

## Master 441

### Chapter 441 - 441. Lightning

"It can throw wind blades when it has a wind tail. It can also add the other element to the wind blade so-" The lunar priestess was sharing what she knew from previous experience when the twin tail moth did just what she was saying.

The wind blade carried darkness elemental mana and was sent directly at Gil who had just fired an arrow at it. The light exploded in their eyes but also forced the darkness element from the wind blade. Su was able to more easily block the wind blade and was only pushed back a foot. "Thanks Gil." She moved back in to place waiting for the next attack to block.

Wade released some arrows in quick succession at the twin tail moth and managed to hit the tail holding the wind elemental mana. "Perfect!" Wade had hit the spot he was aiming for even though the twin tail moth was flying erratically.

The wind elemental mana was not able to stay within the moths' tail and erupted out of it causing even more damage. As it fell from the air the darkness elemental mana burst out and decayed the body at a rapid rate.

The group had reached a small lull and was keeping vigilant since they could still hear the sounds of the enforcers fighting. "I hope they are alright. They sound like they are involved in some tough fighting." Trish voiced her concern as she opened a small vial and throw the contents in to the air. The smell was sour but bearable.

"What did you just throw everywhere?" Gil was pinching his nose. The smell as disgusting to him and no one wanted to ask Midnight what she thought. If anything she just suffered through it silently.

"It is a crystallized jewel bug blood. They are the smelliest bugs but they produce the smell to fend off predators. They are shiny and eye catching but not worth going near. Thus smell deters many monsters in the forest. I hope it helps." Trish knew that it might not do much against the two insect monsters but it was something.

For a few minutes the smell appeared to be working. This was the desired effect and they were all able to recover their wits. The sudden attack had been too much to handle on top of everything and was taxing their minds.

"The sounds of fighting are dying down over there. Should we call out?" Gil was curious about what was happening with the enforcers. He wanted more than anything to hear another voice saying that the butterflies and moths were all defeated.

The entire group had the feeling that things were too quiet. "The azure butterflies would usually be more chaotic than this. There were so few I am not sure why they are like this." the lunar priestess was just sharing from the previous experiences. Unfortunately, this was not a good sign for everyone else.

The group saw a flash from the nearby forest and felt the hair stand on their necks. The loud boom that echoes around them was extremely familiar to the party. After their ears recovered Walker was able to speak clearly. "That was lightning. Something just used lightning out there."

"Brother, the enforcers are retreating to us. They say there is a mutated twin tail moth." Onyx was the only one that had been able to descend the tree due to its large size. He had been picking off the azure butterflies by himself from the ground. Walker had let him protect from there since he couldn't imagine what it would be like if they came from under them.

"Tri tailed moth. It's a tri tailed moth." The lunar priestess had become deathly pale after hearing this.

"They can have three tails and three elements!?" Wade was comparing the strength of the twin tailed moth and knew that adding another element was much more powerful.

"It takes three elements to make basic lightning. Water, fire, and wind. This tri tailed moth will have those and be able to combine them. We need to get to the ground so I can make an earth wall to protect us." Walker knew that the earth was the only strength against the lightning that he could use.

Su, don't try and block its attacks. I don't think your shield will block all the damage and you could be taken down after one hit." Su was unhappy to hear this but did not argue. "Now down we go."

Trish and the lunar priestess both carried Remey while Midnight acted as their guard. Walker was also watching and used his multi buff skill again. This made everyone better able to get down the tree in an efficient manner.

"Duck!" Su saw a blue flash from the corner of her eye and no sooner had called out than a water bolt had flown over Trish's head.

"Thank you for the warning. Now let me take care of this." The look on Trish's face was pure rage. She had almost lost her head to some weak monster. She whipped two potions at it and instead of a ball of flame this time the burning and sizzling of acid filled the air.

"Acid from a swamp alligator species will always digest its' prey." Trish had rarely used this monster material and was reminded of why. Its danger was too high and was dissolving a monster in front of her eyes.

"Keep up, I will make some walls from the earth when we get down. I will use my high earth sculpting to keep us safe." Walker was shouting as she moved down the tree. He had taken Trish's place and carried almost all of Remey's weight. The surprising part was that the lunar priestess was keeping up with him and lifting more than he had expected.

As soon as they reached the ground they knew that they were in for more trouble. The flowers that had bloomed due to the full moon were almost all occupied by azure butterflies.

Chapter 442 - 442. No Running

"These things are everywhere. How are we going to get around them?" Gil was standing at the ready to snipe any of the azure butterflies that noticed them. Luckily none had done so yet.

"How important are these plants?" Walker whispered this question to Trish who appeared to be shocked to even have him ask.

"It took years upon years upon years to grow some of these plants. There are some that only bloom or give fruit after seventy or a hundred years." Trish may have known the danger but she answered honestly without fail.

"Then we cant just do something to destroy them all at once. We will need to try and sneak by. The problem is that the enforcers are retreating this way and drawing that mutated moth here." Walker feared that they would not be fast enough to avoid the tri tailed moth which would most certainly attack them along with the enforcers trying to hold it off.

"Silent shot," Wade spoke and joined them as soon as he reached the ground as well. He had trailed the rear in case any other azure butterflies made their way near them. "The silent shot skill can pick them off but we will need to start with the farther away targets first."

