out how to use the calming waves." However as he said this he decided that using the skill once now would be able to give the healers at work a small edge and motivation.

He raised his hand and let the calming wave flow out instantly causing a change in the cathedral. The healers spared a glance toward Walker and some even gave him shouts of thanks. The calming wave had started to work its causing the healing spells to be more effective. Those that were struggling had calmed and even began to heal faster.

"Well I am glad to see you again." The same healer that Walker had seen the high priest instruct the other day had made her way to him within seconds of his skill being used. "I can get the high priest or miss Alice if you would like, but the two of them should still rest for another hour at least." She looked like she would do whatever it took to let the two rest that much longer.

"That sounds good to me, I am sure that the other musicians are resting still too. I just want to make sure that my skill does the most it can to heal everyone. Midnight also will need a job to help with so just point us in a directions." The healer looked at Midnight a little skeptical but soon thought better of this since she had seen the little dragon helping move full grown men earlier.

"Good, then I will have you assist with the children. The mothers are going crazy trying to manage right now. I would prefer you saved your mana for when we can perform another concert, that is the best means of healing we have." She pointed towards a spot near the door where it appeared that most of the children had gathered and were acting rambunctious. A few mothers were there trying to manage them but instead were just tiring themselves out against the boundless energy children seemed to have.

"Well Midnight, I can't think of something more fun to do." Midnight looked appeased by this jobs since she would get plenty of attention from the children. She had learned this in the rabbit demi-human village since wherever she went she had attracted the curiosity of the kids there.

Walker and Midnight went over to the group and instantly started to attract their eyes. "Soooo I have heard that some of you have never met a real dragon before." Walker said this loud enough to get their

attention and also to let the parents know that they were going to help them distract the children for a while. A few mothers looked at them as if they were going to shed a tear right there out of happiness.

Midnight stood tall and opened her wings with a slight wince. She had definitely overworked her muscles a little but Walker would not heal them. If he did then she would not be used to the natural healing process necessary for her wings to develop. It could hurt her flying in the long term and he would not do anything of the sort.

The children nearest rushed over their voices loud and high pitched trying to be the first that got to touch Midnight's scales. However as they came close Walker lifted a hand and manipulated the air in the cathedral to hold them all back softly. The little gust made a few bandages drift in the air but didn't cause any disturbance, He breathed a sigh of relief at this.

Seeing that Walker had just made the wind with his hand the children started to focus on him. "Now how rude would it have been if you rushed up to my sister here and started to pat her without permission? Would you all have let me just run up and start messing up your hair?" A few of them put their hands on their heads protecting the hair from any possible ruffling, while others just looked disappointed. "In any case, Midnight would you allow them to come and meet you?"

They were all eagerly looking at Midnight wanting to see her respond. With a flap of her wings she pulled them back in and huffed a few times. "Well aren't you all, lucky today. If you can form an orderly line she would meet you all." Walker made motions to help the twenty or so children line up and start to meet Midnight.

Naturally they were fidgeting and excited so staying in line was a challenge for them. However when they would reach Midnight they were realizing just how intimidating a dragon was. They had wanted to rush in and touch a real dragon but now they were hesitant. Some would not even try to touch her and retreated while those with more courage would go up and reach out a hand in greeting. Midnight was loving every second of it making sure her head was held higher and higher when each came to her. She was soon making huffing sounds of greetings to them and even letting one of them touch her tail since the child looked curious.

Walker was pretty happy to see that there was not as much fear as he had expected. There were many who would definitely fear Midnight for being a dragon but instead there were more than extremely happy to see her. The parents had all seen the help she brought the day of the fire, they had started to talk and found that the little dragon had been a huge help to them. These facts cleared any doubt they had that Midnight's fame was ever growing in the kingdom, the merchants that traveled through in the spring would most certainly be carrying the tales of the heroic dragon.

Walker felt a small tug on his cloak. "Can you do that windy thing again?" there was a little girl who was standing right by his knee. She had to be seven years old but was having no problem asking him to show off more .

"Well just for you alright? I am supposed to be saving my mana for when I can join another healing concert. You should have heard one the other day right? I was the one by the crystal with the beautiful girl who sang for everyone." The little girl's eyes lit up at this since she had been thinking of the songs that were sung and the lights that had danced in the air constantly.

Walker knelt to the girls' level and held up a hand. He manipulated the air to start to swirl just a little in the palm of his hands. "Here, give me your hand, I'll show you something cool." The little girl held up her hand to Walker, he turned it so that her palm faced the ceiling and manipulated the little swirl of air in to her palm. With his manipulation it continues to spin in a little tornado.

The little girl broke out in to a grin and couldn't help but giggle. "It tickles hehahahe it tickles." The wind brought the much needed laughter to the cathedral making many of the parents show looks of relief. They had been afraid that this would mark a hugely traumatic moment for all of their children caring for them for the rest of their lives.

Feeling that he would start to use more mana if he kept it going he let the air slowly cease its rotation until the little girl was staring at her hand in awe. She kept poking her palm to make sure she had actually just felt and seen the small tornado. Walker wanted to keep building off of this atmosphere and tried to get the girl talking. If he could get her in to a good conversation then the other children should join in becoming more organized and calm.

"So have you found your system yet?" His question made the little girl smile even bigger than she had before. He had definitely chosen the right question to ask.

"Yes! I just got it now!" Walker was nodding along but realized that the words he had heard were not the ones that he had expected.

"Wait right now like right now right now?" He felt that his heart was picking up speed and the little girl met his reaction with a speedy nod.

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Chapter 284 - 284. Guidance

"Yes mister. When you put the little spinny air in my hand i got it but it was so cool. I want to do it again!" She was excited and bounding around. Walker had dropped his jaw hearing this. He had really just helped someone else unlock their system. Not to mention it was by showing them some .

Realizing that it had been through he was again caught up. "Can you tell me what your system is called?" He couldn't stop, he needed to satiate his curiosity and know the answer.

