

Master 351

Chapter 351 - 351. Final Preparations

Walker pulled the wither spike arrows from his inventory and placed them in front of the excited archers. "Gil can show you how to fill the arrow head with the antidote potion. I am going to make sure everyone is full on mana and health points before we get in to battle." Walker started to pull out some of the potions Remey had made and placed them around so anyone in need could take them.

Alma grabbed a low tier mana potion and smiled at Walker, "That was a lot harder than I thought it would be. But your earth can really create some great traps." She had been impressed since she had not met many elves that used earth. The simple reason being that earth could damage tree roots and was a frowned upon practice. Those who did develop the skills for it would usually leave the city to travel or dedicate their lives to small acts of earth for growing new plants.

"It really wasn't that amazing. I just did what I could." Walker thought for a moment as he also took another one of the lower tier mana potions to drink. He wasn't that low on mana but he wanted to try and store one more mana in his body with his mana bank skill before the fight.

The heat he had felt from the first attempt he had using the skill returned. His body felt like it was being forced in to a feverish state. The skill was still too much for him to handle and Walker felt as if he had been defeated. He had achieved the skill but could not properly use it with his body.

"Are you training to store mana in your body?" Alma spoke up surprising Walker who had crossed his legs in to a meditation position.

"Yes, how did you know?" The curiosity was plain on his face.

"We have some elves who meditate and commune with natural mana in a similar way. They can absorb the natural mana flowing through the first by doing what you look to be doing. The thing that worried me is you don't look like you have trained your body to hold it."

"Wait, you know how the skill works and what I need to do to use it?" Walker was instantly enamored with the new information. This was a problem that had been on his mind he wanted to solve. If he was able to solve the could better practice the possibility of using the combo fighting style Remey wanted him to learn.

"Of course I do. There are a few different races that use different methods, but they all stem from physical training. Your body is too young. It is the same training a lot of the enforcers do, but the key is to make your mana flow through your body as you do it. After years of doing this, your body will be able to store mana in every single part." Alma was happy to share her knowledge. She had long learned things like this that would end up being excess information because no one ever seemed to ask, but as he daily training she had strived to learn it anyways.

Walker's face dropped, he had hope that it would be a quick training method he could learn before the fight. "I see, well when we beat this minimized slime I will start to train like that. If I could bother you to share more details I would be happy to share some of my knowledge in return." Alma and Walker were having their own little meeting while Gil and Wade were focused on the arrows.

"So when the arrow head is twisted open like that it can fill itself with liquid. Then when it hits a target the liquid seems out through small pin holes in the spike?" Wade was making sure he understood the principle of the arrow. He had some similar arrows but none that could be used in such an effective manner.

"You got it. We have a blacksmith visit and I asked for a special kind of arrow. This is the result. I think it is a master piece." Gil was happy to show off. He was the only one in the party that mainly used a bow. Oftentimes he would hope that Walker would take an interest but he knew that would not happen because Walker would not do something to unbalance the party.

"And you used the wither wood tree as the arrow shaft? How did you manage to get them? They are usually pretty rare around here since they kill off any other plants around them to grow." Gil was surprised that it was a rare tree in a forest, however when Wade explained that they kill off the other plants around them this made perfect sense.

"We went to an auction and I saw them. That was a long time ago. Coincidentally I also got the arrow head materials at an auction. If you want I can trade some with you after the battle." Gil wanted to be friendly and try to get some arrows made by elves. Even the most basic arrow was much more balanced than the ones he would buy in their kingdom. On top of that, he could experiment and try to add elements to them as well, it could be valuable experience.

"Really? I would have expected you to hold on to these for dear life." Wade was surprised but very happy to make the deal.

'The skill trap setting has been taken from the trap master system. The user has automatically learned the skill through successful trap setting activities.

Trap setting- passive

The user will have better luck when setting traps. The chance of damaging prey with a trap is slightly higher. The user will have a significantly decreased chance of harming themselves when setting traps.'

"Everyone, I just got a trap setting skill, it looks like we are out of time." Walker notified everyone of the development. He was glad to have a new skill but at this moment it was not a huge priority.

"Really another new skill? How many do you have?" Alma was dumbfounded at the skills she had already heard of and even more so at the fact that Walker seemed to randomly obtain skills just by doing small things.

"It happens. I think I gain them better when I learn them from people. But the thing is I need the time to ask someone to teach me. Maybe next time I have that free time I will ask around." Walker pondered this only for a moment as he could see Calen returning.

"Just in time, Leader just got a skill that allowed him to know that the slime is in our traps. We are about to enter battle." Su updated Calen who was also ready to update the group on what was going on in the city.

"Perfect, The enforcers are getting everyone to a safe place. They will send who they can after that is done to help. The queen even said she would be asking for help from the forest spirits. I am not sure if they will help, if they touch the slimes decaying body they could die..." Calen trailed off in worry.

"That just means we should get rid of the slime before they get here. The forest spirits should be our last defense to save the entire forest. I would rather lose my life than them." Alma was pushed in to action since she knew that the forest spirits helped maintain the harmony of the entire ecosystem. If they perished then the forest could fall in to chaos. There would be predators killing just to kill instead of for food.

Gil hefted his quiver in to place with the antidote filled wither spike arrows. "No point in sitting here then. Let's move in to position." He had a determined look on his face that he showd to Alma. He was going to slay this slime if it was the last thing he could do.

"Well I guess Gil is taking the lead, you heard him." Waker wasn't unhappy at all, he was proud that Gil was stepping up and pushing the, to protect more. This was part of their title and they were living up to it every day.

'Heroic sub quest: defeat the minimized massive slime.

The minimized massive slime is about to reach the elven city. It is on the brink of evolution and holds a lot of darkness elemental man within it. If it is able to enter the elven city it will consume the heart of the city and defeat one of the eight elven queens. This will throw the world in to chaos.

Requirement:

Join hands with the elves and defeat the minimized massive slime

Stay true to the main quest and gather the slime body for research

Stay true to the main quest and gather the slime core or slime core shards for research

Reward:

Two heroic quest points

Insight in to the cause of the slimes appearance within the forest

200exp

Strengthened bond with the elven kingdom (forest elves)'

Chapter 352 - 352. Attacking Slime

Gil and Wade mirrored each other and held arrows at the ready. They looked more determined than ever. "Su, if the slime is minimized I am willing to bet that its slime tentacles can reach farther than it looks. Be ready to block." Gil's inference was a sound one since the slime would normally have a larger body without the minimize skill.

"Walker, you are planning to use your frost whip right? I don't want you running too far forward with the hammer, I don't trust this slime. Calen and Midnight along with Remey, can distract it. But stay farther than the giant slime." Gil's directions were simple but kept them on their toes. His fear that the minimized massive slime could hold tricks was a fair one to have.

"What about me?" Alma was looking at Gil waiting for the order for her to take. She didn't want to be left out in the least.

"Protect the forest, keep the plants out of harm's way and use your blue ivy to wrap them again. That was a great way to use the skill." He had been impressed with the idea to use the blue ivy to wrap the trees in a sort of natural armor.

Alma just nodded and started to whisper to the blue ivy she held on her body at all times. It started to wrap around small saplings and protect them from the incoming enemy. "Oh, Onyx. I want you to sneak about and see if you can find the one controlling the slime. If you can gather any information at all it will be more than we have."

Onyx had been in tattoo form on Midnight's shadow the entire time. At Gil's notice, he appeared from there and melted into the shadows of a tree. He didn't even need to send a reply, Gil knew he would be on the task.

