

Master 691

Chapter 691 - 691. Battle Spirit History

"I really am sorry for taking so long to help you escape the bow. As soon as I learned that I could I did everything I could." Gil was finally able to take a little time to speak to Zephyr by himself. Midnight and Onyx had calmed themselves and were resting near the forge while Su and Remey were playing with the earth spirits and dark spirit. Apparently, they had stayed when Walker rushed out of the room after Grey.

"I know. You never told Walker you were using your wind elemental arrows to give me mana. But I know. I know you hid it and stayed up later than everyone to try and give me more mana. I was so excited that you were trying so hard. That's why I made sure to give you the spirit mark. Spirits can only do that once you know." Zephyr was convinced that Gil would have run himself ragged just to help her at the end of the day.

"You knew that it was from my arrows?" Gil thought that he had been careful not to even say it.

"Hehehe, you talk in your sleep sometimes. And you never let me leave your side. I also remember you saying something about how cute Alma was when she gave you some crystal arrows." Zephyr wasn't afraid to tease Gil in the least. But instead of becoming red faced and embarrassed he just nodded.

Gil felt that he was being spoken to by part of himself. It was as if they were one at times, "Oh, you should try the spirit mark skill to store the bow in it. I want to see." Zephyr remembered this and thought it was the most interesting aspect of the spirit mark. Gil on the other hand had no idea how it worked.

"Do I just think about it happen-" Gil felt a breeze and blinked. When he opened his eyes the spirit mark had an additional bow shaped next to the wind symbol. It glowed slightly and the bow that had been in his lap was gone.

"It's the same as when I would revert to mana only to dwell within the bow. That was very good." Zephyr was pleased with the spirit mark's ability to store the bow away that could act as a dwelling.

"You know, I am really curious about the differences between you and a high spirit. You look like a girl and you have real features. I can see how cute you are when you smile and you speak clearly. From what

the other spirits look like they are just made of their own elements and don't show their emotions on a face." Gil had been trying to fully understand the differences and decided it was best to just ask.

"You're right, I am cute." Zephyr swayed through the air smiling happier than any person Gil had seen. "But the difference between myself and a high spirit is only greater because of my name. The name lets me learn more. I don't need to combine with other spirits to grow. I maintain my personality and memories as I gain mana. High spirits would lose that to become a grand or a dual elemental spirit."

"So you can grow stronger and stronger as a wind elemental spirit and even go beyond a grand spirit? Is that possible?" Gil was wide eyed while imagining what could possibly be higher than a grand elemental spirit.

"No, I doubt I can go higher. The only thing that would be higher than me is a spirit with multiple elements and at that point, they could be considered a full nature spirit instead of an elemental spirit. But a true nature spirit has all the elements and is very powerful. The elves called one that helped grow the forests the world spirit." Zephyr was glad she could share some of her knowledge and stories with Gil. she had been wanting to for a very long time.

"So, do you think your new spirit friend can take a trip down to the treasury with me? I want to see if I can have some help awakening another spirit. I want to learn to speak with them like you and your leader." The elder had gained the courage to ask Gil when it looked like he was at a pause in the conversation.

"Tell him yes! But he needs to leave the pieces of the battle spirits here. The other spirits won't awaken if they are around. The feeling is too...sad." Zephyr made Gil puzzled since he wasn't sure what she was talking about. Regardless he repeated the message.

"That's what they are! I knew your leader said something similar but they are pieces of a battle spirit?" The elder paused for a moment and then quickly asked, "What is a battle spirit. I have not seen one."

"He shouldn't want to see a battle spirit. They have no way to grow. They choose to make a physical body to attack and clash with other elements or even those around them. It is a sad loss for a spirit. They will condense themselves so much that they form a gem like core which bleeds mana until it crumbles to dust." Zephyr looked to have seen this happen before so Gil did not want to push her about it.

Yet, she continued to speak. "Battle spirits used to fight before the tribes had built bigger homes and fought larger wars. There used to be so many elemental spirits that the only way to get the mana we needed was to take it or grab it from unwitting spirits. Some would try and attack forcefully and accidentally became battle spirits. Even spirits are not perfect." Gil had no words for this explanation other than the fact that he could feel her sadness.

Chapter 692 - 692. Picking Dormant Spirits

Gil recalled that the elves had a much more positive ideology for the battle spirits, "The elves seemed to think that they weren't all that bad though? Why might that be?" He wanted to know and felt that if he didn't ask now that he would never have a safe chance to ask again.

"They acted as guardians. I'm sure there are some still around guarding a mana source or a mana dense area. They took territory like an animal and some could be reasoned with. But many ceaselessly fought. I can remember a spirit cedar being frozen and shattered by a water elemental battle spirit just because its roots grew close to the pond it resided in."

"So they weren't always the nicest. But they could be. It just sounded like the elves might be missing some information now." Gil felt bad that the elves were idolizing a kind of spirit that was harmful. "I wonder why the other spirits there don't tell them?" Gil was very confused by this.

"They most likely don't have a spirit mark. The world only lets us share so much about how it works. Spirits are made of mana and can even become close with all mana. We know about how it flows and how secrets we can not share with all due to the risk of nature's balance." Zephyr became serious when saying this. Gil felt more honored than before since he was being entrusted with this information.

"Then I have another reason to be thankful for you. I wouldn't imagine there are limits on what you can even tell people." Gil saw that the elder had locked away one of the pouches he had with him and returned. "Ready to lead the way? I think it will just be us since Su and Remey look busy and Walker probably won't be back. If Midnight and Onyx come they might eat all the crystals." Gil laughed a little and the elder gestured the way he had taken Walker before to the treasury.