The plan was to systematically take out as many as possible to reduce the risk. The azure butterflies were only the size of a large serving platter, but their water elemental attacks could not be underestimated. Especially when the group could see ten around them at once.

"A few look to have moved on when we came down here. I think the smell has worked for us a little." Trish was hopeful that this was the reason for a few moving away to a farther distance. It was even more surprising that the group was still unnoticed.

Midnight had activated her shadow wrapping skill while she supported the majority of Remy's weight. This made it much harder for Remy to be spotted along with Midnight. It was a very smart move for her to use against the azure butterflies in the darkness of the night.

Walker saw that Su and Trish would be completely caught up with helping to move Remy along with Midnight. This made it very hard to make a speedy retreat but much easier to hide them if Walker could get a distraction going to create time for him to make an earth bunker.

After pondering the plans Walker decided to try and slowly manipulate the earth under them to make a bunker while Gil and Wade used silent shot skill to snipe the farthest azure butterflies. This would clear the area slowly and prepare them for more azure butterflies arriving and even for the tri tailed moth which was following the incoming enforcers.

"Gil, snipe some of the azure butterflies with Wade while I prepare a place to hide. When the enforcers get closer they can hide with us when I make the earth move. You will need to have a light elemental arrow ready to blind them when I give the signal." Walker placed both hands deep in to the first and slowly used his mana to manipulate the earth.

He was imagining the towers of the castle corners. They were made of sturdy stone and easily protected. His main goal in using this as inspiration was due to the fact that it had small windows created for the exact reason of firing arrows and spells. With a structure like this, the enforcer could still attack and slowly pick off the azure butterflies.

Walker was still not sure how he would go about defeating the tri tailed moth if it decided to continue the pursuit of the enforcers. The earth structure he was making should block the lightning but if it attacked any other way it might not hold up. There was also the questionable power of the lightning it had used before, they had no idea if it could break through an earth wall.

Wade didn't hesitate and silently fired arrow after arrow at the furthest azure butterflies. Gil watched his skill for a moment in awe. This was the pinnacle of the elves' archers. Just watching for a few moments was enough to learn how to slightly adjust his aim and improve his own archery.

Gil looked to the azure butterfly that was on a large purple flower and took aim. His arrow easily flew through the air without a sound. The moment it pierced the soft body of the butterfly Gil received the system notification of defeat. He smiled and kept up his skill while keeping a light elemental arrow Walker had handed him at the ready. He would aim for the most central azure butterfly so that he could blind as many as possible.

Walker was slowly changing the shape of the earth underneath them so that he could just make the small tower rise in an instant with a burst of mana. He made sure to change things slowly so that the shift of natural mana would not alert the nearby azure butterflies.

While they prepared there was an increase in sound coming from the trees past the large garden. Walker could see the enforcers fighting in the distance and aiming their bows upwards toward a darker shape fluttering between branches.

This shape was double the size of the twin tail moth from before and the three colors of tails he saw were red, green, and blue. This was definitely the source of the lighting from before and it was much closer than any of them wanted it to be.

"We are almost out of time. Gil let Wade take over and prepare yourself. Su and Trish, let Onyx shrink himself and help Midnight. He had been on the other side of the tree hiding since we started to descend." Walker prepared himself to use a large amount of mana when the enforcers got to them.

Chapter 443 - 443. Reclaim

The enforcers easily spotted the group who were at the base of the tree. The defeated azure butterflies gave them a path to rush over and join them. As they ran they completely left the tri tailed moth behind due to its slower speed.

The enforcers were able to take down the remaining azure butterflies in their way leaving only those that were slightly farther away. "Gil as soon as they reach us do it." Walker gave the signal and Gil started to channel his mana to activate the light elemental wither spike arrow.

The azure butterflies felt the threat of enemies and saw the enforcers running towards the group. This was their sign to attack but they were not able to properly for their water bolt skills before Gil released the light elemental wither spike arrow.

Walker saw the arrow leave Gil's hand and immediately used half of his mana on the high earth sculpting skill. The ground cracked and twisted creating a tower around them. There were stairs up to three stories. They each had a small window to shoot from making the enforcers act quickly to take positions.

"Shield your eyes. The arrow is activating the light elemental mana!" Gil shouted while they all closed their eyes and avoided the blinding effect of the arrow.

The burst of light could even be seen through their eyelids but was not enough to cause them any blurred or blind vision. However, the sounds of flapping and chaotic fluttering was a different matter. These sounds were all around outside the earth tower that had just spring from the ground to surround the group.

With the enemy in chaos, the enforcers did not hesitate to attack without fail. There were sounds of butterflies falling to the ground. The flapping sound was dying down but now there was a shaking on the tower. The remaining azure butterflies were sending countless water bolts at the tower's earth walls to break it and defeat the predators inside.

The group was not in a good situation. Walker knew that he needed to use his full attention to sculpt the earth and repair any damage as it happened. He could not let anything break in and try to harm them. The problem was that the water elemental attacks were eroding the earth that made up the tower. This meant that Walker could either start to freeze the water but risk the azure butterflies manipulating it or he could keep rebuilding the tower by pulling more earth in to it and risk the plants' safety.

"I need you guys to start culling their numbers. This tower can't home forever without damaging the garden." This single shout from Walker made every single one of the enforcers push themselves harder. They did not want the hard work of the elven farmers to be thrown away. The fruits taken from these gardens were valuable sources of healing and food for their city.