Wade raised his bow and fired an arrow in to the tree line. The group couldn't see where it had gone but there was the sound of tearing foliage and dripping slime. "I caught a glimpse, we have one or two minutes until it is here. Time to put in the work." He raised another arrow to his bow and prepared to send it off at the slime again.

"I can see it too from here, it is using slime tentacles to grab the nearest plants and drag them in to its body. It is trying to evolve not that it is here." Su was picking up these detail from her position at the of the group.

"That is not good, Let's fire more of the arrows." Gil could not pick out the minimized slime and fired his arrow. It flew through the air and landed right on target. However, when the arrow made contact it barely penetrated the minimized slime body. The antidote spilled out over the slime and an outer layer of slime melted away. But the slime was not deterred in the least.

In response, a surprisingly long tentacle of slime whipped out towards where Gil was standing. Luckily Su was already moving and easily deflected the attack. "As I said, The slime has a farther reach than it looks," Gil mumbled this as he drew another arrow. Before he shot his, he watched Wade's arrow land on the slime. The result was the same. The little layer of slime that came off was not enough to make a large difference at all.

Walker was forming a longer frost whip after seeing that the miniimized massive slime had a much farther reach than he had expected, even with Gil's warning. His hope was that freezing parts of the slime's body would have done more damage to it and allow them to slow it down and cut away enough of its body to do what they did with the giant slime previously.

The frost whip was used first to send the ice needles at the minimized slime. Walker was having a challenge hitting the slime at the farther distance but still managed to succeed. The ice needles were of the same effect as the antidote wither spike arrows. The outer layer of slime froze and was discarded.

The slime again sent a tentacle out to attack, but Su deflected it again. Before the tentacle could recoil Walker used the whip to wrap it. The tentacle started to freeze but was pulled back leaving only a smaller portion of frozen slime body behind. "This thing is too tough for a slime. I need to try my frost ring skill."

Walker was about to pull the hammer from his inventory when he remembered that both the skill and the hammer would need him to be closer to the minimized massive slime. If he got that close he would not have Su to protect him and he could be the catalyst for the slime's evolution. He bit his lip in frustration and sent more Ice needles at the slime.

"Watch out, I am using my bow's skill," Gil shouted to Calen who had run closer to the slime to start the distraction game again. She heard him loud and clear and was soon behind Su's shield again. Remy and

Midnight had been feeling the new opponent out and had not risked getting closer yet, so Gil had a wide open shot.

The wind elemental mana adhered itself to the wither spike arrow with the antidote inside. The twisting green wind elemental mana made the air furious. Wade was holding his gaze on the arrow that had become much more terrifying than he had imagined. It was reminding him of the elven army's arcane marksmen.

Gil released the arrow and it tore through the distance to the slime. It managed to lodge itself firmly within the slime but only about halfway. The minimized slime was angered as the antidote made three layers of slime melt off of it. There were three slime tentacles sent towards Gil.

Walker used his frost whip to stop one and Su managed a double block to deflect the other two. With the minimized slime's retaliation, the group now knew that it had barely been attacking before. "Gil you should prepare another one of those. Walker do you have more of those mana potions?"

Remey spoke up since she had been keeping hard track of the mana potion usage. "Yes, we have enough for Gil to freely use that skill. But it won't last forever." She was worried that she had not done enough to prepare the party. Mana was always their biggest weakness when it came to a battle.

"Already on it." Gil had another arrow notched and the wind elemental mana forming to it. He wanted to pierce deeper in to the slime and destroy the core. He poured more mana in to the skill this time forcing the wind to stir in to a gusting whirlwind around him.

Wade shot three arrows at the same time at the slime making it attack him with the slime tentacles first. Su was able to defend the grouped up tentacles and leave Gil with a perfect opening.

The arrow was moving much faster than the previous arrow and landed in the slime penetrating almost completely. The wind elemental mana ran rampant and tore off drops of the slime. It was nothing major but enough to make a small difference. The antidote was spilling in to the slime and parts of its body melted away again. It was trying to respond to the threat but when it was about to send out more slime tentacles Calen was there antagonizing it with a rotting stick.

Alma was busy making her blue ivy grow at a furious pace. She had drunk the last mana potion she had taken from Walker and was using every last mana to do the most she could. She would soon be low and

need another potion, but before then she would wrap another tree in ivy. She continued to move getting slightly close to the slime.

Calen poked the slime to distract it and cause a slime tentacle to whip out at her. She used her speed to get out of the way in an instant. Unfortunately, Alma was behind her and the slime tentacle was about to make contact. When she noticed this she was much too late to move herself. She was about to be hit with a full force slime tentacle.

Wade had seen this and moved before thinking. He had only the thought of protecting the potential next queen of the forest elves. He could not allow her any injury on his pride as an elf. This was all that drove him as he dove to push Alma out of the way. The tentacle found a new target and slammed in to Wade.

Chapter 353 - 353.To Turn The Tide

"Stay focused on the enemy! Alma get back to a safe distance. I will get a healing potion to heal him." Walker took charge and made sure that not a single person was harmed due to the shock of the attack taking down Wade.

He rushed to Wade's side pushing Alma to get back to her role in the battle. She was reluctant to move but Walker gave her a look that made her shiver to her very core. She clenched her jaw and forced herself to get back to protecting the forest. She knew that if Wade awoke and the forest was gone because they had fawned over him and shirked their duty he would be crushed.

"Wade, can you hear me?" Walker was trying to get Wade awake but found that he was only able to open one eye and mumble a bit. His arm was twisted at a strange angle and The slime was slowly decaying the skin on his broken arm. "I am going to use an antidote potion on your arm first just tough it out."

Walker knew that the pain from the antidote potion fighting off the decay would be intense, but if he did not use the potion on Wade then he could lose the arm he needed to be an archer. The potion Walker used easily covered the day, there was an intense amount of bubbling which caused the darkness elemental mana that caused the decay to steam off like a poisonous smoke.

Walker realized that he would need multiple potions to get rid of the decay. The minimized slime body had been much more concentrated which made the decay more potent. He used three of the antidote potions before the wound had started to show its true depths.

Wade had lost a lot of his skin on his arm but Walker could tell that he had acted fast enough and the muscles were still intact. While he had spent the time at the cathedral he had managed to pick up a lot of random, healing knowledge. He was able to take a pair of sticks and pull out some bandages he had prepared in his inventory. His mother had made sure that he had all the basic first aid supplies before he left.

The splint he made was enough to stabilize the arm and he proceeded to use his light heal skill to make sure Wade had the healing process started. Next Walker slowly poured some of a low tier health potion in Wade's mouth. Wade was still only semi conscious and was having a hard time with the pain from his injuries. Luckily he was still able to sip down the potion and recover some of the paleness that had set in.

The potion and healing skill would not be an instant fix to the broken bone, Wade would need some time and multiple healing sessions. However, Walker could tell this was a worthy price to pay for protecting a valuable party member. Walker would have done the same if he were in the situation.

"Walker, things are getting a little harder over here!" Gil was running low on mana and needed another mana potion to fire his arrows. The problem was that the minimized slime had begun attacking more. Calen was having a hard time dodging the now five tentacles it would send out every time it was poked. Su was still able to block for Gil but Remey was helping deal with tentacles.

Remey had her new gloves which protected her arms from the slimes decaying effects. She was using her hammer punch on some of the tentacles to either break their connection at the thinnest point to the main slime body. Some of the tentacles she attacked only partially break and attempt to reform. Luckily Midnight who had a natural protection from the decaying effect. Her scales were very tough from eating the bones and the darkness elemental crystals. Since she had eaten other elemental crystals she had grown even tougher.

