

Master 31

Chapter 31: Waking up

After four hours walker's consciousness finally returned and he opened his eyes finding himself in a cot under a white tent. A cool evening breeze was felt coming from the openings and a bit of snoring from his left. Looking over he noticed Remey asleep in a chair next to Gil who was also on a cot with some minor scratches on his face.

Su was laying on the ground next to midnight with her head on Midnight's back. From the looks of it she had cried herself asleep while caring for midnight. This brought a smile to Walkers' face knowing they were all safe and alive.

As he began to move slightly he realized his entire body was incredibly sore. Multiple bandages covered scratches and cuts. His left arm was wrapped heavily and upon looking down he saw the remnants of his fathers leather shield. He winced at this sight knowing it saved his life but felt bad for losing it.

Knowing his body needed rest he didn't try to move, instead he took a look at the system and was at a loss for words.

'2 giant locusts killed

1 jade locust killed

50 exp gained for out-matching the odds.

Hidden quest- heroic action was completed.

Rescued another adventurer party and defeated an enemy well beyond the party's strength

Reward: level up one level for each party member regardless of exp required.

Title has been awarded: each party member has gained the title Hero.

Title Hero-

Multiplies all exp for titles user. A hero's growth is the inspiration for all.'

Walker could not believe what had happened, he knew they had risked their lives but it was only what was expected that every adventurer should act the same. But a hidden quest? When's the last time the kingdom had heard of one happening? Wasn't it twenty years ago when a forge master had crafted himself a new hand using over a hundred ultra rare monster materials spending years in a desire to return to his peak. This kind of quest was unheard of. Let alone a title!? Those were only ever rewarded after amazing feats. The kings title was passed down generation to generation, it was said that a monster slayer title was given to an old hunter who single handedly took out a coven of vampires numbering over ten thousand, and even rumors of the elf that gained the speedster title by reaching an agility higher than any other in the world.

These things were enough to completely stun anyone no matter how strong their soul. Taking the advantage of time, Walker began checking the party statuses knowing he needed all the information so he could properly explain everything. Their lives were about to get much more chaotic now that they had a title. It was not something they could hide. From now on their quests would be affected and even those around them would receive quests related to their titles.

Walker- Hero

Jack of all trades system

Level4- 50/160exp

Hp-9

Def-5

Mdef-5

Atk-4

Matk-5

Char-5

Agi-7

Mana-15

Gear-

broken leather shield:

No bonuses

Black dragon staff:

Mana+10, matk+3, darkness element

Su- Hero

Shield bearer system

Level 5- 50/320exp

Hp-16

Def-15

Mdef-15

Atk-9

Matk-6

Char-6

Agi-6

Mana-12

Gear-

Black scale shield

Def+5, mdef+5, hp+10

Remey- Hero

Brawler system

Level7- 50/1280exp

Hp-16

Def-16

Mdef-8

Atk-21

Matk-8

Char-7

Agi-19

Mana-18

Gear-

Crystal knuckles

Atk+10,def+2, bleeding possibility

Gil-Hero

Ranger system

Level5- 50/320exp

Hp-8

Def-7

Mdef-7

Atk-13

Matk-13

Char-11

Agi-13

Mana-14

Gear-

Worn basic bow

Atk+1

Basic arrows

Atk+1

Midnight- Hero

Black flame dragon (hatchling)

Level2- 50/200exp

Hp-105

Def-55

Mdef-55

Atk-80

Matk-80

Agi-35

Mana-55

Gear- none

New skills-

black fireball

Incredibly powerful dark flaming ball consumes all mana and causes the target to burn in to ashes upon contact.

This skill black fireball must have been what Midnight's used. Maybe she needed to eat the darkness crystal to help her gain it. Walker had been stumped to why midnight had eaten that crystal for sure but the theory that she needed it to strengthen her inner flames seemed sound.

We definitely need to get Gil a better bow and maybe some arrows that he can infuse with magic. Walker kept thinking more and more about how they could improve so they wouldn't get hurt again. Soon he noticed Gil Laying in bed pointing at Walker so Remey would notice Walker's ramblings. Walker's face flushed a deep red, realizing he had most likely woken them and looked a bit of a fool.

"Sooo umm nice job on that giant locust..." Walker said to Gil after a moment.

"Pfft No way you'd be hogging all that glory" Gil's instant retort was enough to raise midnight and Su back to the land of the awake.

Midnight stood shakily, the effects of using all her mana were clearly stronger than that of a humans. It was an important fact Walker would have to remember. "Midnight don't worry about getting up. I know you used a lot of energy. But you can never do that again! Why would have happened if no one else was there?" Walker was happy midnight was awake but seeing her in this state made him sad so he knew he needed to reprimand her so she would be safe later. In response to this, Midnight took a few steps closer and laid back down without enough energy to fight or retort. Su had made it back in to her feet and pulled up a chair with a serious face.

"You two rushed in to battle to hold them back and you being the leader I trusted that you three would be OK. But it was reckless; the recommended course of action was to run on sight of the jade locusts! Not that I would have left those other three to die..." her energy from the first two sentences fails as she admitted she would have readily done the same all over again.

"Exactly! We may have done the same thing but you three should have retreated sooner. Hmpf I don't know what's wrong with men and trying to be tough it's pretty lame." Remey was obviously more happy than angry at the three as she showed her heart on her sleeve.

Gil had drawn a confused and surprised face "so leader...are going to explain this?"

"Ahm uh yea so some stuff happened and we have a title..."

Chapter 32: Bonus rewards

"Ha! That's a good one you just said we had a title. I'll have to use that one on my parents. They'll laugh until they fall down." Gil was laughing like a fool while he propped himself up.

Walker sat up and looked at everyone with a stern face. "We completed a hidden quest by killing a monster much stronger than ourselves while rescuing others. Now we all have the Hero title. We also gained a level up each. Not to mention the hero title gives us experience multiplier; that part confuses me but I'm sure we will start to understand it once we get back out to the fields...well tomorrow that is since it looks pretty dark outside now." Walker was scratching his head feeling awkward as jaws dropped...even Midnight was looking at him wide eyed. For a human or other race to get a title such as

hero it was unheard of but imagining a dragon having it was something that could change the heavens themselves.

"So what's going to happen..." Remy trailed off now showing worry in her voice.