She had a little trouble understanding her system window and it was clearly due to her younger age and not being used to a system at all. "SssrORm Weeelder" She sounded it out making sure it sounded right.

"Storm wielder? That sounds super cool and strong. Do you have any skills to start with?' Walker was letting his curiosity rule him.

"I think...." She was again confused by the light in her eyes became clear after a moment. "I can do the thing you did." She turned up her hand and a small tornado started to spin in her palm. However the wind that framed around it was grey like storm clouds. This was definitely using more than one element to create a miniature storm.

"Wow, that is pretty cool. I think it is better than mine!" Walker was carefully keeping a hold on the air around the girl's palm so that the new spell did not escape her grasp. "Now for a real challenge, can you make it go away without letting it go somewhere?' The little girl again became confused. "Just like I did with mine. Just let it slowly stop spinning and melt away."

His description made the little girl's confusion disappear. The little spinning grey tornado started to fade to nothing. There were small drops of water that d formed on their hands and dripped off. Walker was carefully thinking about how her had pulled in the air and also the water to create the grey looking swirls. "You have a pretty good system there, we should go find your parents to go tell them." He wanted to make sure that they were aware of the dangers that may come with such a system.

The little girl looked down not as happy with this but took Walker's hand and started to pull him towards two cots along the wall. There was a man and a woman with wrappings on their heads. They had obviously been injured in the building collapse causing some head injuries that kept them from waking up. The girl's reaction to him asking about them was most likely due to this, she was happy and playing with the other children but in the end she was still worried about her parents.

"Well hello mr. and mrs. Storm weilder's parents. I just heard that this little girl here is your daughter and she had a bunch of cool stuff to show you when you wake up." Walker did not lose his smile and introduced himself. The little girl was a bit confused but before she would say anything Walker spoke to her. "Don't you know if you talk to someone who is injured and asleep that they might just be able to hear you still? That's why you need to tell them that you love them and to get better soon." This seemed to make perfect sense to the little girl who started to rattle off everything that had just happened, to her parents.

"You know I will need to head over soon to help out with the concert." Walker had already glanced at the high priest making his way to the healing light crystal and knew he should also go up there to meet him to get in the loop on the plan. "But I need to let you know about your there." He gave the little girls hand a poke, making her smile a little. "It is small now but it is called storm wielder right? That means it could become a really big storm which is dangerous. So when you want to show it off to your parents if they wake up, call for me. I will help you so it stays small and safe. Then maybe later I will talk to them about a good place for you to practice."

He was worried that through the concert the girl's parents would be healed and wake up. If they did and the little girl was too excited she might release a skill she could not control yet and cause more chaos. "Pinky promise me OK?" He held out a pinky and the little girl held out her own. The two interlocked them and made their promise. "Then off I go to talk to the high priest. You stay here and make sure that you are the first one your parents see when they wake up."

Walker had at first just wanted to make sure that the little girl wouldn't cause accidental trouble but now that he had realized fully that he was the cause of her unlocking system he wanted to make sure he gave her more. He turned towards the healing light crystal and found a nun that had just delivered some fresh bandages to a healer. Walker stopped her and explained the situation, the nun understood and mentioned that two others had gained some systems through this since there were many new things happening. She said that even a healer system had awakened in a young boy who used his first skill to heal his own arm.

After the nun went off to watch the little girl Walker could not help but think back to his first healing skill. How strange the world works, there was a terrible fire yet there were those that had started to awake their systems in the midst of all of it. Before he could come back to reality of his own accord the

high priest had noticed him. "You are looking much better and awake than I am." His greeting was accompanied by his laughter.

"Well I have some good gear to recoup my mana and you let us get some good rest.." The high priest smiled at this, not arguing the facts. "But you know we couldn't stay away for long. What are you thinking for healing?" This was the main point of the return to the cathedral. Another concert should heal almost everyone and get those still seriously injured to a better place.

"Alice is still a little tired but she should be ready soon. I am sending out some nuns to collect the remaining musicians and get a small concert ready. On my way in to the main hall here I swear I saw you with a child." The high priest was curious to why Walker was not running about trying to heal everyone.

"Oh yea, I want to make sure I can use the calming waves skill to assist in the healing. If i waste mana then we won't be able to heal as many as possible. So I was helping out with the children. Midnight is still over there keeping them entertained. Or maybe they are entertaining her..." Walker could see that Midnight looked much happier than the children. Her ego was growing more and more by the second.

"I actually did meet one very interesting little girl. I showed of a little and she was able to actually unlock her system. I never thought that I would be able to cause something like that." his words rang true with his sincerity.

"You would be amazed at the number of healers that are working here that unlocked their very own systems while being healed. There is just something about the way of the world. It seems to know just what a person needs to become the best version of themselves they can be. It hands us the tools and lets us take the reigns." Walker could see the high priest's eyes following a few of the healers around. They must be the very lines he was talking about.

"The thing about those healers that gained their systems that way, they work much harder then the ones that the nobles send our way. It's just funny that way." With this the high priest walked off to instruct the nuns and healers about the cathedral in the set up.

Walker couldn't help but to agree that there would be something lost in someone sent off to a job. But someone who takes passion in something by repaying it would go above and beyond. The perfect example was Su who was not even the holder of a healing type system running about doing more than just about any other healers. For just a second he wondered why she had gained a dragon based defensive system like the draconic guardian system instead of a healing system. However he was already

answering this. Su would never be able to sit still when someone was being harmed, she had to be there to project, it is who she is and always will be.

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Chapter 285 - 285. Fans

Walker was going to keep on in this train of thought to properly think on why the world had dictated the decisions of the system upgrades. He had read some of the reasoning in the notifications but that also left the question of why other aspects of their personality had been ignored. Gil could have easily gained something that mixed farming and archery but instead it focused on his balanced al attack and regular attack.

Putting the will of the world aside Walker had become distracted by the musicians making their way inside. There were some who seemed very familiar since he had been on stage with them when they performed. The dark circles under their eyes from working so hard still showed they needed rest.