The two were moving around at their maximum speed to avoid tentacles and also break them. The fact that they were still starting to lag behind was a huge problem. Since Wade was not down for the count they were missing an important long range attacker. Walker knew that his ice would only do so much damage unless he was closer to use the frost ring skill, but it was too dangerous.

Walker handed Gil a mana potion while he looked at Su. She was much more ragged than he had expected. She was sweating and breathing heavily since the attacks from the minimized slime had increased. She had been using both shields to block the heavy attacks that had left Wade injured. "Gil, I think we need to forget being safe. This is much tougher than I expected."

"Understood. Can you give me the ice elemental wither spike arrows? I think wind elemental ones will help as well. If I can shave off some of the body then fire an ice elemental one freeze the parts that the wind elemental one sheers off." Gil already had a plan. He had been thinking about it for the entire battle, especially as he saw things getting harder for everyone.

Walker started to create two of the longer frost whips in his hands. He needed to increase his damage while Gil prepared to use his wither spike elemental arrows. Walker saw that Calen was about to poke the slime again then rush away. "Calen retreat here. Gil is preparing a big attack."

With his shout, Calen retreated and was behind Su and her shields in a moment. She was confused to see the mana starting to radiate from the arrow tip that Gil was using. Alma knew all too well what this was. "How do you have an arrow like that? Only an elf should be able to make and use those." She was shakily saying these words, she knew that this was supposed to be impossible.

"He has the arcane marksman system. He gained it from a special quest. We had it under wraps but now that Wade is hurt we need to go all out. Just try to help us convince your elders not to lock us down." Walker's serious voice made Alma go silent. Between the seemingly impossible system that Gil was revealed to have and the fact that the hero title holders were hiding it made her lose any ability to question them.

The wind element had caused a lot more mana to fluctuate around Gil. He was in a completely focused state as he locked on to the minimized slime. His bow's skill melding with the wind elemental energy in the wither spike arrow had become a force to be reckoned with. It was his most powerful attack and could cause much more damage than was safe for anyone to be close.

The arrow was released making the wind blow through the entire area. The trees and foliage around were whipped around and blew through the air more than anyone expected. There was dirt kicked up and the group hid behind Su's shield. Su connected the two shields and used them to anchor herself to the ground. She was the protection from the whipping winds as the arrow made contact with the minimized slime.

The arrow pierced the same depth as the one previously. However this one did not contain the antidote at all, The wind elemental mana that had been stored within the arrow head had a much different effect. The wind was manipulated on to a wild form causing bits and pieces to be cut from the body of the slime.

The slime was able to resist the damage slightly but it ended up losing much more of its body than expected. The tentacles it tried to whip out were sliced by the wind as well adding to the damage. Before the winds died down a cooling air was forming around the group.

"He has ice elemental arrows as well?" Alma could only whisper this in amazement. She was still processing the fact that a uniquely elven system was somehow with a human. The fact that Walker could learn a racial skill added to that made her head swim. These humans were too much for her to understand.

The ice elemental arrow was boosted by the bow's skill and sent full speed at the slime. The moment the winds died down was the exact second the ice elemental arrow pierced and buried itself within the slime's body.

The temperature greatly decreased and the water elemental mana which was prevalent in the area due to rain was pulled towards the minimized slime. The group watched as the ice elemental wither spike arrow started to work its . Calen and Alma were still in awe at the scene.

Chapter 354 - 354. Frost In Spring

Walker felt that he needed to do more, while the water elemental arrow formed the ice he used his multi boost skill to improve the rate of attack and damage. He had been holding off for the right moment to optimize the time they had while boosted.

The water elemental mana was being pulled in faster and faster, Walker used his grand elemental manipulation and frost whips to push in even more. The mana was more than the wind arrow had just done and was already causing a significant amount of ice to form on the minimized slime.

With the additional boost of Walker's skill and the added water elemental mana the minimized slime struggles to shake free of the ice. It was constantly losing layers of its minimized slime body. The

tentacles it tried to form to bring in anything it could use as food were also frozen and fell to the forest floor in shards.

"Gil, I am going in. Cover me." Walker knew this was enough to slow the slime and make a frontal attack. Gil prepared another water elemental wither spike arrow to keep the slime slow and stuck.

Gil's arrow was just ahead of Walker and drew in more of the existing water elemental mana. The slime was forced to nearly a full stand still. The tentacles had trouble even growing from its body. Gil smiled at the sight of the defenseless minimized massive slime. He knew that Walker was about to deal a devastating blow.

Walker released the two frost whips he had after making them freeze solidly around the slime. He was within striking distance of the slime and jumped up to gain momentum. His draconic crusher appeared from his inventory channeling the water element now thick in the air.

The hammer came down full force delivering the elemental smash right to the most frozen part of the slime. The damage was substantial as a large piece of the body chipped off and was sent a decent distance away. The water elemental mana made the spot Walker had just struck start to freeze again preventing any tentacles to form.

Before he could set up another swing Remey was already there with a defense breaking palm attack on the way. She had also seen the opening and did not want to waste her best chance to attack.

When her palm struck the minimized slime there was an ear piercing crack of ice and another large piece of the slime fell from it. The condensed body was more frozen than the slime could properly defend. The dense state made the ice that cracked off breaking larger pieces and starting to show the edge of its core.

Calen and Midnight looked to be teaming up and both attacked the ice on the slime's body together. Calen came at break neck speed with a kick and Midnight was using her claws to shave away more ice. Walker had not needed to say anything due to the group's intuition. They had seen the chance to use their strength and did not waste it.

"Get back!" Gil waited for a second as everyone jumped back and another one of the water elemental arrows made contact. The spot that the slime had lost was still frozen and being kept that way. Its body

glowed with the darkness elemental mana it had collected. It was trying to get rid of the ice that was stopping it from moving and growing. However, the slime was not able to get rid of the ice since the ice was made of its own body.

"Don't let up on it!" Walker was already making two more frost whips to keep up the ice while Remey and Midnight had already moved in for another attack. Their hits shaved off more ice exposing more of the core. The problem was that the parts of the slime's body that were not frozen were moving to protect the core and keep it within the body.

Su had made it to the slime behind everyone, but she knew that there was a chance for her to use the sharp bottom part of her shields. She used her shield bash skill to stab downwards and pierce the area in the slime's body near the core. The ice cracked and the shield pierced the slime's body forcing the core out even more. Her shield was resisting the decaying effect of the slime's body and holding firmly even though the slime was trying to push it away.

Walker watched as Remey and Midnight moved in to hit the shield as well. Remey came down with a hammer fist pushing the shield further. Midnight used her skeletal tail whip to slam the shield downward. The minimized massive slime core was nearly dislodged from the slime completely.

There was a massive release of darkness elemental mana from the unfrozen slime body as it tried to protect its core in the last ditch effort. However, Gil was there already and using his dagger he stabbed downward fully tearing the core from the slime body. The core fell in to a dull purple state along with the body starting to condense in to a crystallized purple form.

'Heroic sub quest: defeat the minimized massive slime.- completed

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Requirement:

Join hands with the elves and defeat the minimized massive slime

Stay true to the main quest and gather the slime body for research

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Reward:

Two heroic quest points

Insight in to the cause of the slimes appearance within the forest

200exp multiplied to 2000exp

Strengthened bond with the elven kingdom (forest elves)'

Walker saw the notification and breathed heavily. Gil was on one knee trying to stay tall in their victory. Midnight, Remey, and Su were leaning on each other for stability while Calen was sitting completely still just staring at the dormant slime core. "Ha ha ha, that serves it right. Now it is nothing but two useless rocks."