"No idea this is unprecedented, I think we should keep it quiet for a while and figure out what it means. Then if others start to notice we can come out and say it but I think the guild will be able to protect us while we grow if we speak to Clara. Actually I know many parties get a manager from the guild when they get to a higher tier, maybe we should ask Clara she's been a huge help so far." Walker had been thinking about a manager for a long time knowing that their situation had become very unique and the title had been the final link to make the move.

"That's a good idea, protection will be important. If we can't figure it out and protect ourselves other kingdoms could try and drag us without our consent." Su made a good supporting point as always. The thought of being kidnapped and dragged to an unfamiliar land was enough for Remy and Gil to immediately nod. Even midnight had moved a little closer feeling the weight of the situation.

"My thought is we can rest a bit more and gather our thoughts then head to the guild. I know it's going to be passed dark by then but since adventurers work all day and night they never close." With that walker rested his head again preparing himself to forge a contract with the guild.

After resting a bit longer they all were ready to get up and moving, midnight still swayed a bit but was ready to get moving. As they exited the tent noting that they were near the South Gate now, they noticed two figures waiting nearby.

It was the water mage Gloria and Geoff the spear man. Their third party member Gerald was missing which was not a surprise noting he took the biggest blow.

"Thank you!" The two bowed to Walker's party. Geoff took the lead "if you all hadn't helped we wouldn't be here today, I know it was risky and I can see the injuries caused on our behalf. We were only a party of three but we were not wise and pushed ourselves too far and couldn't run from the jade locust. We could never properly thank you enough but as a start I hope you know you can always call on us if you ever need anything." Geoff's emotions were welling up within him.

'Adventuring party triple G has registered you as their ally. User party chat function can now communicate with the leader of triple G.'

"Triple G?" Walker was confused but then it dawned on him.

"Yea that's us, we made that name since the three of us all have names that start with G! Can you please tell us your party name?" Gloria the water mage has spoken up despite the obvious bruising to her face which was surely painful at the moment.

"Umm to be honest we haven't made one yet...but we will have to figure that out soon especially now that we've gained an ally. It would be kind of sad if you didn't know who to ask for" walker was stunned how could they forget to name their party of all things!

"I hope we can be the first to know your party name in the future then! By the way I sent a guard to notify the guild of your deeds and also had those two giant locusts along with the jade sent there so you wouldn't worry. I thought it the least I could do. I know it's impolite to run but Gerald is still resting and we need to be there when he wakes up, sadly he broke an arm so it will be a week or some of healing before he will be back to snuff. Thank you again we owe you all our lives!" Geoff and Gloria gave another bow and turned to rush back toward another tent, Walker could swear he saw tears falling down their cheeks as they turned.

With that they continued through the gate and towards the adventurers guild. Upon opening the door they were greeted with a ferocious glare from Clara.

" Well look who decided to come to report! I guess listening to my advice was too challenging." The scolding was heartbreaking, the party didn't expect Clara to be so angry "room 13 is open I'll be up momentarily." Without a second glance Clara went to a filing cabinet and began riffling papers. Walker led the way and the party went to room 13 everyone was nervous except for midnight who took the opportunity to nap.

The door opened slightly bouncing in the wall before Clara closed it firmly they knew they were in for trouble. "Now walker explain what happened!" He immediately recounted the situation leaving out the hidden quest rewards as not to shock her immediately.

"Yes, that matches the first report I received. Our systems recorded a total of 9 giant locusts and a jade locust being killed. We will sell the wings for you to the alchemist guild, you will receive 18G for that. The rest of the bodies are up to your decision." Clara had gone in to business mode but was still showing a scary glare.

"Thank you very much miss Clara." Walker was going to act very polite before dropping the big news. "My party has discussed this and we understand that some parties get managers from the guild. We believe you would be the best option as we have seen how skilled you are in your daily efforts. I hope you can consider us." With a slight bow he could see a slight smirk spear before she caught herself.

"Maybe once you're a silver tier adventurer party, that usually the lowest managers will be assigned." Clara's business took over again but Walker wasn't done.

"Actually the reason we are looking for one so early is fairly dramatic. Please prepare yourself this may come as quite a shock....we kinda got a hidden quest completed and...well...we have titles now..." walker became nervous the more he spoke seeing as Clara's poker face was too tough at this moment.

"Well that explains a lot." Clara stated plainly

"Ummm what?" The party said in unison completely confused.

Chapter 33: Systems in motion

Walker was dumbfounded, he had prepared to completely blow Clara's mind but instead all his built up excitement deflated.

"But what do you mean makes sense?" Slightly recovering walker was now letting his curiosity grow.

"Well I got a system quest. Since it was a titled quest called "fostering a young hero" I figured it would be a big deal. Also looking through some very old guild records I found that a hero is sometimes a system or a title. So I expected someone with a hero system to appear. However it's fairly surprising that all of you gained the title. You just may all shock the world luckily I was prepared." A small giggle was released from her lips as she said the last part since she felt she had accomplished, a fitting revenge on those who didn't follow her guidance.

"Well I'll also take your party under my management seeing as you would be the first. Let me just set it up I'll need your party name?" Clara flowed flawlessly in to the primary goal.

The party was stuck, they had been thinking and bouncing ideas off each other the whole walk to the guild and had nothing. Not a single good idea.

"Well I'm not an omnipotent goddess I can't just leave the name blank and still register your party." Clara had realized they were stuck and attempted to push them to a decision.

"Let's go with that!" Remy immediately perked up "omnipotent sounds good we can do anything we even have a leader with like infinite skills and we have a literal dragon!!!" The excitement was contagious soon the whole party was smiling even midnight had roused from her nap enough to huff quietly at the name.

"Our party name is Omnipotent," Walker spoke up, finalizing the decision.

"Well umm OK I'll set it up." Clara was a bit hesitant but proceeded after seeing their looks

'Party has been registered as Omnipotent. The party known as omnipotent has been registered as managed by the adventurers guild first floor manager Clara. Does the user and leader of omnipotent accept?'

"Yes I accept!" Walker quickly accepted.