Deciding that it was best to head their way he went up to the healing light crystal to start some small talk while they got ready. "Helloo, I know I helped you guys before but my name is Walker. Sorry for the lack of introduction before." He said this to a female musician holding a cello.

"Oh trust me we all know who Alice's boyfriend is. We would have tried to speak to the hero too but sadly the lack of mana is always a burden." When she teased him with the word boyfriend a switch flipped inside turning Walker red all over.

"I-Umm- no...we..." He struggled for the words completely thrown off by these words.

"Fine fine future Alice's boyfriend then." The cello player giggled more as a few other musicians came over to join in the conversation.

"So you are the hero that everyone always talks about?" One man with a harp looked at him up and down.

"Well actually just about everyone in my party is a hero title holder, well I technically still am but it's a little different. But that's a complicated mess." Walker was going to say he was a true hero title holder but realized it would open a can of worms that would take ages to explain.

" But you are the hero that we hear the rumors about the most. You have been to the ancient ruins and pretty much destroyed every undead to bring back ancient wisdom to strengthen our kingdom.."

"And you went and found out about that hoard of horned rabbits that could have eaten all the food and caused everyone to perish..."

"Wait he also saved the party I healed from a jade locust, that was apparently where they got their titles."

"Really they got their titles saving a whole party!? That's amazing!"

Walker watched as everyone that was talking to him kept the conversation flowing even though he had not spoken a word. He was feeling a little left out.

When he saw an opening he decided to try and get some attention off of him. "Anything me and my party do is small compared to the great work that you and the other healers put in. Watching the work you all do really touches my heart." He was sincere in this, every single healer he saw here at work was pushing themselves to the maximum to help those injured.

"What about that girl Su with you? She is probably the best healer there is. You don't even need to say anything and she is already there." The harp player spoke up again.

"What if I told you a secret?" The musicians leaned in eager to hear what he had to say. "My friend Su isn't really a healer at all. She is a guardian. She is best with a shield and can save anyone from harm. Her mother was often ill and she picked a lot of things up from healers while she grew up. She has a passion for helping people." Walker nodded as he said this happy that the attention was off of him.

"Really not a healer?"

"That's impossible she knows so much that she can look like a healer?"

"Her dedication is amazing. She must be a saint guardian, right?"

"Huh? What is a saint guardian?" Walker was curious to what this system or title would be.

"You have never heard of the saint guardians?" One of the musicians spoke up confused how someone who had helped them so many times had not heard of them. "They are the guardians of the church. They go out to the places on the border to rescue people or they will go places where the army can't send it's healers. Right now they went off to the plains to protect small villages from the hoards."

Walker was amazed that he had not heard of them ever. "Yes the saint guardian have more of a title given by us but i have heard that one actually has the saint guardian system. She is the leader of the saint guardians. they can use light as shields and the captain can even make a shield that heals people as she takes damage for others."

This information sounded amazing, if he could meet this woman with the saint guardian system he would have a chance to learn a shielding skill that could also heal people. "I really hope that I can meet them one day then. They sound like a very interesting group of people." The musicians nodded and said their own opinions.

"Alright alright, time to get to work. I hope that everyone has slept well." The high priest walked up behind the group which had become quite loud talking about the saint guardians. "You all know that we are about to start the performance, right?" He looked like he had just interrupted a group of naughty children playing games instead of doing their chores.

Instantly the group dispersed to their respective seats or positions for the performance. "Sorry about that, since I didn't have a chance to meet them last time I wanted to get to know who I would be helping out." Walker looked a little embarrassed but in actuality he was happy to have spoken with all of them.

There was a slight pull on the edge of his cloak making him turn. "Alice you're back!" He became much more embarrassed having reacted so strongly but was only met with Alice's warm smile. "Erm are you ready to get this show on the roads?" Walker scratched his head trying to play it off that he had been ready the entire time.

"Oh we are ready, I will be right here with my healing pulse skill." The high priest answered and was ready to get things in the roll. With a tap of his walking staff the room went nearly silent. The healers gave a glance at him and started to work faster. It was like someone had sent a jolt of energy through everyone. The high priest had signaled the start of the concert and this would mean everyone needed to heal the injured as much as possible. "Walker if you could start us off."

Walker needed no pushing and raised his hand to let the calming waves skill send white light throughout the entire cathedral. As the healers looked to move more efficiently and the healing powers increased Walker caught a glimpse of Su and Midnight.

Su was moving faster meeting any healer in need. She was holding bandages and taking dirty ones but then the next moment she was right next to a healer that needed an extra hand to hold a tool or bowl. It was no wonder that the healers and musicians all believed that Su was actually the wielder of a healing type system and not a guardian type system.

Midnight was a much different case. The calming waves had seemed to excite the children instead of calm them. Midnight was doing her best to keep them from running about and getting in the healer's way. She managed to hold their attention by opening her sore wings and flapping them slightly. The wind was not as impressive as the skill Walker showed off but the sight of a dragon opening its wings stunned them.

Midnight's actions were perfectly in time with the start of the music which took a hold of the children's attention and kept them in one spot. Knowing that when the lights started to dance and become small white hopping rabbits, that Alice had started to sing. Rainbow grass started to sprout from the floor and touch every healer letting them use their skills faster along with the rabbits that jumped in to the bodies of the injured.

Looking over to where the little girl was Walker worried that she would be in the way. However he was proven wrong to worry when he saw that she was waiting a safe distance from her parents' cots. There was a healer changing the bandages and adding new ones while singing healing . The little girl was watching Walker use his skill smiling widely. She knew that her new friend was doing his best to help her parents.

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Chapter 286 - 286. Father

This song went on for some time as the musicians used all but the very last bit of their mana. Alice sang until the end of her song growing very pale but holding back just a little so she would not hit exhaustion. The high priest had been very firm not to let anyone pass out this time around. Some of the falling musicians had acquired slight injury and he refused to let them come to harm. "Walker now for a last huzzah."