"Walker, I am supporting everyone. What is the status of your mana." Walker had not been able to focus on what enforcers had been able to return to them. Thankfully Sierra had been among them and she had come to check on him while the others were doing their best to battle the azure butterflies.

"My mana is getting low. I am trying to replenish it but if I pull out a potion from my inventory I might not repair something damaged on the wall." Walker was breathing heavily while remaining focused on the task. He couldn't stop repairing the damage even for a second.

"Then I can assist you. I have a skill called mana reclaim. It has the temporary effect of pulling in the mana that dissipates when a skill is used. You will get half of your mana back from the air around you." Sierra reached out a hand and a strange light flowed over Walker.

He instantly felt the mana returning to him and could more easily repair the wall. "I forget that you are a form of healer. You think I would have that memorized by now." Walker had first seen her healing Wades' arm when he was hurt in the battle with the massive minimized purple slime.

"I never told you my system. I am a user of the battle healer class. My skills focus on boosting my targets' skills and debuffing my opponent. I also get some basic health and mana absorption skills." Sierra ran toward the window and performed the same skill on Gil and Su. Su had been blocking the attacks aimed at the window when Gil was preparing arrows.

Walker had been able to let out a stack of arrows from his inventory while he prepared earlier and Gil was quickly finishing them off. His speed had become much faster when firing arrows and Walker could only claim that it was the result of the new quiver. This was not the time to think of this though.

Onyx and Midnight were protecting Remey by covering her with their bodies. The two suddenly perked up as if they sensed something. Walker sensed the mana change as well a moment later. "Brother, something big is coming," Onyx Warned everyone and they all immediately stopped their actions.

Walker used his high earth sculpting skill to close the windows that everyone was attacking through, before a loud boom of lightning rang in the air. The entire tower shook and the flapping of azure butterflies came to silence. The only sound was a single pair of wings flapping kicking up a strong breeze.

"The tri tailed moth is here. I can sense the three different elemental manas outside. That attack did a lot of damage to my tower. I can't keep it up if it hits again." Walker could already feel the elemental mana gathering to create another lightning attack. All he could do was brace and hope that nothing got through.

#### Chapter 444 - 444. Arrival

"Everyone get behind me and huddle close together!" Su was already in front of Midnight and Onyx whole were using their bodies as shields for Remey. Onyx had only reduced his size a fraction so that he was large enough to coil around Midnight and act as a first shield. The sight of the pair working so closely touched Walkers' heart. But this was not the time for emotions like that.

"I am going to use my wide guard skill. Just focus on staying behind me and my shields should block anything coming from the front." Su gave a last warning as Walker adjusted the tower to have a thicker front wall. The roof would be the problem due to falling debris.

Using the high earth sculpting skill Walker moved the earth from the ceiling toward the front wall and thickened it. This was his last ditch to deal with the more focused lighting attack from the tri tailed moth.

"Here is the best method of attack." Wade was taking the close gathering as an impromptu strategy meeting. This was the perfect time to figure out how they would either retreat or defeat the moth. "The tails where they store mana are weak. But the wind elemental tail will stop arrows so we need to divide its' attention."

"Then we take out its mana sources and go in for the final blow?" Gil was already understanding the plan.

"Or we could stop its ranged attacks and retreat." Trish was more on the run away side because she knew that the size of the tri tailed moth was still enough to give them all a lot of trouble.

"No, it is going to chase us. Those in the city can assist us but if we reach there and it attracts more of its species then we will be bringing a plague." The lunar priestess had seen the moths spread the pheromones on their wings and attract more moths before. The last time they nearly lost a garden and spirit cedar. If it happened this time a garden could be the least of their worries due to the stronger effect the larger tri tailed moth would have.



"We will stay and fight, now cover your heads!" Walker braced everyone for the attack he felt coming. With everyone curled tightly behind Su, she used her wide block skill while slamming her shields together to make one large shield.

The shield thrummed as she pulled the stored mana out to activate the skill. The runes carved to draw mana on them shimmered and a translucent dome covered everyone. She had learned this skill when she equipped the shields and practiced with them. It was currently her strongest blocking skill for the express reason that it doubled her defense and all defense by creating a dome of her own mana. The only downfall was the cost of mana she paid.

The largest boom they had heard yet reverberated in the air as the earth wall shattered into pieces of hardened earth. The tower fell to pieces in a matter of seconds while Su's skill and shields deflected the pieces of super heated earth. The damage was mitigated by her but the tower would not be able to be rebuilt before the moth was able to attack them again.

"I am firing my arrows!" Wade yelled and so did Gil. They ran in opposite directions trying to draw the moths' attention. The enforcers followed their lead and Walker realized that this was the best time for the newly created fusion spell he had worked on with the mages.

The moldable crystal ball appeared within his hands and Walker started to manipulate its shape into that of a spear. He used the blade of night and day skill causing the inner darkness and light elemental mana to flare up and create the dominating spear he had tested before. He planned to let everyone distract the tri-tailed moth and rush in to use his quick jab skill to start bleeding mana and decaying the moth.

The arrows that the enforcers, Wade, and Gil fired were blown away by the wind elemental mana the tri-tailed moth was producing. This was making it receive zero damage every time they fired. The fact that they were limited to normal arrows due to the possible damage to the garden did not help.