Wade's voice shook them from their silence in victory. Alma had made it to his side and was holding him up while she made the blue ivy grow to make a firmer splint. Her mana was on its last drop but from the looks of the surrounding, she had used it all to the best possible use. There was blue ivy everywhere covering every possible plant. There was nothing left that could be harmed.

"Wade! Are you feeling OK? Don't move." Calen rushed to his side worried that Wade was pushing himself to move while in this state.

"Don't worry, Walker got rid of the decay. He also set me up pretty well in just a few minutes. He must have practiced first aid." Wade gave Walker a happy nod. He was in a good mood to see that the slime was defeated. "Gil, you really surprised me there. When Alma sat me up and I saw that last arrow fly I thought I was looking at my master. You really were something amazing."

"Eh, sorry for keeping it from you. I just know that it could cause trouble. But I am glad you know now." Gil had been worried the entire time he talked with Wade that he would not be able to form a proper friendship with this archer because of the secret he hid.

"No, I understand. That was a great scene to watch." He grimaced as the blue ivy was made tighter around the splint. Walker made it to his side as well using some mana on the light heal skill to bring him closer to full health.

Su had gathered the dormant slime cores and gave it to Walker to hold on to. They had gotten another valuable material in their quest for research. Not wanting to miss it Walker went to store the crystallized purple slime body. The group had persevered the odds and defeated the slime that could have caused the end of the entire elven city.

Before they could keep talking and relax Onyx slithered out of the shadows. "Brother, I was able to capture the core of a strange slime. It was hiding around some trees as everyone fought." Onyx spit up a small clear slime core. It was different from all the others the party had collected so far. The clear crystal color gave no inclination to what the element it had was or what it could do. Walker took it and used his all around appraisal skill to get an idea.

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Chapter 355 - 355. Beliefs

' Colorless slime core- dormant

The core of a small slime that has had its elemental mana forced out and replaced with a slime breeder's mana. When the mana has been used up or the core has been removed from the body it loses all traits. The colorless slime is ideal for long range communications and observation. The colorless slime lacks any other skills or strength and is easily destroyed yet hard to detect.'

Walker read this out loud after he used his all around appraisal skill. The group looked as if they have been robbed. "Now we know that the one we are looking for is a slime breeder. But it really ticks me off

that they weren't even here in the first place." Remey was kicking some dirt with her boots, the one that had nearly caused the death of a new friend was nowhere to be found. They needed to be put on trial for their crimes.

"Nice job Onyx. We have a nice lead on what system can do these things. Hopefully, things are not as bad with the dwarves." Walker was thinking of the yellow acidic slimes that had been reported in the dwarven mines. If they were the same source as the purple slimes it was sure that they were facing a similar if not worse, problem.

"I hate to ruin this informative meeting, but the enforcers are here, and I am pretty sure they saw the skills Gil used." Calen sounded very worried. She could tell that they were completely ignoring the defeat of the minimized massive slime and focusing on the human with an elven system.

"I wish we could help, but I think you will be brought before the queen no matter what. I might have an idea though." Wade was trying to get up but Alma forced him down. Her eyes had yet to leave Gil though. The worry was more than clear on her face.

Walker stood tall and looked at the elven group that had joined them, "We will meet with the queen and work it out. Don't worry about us, it will be fine." Walker was having a hard time believing his own words, but he knew that Wade most of all needed to hear some positive words.

Gil was sweating a little more than he had but when Walker sneakily handed out a mana potion he took it and turned around to drink it. Walker was not going to miss the simple fact that Gil was low on mana and very pale. The next meeting they were about to have was going to take a lot of their energy and Gil would need to be in tip top shape.

"My party is willing to meet with your queen and elders again. The slime has been beaten and all that is left is to clean up the damages. There might still be small and medium slimes around but they don't have anyone controlling them at the moment."

Some of the enforcers split off and stood behind the three elves. They appeared protective but also tried to check and treat Wade's injuries. Walker saw this and reported what he had done so far. "I splinted his broken arm and used an antidote potion on the decay left from the minimized massive slime's attack. I used some healing skills and a healing potion but it will take a few more treatments over a couple of days to fully heal." One of the enforcers nodded slightly and used a healing skill.

The green glow of healing made Wade's arm start to heal at a rapid rate. The skin was being healed the fastest and looked nearly brand new in an instant, however, Walker knew that this was just a more advanced healing skill used on a very specific body part. There would still need to be more healing later on but any worry of infection was removed since there was not an open wound on Wade's arm.

Onyx quickly moved in to his tattoo form and wrapped around Walker for easier travel. He was also worried that the enforcers would separate them after the party's first encounter with them. Onyx did not have the best impression because he had realized that they had been brought to a prison and he was stuck in his tattoo form without any way to get out and help the party.

Midnight and Su tightened up next to Walker and Gil making sure that they were ready for the worst. Yet when they did so the enforcers just surrounded them almost like an escort. They had fully expected to be bound or chained to be brought before the elven court again.

"My party will go with them. As a possible queen, I invoke my right to enter the court!" Alma stood her ground even though an enforcer was trying to block her. She knew all too well that the elders would want to bury this human that had gained the arcane marksman system that was unique to the elves. It was something they had never seen before and could be a threat if it escaped to another kingdom.

One of the enforcers tried to whisper to Alma but was pushed away. "I will join the court and that is final. If you can not follow that order then I will make sure you are all exiled to the deserts." Her words held more weight than the party knew, the enforcers took steps back and started to guide Alma and Calen towards the elven city. Wade was carried by three of the enforcers. One was healing him little by little while two were carrying him.

The group was escorted through the seemingly abandoned elven city. They climbed the same tree and entered the same hall. However this time there were enforcers lining the walls and blocking the exit. The elders looked like someone had just slapped them awake. The anger on their faces was not hidden in the least. The queen still sat upon her hammock of moving vines, but instead of the calm natural aura around her was unsettled and chaotic.

Not a single person made a move after they were all standing in front of the queen and elders. Even Wade who had been set down on a pillow to maintain his sitting up position while resting, since Alma had called for her entire party to be present than he was also brought to the hall. The entire group was together waiting for them to speak.

An elder stood up and looked at each of them in the eye. "Alma, you have used your standing to demand entrance to this private meeting. State your reasoning for this. We shall decide then whether we allow you to stay after we have heard." The elder didn't even properly look at her. The frustration of their intrusion was enough to set the elders off.

"We were only able to defeat that danger due to the actions we took. Every single one of us agreed to the traps we made and the damage we did to the forest in our actions. It was all necessary to preserve the forest in its entirety." Alma had started off string making sure that they stood next to the party and not separately.

"That is not what we are here to discuss, the actions were acceptable. It may cause us pain that the forest took damage, however, the enforcers we sent out behind you have already reported that there is blue ivy covering many of the trees and saplings. Furthermore, we know your skills and the queen felt the changes you made."

When Alma heard this she knew that the queen must have been watching the entire time. She had the power to become one with the forest but she was not an attacker by any means. She may have the power to change the forest as well but she could not cause harm to others using it. She would be going against the spirits of the forest and the will of those who have passed on that she could communicate with.

"We worked together with them. We can't just leave them to be hidden away. They are important to more than just our kingdom. The humans won't just let their people be chained away to protect our fears. I am tired of living a fearful life. Elves have hidden our systems and our skills. Do you know what they said when we were leaving the city? They said it reminded them of the ancient ruins. Our city is desolate whenever we have emissaries of another kingdom, our people are hidden away for days at a time, our history is locked behind walls. What is the point if we are hidden away? If we were to disappear then the world would forget us in a blink of an eye."