"Perfect now I can look in to directly sending you quests to browse and decide on taking without you having to sit down and accept a quest every time. Also I will be notified when you reach requirements for completion so that I can move forward with preparing rewards and other such activities. You will also have the ability as party leader to contact me to speak on details and I will be able to do the same." The benefits Clara gave them as a manager were very good for any party and Walker understood why getting a manager became a requirement. Not to mention once one was silver or higher tier parties often gained fans who would disrupt them as they entered the guild.

"We also have realized that our titles as you demonstrated can't stay secret forever so we find it safer to request your guidance. We already know the guild has experience in this realm as they often protect those with promising talent or nobles." This was a very important reason for their meeting with Clara, once word got out not only would stronger people try to take advantage of them but also other countries as well.

"Yes you are correct in knowing I can arrange that for you, we have many higher strength individuals that have retired from adventuring to become an employee of the guild. Some as such have amazing abilities to guard those without even their knowledge. Rest assured the adventurers guild wishes nothing more than your safety and growth and even at the event of catastrophe will be there to assist." everyone's stress dissipated a bit after hearing her words. They had thought some stronger employees would be sent to guard them but hearing that they would be able to do so without change to their party adventures.

"I hate to rush you all out but I'm going to get very busy arranging everything properly. I recommend heading home and not spreading a word just yet. I know it may seem exciting but as you know it could be dangerous." Clara seemed eager to jump in to her work even though night was upon them.

"In that case we will do just that, I know everyone needs rest after today plus who knows what tomorrow will bring. I know we will meet early in the morning to look at a quest, it's too bad we can't go out after more locusts but we can't take other parties chances it wouldn't be fair." Walker was slightly dejected but knew that he would only become hated by other parties if he somehow weasels his party in to another day guarding the fields. But he knew getting out together was the best way to shake off the residual emotions from their chaotic day.

After saying their goodbyes the party split up heading home for the day. By the time he returned home Walker's family was all asleep. Lisa had fallen asleep at the table working on something and he quickly carried her to bed. After completing his task he went to bed himself too tired to even look at what she had been so engrossed in as to fall asleep at the table.

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Within a study full of books and a large oak desk an older man in about his fifties was in luxurious white nightclothes reading from piles of documents. The man had longer white hair and a serious face with the lines set in after years of using a poker face. He pulled documents from stacks that seemed to defy gravity mumbling every so often before scribbling a not or two. Every once in a while the man would check his candles and continue working. Seemingly stuck in a problem he began to pace and read a map "could go north...dragons...but the craftsman....the forests are too big.... Safe away from the swamps

and ruins.....but they ancient artifacts...not sure....beast man maybe...definitely not demons...." the man trailed on mumbling words ever so often as time passed. The weight of the world seemed to be on his shoulder until a small notification pulled him back to reality.

' the kingdom has been blessed with five who have gained the title of hero. The title quest blessing of the king has been issued to the user.

Requirements: bless the five who hold the hero title and assist in their growth. The duty of a good king is to seize the opportunity in front of themselves and push their kingdom to the top.

Rewards: none'

The man had frozen on the spot a map falling to the floor. This quest offered no reward but having a title bearer in the kingdom was more than any reward let alone five! With the energy of someone twenty years younger the man bolted from the room. As he got farther and farther the sounds of shouting could be heard waking others in the night.

Chapter 34: Peace

The morning had come as usual, however Walker and Midnight had slept a bit later than everyone else. So much so that Walker was just getting to the kitchen as Garret left for his work.

Upon seeing Walker, Lisa bounced up with a smile "good morning!" And promptly ran to her room. Walker was even more curious, was her work that important right now? He began to think of his sister as a different person.

Midnight seemed to have already eaten as his mother had been working in the kitchen all morning. Everyone seemed to have gained a weakness for feeding Midnight. Walker grabbed some bread from the cupboard and began to eat while noticing Clara had sent him some possible quests in a new section of his system. Looking through them there were three that stood out ; one requiring the party to assist supply delivery from the adventurers guild to the alchemist guild which was an expected quest due to the influx of materials from the locust swarm. The second was a gathering quest for various herbs near the Sun hallow forest, the main being a yellow flower known as sunflowers which grew wildly in the area due to the sun and warmth of the area. It is used mainly as a cooking and ground in to oils for other potions. The third was a reoccurring quest to head to the garbage facilities and exterminate giant rats,

this may make an acceptable pay due to how gross the job was but Walker couldn't feed something so gross to Midnight and personally didn't want to smell like the facilities.

The only one that stood out was the gathering quest, the party would be able to take some time off of fighting and focus on something more normal for their tier. Not to mention taking a few extra for Hilda.

After thinking for another moment he decided to accept it and prepared to gather his party for a relaxing day.

In the upper floors of the guild.

Hushed voices could be heard in rapid conversation.

"So you'll be their manager good good, I sent a few shadows to guard them already but I'm sure we don't have long before something happens. Nobles and even royalty will make their move soon." A strong deep voice said.

Clara could be heard responding, " yes sir, putting them together was really a great decision. They may be young now but within a few months I expect their progress to explode. I worry that once royalty makes their move they may try to monopolize them but having your backing guild Master, will protect them."

An older man's voice chimes in at this point "if they grow fast they will soon be going farther and farther for their quests. We know heading to certain areas is safer than others due to which kingdom rules. The beast-men may be more hot headed but not much to worry, dwarves can't be bothered to leave their mountains not to mention any of the wise dragons. However the elves and demons could be a problem. Those elves may try to gain them to continue their fights against the demons. Same for the demons but the real worry is how sneaky they can be. Honestly the line between demon and monster is way too thin these days."

"It may be wise to reach out to the castle ourselves then, we can establish an understanding early so when other kingdoms come knocking at the door we are United." Clara saw the opportunity they now had and this seemed the best course.

Back to walker who he now made it to the South Gate

"According to the quest we need five bundles of 10 sunflowers and two pots of the roots. Think taking a few extra to bring back for ourselves won't be an issue. There is a note that we shouldn't take too many from one location so we will need to spread out our efforts." Walker gave the final review of their requirements.

The reward may only be 5G each but the exp will also be higher due to the nature of the quest which was lacking as 10exp each by their systems.

Overall walking to the area was not too tough and they quickly spotted the tall yellow flowers. Midnight didn't seem to be interested as she began hunting for newts in the area however that proved harder than expected due to a few clouds blocking the sun. She soon gave up and began following Su, as Su was walking to find the best flowers to pick.