Walker moved forwards and tried to get nearer. But the moth was very vigilant and retreated. There was a water bolt sent his way that Su managed to deflect. She retreated to Remey again and gave Walker a worried look. She was protecting the one who couldn't move but wanted to also protect Walker. It was the struggle of any shield user.

They were having more and more trouble getting any hits on the moth as they fought. Only one or two arrows had pierced the moth but they were small wounds unable to be called real damage. "I need to use my elemental arrows again!" Gil yelled that he had to attack with all his might but he was met with a

shake of Wades' head. He had been lucky with the fire elemental arrow before because the azure butterfly stopped it. But now there was no such skill to stop the attack damage range.

I didn't think there would be such a great welcoming party for the ambassador of the demi-human kingdom orf Ordist. I have truly underestimated the forest elves." A familiar voice echoed around them making the noise of the battle fade away temporarily.

"I'm glad to see my little champion doing well. But where is that brawler? She looked at Walker then at Su. "I easily spotted the guardian that showed off a great dual wielding two shields but I am missing one."

"General Scylla!? Why are you here?" Walker shouted more in surprise than anything else.

Chapter 445 - 445. Defend To Win

Scylla had appeared out of nowhere all on her own. Not a single other person was with her making Walker and Su feel they were seeing things. This feeling was made even stronger as Scylla was seemingly standing in the air near the tri tailed moth.

"I heard the sounds of what I thought to be a celebration and when I get here, there is this little bug making noise. Should I deal with it?" Scylla asked this like it was a simple task for her. But the group was willing to let her assist since they were currently at a disadvantage.

Walker hesitated only for a moment as she saw that Scylla had zeroed in on the defensive position of Midnight and Onyx. "General Scylla. We are protecting Remey for some time. We would gladly welcome your assistance in dealing with these pests. They are trying to destroy this beautiful Garden."

With Walker's approval, Scylla opened a fan in each hand and smiled widely. The air started to kick up around here getting the full attention of the Tri tailed moth. It had just felt the wind elemental mana in one tail lose strength and it was far from happy. However, it also felt that the water elemental mana it could control was also acting up.

Scylla had the two elemental affinities of wind and water. This made her easily fit the namesake of the monster she had traits of. The sea dwelling monster known to kick up violent typhoons was a master of the wind and water elements in general. Therefore, when Scylla had started to control her skills she found that she was able t easily manipulate both of these elemental manas.

The only mana not affected was the fire elemental mana in its third mutated tail. This instead was being kept in check by the water elemental mana that was thick in the air from the full moon. The advantage the tri tailed moth might as well never have existed in the first place.

"I can feel the strength of the mana in the air, this is a very interesting spot of forest," Scylla spoke as she raised both fans and slashed downwards. There were two blades of wind and water created that fused in to one. The water became further propelled by the wind making it sharper than a steel blade.

The tri tailed moth couldn't react fast enough as a large cut appeared in one of its wings severing the wind elemental tail from the end. This caused it to flap wildly in the air and start to spread a different pheromone in the air. This smell screamed danger and enemy to every twin tailed moth nearby.

"No need to be unhappy. You will soon be gone from this world and unable to harm some of my favorite colosseum challengers." Scylla was getting a little more serious since she knew that there would be more enemies coming due to the scent. She had gone against enemies that used similar methods when in danger.

The group had been caught frozen for too long which made Walker shout to get them to move again, "Gil and Wade! Take this chance to load it up with arrows." Every enforcer reacted to Walker's shout and sent their own arrows in to the mix. Sierra returned to buffing them to increase their power as well.

The damage to the tri tailed moth was mounting as it attempted to gather the elemental mana to properly attack. "Wait! Retreat!" Scylla suddenly started to go backward in the air and touch the ground. Her face spoke of dangers approaching.

Walker could feel the three elemental manas within the tri tailed moth's mana converged toward the center. It couldn't gather much elemental mana at the moment but this attack was still able to be used. "It's going to use a lightning attack!" Walker tried his best to create an earth wall in front of him.

The group fell in behind him with Su in front of all of them again. However, the difference was that Scylla joined them. "I will finish this after we survive this attack." Scylla wanted to defeat the tri tailed moth now but the problem was that if she did the mana the tri tailed moth had left in its' body would act like an over filled pastry; it would explode.

This was the final attack of the tri tailed moth that it could use before exhausting all of its' mana. With a thick earth wall rising in front of Walker and Su using her wide guard skill they had hope it would not damage them. But they did not realize there were worse things coming.

The pheromones had been partially blown away by Scyllas' wind based attacks. This was good because it had made it harder for more of the twin tailed moths to come and attack them in hope of gaining access to the nectar in the garden. Yet there was still enough in the body of the moth itself to attract five more nearby twin tailed moths that were showing themselves at the edge of the forest.

"Leader, we need to attack as soon as the next lightning bolt is done." Su gave the warning and everyone tensed up. The enforcers, Wade' and Gil Had arrows at the ready. Onyx and Midnight sured up their protection and Sierra started to buff everyone again.

There was a sudden feeling of static in the air that they all knew from the previous attacks. Feeling this they made himself a tighter defense against the attack before the flash of light exploded outwards from the tri tailed moth in a wave of lightning.