Chapter 356 - 356. Crossroads

Alma stood her ground. She had said what she truly believed and there was plenty more. "I want to be queen one day. I want to lead our people in more than just protecting the forests. I wish for our people to see the world and everything it has to offer. I wish for others to see the beauty and brilliance of our city every day. And if we can not change our ways then I see no reason to remain in the home I love."

The elder's faces had become sour. They knew that Alma was on a path to become a queen and had been trained to take on the title one day. Hearing that she would self exile herself because she wanted the entire culture to change was an insult to the ways the elves had relied on for hundreds of years.

Another elder stood and spoke, "If we must lose one potential to remain in safety then I see no downside. There are many in the future youth that could have the potential to become a queen." Alma bit her tongue at this. The words were true enough. However, hearing them said out loud was a harsh blow to any elf.

"Then you can forget me staying here. I refuse to be part of a hermit kingdom that is afraid of its own shadow. Alma is basically my sister, without her here there is no point in staying. I will leave and go wherever she goes." Calen did not even see a point in staying. She knew her master would let her roam free just like he had in life.

With Calen backing up Alma another elder was forced to speak. "The speedster title has not been passed on and we know you are far from the requirements. There are more that could take on the mantle in the elven race. There are many in the frost elves domain that hold such hope." Calen glared at the elder after hearing this. It took all her energy not to shout out that there was no one else that could take the title but her.

"Fine, none of you will get your courage up, then I will need to leave too." Wade forced himself to stand and walked to stand next to Alma and Calen. He was still showing that he suffered from his injury but stood taller than he ever had before. He had the strongest feelings for the way the elves existed. He knew they had amazing that could heal many. They had unique crafting techniques that were guarded from the world. They had So many potions and herbs they had hoarded in fear that others would come to harvest them to extinction.

"How do you think the surrounding kingdoms will view the elves if one of their title holders chooses to leave them. What will the demons think? What will the spirits of those who have passed think of losing one of the few archery related titles our race has?" Wade's response was more than any of the elders had been prepared to handle. If the other two left they could be forgotten and replaced in their eyes. However, if they lost a title holder then there would be no coming back from it.

"I agree with the future queen Alma, the elves must change and remove our illusion barrier. I will pledge myself to be her right hand." Wade knelt before Alma and used his uninjured hand to raise his bow to her. This was the same as offering up his soul to someone as an elven archer.

Alma was moved beyond belief, she had seen many do this for the current queen and knew that it was one of the most important ceremonies for any enforcer that took up archery. Having someone do so for her and the ideals she believed in was an honor that could not be summed up with words. This gave her the last push to put down her demands. "The elven people will drop their illusion barrier. We will show the world who we are and bring about a change. There will be no more pointless war and no more hiding."

The room was shaken. The actions of the three elves had been enough to cause cracks to form within the foundation of what the elders had believed for their entire lives. Everything they had been taught since they were born was to protect their knowledge from spreading and their people from being seen. The very idea of changing that was an insult to the culture they fostered.

'Optional kingdom quest- The elven kingdom's future

The true hero title holder is witnessing a great fork in the road for the elven people. The culture that has existed for generations has been challenged by the future leader of the elves. The true hero has the power to stand with the young queen and raise a new culture or they have the ability to step back and allow the elven people to remain as they are. The true hero is supported by other heroes and the user's decision holds the weight of the world.

Requirement:

Choose to step back and allow the current culture of the elven people to continue

Or

Step forward and assist in the change to elven culture creating a new culture for the elven people

Reward or Punishment:

Based on the true hero's decision there is the potential for an unshakable bond to form with the elven people and the culture to evolve.

Or

Based on the true heroes' decision there is the potential for a war between elven people and every kingdom to begin'

Walker read this notification after hearing Alma's words. He was being prompted with the largest quest he had ever received. Based on his decision the entire culture of a race could change. He knew that his party would stand with him and that he wanted to see the elves become a better and more fulfilled people. He would hope the same for anyone. He wanted to avoid war at any cost.

The problem was that he could not see the future nor the possibilities they held. If he chose and caused war he could be responsible for the extinction of an entire race. His decision could not be made so lightly, but if he did not speak his mind at this moment then there would be no point.

"Will you all stand with me?" Walker whispered to his party and instantly received nods from everyone. Onyx responded by coming out from his tattoo form and coiling up next to everyone. This was all Walker needed to step forward next to Alma.

"I stand with the future queen of the forest elves. As the true hero title holder, my self and the hero title holders support her beliefs. There is nothing more than I would like to see than the elven people flourish and make themselves known to the world. The beauty that is held hidden here pains me. It is something that every soul deserves to see in all the glory it possesses. I witnessed an enforcer heal in an instant. I have seen the forest from the highest point and been lost in a sea of green. And I have seen the courage of an elf that would put their life on the line for the future leader of his people."

'Kingdom quest complete

The true hero title holder has chosen to support the change in elven culture.

The rewards will be shown over time.'

This was a much different quest completion notification than he had seen, however, it was also a much different quest than he had ever known to exist. Walker stood still next to Alma mirroring their gaze as

the rest of the party stepped forward. Every single one of them was ignoring the elders and staring right at the queen.

The vines she rested on had long stopped moving. She was as still as a statue, completely unmoving with her eyes wide open looking at the very depth of those who stood within her hall. Without any warning, she started to breathe heavily and the vines began to spread through the entire hall. The elders and the enforcers became tangled within them. Not a single person had the courage to move as the vines took over. The party and the three elves refused to budge even a step as all this happened. If they were to move everything they said could be disregarded.

"May my spirit be born from the earth. May my blood be made from the purest of rain. May my body be crafted from the peaceful breeze through the trees. I beseech those who have long lived and long died. Dwell within my domain, palace of the spirit kingdom" The queen's words sent a wave through every single being within her hall. She had just used her mastery skill for the first time in over a hundred years.

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Chapter 357 - 357. Vine Spirits

The natural mana in the room spiked higher than any of them had ever felt before. The three elves had only heard the stories of their queen using her mastery skill. The last recorded happening was when they had the passing of the fire elf queen over one hundred and fifty years ago.

The vines that had overtaken the room were forming themselves in to countless elven shapes. Some held bows. Others held crafting tools, even more held al staffs and grimoires. These were the most notable figured and leaders of the forest elven people.

"What is this?" Remey spoke for the entire party while falling in to a defensive formation with the others. The only ones that did not move were the three levels. Instead, Alma gave them a fearful look.

"This is our queen's unique mastery skill. She has used her mana to form puppets for the spirits of our ancestors. They will weigh in on what I going on here." Her words were slightly shaky, she was fixed on one that stood tall with vines flowing down as hair. Next to the vine puppet was a smaller vine puppet holding what appeared to be various pruning tools.

Wade was using Calen to remain standing since he was still very weak from the battle. His body had used a lot of his energy during the healings and he should be resting. But when he saw that there were vine puppets forming he too was fixed on one that formed directly next to the queen.

"I didn't expect to see my master in this form. I would have expected him to avoid this kind of things even in the afterlife." His words were filled with sorrow. He had not been there the day of his master's passing but he had still felt the pain of the bow he had received upon that day. It had cried out for its previous partner and its string had broken.

The only one of the three elves that was able to function similarly to the party was Calen. She managed to clarify what was going on by a slight margin. "The queen only uses her mastery skill under grave circumstances. This qualifies, our people may lose a title holder today and make enemies of two kingdoms. You know this well but still stood by us. Now those who once stood at the peak of our race will judge us..." She trailed off as the vine puppets stopped forming.