Walker released another healing wave which was equaled by the high priest using five healing pulses in a row. Those that were injured were visibly healing. The healers were amazed and had trouble focusing for a split second. The high priest had trained his whole life to be able to use this skill so fast in succession and with Walker's healing wave skill it came to the absolute peak of healing. Every single one of the barriers he had faced were finally broken, he was healing more people at a rate than he ever had before.

Walker had no words to describe what he was seeing, it was as if a god had descended from the heavens and used an unthinkable skill to heal people instantly. This was more than he had ever expected. Walker wondered why the high priest had not used this before but when he looked over he found that the high priest was in his knees sweating and breathing heavily. This skill used in such a way was intensely painful on his body due to his age and the amount of mana forced out all at once.

Walker used his own light healing skill on the high priest with his mana to offset the pain the high priest was feeling with the backlash of such a skill. The pale face of the high priest had a slight flush of color but his condition did not improve much. Alice came to his side with worry all over her face but she did not frown. She had seen just how many times he had practiced to reach this point and knew it was his proudest moment.

The high priest himself slowly but surely recovered his breathing as the calming waves skill faded. Walker released another of the calming waves to keep assisting the healers still hard at work. There had been a massive shift in patients as the healers were bringing many to the back who had been fully healed and even started to get up.

The nuns were examining those who had made full recoveries so that they could be sure everything was as it should be. There were very many people standing up and trying to get out of the cathedral to go and meet family. These people had been stuck with injuries to their legs or backs and were ecstatic to be up

and moving. Seeing that there were many different families hugging and smiling Walker tried to find the little girl and her parents but was distracted again by the high priest.

"Alice go get me a high mana potion. I need to do something." She tried to protest but he made his face firm. "Trust me I will not be using the same skill as I did before." Her face was curious since she could not tell what he was thinking. "While she fetches that help me stand. I want your help a few more times, can you use that spell again?"

Walker looked at his system and determined that using it two or three more times would be possible but he would most likely be passed out for a while. "I will; give it all that I have." His resolve was clear and the high priest knew that Walker would not go back on his word.

When Alice returned the high priest took the high mana potion and drank the entire thing down. The color returned to his face and mana seemingly emanated from his body. "I have had a titled quest to unlock my mastery skill for twenty years. However I have never been able to use five healing pulses at once. Today I unlocked it and can use it once a month. I can't think of a better time. Please Walker, use your calming waves skill."

Walker felt his heart beat quicken, he was going to witness a mastery healing skill while he helped the high priest. Alice immediately looked at the high priest in awe. He had never used a mastery healing skill and she finally knew why. All his hard work that he tried to hide from her due to fatherly worry had paid off. Walker released the calming wave sending it out yet again.

"Alice watch your father show you what a mastery healing skill can do." He looked at her with a tear in his eye. This would be one of the happiest days in his life, an unforgettable moment. "Please hear me light of the world. I shall give you all that I have within my spirit as a gift so that you may allow those in pain to bask in your light. Come forth, domain of starlight healing."

The roof of the cathedral turned pitch black along with the entire room. There were no sounds just darkness and silence. Walker was about to speak out but was caught by a faint glow in the darkness. There were an uncountable number of stars of all shapes and sizes popping up above them. The light enrobed every single person there making their body glow with the pure innocent starlight.

The healers that had been working were hands off as they saw that the light was healing at an extremely fast rate. The healing pulses looked like a beginner healing spell in comparison. There were shooting stars forming and rushing through the dark sky that was bare to them above. Walker felt that he was

looking at endless possibilities, nothing but a small dot in an endless adventure. This thought brought tears to his eyes, he had so much more to explore and learn.

The weight in his shoulder increased and he realized the high priest had used all of his mana. Grabbing Alice's attention the two laid the high priest down and used a few things to create a pillow. One of the healers nearby saw this and rushed to him to examine the high priest. "Just exhausted. I will use my mana transfer skill so he can rest easy. Just bring me to a cot after." The healer let a blue light radiate from her fingers before falling to the side and being caught by Alice. With Walker's help they placed her in a cot and returned to the high priest.

"You father is really amazing isn't he." Walker had yet to call the high priest Alice's father. She rarely said anything and hearing it spoke made her tear up even more. Today was just that amazing of a day. The high priest was breathing slowly but with strength. The two knew that they didn't need to worry for his health but refused to leave anyways.

"Alice I will most likely be joining those two with this last calming waves skill. I trust you." She looked at Walker worried but had heard what the high priest said before. Her nod was the signal to use the last healing waves skill.

With the white wave leaving his hand Walker felt the sleep take him. The only thing he could think was how beautiful the stars were as he closed his eyes. This was the most time since now he had ever used all his mana. The system was notifying him but he was already in dreamland.

'The user had lost all of their mana multiple times within a certain period. The skill mana bank has been taken from the tree of life system. The skill mana bank has been learned automatically.

Mana bank- 4 mana cost

The user is able to store away mana in their very body up to a certain point. For every four mana spent to store mana within the body the mana count will rise by one until the bank is depleted. The user will suffer consequences for storing more than their body can handle. The user does not require mana to take mana from their bank.'

Walker would soon awake to this skill but he would have many other things to worry about first. Alice had been right there helping him when he had passed out. She rested his head on her lap happier than

anything to see that she had met someone so willing to give their all to help others. The high priest had always taught her never to settle for anyone as a friend or more that was unable to dedicate their entire benign to help another. She had the feeling that she had finally found friends who could meet these high expectations.

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Chapter 287 - 287. Introducing...

The time passed much faster than anyone else expected. The mastery skill, domain of starlight healing, had tripled the healing and mana regeneration of everyone within the star's light. It had brought pure joy to the hearts of those who had witnessed it completely changing how they all felt in that moment. As the light faded and the cathedral returned to the normal state the entire place was still silent. The injured had recovered and the seriously injured were fast asleep without a single blemish on them.

Many had started to cry and could not hold their emotions back. They had seen a wondrous skill that filled their very souls to the brim. To speak now would be to end this purity and happy moments. There were many silently hugging while the healers gave final checks with the nuns.