The boom deafened the group again as the dense earth wall Walker was still creating fell apart. He was still working now with his high earth sculpting but it was crumbling and losing strength. Su prepared herself for the impending blow.

#### Chapter 446 - 446. Crushing Victory

The wall fell apart and Walker was forced to stop putting his mana in to it. The lighting wave that had just hit it still had some strength but was significantly weakened. Su braced herself and felt the feeling of thousands of needles hitting her body. She had not imagined that the lighting would feel this way.

Su was lucky to have raised her defense higher with her defense but she was still feeling the power of this attack. She grew red faces and had heavy breathing but the lighting did not take her down.

"Su stay still, Sierra and I are healing you." While Sierra and Walker started to heal Su from the attack Scylla jumped in to the air sending multiple wind blades at the tri tailed moth. It had exhausted the last of the mana in its body and it was already falling from the air. This was not an excuse to stop though. Scylla knew that unless the enemy was soundly defeated then it could rise again.

The wind blades sent forth from her fans completely cut the tri tailed moth in to pieces. All that was left were three pieces on the ground that were once a single creature. "The bog one is dealt with, but the five friends it called still need a lesson." Scylla's smile became brutal as she went after the nearest one.

Gil and Wade started to support her and aimed for the tails of the moths. They had the same water and wind elements stored in the tails of their wings making them very similar to the tri tailed moth. These were most likely from the same brood as the tri tailed moth but less lucky to mutate.

"Onyx, go and help them. Remy will be safe here with the enforcers standing guard with Midnight." Walker made this call because he knew that Onyx not only needed the experience but he also needed to get used to his new body size. He had only recently grown so much and if he was not used to it he could accidentally hurt the party while fighting. This was a very important task for him.

"Yes brother, I will be off." Onyx knew exactly why Walker wanted this and could feel that he would become stronger in following this order. He unwrapped himself from Midnight and left making it look like Midnight was smaller than before. However, this was just a result of Onyx slowly absorbing his shadow again to show his true size.

Now that Onyx was larger he did not need the help of Midnight to get close to an opponent and bind them. He could use his size and strength to leap from a coil and bite down in to a moth. These smaller moths were easy for him to latch on to with his fangs and bind. They also did not have tough exoskeletons like other insects and he could slowly crush them to death.

The sickening sound of a twin tailed moth being crushed was lost to the brutality of Scylla's winds. She was jumping through the air slicing at three of the moths that had been victimized by the two archers' arrows. Gil and Wade had easily gotten rid of the stored mana within their tails using their skills.

The remaining fifth moth was trying to flap near the group that Walker was part of and was now under siege by the remaining enforcers. They were sending arrows at it trying to cut its wings so it would fall. "I will deal with that thing now." Walker once again pulled the moldable crystal ball and changed its shape to that of a spear.

He activated his blade of night and day skill and felt the mana thrum to life. Instead of running to try and stab the moth, he knew he couldn't reach he decided to throw the spear he had created. His shoulder cocked back and the spear felt heavy in his hand. Walker took a deep breath and then released the spear with all his might.

'The user has used his entire strength to throw a specific weapon. The skill piercing throw has been taken from the elite spearman system. The user has automatically learned the skill piercing throw.

Piercing throw- 3 mana cost

The user must use a spear or thin pointed weapon to throw from a distance. The mana used will form a barrier around the pointed end causing it to dig deeper in to the target. The defenses it comes in to contact with will have a much higher chance of breaking than usual.'

Walker paid no mind to the system as he wanted the crystal spear pierced through the twin tailed moth. The light elemental mana caused the stored mana to bleed out in to the air and the darkness elemental mana visibly decayed the body. The twin tailed moth was defeated before it even touched the ground.

Walker saw the spear lose the blade of night and day skill and fall to the ground behind the moth. Walker looked around at the rest of the moths that were all defeated. Onyx had released the body of the one he crushed to death and Scylla looked like she did not have enough fun slicing up the three twin tailed moths she took on.

Meanwhile, Gil and Wade were counting their remaining arrows since they were worried more may be on the way. "Leader, I should be fine now. That attack left me numb for a few moments but it has passed. I believe we should look for some gear that reduces the elemental effects of attacks in the future" Su was already trying to think of how to improve. She was strong willed and would never let one attack that hit her stop her brilliant mind from working.

"That was fun. I'm glad I went ahead of everyone and managed to see you all earlier." Scylla returned to them hiding her face behind one of her fans. She was very pleased to see the young party again.

Chapter 447 - 447. Butting Heads

'Tri tailed moth defeated 250 exp gained

9 twin tailed moths defeated 900 exp gained

17 azure butterflies defeated 535 exp gained.

'Emergency quest completed- Resting hero

Requirements:

Protect the resting hero Remey from danger.

Rewards:

1 mana point

2 heroic quest points'

The sound of Remey groaning from underneath the protection of Midnight made the conversation stop. Walker was looking at the sudden system notifications and smiled. "Looks like someone is finally awake."

Midnight moved from Remey and looked at her with a worried expression. "What the heck was all that?" Remey appeared to be fully awake but she was not in the best of moods. "It was like someone had just lit me on fire." Her eyes drifted over the [party and the enforcers around her. She soon took in the slightly damaged area and the fallen monsters.