There were more than thirty of the elf shaped vine puppets. They all stood around the room some in pairs and others alone. There were some notable figures that held certain tools made of vines that stood close to the queen. She was sitting with her emerald eyes on the group before her. She was looking in to their very being searching for their reasoning.

Her words were filled with a spiritual echo and the natural man in the area vibrated with each word. "These elves have gained the backing of the heroes. They desire to change the ways of our race. What say you, those who watch and guide." Her words were simple but this was the catalyst for the vine puppets to come to life.

With her words spoken the vine puppets were in motion. Some turned away and refused to even look at the three elves. There were two who raised their bows in support. They were directing their gaze at Wade. The short and tall vine puppet that Alma looked at was staring back at her. Alma was standing choking back silent tears when she suddenly straightened her back and held the gaze firm.

"Mom, dad. I will change the way we are seen. The elves have hidden away and missed the world turn. I will make our wonderful history known. Our lessons and knowledge won't rot anymore. I promise that all you have done will make the entire world a better place."

Her cries and promises caused the two vine puppets to shift. The shorter one holding many tools moved forward ever so slightly until the taller one reached out for its shoulder. A deep spiritual voice came from the shorter vine puppet, "You have grown up. You look just like your mother when I fell in love with her." The shorter vine puppet fell to pieces. The vines fusing with the taller vine puppet.

Alma held back even more tears, she was waiting for the taller vine puppet to reply however, it turned to the queen and spoke instead. "My queen, the vote of the forest shaper and the poison vine wielder has been cast. Please support the future these here wish to grow." The vines began to fade and Alma nearly crumpled to her knees.

Seeing her weakness Gil stepped to her side and gave her an arm to lean on. Alma held on but could only stare at the shrinking vines, just before they were gone she managed to pick up a whisper. "I look forward to the future queen." The tears she had been holding back were flooding her face. This was too much for her to handle.

Gil did not dare to move, he saw many of the vine puppets had eyes on him. They knew what system he had and why it was affecting the elven people so much. Before one of them could speak out Wade held his bow and smiled widely. "Been a while huh?"

The vine puppet holding a bow next to the queen held up its bow as well. "You know kid, I was resting pretty well. If you hadn't come to cause trouble I could have slept for another forty years before the queen needed my input again." The spiritual voice from the vine puppet didn't sound angry at all. Instead, there was a playfulness within it.

"Well, we are finally making the change we spoke about when I was first learning to shoot an arrow. I will stand beside my chosen queen and show the world what beauty we hide here." His words held no sadness, they held only promise and strength even with his injuries visible.

"Still spouting your dreams to anyone that will listen. That's good. You have stayed true to who you are. In turn, I will fulfill the promise I made you the day I passed that bow down to you. As the previous holder of the dead eye title, I support the current title holder and their ambition. My queen, I believe it the right path to take."

The vine puppet fell in to nothingness after speaking while there was a flurry of movement from the others. Most of the vine puppets holding bows also fell away after expressing their support in a nod or by holding up their own bows. Wade could feel every action they took, his bow resonated with their trust.

"Ludicrous. The elven people have been safe because of the actions we have taken. If we show ourselves off like some piece of art we will be attacked again. The demons will see us as weak and come in for the kill." The vine puppet that spoke held a large staff and stood near the queen. "The ways we have now are known to be safe. We are still strong and don't need the world to remain one with the forest."

Once the vine puppet's harsh words were finished it turned to a mess of vines that faded away as well. There were other puppets that fell away showing their support of the current ways. The remaining vine puppets all holding some form of al gear or items. Walker could plainly see that there were many users that had come at the call of the queen.

"Those who hold mana within your hands and shape it. Please enlighten me on your views so that I may guide our people." the respect coming from the queen was more so than any of them had expected. The other three elves knew all too well the value of to their people but the party had not fully grasped the notion yet.

Ther vine puppets converged and met in front of one holding a large grimoire made of vines. They all appeared to be having an unheard conversation while moving around. Some of the vine puppets looked to become angry as others spoke while some looked to be giving passionate speeches. The one holding the vine grimoire did not move an inch.

After some time the one holding the vine grimoire raised a hand and all the other vine puppets began to fade. The only one remaining was the one holding the grimoire. "Now that I have heard the words of the others, allow me to hear some words from those who wish our people to join them in the open."

Chapter 358 - 358. The Queen Stands

The gaze of the vine puppet holding the grimoire was on Walker and the party. He knew that this was meant for them, they were humans and a dragon who had come from nowhere and made such massive waves in their peaceful culture. "You act as their leader, the true hero title holder. Tell me, what will the kingdom you hail from do when we open our lands? Will they enter our forests for harvest? Will they come to steal away our crafting knowledge and ? Will they demand we trade them our valuable items and resources?"

The words were said in a way that showed the vine puppet already knew the answers, but Walker answered anyways. "Yes. Yes, they will. Humans are not all great beings. Some will stand firm and shake

your hand while robbing you of your culture. Others will fight on your behalf when you do not ask. But some, will stand by your side and never leave it. I can't prove that your people are different or the same. I will use the power I have to make sure that you are treated with the respect you deserve, and the forest will be treated with the respect it deserves."

The vine puppet looked him hard in the eyes waiting for Walker to speak more. "Just because you release your illusion barrier and show yourselves to the world does not mean you lose the control of your domain. Your people have held control for a long time here, you can maintain that and slowly adjust to travelers and adventurers. Just partnering with the adventurers guild will bring many money driven individuals, but it will also bring those that wish to work for you and with you. It would be up to you to decide on who is who."

"So you say that you don't expect an immediate change? Interesting, and what say you, arcane archer, in human form? What is to stop you from offering up the skills you have to forge arrows for archers that lack the ability to properly use them? What is to stop you from using the skills against us and sharing out strategies with your armies?"

Gil felt an enormous pressure on him as he was asked these things. He had his own ideals and beliefs, and would not be throwing them aside for such things. "I am a hero title holder, I could never endanger a people in such a way. You may look at me and see a human who could ruin your way of life, I know this. But do you see the ranger father that taught me how to walk through the forest without leaving a trace trying to get me to unlock a system? Do you see the mother that taught me as much as she could about growing plants on our farm so that I could gather the herbs from the forest safely so they would not die off?"

Gil's words held the steel of his beliefs and made the vine puppet shift toward the queen. "My queen, do you see merit in the future they have to offer? Do you see the loss of our privacy? Do you see the bond with humans that could change our growth, what about the insignia that the human party wears? The possible relationship with the demi-humans we have long ignored. Can you feel the strength of that little dragon there? She is young, but she has the potential to bring us closer to the stone elves in the mountains who hide away from us, their cousins in the forest."

The vine puppet with the grimoire's words made many emotions flash on the queen's face. After some deliberation, the queen appeared to reach an internal consensus and fell back to her calm and closed eyed state. "I see you understand now. It has been some time since I deemed it worth interfering. Grow well, and remember the day you met the spirit of the first forest elf queen, the holder of the title; natural mana saint."

The last of the vine puppets shrank away and so did all the vines that encompassed the room. The elders came back in to view flustered after being isolated in the vines. They had been trapped while everything happened and heard nothing of what went on. The enforcers were also thrown off since they had lost all sight of the one person they were required to absolutely protect, the queen.

"My queen, have you and the spirits reached a conclusion? Should we have the enforcers bring these who choose to go against our ways to seclusion?" The elder that spoke looked at the group with disdain. He could not fathom where the three elves had gone wrong in life. All he did know was that the elven way of life was threatened.

The queen's vine hammock showed signs of changing. It pushed her on to her feet and held her steady. "My queen, please do not stand. The decay could spread and cause your illness to worsen." Another elder had leapt to their feet seeing the queen stand.