Gil and Remey had Taken up the process of harvesting the roots while Walker quickly managed to assemble four bundles.

'Benevolent harvesting has been taken from the herbalists' system Due to users' repeated actions. Would the user like to learn benevolent harvesting?'

"Oh! Yes" walker was surprised not expecting a skill.

'Skill benevolent harvesting has been learned.

Benevolent harvesting- 0 mana cost

When harvesting various plant life the user is able to take from the plant in a way that allows the plant to grow back in a stronger and more efficient manner. Long term pruning can lead to overall better quality growth.'

This skill did not seem very important in the short term but if Walker was able to take the time to return here this skill could greatly influence the growth of sunflowers let alone any other plants he harvested in

the future. Upon thinking on this subject he decided he will bring a few flowers to harvest seeds for planting and ask Gil's mother for assistance come growing season.

There was a slight breeze pushing the clouds along leaving the party in a relaxing atmosphere. After a few more hours of harvesting they had gathered the required 5 bundles and an additional five one for each of them along with two pots of roots.

The trip back was a bit tougher with the additional weight not wanting to damage the flowers by placing them in walkers inventory. But there was no problem traveling all the way to the guild. Clara had already prepared the reward and was awaiting them at the counter.

"Welcome back, I'm glad you chose a gathering quest today. I'm sure it did wonders to work away the stresses of yesterday. Please follow me to room 1 and quickly complete the quest after I examine the herbs. After, I have someone I would like to introduce you to." Clara flashed them a brilliant smile as she began leading them upstairs.

Chapter 35: Guild master

Quickly entering the meeting room Clara had the party lay the required items in the table and filled out a paper attached to a clipboard.

"Perfect, quality appears to be high in each one, it seems you all take great care in finding the best." Clara was impressed seeing that there were almost no damages nor growth deformities in the flowers. This was often an issue when young parties went to gather due to inexperience.

"Now that it's been accepted I will have someone else come to collect them since we have something else we must do, please follow me to the top floor." Clara left the paper with the stems and went towards the stairs.

"Wait on the top floor?" Gil was confused, wasn't the top floor for the guild masters office?

Clara didn't turn around and proceeded upwards the party on her heels. Soon they reached a spacious area with a few desks with various people filling out paperwork. At the end of the room was a wood door with finishing from every entire tier plaque. There were even platinum markings.

Clara knocked on the door and slowly opened it. "This is the omnipotent party as requested by the guild master!" The introduction was a surprise but even more shocking were the two men in the room.

An old man who appeared frail with long white hair and a long white beard was seated behind a large desk. His body feigned weakness but his eyes said that he could crush them. Next to him was a very muscular tall man wearing silver and gold armor. He had a few scars covering the left side of his face making him more intimidating. His hair was a brown color and his face was showing an aloof personality.

"Ah yes young walker, Su, Gil, Remey, and you're Midnight I take it? Come in come in we have been waiting for you." The old man seemed to have already met them knowing their names and whose appearance belonged to them. "I'm sure you're wondering why we've walked you here but first things first, I am Ibis. You may know me better as the white Ibis due to my past adventures. To my right is Barry comically known as the berserk Barry. I would not recommend putting him in a bad mood." Ibis chuckled at his joke.

"Old man I told you not to call me that, I know your memory fades in your age but try to remember, you may even write a note." Barry retorted while Ibis smiled devilishly.

"Oh don't worry I won't beat you down in front of the young heroes here. Naturally that is why we called you." Ibis flawlessly transitioned back to the party at hand "I know you requested assistance in protection and the second Clara became your manager we sent that protection out. We here at the guild like to protect a bright future. So in that matter we've decided to introduce you to the castle, well specifically you will be meeting the king. The title you received makes you very wanted commodities all over the continent so I hope you understand forging a relationship with the government to a stronger degree will allow more protection. Not to mention whether you like it or not royalty will become involved. The only question is will you tread that path alone or accept the guild's ability to introduce you and back you?" He had laid out many things that sounded scary to the party. They had never imagined meeting a king in their lifetime.

"If we were to go about this alone I fear my friends and I would be swallowed by greed and torn apart. But can the guild prevent this?" Su was the one to speak up, beating Walker to the punch. But she spoke about the feelings of the whole party.

"You know we have many powerful adventures with many systems. We have the strength to protect and back you making up for lack of noble blood. Not to mention the adventurers guild had been called in to military matters many times in our history making us well respected. Any who would dare to go against

us, even the king could breed unrest." Barry's deep voice surprised them, not expecting him to sound so bold.

"Now a few rules. Do not accept anything from other nobles; they only will try to bend you to their will as a political gambits. The king will most likely do the same however you can accept his offers. Unlike the nobles he already has the power and will use his offerings as a way to boost your standing and most likely sure up his foundation with the people. Those people who are happy seeing a hero let alone five rise from among them will plead to the king. This means you will all represent the people and must act as such. I do not expect perfection however as you well know your actions are observed by all." Ibis had become very serious.

It was clear that nobles were not necessarily trustworthy but that made sense they had too much money and a lot of power. The idea of representing the people greatly appealed to the party since they had come from different areas of the lower tier of the kingdom. Gil saw this as an opportunity to sure up the foundation of the fields. Su was just happy to have her new party protected. Remey was thinking of possible expansions for the orphanage. Walker was imagining a new home filled with everything his family could possibly need. Midnight well she was thinking about food...not a surprise.

Walker took a step forward "we would like the adventurers guild to back us. Please sir if you could introduce us to the king before they come knocking at our doors we would greatly appreciate it." He knew he didn't ask permission to speak for the whole party but looking side to side he saw them nodding in unison with determined faces.

"Ha! Good good well leave now Barry and I are coming to, Clara you shall be in charge while we are gone. We have an audience with the king in an hour. I scheduled it once Clara notified me you would be returning." Ibis was a sly man knowing the party would have to accept his proposals.

Chapter 36: Inner walls

Clara smiled knowing their plan had succeeded. She was also happy that her new party would be safer. Her fortune in being placed to assist them had helped her immensely in the struggle within the guild to move up. She may not have the level and stories of a retired adventurer but bringing these youths to the mater she had solidified a path upwards.

On the other hand the party who began following Barry and Ibis towards the inner walls had realized this was all planned from the start. Since it benefited them they were not overly angry however they still felt a bit roughed up about it.