"Yeah, a lot has hap[pended but you and all of us are safe so just ask whatever you need to ask." Walker made sure that Remey would have the time to adjust to the changes around her. The last thing she remembered was biting in to the mana fruit and then feeling warm and tired from the potions that Trish had given her.

"Alright, what happened while I was asleep." Remey's eyes had grown wide after realizing that Scylla was there as well.

"The azure butterflies and the twin tailed moths came for the flowers that had opened during the full moon and the ceremony. Unfortunately, they caused enough trouble that they got past the enforcers. This would have been fine if the enforcers didn't attract the attention of the tri tailed moth. This is a

mutated twin tailed moth that is larger and has a third elemental affinity. It was able to use lightning." Remey's eyes grew wide and her face dropped.

"Thanks for protecting me..." Remey wasn't sure how she would pay them back for this later.

"It is my fault for not warning you about the side effects of the mana fruit. If I had not been so excited about the chance to create an alchemy guild I would have been able to properly act as a master alchemist." Trish averted her gaze and was ready to accept any form of punishment that the heroes would dole out.

"Why would I be angry at you? I should have asked and learned everything first. It was one of the last herbs I registered in my alchemical brawlers' guide and it is my failure to completely understand the fruit it gives." Remey was not taking anyone else at fault other than herself.

"Well, it is good to hear that you are not injured. I would hate to miss a little trickster like you in my next tournament." Scylla gave her fan a soft teasing wave at Remey to ruffle her hair.

"I am also wondering when general Scylla got here. Last time I heard it would take a week for our king to get here." Remey was even more confused now.

"I came early of course. If I use my skills I can move much faster than anyone else. So, here I am. Want to give me a tour of the forest elf city and tell me about this alchemy guild this little elf told me about?"

" Little elf? Child, I have lived many years longer than you or anyone within your kingdom. If you can not respect your elders I will not allow you the kindness of our herbal brews." Trish was easily offended when it came to things like this. She preferred those to give proper respect to their elders in public.

Scylla stiffened after being called a child. This was one of the things she hated to be called the most after monster. "You would threaten the future with the kingdom I represent based on one small misconception? And even after I saved your life and the life of a hero? The heroes that I believe were under your care and were put at risk due to your poor guidance?" Scylla had become cold and her voice steady.



The two glared at each other before Remey interrupted them, "Why does it smell so bad around here?" She had realized that there was an incredibly potent smell in the air causing her nose to scrunch up.

"It was a power to keep more monsters at bay. I will teach you to make it when we return to the city. That is if I don't need to introduce this child to one of my acidic potions." Remey had hope that Trish had been distracted and stop her small feud with Scylla, unfortunately, that was not the case.

"We should settle this in the city, don't you think? I can speak to your queen about the trade routes we will no longer assist you in building due to your comments." Scylla was using her cards to their full advantage but Trish had the same cards to use.

"Then we will just need to focus on the trade routes with other kingdoms. From what I have learned they would greatly like to use the rune formations and some of the crystals that my people craft. They also mentioned to someone that your kingdom would benefit from the water spikes we produce, however, we may not have a chance to sell any to your farmers. Such a pity.' Trish and Scylla were butting heads more every second they looked at each other.

"And by the name of the hero, I demand both of you stop arguing or I will personally make both of you send the goods as pack mules to each other kingdoms." Walker stepped in with what he thought to be a good threat. He would hate to have to travel to the two kingdoms back and forth constantly. Instead, the two women started laughing at him.

Chapter 448 - 448. Remey Is Fine

"Walker, I think your joke worked. They appear to be much happier now." Su whispered in Walker's ear. He was just thankful that it had come off as a joke and that was what everyone thought.

"I think you are funnier than I was lead to believe. I hope that you are still able to be serious in the heat of battle." Scylla was still having a hard time preventing herself from laughing.

"He was very serious. You should have seen the earth tower he made to protect us. It was not the strongest earth I have ever seen but it was formidable.

to be able to create it in such a short time. I believe he could easily turn the tide of a battle with such speed and ingenuity."

Trish and Scylla had found some common ground and it appeared that their spat from a moment ago was over.

"I wonder if the two of them actually didn't like each other or they were just testing their wills?" Gil had a feeling that the pair had been seeing what the other was like before they trusted them to speak.

"Welcome to the outskirts of my home. My name is Wade and I would be honored to escort the Ordlist ambassador general Scylla to our queen for an audience." Wade saw that this was one of the duties he would need to take on since Sierra was already assigned to the heroes.

"Well, it is nice to meet you, Wade. I would like to walk with the heroes back to the city. Is that agreeable?" Scylla was too interested in the party to just up and walk away at that moment.

"Of course, we are heading the same direction. It is only proper for us to travel together." Wade was still very polite making the other enforcers stand taller.

"And as you know I am the master alchemist and an elder of the elves. I was here to finish a very important potion and to guide the path of a young alchemist." Trish surprised Scylla by saying that Remey was an alchemist.

Of course, Scylla had heard what Remey had said about the alchemical brawler field guide but she believed that Remey was just writing things down in a physical book. "You're an alchemist?"

"Umm, I'm an alchemical brawler. It's a unique system..." Remey wasn't sure what Scylla's response would be to this. She knew that the elves were much more used to hearing about the system upgrades through unique quests and circumstances, but had no idea about what the demi-human perspective would be.