"I will not let the mana bleeding disease keep me from calling my people to hear my decision on this matter. I have used my system and queen title to feed myself mana to remain in a healthy state. I can afford to speak with them for a short time."

Remey grabbed Walker's shoulder, her grip tightening by the second. She was trying to say something but her words were coming out as shallow breathes instead of a full sentence. Gil and Su had also turned to look at Walker. They were remembering the herb that Remey had lost her mind over in the forest when they first arrived. "Remey, you tell her. You are the one who found it."

The queen was moving slowly toward the group while the elders started to follow her in line. The group was still standing without any order to move, however, Remey stepped forward towards the queen. "Halt. You will not take another step." Every enforcer held their arrows on Remey.

"If I do not take another step I could not assist in the problem your queen has. Walker pulled the crystal ginger from his inventory and handed it to Remey. "You see, we are young and new to being ambassadors." Remey tapped the travel on her clothing. "We forgot that when we meet the leader of another kingdom like the queen here that we are expected to present a gift. We are sorry to be late, but we harvested this extremely rare crystal ginger during our travels. Please accept this before you greet your people."

Remey held up the crystal ginger which one of the enforcers quickly took from her and fully examined. It was clear they were using an appraisal skill of some form. When they finished their examination the enforcer showed emotion. Not a single one of the party had seen an enforcer show a smile like this.

The enforcer approached the queen and whispered within her ear. The vines around her body became a flurry as they twisted and turned upon themselves becoming a solid vine walking stick. The vines twisted into a branch of beautiful flowers and leaves. "It is customary for our queens to give up our names when we ascend the throne. It is a symbol of what we are willing to give away to properly represent our people. Many years ago my parents used to call me Reina. You may address me as such when you are here to visit in the future." Her smile was the purest thing they had seen from the queen yet.

Alma was looking at the party with open faced awe. They had pulled an exceptionally rare herb out of nowhere and given it away. Not to mention the fact that they had brought the queen to such a state that she would reveal a name that her blood had given her. It was unthinkable for any elf to call her by her name, but the party had just received the honor.

"All of you will follow me to the highest branch in the main square markets. The people have only gathered there in hiding and evacuation. Today they will gather for another reason." The group had started to feel what the queen had decided after hearing the opinions from the past elf's spirits. The three elves had also taken a few hints and were quick to fall in line behind the queen. The enforcers scrambled out the door of the hall. Many orders flew in the air as they made preparations to get every elf in the city possible to come and listen to the queen's speech. It was an exceedingly rare moment for the queen to walk about the city.

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Chapter 359 - 359. Elves Everywhere

The party and the three elf friends they had stood behind walked with the elders at their sides. They felt that they were already being imprisoned. Not a single one of them could speak a word. The eyes of the elders glanced at them showing pride and disdain. This was the struggle they faced in their ways versus the future they wanted to create.

Walker thought that this was a lot to happen in such a short time. They had arrived such a short time ago and were involved in such a massive change to the elven people. Even if they decided to stay with their current values the elves would have felt this wave and begin to change in some form. Walker could only hope that the change that was going to happen would lead to a better life for everyone.

The queen appeared to struggle slightly with each step. Her body was weak from needing to rest upon her hammock of vines for years at end. Her mana was always supplied by the forest and even now it still was. The tree sprang up branches and vines to help her along with every step, the party could tell that she was not working her or using any skills. This was the will of the forest itself, it wanted to protect and guide the one that had stood for it all these years.

Walker lost any doubt that the forest spirits would have cowered in their failure to defeat the slime. Seeing the way the vines moved to give the queen a place to lean or better footing made him realize the true depth that the elves and the forest spirits cared for each other.

The noises the group started to hear were coming from many elves moving about the streets down below them. Some jumped through branches or stepped on the very air to make their way to the "Walker, did you see that elf? They were walking on the air." Remey had seen the elf stepping on the air to run past the other elves. She believed herself to have just seen something amazing.

Alma was amazed that one of the party had gained the courage to speak with the situation they were in. But when she thought about it for a moment it started to make sense. If they were about to get imprisoned or locked away to keep the secrets of the elves, then it made sense to chat and enjoy the last moments.

"Those are elves with the wind walking skill. They use mana to condense an air current under their feet and walk. Their system is the wind strider system. They are not a combat oriented system, more like letter carriers and communication experts." Alma gave in to the party and their amazement witnessing the number of elves on the ground.

"Walker, you are going to learn that skill. You could be way stronger in combat." Su was firm. She had forgone the use of leader out of professionalism and decided that Walker would be learning the skill. He looked at her face and couldn't tell if she believed it that valuable for the party or if she just wanted to see him walk around the sky himself.

Midnight was giving a soft purring growl in agreement. She wanted Walker to be able to join her in the sky when she was able to fly. If the two of them could dominate the skies then there would be no monster of opponent that could stand in their way as a party. She was happily imagining Walker raining down fireballs from the sky while she swooped in to ear apart a weak enemy.

"Look at those bracers," Gil pointed out a group of younger looking elven archers. "Those bracers have mana crystals attached. I bet that they make their elemental arrows as they fight. That's amazing." Gil

had not even thought of something like this. If he practiced enough he might be able to use his skills to make an elemental arrow at the moment he needs it.

Walker saw this but was also caught on another fact. "Gil, you know how you wanted your dagger on your chest so you could use it to fight? Look where all of those elves have their daggers." Gil's eyes focused on their chests where their daggers were fixed.

"So I picked the right place then. I just felt it was the best place for it to add to my combat style, but seeing them means I made the right choice." He was happier than a kid in a candy store.

A few of the elders were angered by the party's information gathering while they walked. Others looked like they had wanted such things their whole lives. The fact that the party was in such awe over their people made their hearts swell. While the others felt threatened by the intrusion.

Wade was being helped along by two enforcers and a third was trying to do more healing. They were rushing things a little since he was being brought before the people as a title holder. It was imperative he showed his strength to them to put every elf at ease. "You don't have to try to heal me so fast, it's exhausting. I need to be able to stay awake while the queen speaks." His soft protests were ignored, but Walker heard him.

"I don't think this is the best way to go about healing him. He should have a slower recovery to make sure everything is healed properly, but here." Walker pulled out three mid tier health potions and three mid tier mana potions. "Take them, I know Wade doesn't need the mana potions, but you have been healing him since the forest, you must need them by now."

The enforcer that was healing Wade had not realized that Walker had seen the difference between them and the others. They all purposefully dressed and acted the same so that they could be seen as an equally strong force throughout their people and the forest. If they showed themselves differently then it would allow their commanders to easily be taken down or their weak points to be taken advantage of.

The enforcer took the potions and gave them a thorough examination. It was natural not to trust them since there were many things up in the air at the moment, however, Wade chimed in while the enforcer did this. "I already drank a potion from them, it worked wonders." He smiled a little weakly at Walker.

"Don't tell that to me, tell that to Remey. She is the one who made them, didn't I tell you about her unique class? She is the only one with it." When Walker said this Wade directed his smile at Remey who couldn't help but walk taller at the praise. She was definitely the one that was influencing Midnight to do this as well.

One of the elders nearly tripped on their robes hearing that Remey had a unique system that only she had. He would have argued against this but was currently witnessing things that he had not believed would happen in his lifetime. "Human ambassador Remey, may I inquire to what system you have?"

The other elders were doing a poor job of hiding their own curiosity. Even the ones whose gaze held disdain were now showing the all consuming curiosity for something new. "Well the hero title gave us a pretty intense quest and after completing it I got a class upgrade. I have always had a passion for alchemy so the world fused two systems and created the alchemical brawler system." The way Remey spoke was a little arrogant but also slightly unsure.