Luckily the walk to the inner gate was not an arduous one and being adventurers they were used to such activities. Ibis was surprisingly quick in his feet, quickly betraying his frail looks. Walker had begun to remember some of the stories behind his name white ibis.

If he recalled correctly white ibis was a summoner who could summon all matter of avian elementals. However the name came from a minor battle with a horde of undead from the ancient ruins where he used a light elemental Ibis bird to completely wipe it out. Some called the bird the holy ibis. His strength was enough that the army sent with him didn't even raise a sword instead they became a mere escort. After that many smaller tails of him going to take out small swarms and boards of monsters became commonplace however none as amazing as the first.

On the other hand Barry the berserk was younger by many years and the tales about him were a bit more grim. He had made his name as a solo adventurer going to small villages near the river to the east where orcs often attacked travelers. A platoon of soldiers had been sent one year due to escalated numbers and came upon Barry fighting a high orc. There were bloody bodies everywhere around him as he wielded two large double blade axes. They said they were unsure if they looked upon man or beast in that moment as Barry had become a killing machine. The personality he had was fairly pleasant but in battle it seemed he was brutal beyond measure.

These two clearly had the means to become the master and vice master of the adventurers guild from stories like that. However the presence they exuded as they approached the gate made the guards and passersby stand up straighter and hurry their pace. It was as if they all recognized an unseen strength.

Upon reaching the gate walker was brought back to reality and noticed there were more equipped guards here than the outer walls. This may not have been a major difference but it was enough to be seen Barry held back as Ibis passed through the gate the guards had stepped aside recognizing the legends before them. After the party had gotten through the gate Barry followed behind as if guarding from the rear.

The site of the inner walls was astounding. The buildings were larger with courtyards full of flowers or training spaces. The market stalls were much cleaner and held higher quality items. There were significantly more carriages moving through the streets. Even the bricks on the streets were a nicer speckled grey then the dark bricks in the lower tier.

"Are we even in the same kingdom?" Remey was struck with a sense of being elsewhere accidentally saying her thoughts out loud.

They continued following Ibis while noticing the people walking around dressed in much higher quality fabrics than anyone in the lower tier who would often wear their work clothing. Passing nobles with swords or staffs would nod to Ibis and Barry but quickly glare at the party after seeing where they had come from.

They felt as if on display, just some entertainment for the nobles to look at. It was a gross feeling making walkers skin crawl. Seeing that Ibis was picking up the pace they quickly followed trying to ignore the looks of those they passed.

The sight of a massive castle soon completely filled their view. The towering grey stone sparkled as if filled with diamond. The roof shimmered with gold. Stone gargoyles and dragons adorned the rafters and windows as if protecting each one. The front door was equally ornate carved from some black wood of unknown origin. They started to swing open as Ibis approached and a guard in white trimmed armor approached.

"State your purpose today sir Ibis." The guard required the reason before admittance.

Ibis quickly pulled the guard close and whispered to him they're reason for arrival as not to alert any unwanted attention. Without a second of pause the guard motioned for others to escort the guests inside as a precaution.

Entering in to the front courtyard they witnessed the most advanced training ground they had ever seen, there was even room for tamed beasts as large as a house! Many elites were practicing different tasks but the party was rushed in to the inner castle before they could observe more.

The inside of the inner castle was lavished in paintings of royal families and ornate furniture. The tapestries were of the highest quality. They were soon lead to a double door,

"Now do not speak unless spoken to is that understood? And bow you will need to bow." Ibis said and began to open the door before they could respond.

The door opened and it was as if they had seen a new world. The room had fifteen or twenty people all aids to the king standing to the sides watching the door. Guards lined the walls prepared for anything. A purple carpet led directly to a platform on which four thrones stood two large and two small. These

thrones were carved from crystal and adorned with an almost shimmering fabric. Only two of the thrones were currently occupied. The center was the king August Bernard Diamond and to his right the queen Marian Alda Diamond. The party gulped back their nervousness and proceeded forward.

Chapter 37: kings blessings

The kings had a steady face with strongly set lines from years of using a poker face. His hair was long and white due to his age but he was only in his fifties and expected many years more. He wore clothing of unmatched quality in comparison to all but the Queen. The Queen had curled black hair and warm features but her eyes threatened destruction to those that wronged her. Both king and Queen were slim and fit of average height.

"Hello my king I Ibis and Barry of the adventurers guild greet you along with these young ones." As Ibis made his greeting there was a stir within the attendants and nobles within the hall noticing a dragon, a few guards brought their hands to their weapons.

A man with long brown hair, and flamboyant clothing stepped forward. Clicking his tongue he motioned for guards to step forward. "Remove that ugly monster before it causes the king harm! It's disgusting to think you would bring such a thing here of all places.!"

Upon hearing this midnight lowered herself ready to pounce. Walker pulled his staff from his inventory and stamped it down causing a loud echo through the room. "Midnight calm down! You are better than him, don't allow him to push you to anger!" His words immediately calmed Midnight who responded by relaxing and wrapping her tail around one of his legs.

"You commoner have no right to speak as such let alone bring out a weapon! Guards!" The man again pushed the guards forward.

Walker had become agitated, they came to meet the king yet some idiot instead tries to have a member of his family harmed? He wanted to push them away to make them feel the fear Midnight did. Walker felt that she thought she would die like her mother. Feeling her tail tighten around him he grew more angry.

' Due to the users desire the skill dragon's intimidation has been taken from the black crystal flame dragon system. Would the user like to learn dragon's intimidation?'

"Yes" walker said between clenched teeth

'Skill dragons intimidation has been learned.

Dragon's intimidation- 1 to 5 mana cost per use

A violent roar is released intimidating all who hear it. The more mana used the stronger the roar. '

Walker stepped forward with his other leg and took a deep breath as more guards moved up. "BAAAAHHHHHHHHRRRRRR" he released the built up air consuming two mana. The roar was shocking the moving guards fell to their knees, some of the attendants and nobles followed suit. Others obviously stronger were able to stand some only flinched. The kings and queen didn't even react as it was too small to them.

Walker noticed that his party was not affected at all which he noted as important for later uses.