Many checked up on the high priest but did not go to wake him after they noticed that Alice was guarding him and Walker. Su eventually made her way back to Alice and Walker having seen the high priest's skill. She had helped and now was able to stop since she had no skills to examine anyone properly.

With the children calmed and very orderly the parents had taken over letting Midnight go to lay down and join them resting. Her soreness and any tiredness was healed with the high priests skills as well. Walker was in the same condition as he rapidly regenerated mana. He was groggy but awoke fairly fast.

The revitalized feeling in his body was not surprising to him after experiencing the high priests mastery skill. He felt that he was leaning on something and looked up to find that Alice was hiding his head in her lap looking a little worried. "And here I thought I had fallen asleep on a cloud." The line was sweeter than honey and made Alice feel like she had just swallowed a spoonful of sugar. But nonetheless she loved it.

She squeezed his cheeks happy that he had woken up quickly. Walker wanted to lay there forever but knew that it was best to get up and check on the others, "Sorry, that was a line I heard from a minstrel passing through when I was little. I thought of it the second I saw your face." He was red faced having said something so embarrassing. But he did not regret it at all.

He stood and looked around. "Su I trust you can make sure Alice stays here resting while I go find a unique little girl whose parents should get a warning about the system she just unlocked." Alice and Su looked curious but didn't respond, wanting to stay and rest there in case the high priest woke up.

Walker could feel a shifting on his shoulders as Onyx came out of his tattoo form. "Oh you slept through all the action." Walker was actually sad that Onyx had missed the mastery skill.

"Brother I was able to feel it in my sleep. It took me a long time to absorb that pure light, I am full of energy and think I will have a growth spurt soon." This was good news since it would make onyx better in combat. But the thought of Onyx being too large to stay on his shoulders was a little disappointing. "I will go and find sister to tell her too." Onyx slithered off of his shoulder wanting to stretch a little from his long sleep.

Walker moved through the people who had started to gain energy and want to move about. His search for the two parents and the little girl revealed a heart warming sight. The two parents were sitting up with their daughter clasped in their arms. They were all teary eyed but smiling broadly. Walker held back waiting for them to calm down. The little girl in their arms was overjoyed having all of her worry melt away in her parents arms.

It took some time but Walker finally saw that they were getting adjusted to being healed and recovered from their sudden emotions. He almost felt bad going over to cause another stir by bringing up their daughter's new system.

"Well I can see that your parents look rather healthy. Have you told them about your news?" The little girl heard him and ran ,grabbing on to his leg.

She was tugging Walker over to her parents who were lost to who this boy was. Mommy daddy, this is miss dragon's older brother." Walker couldn't help just smile at this introduction. Of all the things to be introduced as it was miss dragon's older brother. Although this was true it was of no use to the parents who had yet to meet Midnight.

"Ha ha, what she means is that I am Walker and my little sister is Midnight, that little dragon over there. She was lucky enough to meet this little stormy friend here." Walker dropped a little hint causing a glint to appear in the little girl's eyes.

Both parents seemed to have a little more clarity as they remembered the rumors about the Omnipotent party made up of hero title holders and even a hero titled dragon. "We are very glad to hear that our daughter has been behaving while we were resting." The father chimed in taking the lead and extending a hand to Walker.

"Oh she has been more than behaving. She has been very very good and has been very patient to tell you all her news." Walker gave the little girl a poke to the cheek causing her to giggle. "Do you want to show them with my help or just tell them?" He knew what her answer would be but he didn't want to push it on her.

"Show! Show!" She couldn't even form a sentence and jumped with her sheets.

"Alright then hold out your hands and I will keep it small." The parents saw that their daughter was cupping her hands and looking much more serious. Her little eyebrows scrunched up and her jaw tightened. Walker placed his hands under hers as she started to show her newly acquired system.

The small grey tornado started to swirl slowly but surely. The parent's jaws dropped the instant it appeared. Walker was manipulating the mana in the air around it to force it to stay small but was only able to do this due to his higher al attack stats. He knew that if he was lower leveled and lacked the points in the stat he would have been knocked aside and the spell would have grown to its full size.

The little girl was focusing much harder this time since she wanted to properly show her parents the things she could do. "Now remember how to make it stop spinning like before. Just slow the spinning until it pops in to nothing." Walker guided her through it as she stopped the little tornado again leaving droplets of water on her hand from the grey cloudy wind.

"See I have my system now. I am a storm wielder!" She rushed and jumped in to her father's arms without a single bit of hesitation. Her giggling was infectious to everyone who passed by the four of them.

"As you can tell she was pretty lucky to unlock a good system like that. I just showed her a little bit of wind and the next thing I know she is telling me she has unlocked her system." Walker let them know the circumstances since the little girl was too excited to speak properly. "This little storm wielder got a unique system for sure, but a dangerous one for sure. I thought it best if I made a pass back to you with some ideas for what she could do with it."

"Sir hero, we are very grateful for you to take interest but we are only a family of carpenters. I can't ask you to do anything more than you already have." The father gestured to himself and his wife who were obviously hard workers. The calluses were very well developed on their hands from years of wood carving. The muscles on their body stood out from heavier lifting, it was plain to see their hard work.

"First off, let's drop the sir...sounds weird. Also just call me Walker, we lived in the same tier until a few months ago anyways." The parents relaxed a bit, finding that Walker was not a vicious noble after more power but instead a commoner like them. "Second I-" Walker was cut off by a system notification.

'Daily heroic quest: guide the young.

Requirement:

Give the young storm wielder a path to follow that is supported by her family and by the storm wielder herself.

Reward:

1 heroic quest point

10exp'

The daily quests were still working and they had changed to daily heroic quests! Walker was ecstatic and almost lost himself in thoughts in the middle of his conversation. "Erm sorry about that I had a system notification. Anyways I would be happy to offer some ideas on what your daughter could pursue. I believe she will need some guidance to learn her."