Walker gave her a nod that he supported her in sharing the quests they had received. There was no reason for them to hide such things. They were either going to be locked away or become very strong allies. If they hid everything they would only foster distrust between the elves and the humans.

"Thank you, that is a very impressive feat." The elder that had asked the question was able to quickly hide his shock. The other elders were also in disarray. They wanted to stop and speak about why the world would do such things and why the system was so strangely made. To have a fighting and a natural healing based system come together was unheard of.

The noises of the elven crowd became louder as the procession reached an ornate platform. There were guided vines that created a large standing area for speeches like this. The vines rose up creating a place for the queen to rest as the remainder of the elves funneled in to the trees and the square. The elders stood along the side and the group was brought to stand behind the queen. The three elves on one side while the party was on another.

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The elves in the square and trees were amazed to see the humans and little dragon beside the queen. There were many pointing and murmuring amongst themselves. They had known that they had guests because the enforcers guided them in to their safe havens. However, they also knew there was a threat of large proportion so they just assumed that the guests were long gone and they had been evacuated just because of the threat.

Every time Midnight would stand taller she attracted more attention. Some shouts of how cute she was or how there was a real dragon in their city could be heard. Walker made sure to keep a hand on her back so that she wouldn't do anything too audacious to gain more attention, her pride as a dragon was a dangerous thing.

On the exact opposite of Midnight, Su was semi hiding behind her shields. She had not realized how intimidating the crowd of elves would be. When they started to come this way she had been able to easily accept the possibility of the worst happening. But now that they were in front of an entire city's people she was stuck.

Walker was very amused to see the change in Su. She had faced down many monsters with a cool and collected composure, yet now that she faced a large number of people who were not trying to attack her she was scared. Gil on the other hand had thrown caution to the wind and visibly displayed his quiver of elemental wither spike arrows. He was drawing a rather large amount of attention from some of the young elven archers.

The only one that was keeping themselves back was Onyx and Remey. The two of them were standing out much less. Remey and Onyx had not bonded much, but faced with such a crowd the two were paired up in the back of the others. Onyx would have preferred to hide away in the shadows or on Walker's shoulders while Remey preferred to be in the alchemy lab. She had inherited the distaste for crowds from the old master alchemist.

There was an arrow shot straight up in to the air and a small flash of light. One of the enforcers had used this to signal silence and the elves followed suit. The only sound that could be heard was the drifting leaves as a soft breeze blew through them. The queen felt the moment was right and the vines that made her resting space pushed her to a standing position yet again.

The elves were murmuring slightly as their queen was about to address them. This was a rare occurrence and they were amazed to see the forest assisting her in such a way. It only reinforced their beliefs and love for the forest that they lived in.

The enforcers stood tall and the elders raised their heads high. Alma, Calen, and Wade looked worried but also held true to their beliefs. The party may also be in a precarious situation but for the three elves, this was a life changing moment. This was everything they had ever dreamed being crushed or being raised up.

Natural mana surfaced and made the entire forest shiver, the queen opened her mouth to speak. "Today we nearly lost many things. We faced a threat that even I felt, but the forest felt it the most. We lacked the strength to leave our city and defeat the foe on our doorstep, but we were able to send our title holder along with two other promising youths. They joined up with the hero title holders from the human kingdom. Our bonds without allies have been reinforced through battle and today, despite some damage, the forest now has room to grow brighter."

Her words made the elves agitated. Many of them had felt the slight damage to the forest through the natural mana around the city. Others had heard the whispers and rumors. The queen had just proven that they were indeed threatened along with the entire forest. What was more was the fact that they had needed the help of another kingdom to stop the threat. This was something the elven people had never done before.

"With my standing as queen, I watched through the forest and witnessed not two races fighting an enemy, but instead one powerful force of protection. In the short time since these ambassadors came, they have grown a bond with the future queen, a potential title holder, and our current dead eye title holder. This is not something I can overlook."

Alma felt the water in her eyes start to come as the queen addressed her as the future queen. It was a signal that she had not been taken from the position. Everyone standing beside the queen heard this cue and knew what it meant.

"Today I conferred with those who have passed and those who stand with me now. As queen, it is my duty to protect the forest and my people. But I fear I have made us weak. We have hidden away for generations and missed the world grow. This has become so prevalent that the future queen, a potential title holder, and our current dead eye title holder were willing to leave our city."

Her words had shaken the crowd of elves. Hearing that they may have lost the three that would stand at the height of their people was a radical notion. Even more so the queen was speaking as if she was in the wrong, something that did not show off her strength and elegance.

"With the words of our ancestral spirits and the words of our future leaders, my eyes have been opened. The world had turned without our input for too long. As of today, we shall stop guarding our secrets and instead spread them. We will be remembered in the world's history books. Not as stories to be forgotten but as the beautiful protectors of the forest. We shall join hands with the humans and the heroes that they raised. We will see the world and it shall see us."

The queen raised her arms and a massive amount of natural mana surged through the giant tree they were standing on. The mana flowed through each branch and made the leaves rustle like they were in a torrent of wind. The illusionary barrier that had been around the elven kingdom fell and allowed the massive tree to be seen from outside the forest. The elven people were shocked by this.

"We will welcome the king of the human's crystal kingdom and their city; Diamond. We will send letters to the demi-human king Rorick. The adventures guild will have a new home to begin bringing work and trade here to our home. We will maintain our laws but we will also start anew. Today The forest elves take a step on to a new path to spread our branches wide."

This last statement made a shock flow through the elves. Many who had long supported their ways up until now heard of how things had happened with the threat and could not fathom the situation here now. They could not accept the fact that their kingdom had become weak and did not care how they would strengthen it. The younger elves heard her words and found that the entire world was now open to them. The dreams of visiting far off lands were not just dreams, they were paths that had not been walked for hundreds of years.

The roar of the crowd overtook the group's ears while the built up stress from them waiting for the queen's decision dissipated. Meanwhile, there was a flurry of system notifications throughout the country.

'The forest elf kingdom has opened its trading routes to the human city of Diamond.'

The ambassadors of the human's Crystal kingdom have strengthened the bonds with the forest elven city.

The king of the diamond city has been invited to visit the forest elven kingdom.'

The king nearly fell from his throne seeing this, the castle was sent into disarray.

At the adventurers guild...

'Expansion quest- forest elf city

The silver tier adventurer party; Omnipotent, has created an unshakable bond with the forest elves. They have secured a path for the adventurers guild to expand and create stronger ties with the forest elves.

Requirement:

Send a representative to build and foster the new forest elf branch of the adventurers guild.

Reward:

Upon successful expansion, the adventurers guild will be able to deploy elven parties on quests.'

Ibis spit out the tea he was drinking all over his desk. He swept the papers from it and screamed for every available person to come and help.

In the main castle of the demi-human kingdom...

'Kingdom quest- New allies and old friends

The heroes that have assisted the kingdom in the past have taken another step in uniting the races of the world. Join hands with them and share the prosperity with the forest elves.

Requirement:

Send ambassadors to forge relations with the forest elf city within the deep sun hollow forest

Reward:

Unbreakable bonds and trade routes with the forest elves.

Increased binding of humans and demi-human people.

Knowledge sharing between the traditionally oriented forest elf race and the traditionally physical oriented demi-human race'

Rorick stopped in his sword stance, he had been flawlessly training but now was frozen on the spot. "Scylla, get Scylla in here!" His yell held no room for argument and like the others, his castle was thrown in to chaos.