"Hmm that would be enough Markus you may not like monsters for your own reasons but the little dragon is much more important than you could know." The king's voice was the only sound to break the tension. " that's an interesting skill you have there, I look forward to your explanation since last I knew that was a dragon's roar." All eyes directed at Walker, some glaring, others confused, and even others still in shock.

Walker kneeled and so did his party. He forced the anger from his face knowing he may have overreacted. "Forgive me my king. I see Midnight as part of my family now. We have an equal bond using a blood contract. The thought of harm coming to her caused me to learn another skill."

"Ah so you're a tamer then interesting...wait you just learned that skill now?" The king had never seen someone easily put a skill to practice as fast as Walker had and believed he was being tricked.

"My king I awakened the jack of all trades system. I am able to learn any skill that's not a mastery skill. Midnight here is a black crystal dragon hatchling we rescued. Gil here is a Ranger, Su is a shield bearer, and Remey is a Brawler. We are humbled to meet you." The queen had made an oh face and was surprised at his words.

Her melodic voice rang out "so you're saying you can use skills from many systems...hmmm use another I wish to see." The queen was letting her curiosity guide her but Walker could not say no.

Upon this walker sent his staff back to storage. "That my queen was spatial magic used to store items, even monsters we've hunted. I also learned this from a quest. All around appraisal!" Walker used his appraisal skill on Markus who had just begun recovering.

'Markus Raven

Treasurers system

Level- 63

Weakness- snake type monsters. Fear of snakes has been ingrained within him for his entire life due to watching one bite and kill his younger sister while he was a child.'

"I received this after helping some blacksmiths. I know that Markus Raven has a treasurer system and is level 63 he is also terrified of snakes due to childhood trauma. This skill doesn't tell me everything because I would need a master appraisal skill but it gives me some basics and even some hidden information such as weaknesses." With these words Markus showed rage in his face and stood up quickly but he was unable to make a move.

"Well how interesting, I can tell these skills would not normally be connected. And here I was prepared to reprimand you on your party name of omnipotent but it seems it fits well." The king's words reminded Markus of where he was causing him to put his poker face back on and return to the line of other nobles and attendants. "I assume the guild master has already told you why we wished to meet you, however this is still a surprise to my attendants and nobles here so bare with me as they may react strongly." The king finales smirked showing his excitement " I see four of you with the hero's title but where's the fifth?"

The nobles and attendants' faces dropped. Did he just say title? No this must be one of his jokes.

"Actually my king Midnight is the fifth member of our party and holds the hero title as well. Like I mentioned before we have an equal contract that is why she is family to me." Midnight stood and puffed up her chest at Walker's words the feelings of before wiped away by his praise.

"Impossible! How could a monster have a hero's title! Monsters are evil creatures that kill and kill!" Markus Raven spoke again having gathered his courage.

"Well not only did we set a record for the most titles in any one kingdom but we also destroyed the thought process that all monsters are evil. I quite like this party in August, I would like to see more of them in the future." The queen's words caused even more shock as she had immediately supported them! Was she in on this trick too?

"Hahahaha. Yes I see this is indeed remarkable. The other day I received a quest telling me to bless the five heroes that had been granted such a title in my kingdom as to foster their growth. Now that I see who is before me I am amazed again. Not in My life did I imagine this. I am truly blessed to be the king of this kingdom!" The king's words were absolute, the fact that he had received a quest for such an occasion spoke volumes to how important this title was. Normally the king would only receive quests that revolve around the kingdom's growth. Such as taxes, harvests, ambassadors, and even wars. None of which did not have their great importance to the kingdom as a whole.

The king stood and stepped toward the kneeling party. Ibis and Barry stepped backwards.

"My young hero's. I welcome you and pass to you the king's blessing. I shall award all of you with a medal to allow travel in my name. You shall receive the amethyst mansion which has been abandoned for many years and in need of new owners to bring it back to glory. If you do choose you may enter any academy or school of battle, magic, or otherwise within the kingdom. All who see these young ones here know this! They are protected and fostered by myself as king and the adventures guild. To harm them is to harm me and the kingdom itself. You have been warned!"

Chapter 38: Awestruck

The king's words had put the party on its head. Had they really just received a mansion and land!? They could attend any academy? Some academy's were restricted to nobles only. Does this mean we are nobles now too? The king chose to back us! How strong will we get now? What do we do now? How do we tell our families this?

With that the king turned and returned to the throne. "I will give you some time to gather and move your families, I'm sure this is a shock to you. Also I shall send a small group of royal guards to guard the mansion for now until you have settled in. After such I will expect you to return for another audience with me and my attendants. Now we have much to speak about. You may leave for today." The king knew there would be hours of deliberation if not days with his attendants so he sent the party on its way.

" wait!" The queen ordered, causing them to freeze. " Little midnight come here". Midnight looked to Walker for approval and he gave a nod. Midnight walked over and stood before the queen. The queen reached out a hand and placed it on Midnight's head and brushed down her spine. "So that's what a real dragon feels like, you are indeed adorable little Midnight. You may leave with your family now." She had called midnight over just out of curiosity for what her scales felt like. This queen's curiosity was dangerous.

The king could be seen smirking towards his queen knowing her less serious side was showing. With that the party continued to leave the room Ibis remaining and Barry following.

"That was very interesting, not many people would have the courage to speak out against a noble let alone in front of the king. Don't go making too many enemies kid." Barry was reprimanding Walker but the sound of his voice made it seem to be a compliment. "You all will head home to prepare your families to move if they desire if not their safety is not a guarantee. We can't afford to spread guardians everywhere. And by the way Clara is holding the gold from your gathering quest for you, she said she wanted your party to set an account with the grand bank later, do not forget." With that they began the walk back towards the lower tier.

"Oh yea we did get that quest done, how much experience did we get? The title said it would multiply it right?" Remey chimed in voicing what they had all just remembered after Barry's words.

' gathering quest completed.

Rewards:

5G each

10exp each converted to 100exp each due to title multiplier'

"WHAT!" Walker was the first to burst out causing a few disdainful looks from those passing by. "This is insane, how can it multiply it by ten times!?"

Su was walking as if her legs were jello seeing the huge bonus the title gave them. Gil had a goofy smile covering his face and Remey mirrored walkers' surprise.