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Chapter 288 - 288. Possible Paths

The parents could not argue this. Since they had seen the little storm made in their daughters hands. They could only imagine what would have happened if their daughter had used the skill without anyone there to keep it in check. The two looked at their daughter then at each other. "Hit us with your first idea. We will listen to whatever you have in mind but we will veto anything we think is unsafe." Their daughter sat herself in her fathers lap all ears.

"Well actually, how about you tell me your name now? I have been wondering if I should just call you storm wielder forever..." he looked at the girl with an amused face since he knew she had not introduced herself either.

The little girl's face flushed as she realized she had skipped introductions in her excitement to get her system. "Gale! I am Gale." She was proud to say it and pointed to her chest while holding her head high.

"We named her that after a huge wind storm that was going on when she was born. It really gave us a lot of work after we got her settled. It was why we were able to afford a larger apartment in the carpenters quarters..." The father looked rather disappointed remembering that their home was gone.

"Well nice to meet you Gale." Walker was happy to know the girl's name and couldn't help to see the coincidence that she was born during a wind storm and gained a system that revolved around storms. The world was really working in strange ways.

An idea had come to Walker just then but he held tight to it not wanting to push anything until he gave out his few ideas on what the parents could do to guide their daughters safe growth. " My first thought is the obvious one, send her to the military academy. She is sure to get in for free with her system." This answer brought a frown to the both of their faces.

"I refuse to let our daughter go to war and be used as a pawn for the nobles." The mother agreed and nodded along with this. Naturally the nobles had some influence over the armies and they could be in charge of small platoons. This had often caused some drama and was not always the most supported gossip in the lower tier since many had been lost to the nobles folly.

"I thought that would be a no. But I just wanted to put it out there. She could always try it all alone. I know that some people can learn from their system better alone than with anyone else. The problem with that though is that if she gets stuck or messes up she will only lean on herself." This was the next undesirable idea that Walker had, but he said it to put it out there.

"I would not be comfortable with that. I have heard too many horror stories about a child hurting others or themselves with skills they do not understand. I know that some mother's even hire tutors so their children can learn from someone with a similar system." Gale's mother had asked around and become terrified by this possibility while carrying her baby. Now that Gale had gained a system every terrible story made up or real flooded her mind.

Her husband nodded with her agreeing that this was not the best decision for their daughter either. Walker had his third and final idea, this one he was sure would meet their needs. "The last thing would be the adventurers guild. I am already a silver tier member and I can ask the guild master for some help. I am sure he knows a good teacher for Gale. On top of that they have protection from the worse off nobles scheme and she would be able to take jobs she desires when she is older. Even more so she will have freedom to go to open spaces where she can try out her skills."

Walker smiled at the part about speaking to the guild master. He knew that if he introduced him to this little girl and her parents then then Ibis would freak out over the possibilities such a system had. The parents looked unhappy for a moment but the longer they thought and whispered to each other the more they seemed to like the idea. "Will I get to go out and meet dragons with you if I join the adventuressss?" Gale spoke up looking at Midnight from across the cathedral.

"Well I have no idea how many out there are even like Midnight but I can definitely tell you that you can go in all sorts of adventures. I can take quests that take me far away or ones that keep me here in the city. It is hard work but all for the benefit of everyone around you." Walker's explanation seemed to hit the right note with Gale and her parents.

"Depending on what this guild master says we could consider it." Their judgment was not final but it was the most open they had been as of yet.

"Then I will send a message to my party manager and ask for a meeting." Walker lost hope that this daily quest would be easily completed. He reminded himself that daily was just the fact that he could receive a daily quest but not that he could finish it. It could take forever if Ibis was busy or Gale's parents were not open to anything.

"We may need to wait a while until we have gotten things cleared up...I don't think we will be able to get to a meeting until we have regained some of our savings after rebuilding the carpenters quarters...." Gale's father looked down embarrassed to admit that they would be cleaning out their family savings due to this fire.

Walker's face lit up, it was time for his idea. "Well about that, my family and my party's family recently moved in to a mansion in the higher tier. Naturally it is in poor condition. We have had a lot of work done but most of us still need some good furniture. I would also like all the spare rooms furnished along with some new training dummies stocked up for us to use. I also think having a large garden shed built could help my party members' mothers a lot. I would also like an addition built on to the forge so we can store up materials better. It would be a joint work with the forge to make a solid and safe storage building." This had caught the two parents attention, however they could not understand why he was talking about the jobs he needed done.

Of course if I happened to meet two carpenters in need of work I could be inclined to offer them a spare room to stay in for a few months while all this work goes on. Of course later arrangements could be made but I can't see all this work being done so quickly that the carpenters hired would be able to leave the job sight." He smirked as he said this since he saw that realization coming over the two parents.

"We just happen to know two carpenters that are looking for work right now. They are free to travel and watch over a job sight indefinitely." The father smiled widely and had no reason to refuse. The gossip about a kind hero title holder along with how this boy was acting with their daughter was more than enough evidence that he would be true to his word.

With their deal in the making Walker decided it was best to leave them to catch up and fawn over their daughter's system. "I will stop by here after the high priest manages to get to bed to rest, Let me know if you need anything and we can stop on the way to the mansion. Although you all seem pretty energetic now."

"We have never felt better, We will wait for you and follow along to our new job site." The father winked at him. "Oh and my name is Jamie, my wife's name is Ann." Walker smiled and gave them a wink back himself joining in on the little game. He was happy that he could do more to help them out. The truth was that their daughter was reminding him of his own sister and when he got his system.

"So what was that all about?" Su saw him talking with the family since he had mentioned something about a new system. She witnessed the little girl's skill and had pointed it out to Alice who was also very

interested. Alice was still glancing at the high priest constantly but she was a lot more relaxed now that she had thought things through. Walker could even swear he saw her eyelids start to droop even though she was interested in the happenings with the family.

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Chapter 289 - 289. Ideas

Walker sat down next to Su and Alice with a smile on his face. "Well since our mansion lacks furniture and I think we could use a garden shed and a strage addition to the forge, I hired some carpenters." His high and mighty tone made the two girls look at him funny.