"Unique system you say? Then it is similar to a demi-human who gains the traits of an extinct monster or animal. Or even when they gain the traits of a monster or animal that has yet to be discovered." Scylla easily made the comparison.

"That actually sounds pretty interesting. Is that common in your kingdom nowadays?' This attracted Trisah's attention along with every elf around them. Their curiosity for how they kept track of these new or unique systems.

"Yes, it happens every few years. Sometimes there will be one like me that makes it to the kingdom and has the same system as an ancient monster or there will be a large number of children born who all have the same system with the same animal traits. Those who have the one and only traits and system are the wild cards. Most systems in the kingdom have similar traits of rankings for the most part, but those who are unknown can use their skills to catch others off guard. That's what I was able to rise in the colosseum so well." Scylla was sharing more than anyone expected.

"So that's why I was able to do better. I can sup[rise them with skills they didn't know I had. Maybe I should go back when things calm down." Walker was more thinking out loud but when Scylla heard this she became much more excited.

"Yes, you should come and visit again. When the trade routes start having the heroes to walk them once or twice would make them much safer and accepted by the people." This idea wasn't bad but would be a long way out from where the kingdoms were now.

"So, now that we are all up and you know standing around...can we go and get some food?' Remey had unexpectedly chimed in surprising everyone.

Midnight jumped up hearing that they were going to get food. "Yes, we can go get food." Walker patted Midnight on the head while looking at Remey. "Are you really feeling alright?" He wanted to make one last check before they were on the move back to the elf city.

"I am fine. You're as bad a Su and Gil. They have both been looking at me like I was damaged goods since I stood up." Remey showed some of her feisty attitude making them all relax. "I just feel really hungry all of the sudden."

"That would be the side effect of the mana fruit. It changed your body to be able to produce and hold more mana than it could before. Now it needs more nutrition to recover what it used." Trish already had the answer ready.

"So you're saying that Remey might give Midnight a run for her money at breakfast today?" Gil immediately made the joke that got Midnight all riled up.

"Oh, we'll see who gives who a RUN for their money." Remey cracked her knuckles showing that she was fully back to her usual self and gave chase after Gil who was already sure she would hit him.

"Yeah, I would say Remey is fine. Let's walk and talk our way back to the city. I think everyone will need a good meal and rest." Walker started off towards the directions they had come in.

Chapter 449 - 449. Not Extinct

The group took the ground back toward the elf city since most were too tired to run through the trees or hop branch to branch. The enforcers remained on high alert while Sierra constantly used her skills to help them replenish mana. Walker happily handed out healing and mana potions as needed.

"And you're saying she made all of those mana portions herself before even coming here?" Scylla had been questioning the alchemical brawler system as they walked. She found it interesting that Remey was so adept in combat and a calming art such as alchemy.

"Yes, she even made the healing potions too. I was pretty surprised when I found out she was an honorary member of the alchemy building at our kingdom as well. To be honest she is probably an official member now that she can produce potions and other such alchemic products." Walker was thinking about the qualifications and figured the old master alchemist must have made everything official the second he found out she had this ability.

"Even if she was not the official member of this alchemy building she will soon be the first founder of the alchemy guild. What do you think about that general Scylla?" Trish and Scylla still had a little bit of a friendly head butting attitude, but everyone had started to realize that it was just two strong personalities colliding out of respect and fun.

"I think that is an interesting move. It would certainly be safer to have it set up as a guild. The adventurers guild had an easy time replacing the groups of mercenaries within our kingdom since they would be able to better handle the quests given. There was also a safety aspect of having a guild that could enforce rules and regulations."

"That is why I want to form a guild for alchemy. We could protect those who are victimized from exorbitant prices for life saving potions. We can make sure that those with the alchemy based systems

have the chance to learn and it is not just the richer noble families that have the alchemy based systems. Not to mention the flow of rare herbs can be better regulated with new trading routes."

Remey had heard them talking about the future guild she wanted to form and couldn't help herself from chiming in. Walker saw the opportunity to test the water with the idea that the demi-human kingdom could become more open to using potions again. "If it becomes a guild then there would be a very safe form of tested potions coming in to the kingdoms. Your kingdom could benefit greatly."

Scylla looked at Walker and understood the point he was trying to make. She had the same feelings over potions since they had the incident where there were many that were hurt and killed by the bad batches of potions from the demons. "I see where you are going with this and I can not say you are wrong to push for it. But you need to show the people of my kingdom proof before they trust it."

"That is a wise choice. I have heard the problems you face and wish there had been a guild to prevent that before it had happened. Please accept my sincerest condolences." Trish had seen many young alchemists who had tested potions alone without guidance fail or perish due to their actions. She had always strived to make sure these things would not happen, but they were unavoidable as they were.

"I believe a joint endeavor such as this would be a great way to bring the kingdoms together. With the addition of trading and an auction the three kingdoms could bond closer than they ever have." Su was exactly right on this note. If they did manage to agree and pursue these things the kingdoms would be laying down a history that took all three of them instead of just one.

"Then I will consider it well when I speak to my king. I am here to act in negotiations and see what possible futures we hold together. We may hold similar goals when it comes to ongoing problems as well." There was an ominous feeling as Scylla said this.

Walker didn't want to pry too much on this but had a feeling that it would be coming up when they all spoke together. He feared that Scylla was casually mentioning the differences the elves had with the demons and the similar feeling they may have in line with the dem-humans.