"Hmmm so that's what the title does. Now, I understand why heroes are revered in history books." Barry had brought them back to the gate to the lower tier and finally chimed in while wearing a pensive look. "Now get moving, I need to get back to the hall. Go by your new homes tomorrow if possible the sooner the better." Turning and giving a small wave he was on his way again.

"So I guess we head home, hey Gil think your parents will be OK moving within the inner walls?" Remey knew she would leave the orphanage eventually and was already emotionally prepared. But she knew Gil's family was used to the open areas.

"Hell yea they will, my dad hates setting traps to keep away the odd monsters or animals that roam the fields and my mother wants nothing more than her own flower garden without worrying for the harvest every year. I'm more worried about Walker's parents leaving the area they have built a place for themselves in the community." Walker was lost in thought and barely heard what Gil had said.

"Well Lisa will be excited and dad would be happy to get some distance from the outer wall, I know the high energy has been wearing away on him these few years. Mom probably won't mind either since adventurers are her main customers so she will just package things and send them to the guild instead of out of the house. Midnight you'll have more room I'm sure and maybe there will be a large fireplace to bask in." Midnight jumped and bounced around showing her excitement at the chance for a warm napping spot.

"Well I as well should have no qualms, I've long outgrown my bedroom in my family's house and would be happy to have more room." Su was nodding her head already planning out how much larger her bed would be.

"Well on that note let's split up, we have some packing to do! Don't forget to rent a carriage to bring everything over in one trip we should have enough after this last job!" Walker yelled as he rushed away with midnight on his heels. The day had ended up pretty amazing and he was excited to reach home and surprise everyone.

The sun had begun to dip down and the shadows lengthened. Walker could swear there was an additional shadow where no person was standing but pushed it from his mind without worry due to his excitement. He reached home faster than usual finding his father already home which was a surprise.

"Walker you're back already huh? Surprise I got sent home early today, not sure why though hahaha." Garret was happy to have an early day even without knowledge why.

"Actually midnight and I might be the reason for that." Garret made a confused face not understanding. "I'll need Lisa and Mom for a big announcement." Walker rushed to the kitchen in pursuit of his mother and sister.

Chapter 39: Big news

Walker found his mother in the kitchen and told her to meet at the table for a family meeting saying it was important. Next he went looking for Lisa but her room however, was locked.

"I'm busy, don't come in!" She had heard Walker got home and didn't want him coming in. Was she really at that phase and didn't want anyone around? Walker was unsure after the past days of her not wanting people around.

"Family meeting at the table hurry up I won't start until you're there!" Walker yelled his excitement showing in his voice. Walker returned to the table where his mother and father both had worried looks on their faces. Upon sitting down Midnight moved to lay on Walker's feet per the usual.

Lisa soon joined them looking a bit run down and tired. Walker could see the circles under her eyes.

"Today after a short quest my party and I went to the inner walls, more specifically we went and met the king within the castle." Hilda seemed to believe him and was frozen staring at him. Garret on the other hand was shaking his head.

"I know you have told better jokes than that before. But the king? It's too unbelievable." Garret was still shaking his head.

"There's actually more...a lot more. The day before my party went to guard the fields from giant locusts. We encountered another party getting swarmed and attacked by a jade locust. We couldn't just run and leave them so we helped. We got beat up a bit so that's why I had come home very late and didn't eat with everyone. We are all fine now, just some scratches because we were healed. But due to our actions we completed a quest more specifically a hidden quest. We all five obtaining a title, the hero title. Even midnight here has it as well." Walker said the last sentences slower fearing he would give them all heart attacks. Waiting a moment for everyone to catch up he then continued. "And we asked the guild for protection leading us to be brought to meet the king who had received a titled quest to bless us as hero's. He also gave us land more specifically the amethyst mansion within the inner walls so we will be moving.if you don't want to you can stay here but they won't be able to post guards here in case undesirable characters appear..." he then trailed off seeing the shock on their faces reaching yet another level.

For a few minutes no one spoke while absorbing the information but finally was broken by the sound of Lisa moving her chair to get up. She walked up to Walker and firmly punched him in the arm "you could have died!! You idiot what would we have done!" After all the things he had just told her she was stuck on the fact he had gotten hurt and been reckless.

" she's exactly right you know, we told you we would be worried about sending you out as an adventurer and here you are telling us you threw yourself in to a near death situation. Honey we may have raised him too leniently". Hilda chimed in as well but she was smiling a bit giving away her true feelings.

" oh i almost forgot I brought these sunflowers back from the quest today! I know you like to add the seeds to your bread!" Walker had been waiting for the right time to present these to Hilda.

" buying your mother's forgiveness will not work. But I can't say going to live the comfy life sounds bad seeing as I wouldn't need to guard the outer wall any longer. I could apply for inner wall patrol." Garret had chimed in after thinking about an easier job and the relaxing days off in comfort.

" so umm if everyone is OK with it we should probably start packing so we can head there in the morning..." Walker again stirred up the room as they did not expect to move suddenly.

The conversation fell in to many questions involving Walker's day. This went on for a good hour until everyone had exhausted their curiosity. Realizing time was of the essence they all went their separate

ways to begin packing their belongings. Even midnight ran to help but Walker suspected it was only to eat the things Hilda wouldn't need in the kitchen.

Time went on and through to late in the night everyone toiled away preparing for tomorrow. Lisa had insisted she didn't need help packing her room and Walker was left to help with the pots and pans.

Not much sleep was had in the home tonight either due to packing or excitement. But in time the morning did come. Unexpectedly Hilda had made a massive table full of breakfast surprising everyone. "Well we aren't going to move all the food with us, we can buy more for the new kitchen so let's eat and celebrate!"

They all dug in to the meal, Midnight soon found a profound love of bacon causing her to try and steal it from Walker who was fast enough to protect it and eat it quick. Lisa however had given in and shared hers with midnight.

Walker was the first to finish eating. "I'm going to run out to the stables and rent a carriage to help us move everything in one go. I'll be back soon!" With that he dashed out the door.

The energy he had was propelling him forward faster and fast. As he approached some large stables he knew were full of horses and a few other animals he noticed a man repairing a carriage which had lost a wheel.

'Emergency quest:

A man is in danger of death. Repairing a carriage is dangerous work , pull the man from underneath before the carriage tips and falls upon him. Speed is of the essence.