"So you hired someone? But didn't you say you were going to talk to someone about a new system?" Su was trying to build the connection between the two things.

"Exactly, the two carpenters I hired happen to have a little daughter who unlocked her system and needs a little guidance. I figure that since they also need somewhere to stay they can just come to the mansion which will be their work site. We have plenty of space in the training field for them to use as a work space." He still was proud of his quick thinking to help someone and also move their comfort level ahead.

"That does sound nice. But again, what system?" Su was a little less patient than usual since she was fairly tired from running around helping with the healing.

"Oh, their daughter is a storm wielder. Or at least that's what the system is called. So far she can make a little storm in her hands but it could easily grow if left unchecked. I was thinking of introducing her to Ibis so he could help find a good mentor for her." The look of clarity came over Su's face.

"She won't be able to practice much here in the city or even outside the walls. She will need to go out into the open areas of the kingdom, maybe even the plains." She was brainstorming out loud about the dangers such a system could have.

"I am worried about that too, the storm she made in her hand was pushing back a little when I forced it to stay there. I doubt it can do much but make some small personal rain clouds now but when she levels up I think it could take over an entire area." Walker could only see now that the little girl could literally change the weather in to a terrifying storm. She would most likely be able to cause entire kingdoms to lock themselves down.

"Did you see if they were interested in the military academy?" Su was thinking of faster ways for the girl to obtain structure but didn't look happy saying it out loud.

"That was the first but I didn't think her parents would go for it since the military is too easy to manipulate by some high ranking nobles. Especially students at times." Walker nodded as he spoke. "Oh, and coincidentally her name is Gale, apparently she was born during a wind storm and got the name. Now she is a storm wielder. Funny right?" Su raised an eyebrow at the coincidence but didn't argue against it. It was very strange.

Walker felt a slight weight on his shoulder and looked down. Alice had finally fallen in to sleep and was resting on his shoulder. Walker lowered his voice while he talked Su through the choices he had made when he told the carpenters what they would be building. She was excited by the idea of having more training dummies since she wanted to try and practice dodging around more opponents, even if they were dummies.

After some time the high priest started to show signs that he was waking up. His breathing became deeper and he mumbles slightly while opening his eyes. He was still not as energetic looking as he could have been but overall his health was in great condition.

"So you went and used a skill like that and then ditched us to sit in awe?" Walker's greeting was a little rough but hearing these words the high priest allowed a little rose in to his cheeks.

"Well if I couldn't trust you all to hold things together after that then why are you even here?" The sharp retort was on point and the two gave each other a look.

"Congratulations on the mastery skill. It was a very amazing sight to see. Who knew a healing skill like that even existed." Walker was still entranced as he remembered the countless stars.

"I couldn't believe it myself, the endless stars that flooded my mind when I started the chant was almost too much to bear. I did not expect the information flood to be so strong. There is a good reason it takes years to get a mastery skill. I was trying to adjust to it for...Well actually how long was I resting?" he realized that he had no sense of time right now. The high priest had been resting since he used the mastery skill and been in an unconscious position.

"Just a few hours now. Alice was trying pretty hard to stay awake to wait for you but well..." Walker looked at her asleep on his shoulder still. "I am pretty sure you will be busy with everyone who wants to ask about your mastery skill or thank you for it. You're going to be the talk of the town." Walker laughed a little in the hope that some of the gossip may not be about his party.

"Well if I am reading this right I can only use it once a month at the cost of all my mana. I will need to be careful with how I use it. If there is another accident like this and I wasted it then I will be letting many people down." This new stress fell on the high priest's shoulder heavily. Having a mastery skill was great, the feeling was one of the best due to the accomplishment. However there was also the added responsibility of using a mastery skill at the best time. Not to mention that his mastery skill was one with the potential to save many lives all at once.

"For now you should just relax and rest. You said a month right? Just wait for your month and use it when the feeling is right. Who knows what will happen when people start to return from the horned rabbit outbreak." Walker figured taking the logical route might help the nest.

The high priest appreciated this knowing that Walker was trying to keep him from his worries. However the high priest was not so foolish to believe that his position and the mastery skill would not be used by others as leverage somewhere. The church was very influential because of their healing beliefs in the kingdom. They were very different from most religions that worshiped gods or monsters. The fact that they solely held faith in the systems and the world was a bit different. They had been able to carve out an influential existence helping many injured every day. This had brought many people happiness and safety.

"I think I will take your advice and go rest longer. I will leave Alice to you for a while longer. I would hate to wake her up when she seems to be sleeping so soundly." The high priest stood up with some help from Su while winking at Walker.

"What is it with winking today.." he mumbled under his breath at the weird new trend of people trying to give him more meaning behind words.

Seeing the high priest leave Onyx, who had been with Midnight, slithered over and made a home in Walker's lap. "Brother I think we should start to head home soon. The nuns have been saying they will start to clean up and that they will be asking the guards to make tents in the square for some people to sleep."

"We could try to help with that, but I think it would be best to bring out new guests home so they can find a room to rest in." He was torn over staying to help more and getting Gale's family to a place to rest themselves. When he looked at Su his mind had been made up though. "We will head home in a little bit since we all need some rest."

With Walker's words directed at Su she gave a weak smile. She would gladly stay longer but if she pushed her body to it's limit she would end up causing more work than help. Seeing that Midnight had also been tired out by the children only enforced the fact that they needed to get to the mansion and settle themselves first.

Su went over to Midnight and chatted with her about how she liked the babysitting job. Onyx joined them to translate clearly since he was also interested in what jobs she had taken through all the healing.

Walker couldn't help but stare at Alice resting on his shoulder. There were many beautiful things he had seen but he could not compare a single one to her. This realization anchored itself within him before he even knew what had happened. The thought somehow seemed to cause Alice to stir.

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Chapter 290 - 290. Crush

"How was the nap?" Walker softly greeted her making sure not to startle her as she woke up. This proved futile as she realized her position and turned red.