"We should focus on returning and properly resting. The political talks can wait until your other representative reach the city. You should enjoy it just as the heroes have been doing. I believe they will have much to show you." Scylla appeared much more interested in what Wade had just suggested. Walker sent a thankful glance to Wade. he would make a point to speak to Wade and Alma together later.

"Wait did you just say unicorns? Your little serpent said there are unicorns around!" Scylla had been pulled in to a conversation with Onyx. "Unicorns are just a myth for us in the kingdom. They used to live in the great plains but were forced out. The last time anyone saw them was many years ago. Now they are only in story books" Scylla wanted to rush and see them right away.

"Midnight and Onyx have spent some time with them and even made friends. I can assure you he is telling the truth. They are few in number but if they are treated right maybe the elves could foster the safe return of their species. That is if your kingdom forbids the hunting and selling of materials." Wade knew the exact way to play this situation. Scylla quickly returned to her serious demeanor.

"Yes, it is another thing to discuss. I can promise this thing, my king would happily send any that threatened such a species to their death."

Chapter 450 - 450. Mostly

"That is a pretty serious position to take. I don't mean this isn't a serious matter, but it is pretty extreme." Gil was a little worried that Scylla would be unhappy about him saying this so he got slightly worried.

"To my king, it is very serious. More so than most people would think." Scylla was still very serious but Walker could see a slight softness around her eyes. He could tell there was more to it than what she was letting on.

"Can I ask why king Rorick would be so strict with this species in particular?" Walker knew he was starting to pry. He had just told himself he would not be doing this but he had a strange feeling that it would be something important to the negotiations later.

"Didn't you meet the future queen of Ordist?" Scylla blinked, she had not expected them to be this lost after their visit.

"Future queen? I thought that there was no queen?" Remey was sure that they had not met a queen at all and believed that the demi-human kingdom was still waiting for one.

"I thought you all had met her. Let me ask you this first, what characteristics does our king have?" Scylla was waiting for an answer.

"He has lion traits. It is like the pictures on the walls. I believe it is long passed down his bloodline." Su and Walker both agreed on this. They had carefully studied the murals on the coliseum walls.

"That is correct. To be more specific it is a monster trait shared with the golden lion. They are powerful monsters thought to be extinct before our first king appeared and brought our kingdom together." Scylla made a point to emphasize this part. "The soon to be queen shares the thought to be extinct traits that our kings' bloodline has. Future queen Rosalia has the white hair and light elemental affinity of a unicorn."

The others stopped for a moment. They couldn't believe that this was possible. It was such a powerful connection between them that they did not know was even there until now. "That is amazing. Your kingdom must have already known that there were still unicorns somewhere then, right" Remey was very excited by this.

"We had hopes that it was the case. There were times when an extinct monster or animal would still have demi-human counter parts. But sometimes they would be discovered to still be in existence. We can not travel the largest oceans to check the entire world. We could never know the truth." Scylla lamented the lack of ability to travel and discover the entire world, but she knew that having that unknown mystery was better than knowing everything.

The group got over their shock and continued walking toward the elf city. They had learned a lot in the past few moments. The party specifically felt a little disappointed at not meeting this future queen. "I am curious general Scylla. Why is she just the future queen? Has the wedding date not been set yet?" Su was curious if the party should be setting themselves up as guests for a wedding. It was definitely an important event to attend, especially since they had personally met with king Rorick before.

"The reason is not that complicated. King Rorick is the most powerful of all in our kingdom. He has achieved a great many things compared to past kings in this respect but he has a goal to first accomplish. He wishes to remove the fear the people have faced for generations before he is to offer himself to the one he loves. He is putting the people first. It is honorable."

"I believe the young king must be very respectable. I wish him the best in his goals, whatever they may be." Trish said this in a prompt tone to avoid any more conversation on political goals. It was also her way to bring the conversations to a close. They had just approached the edge of the forest elf city.

"I could see the tree from the forest when I was traveling, but now that I am this close...I still can't believe it." Scylla had the same reaction as the party had when they saw the massive tree reaching toward the heavens.

"If you think this is amazing wait until you have to climb it. I am sure Wade would be willing to take you to the top for the view of a life time." Gil was talking about the view from the thunderstruck branch. He had etched it in to his mind.

"No, she needs to come and see the spirits in the gardens first. They have the most beautiful flowers and there are plenty of food stalls to try on the way there." Su was trying to choose the path Scylla would take before Gil could take hold of the situation.

"If you two wish to fight over me please do it after I have given my greeting to the queen. I also must give her the gift I have brought." Scylla pulled a fan that was much different than the ones she used. "I brought her a fan that I personally made. It has no uses but holds all of the artistic skills I have. I know it is always a surprise when I say that I have the ability to create my own weapons. But it is the only way to use my long reaching skills..mostly."

Walker wondered if there was a hidden meaning behind Scylla gifting a fan, but he was more curious why she said that she mostly could only use fans to use her long reaching skills. It made him feel uneasy. The long and heavy cloaks seemed to ruffle around her even though there was no wind.

"Then my friends and heroes, please excuse me while I escort our newest guest general Scylla to my queen for a proper greeting." Wade made a gesture for Scylla to follow him and the two were gone in a flash.