Rewards:

5exp'

Walker saw this and glanced at the man underneath the carriage. As he worked, Walker noticed the carriage begin to sway slightly. Walker's heart jumped in his chest and he used all this strength to sprint

to the man. Jumping and latching on to the man's leg Walker powerfully dragged the man to the side. Seconds later the carriage began to fall crashing on to its side.

The man Walker had just pulled from there stared in shock. He had just been under there a second ago...he had almost died! This man was late in age but still young enough to work. His black hair speckled with grey and a modest built body from years of repairing his own carriage.

He immediately grabbed and shook walkers hands "thank you thank you thank you. I didn't even notice it wasn't safe if not for you I would have been crushed just now! Thank you." The man had fallen in to too many thank yous due to his adrenaline rush.

"My name is Igor and if there's anything I can do to repay you just say the word now!" Sincerity twinkled in his eyes.

"No need to thank me it was an emergency quest not to mention I wouldn't want to see anyone hurt. But there is something I can ask you for, can you introduce me to a carriage driver to help my family move?" Walker didn't need much but figured to ask an inside man for help to move along faster.

"Yes! That's an easy one if you're looking at a carriage driver! I own three along with six horses in these very stables. I have a carriage driver system after all so it's part of who I am." Igor was proud to boast his achievements even though he had almost been crushed a moment ago. "Just tell me where to go and I'll meet you there. I'll get a carriage ready immediatly!" Due to Igor's willingness and forward energy walker gave him the details and turned to walk home. As he walked he checked the quest he had received wondering if being a hero had anything to do with this sudden emergency quest.

'Emergency quest has been completed by saving Igor.

Rewards:

5exp multiplied by title to 50exp'

Walker smiled an extra pep in his step as he returned home.

Chapter 40: The mansion

Walker returned home smiling since with that last quest he had hit level five. He had been musing what to do with his next five stat points and distributed them to defense, magic attack, one one point to agility. Taking that hit against the jade locust made him worry he would not be able to defend in the future. However as he began to think of why to do his next level up Garret opened the door and started bringing out crates and boxes. There weren't many due to his families smaller residence and collection of items but it was enough to cause Walker to jump in and help.

Not a few moments later did the sound of a carriage and horses come to their ears. Igor was heading to them with a smile in his nicest garb knowing he would head to the inner walls. Stopping in front of the pile of crates and boxes he spared no time to rest and immediately began loading the carriage. Garret was impressed that Walker had been so fast to find a nice carriage along with a driver who was so astute to help them lay their belongings.

With just about everything loaded after an hour of work Hilda had come out and hopped in with Garret. Lisa and midnight were the last two. Walker went looking for them to tell them they were leaving. The home seemed empty bringing a bit of sadness to Walker but it became overshadowed by new opportunities. He reached Lisa's room and could hear her talking to midnight in a hushed whisper "do you think he'll like it? It took days but it's perfect." This made Walker curious so he almost just opened the door but decided it's safer to knock.

"Hey it's time to go we need to get on the carriage!" His voice caused a scramble in the room for a moment.

"Come in!" Lisa's voice called out so Walker opened the door slowly. Standing there with her arms out holding a black cloak that seemed to shine ever so slightly. "I made this for you with the needles you gave me! It should fit exactly. It's a thank you for your gift." Lisa's huge smile was contagious and Walker couldn't help but smile as well. Even midnight seemed to have an air of happiness about her.

Using his all around appraisal skill walker checked it out

' elemental cloak- high class item

+5 mana

Channels elements to refresh 2 mana every five minutes.

Created out of familial love and determination.'

"This..this is amazing! You made a high class item do you know what this can do? It can regenerate mana! Lisa this is incredible!" Walker was ecstatic this single cloak had not only increased his mana but also refreshed it. This would hugely reduce his worry of exhausting his mana while out fighting.

"I wanted you to be safer so I used all my mana every day sewing with the needles you gave me. I even got a titled quest that rewarded me for giving you a gift in return." Her smug smile and voice was showing how proud she was of being praised by her older brother.

Walker put the cloak on and felt the refreshing feeling of mana flowing around him. This was definitely something he couldn't imagine happening. He smiled at Lisa "how do I look? Do I look like I can cast any spell?" She smiled and nodded her head quickly hugging Walker happy to see he liked her gift so much so to put it on immediately.

'The passive skill elemental affinity has been taken from the Elemental mage class due to the user experiencing mana influx from the existing elements.

Elemental affinity- passive skill

Allows the usher to more easily use magic based on the elements. '

Walker glanced at the skill curious what more easily meant and made a mental note to practice some spells when he has the chance. If this means he could use all the elements he could choose the best for each situation and counter many element based monsters. Smiling he said "let's go show this off and you can tell mother and father about your high class creation. You know people would pay a lot for something like this, you just may be able to take your own orders like mother does." Walker knew this would excite Lisa since she was always amazed by the adventurers that placed orders for bread and such with their mother.

Exiting the home they jumped in the carriage along with midnight and began the ride to their new home. Lisa and Walker explained the cloak on their ride. Hilda and Garret were extremely surprised. They knew Lisa was working on a gift for Walker but not that it was to such an amazing degree. They truly had two children with bright futures.

Soon they came to a stop so Walker jumped out and saw the sight before him. Ten guards were stationed at a rusting gate. There was a strong but slightly old looking stone wall surrounding a large property. Behind the walls was an overgrown garden in desperate need of some love. The mansion itself had a few broken shutters and needed a good scrubbing on the putter bricks. Some shingles were missing from the roof. All in all it was a bit old looking but the two floor building was definitely large enough to house all of them and even 30 of 40 guests if ever need be. Walker could see on one side was what appeared to be a small outdoor forge and on the other side of the mansion a small outdoor workshop which appears to be equipped with alchemy tools.

Before he could start thinking a guard approached "hello sir hero we are the royal guards sent by his majesty. We will start a patrol with your permission. Five of us shall be patrolling at once on shifts. His majesty also sent this gift here. Once you accept it we shall begin." The guard held out a box with a small note attached.

"Thank you, please guard myself and my parties families safety." Nodding the guards headed to start their patrol. As they started to walk away the sound of another two carriages approaching drew his attention. Gil and Remey were in one and Su was on the other. It looked like Remey had partnered up with Gil since he passed the orphanage in his way from the fields. Walker couldn't wait to hear what they thought.