Alice quickly forgot her feeling of embarrassment seeing that the high priest was nowhere to be seen. She turned her head here and there and still could not see him anywhere. Eventually her eyes rested on Walker with a little panic within them. "He went to be. He woke up just a short while ago and did not want to bother you."

The sigh of relief caused a slight vibration in the light but Alice did not speak a word still. "I think you should follow his example and go rest too. You have worked pretty hard yourself and it looks like the

guards that were dispatched have already started work. By the time you and him wake up it will be time to start a new daily routine." Walker wanted to do this best to get her to rest properly.

The unwillingness in her face was clear and he knew he would have to do better to get her to rest. "Fine how about this. My party is having a bunch of gear forged for us. We will need an expert to let us know how we look with them, I am willing to offer you the position if you go and rest too."

His bribe was easily seen as just that by the narrowing of Alice's eyes. However she had not fully planned to go against his asks for her to rest. She was feeling her eyes starting to droop again and even if she got up and moved around she would be falling asleep the moment she stopped moving.

Her hand grabbed his and started to drag him up. "Well of course I will escort you. I need to try and be a gentleman after all." Walker held her hand firmly and walked Alice to the door of her room. He was about to turn and head back when Alice pulled on his hand and refused to let go. "You know everyone will be waiting for me, do you want me to stay that badly." His teasing tone was enough to make her blush even more.

Not wanting to prolong this feeling of embarrassment Alice pulled on his hand making him lean forward with surprise. Her lips hit his cheek and in the next second Alice had opened and closed the door to her room. Walker was standing there stunned for more than he wanted to be but he needed to process what had just happened. His heart was threatening to beat out of his chest.

His slow walk was slightly unsteady as he was in and out of focus due to Alice's actions. He was glad that Gil and Remey had not been there to tease him or else he would have fallen in to a mess. Before Walker opened the door back to the main cathedral he forced himself to take a deep breath and calm his heart.

Su was easy to spot since she was chatting with a few of the healers that had come to speak with her. One of the musicians was there as well, still holding his harp in his hands even though he looked extremely tired. The dark circles under his eyes showed that he was in dire need of sleep.

"Walker, these are some of my friends. They came to thank us for our help but I keep telling them they worked just as hard and deserve the thanks as well. They won't listen to reason though." Su was acting a little sheepish which was an interesting change from the always cool and logical norm.

"We just wanted to make sure Su knew how important she was to us. She was always there with exactly what we needed. Sometimes before we even knew it ourselves." One of the nuns was using much more energy in her words than necessary making the other two look at her like she was a crazed fan.

"Of course she was there. She is a hero, they are always there just when you need them." The musician with the harp smiled and stood a little taller saying this praise. He had been the one asking about her system earlier when Walker was talking with them before the healing concert.

Su was acting very uncharacteristic and was looking away from the musician. She would normally have had a cool logical response but instead just ignored the compliment. ""Well Su is the defender of our party. We all rely on her for our safety. I have no doubt she will always be there when we need her." Walker decided that since she was accepting the compliments he would throw his i to the ring as well. He rarely got the opportunity to compliment the great work his party was capable of.

"Well since you are also so dedicated to coming and healing as well it is only right that I work just as hard. You can also use the same defending skills if you want so I could say the same for you." Su responded with the usual logic and cool air. Why had she not accepted his compliment?

"It sounds like you are both very key parts of your party. I can't imagine how a hero like Su wouldn't be the key member in anything she did though." The musician with the harp complemented her again. This gave Su a surprised look but she still didn't respond and just looked away shifting her body from foot to foot nervously.

The three nuns looked on in amusement at this scene before them. They had known the young harp player for some time now since he was always so dedicated to playing and practicing at every moment of the day. Seeing that his full attention was now on Su was a very interesting change that they were going to take notice of. "Yes yes, very key in any role. Especially helping healing. I was curious, what did you think of the music the last two days. Were there any instruments that stood out to you?"

The nun that had been eyeing this the most decided to chime in and ask to add a little fuel to the spark she saw. Walker had caught on to that was happening to her and was having a hard time keeping the smile and laughter from his face. Su had let him be when it came to his awkwardness with Alice and he would give her that same respect.

"Well, I can say that it really was touching. The feelings in the pieces the musicians played were clear as the sun. I wish I could have taken the time to stop and listen." She paused becoming a little stoic while she pondered which instrument stood out the most. "I don't really play any instruments and I have very

little knowledge on what sounds goes to what. But there was a really peaceful plucking of strings that I could hear. I know it wasn't a guitar or fiddle but more elegant."

The harp player started to look excited and more red then Walker thought possible. However as he noticed this he thought that his own would turn that red when talking to Alice came across his mind. Walker stood there now trapped in his own personal embarrassment.

"That sounds like a harp, it's the one that our musician Henry has. You really should come listen one day when he is practicing, the sounds fill the whole hall and it is perfect to relax to." The third nun spoke up this time with a little more force.

Su finally looked at the harp player then away again quickly. "I guess it would be nice to come and volunteer when you practiced." She tried her best to hold her voice steady but a little shaky at the end gave away her thoughts.

"I would like nothing more than that!" Henry spoke a little too fast and then fell silent. He was equally embarrassed.

Su wanted to run away and decided that using resting as an excuse was the best plan. "Well my party members and I need to help some new friends to a place to stay and then rest ourselves. We will most certainly be back to volunteer soon. Hopefully before our next adventure." Su took the lead and got Midnight up and moving.

"Well you heard her, if I let myself lag behind they will leave me in the dust. "Nice to meet you Henry." Walker gave him a thumbs up and chased after Su. Without any hesitation the harp player Henry was bombarded by questions from the three nuns. His face showed the embarrassment and the happiness all rolled in to one. He was not as prepared for this as he may have expected but he was going to be bothered until he spoke what he felt or the nuns would find another way to get it from him. Walker made a mental note to fear the gossip of the nuns which seemed to kick tiredness to the curb.

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