As the two walked the in between floors path the elder asked another question, "What is to be done with those mysterious gems they used to be battle spirit bodies? We never can appraise them and we've never found anything to do with them as a crafting material." Zephyr stopped and turned her head to the side while swaying slightly side to side in the air.

Gil stopped as well and replied as she spoke, "return them to mana. They shouldn't be used for anything. They are impurities that would hinder anything made. The mana around them is forced together. Battle

spirits are force elemental compression versus natural mana density. Elementals fuse and interact with each other but those pieces reject all but one element. They should be placed in the appropriate elements and let to disperse."

"So that's why the experiments of the previous elder all crumbled and broke when they were used as materials. The mana is rejected. That's good to know. I will attempt to follow your advice." The elder felt that he had been enlightened.

As Gil and Zephyr reached the treasury the two were amazed by the number of items there. Walker had seen many of these things and the elder was long used to them. Gil wanted to rush through and explore but do found that the elder was grabbing a plentiful amount of crystals. He placed them in the center, "I will have others collect these to bring to the work shop. I want to bring one of each dormant spirit up to the forge so I can start the awakening."

"Going to make a lot of different gear? That should be pretty good overall for your people. That many dwelling weapons that is." Gil was impressed by the initiative. However, he didn't expect the response.

"I want to have them help me learn the spirit speech skill your leader will send to me with his title. I can't rely on others at all times to craft new items. The elves most likely won't be coming here too soon and heading to the new city you all talked about might not happen for some time either. I'm needed here." Thus made a lot of sense. The elder was a keystone for the dwarves. If he just left a void would be left.

"So many! Look at them!" Zephyr was amazed by all the dormant spirits that were in the part of the treasury they had just entered.

"So the problem have is that I can not tell the difference between what is what. I know that is a water elemental spirit because of the blue coloring. But the others have nothing to define them properly." The elder had this in mind when it came to bringing the pair to the treasury. He had not had the reason to ask Walker earlier but now needed to know.

Zephyr hear this and got t work. Gil obediently followed her directions and began to organize the spirits. After a short time, the dormant spirits were roughly organized along shelves. There was one of each that Zephyr had picked out to bring back with them. "These are the ones Zephyr says are closest to awakening based on their mana level." The elder grabbed what he could carry and energetically motioned for Gil to do the same.

Gil wanted to explore the treasury more but seeing the look of curiosity and excitement in the elders' eyes he didn't have the heart to say anything. Zephyr could tell Gil wanted to stay but she was also curious about how long it would take to wake up more spirits and what they would want to do. At the very least she knew the wind spirit would want to stay near her since she was a grand wind spirit. "You know, I'm going to be the first dwarf to ever speak to a spirit." The elder said this as they left the treasury.

Chapter 693 - 693. Crystal Nests

When Gil and the elder returned with the dormant elemental spirits Walker had beat them back. "It was really amazing Grey said that he could use the ember bones for the base of the teeth and the claws that the golem will have. It should make the attacks have even more fire elemental damage. But it would have heated up the golem too much and melted it. So Grey said he needed a solution that would make the body flame resistant. I asked about the cyclops flame staff that has that cyclops skin skill and he said that al equipment is used in golems all the time."

"That is pretty cool. Who knew golems could have . I wonder if there can be mage golems." Gil laughed thinking he was saying something impossible.

"Yes! There can be. Grey said the only problem is mana and that it drains quickly. My thoughts are that making another dwelling core would be the solution to that since an elemental spirit should be able to make elemental spells easily using a golem." Gil watched As Walker grew more and more openly excited about the possibility. It was clear that Walker was inspired by the conversation and learning he had received.

"That is all well and good. But we would need spirits that desire such a thing." The elder knew that the spirits had minds of their own now and was adjusting his thoughts and treatments of them already. It was clear in the delicate way that he placed every single one of the dormant elemental spirits on the open work table.

Zephyr went thought and mentioned to every single one of them which dormant spirit was wich. She also explained the way for them to awaken them faster. "You need to take the mana crystals for their element and place them around their dormant state crystal. They will absorb the mana and awaken much faster. The wind spirit won't need as many crystals since I will be here to help it. The high dark spirit, two high earth spirits, and the fire spirit in the other workshop should help too."

Zephyrs' explanation was simple. "That makes sense. Will I be able to speed things up with my grand elemental manipulation skill? I could pull more mana in to the room for them to absorb." Walker wasn't sure if this would be a help or a hurdle for the spirits trying to awaken again.

"Yes! This will help a lot. Just stay high on mana so we can stop them from rushing away. They might get lost in the city. The light spirit specifically could get lost. They don't usually come under ground." Walker was surprised by this fact but understood that the underground was very far from the sources of light elemental mana it would need. It could just fall back in to a dormant state.

"Where are those crystals! I set them up for transport ages ago!" The elder had just returned but he started to yell for apprentices and other nearby dwarves. The ruckus became loud and shouting was heard. The entire party was still a little amazed that the elder could cause this all with just a shout. But before they could say anything the crates were being brought in and lined up in an orderly fashion based on their elements.

"Alright, now we will all take an elemental mana crystal crate and start to make the nest for the dormant spirits. The faster we do this the faster there will be more spirits around." The elder looked more excited by the minutes as he grabbed the water elemental crystals.

Walker took the light elemental mana crystals since he would be able to keep the mana contained and give the spirit what is needed better. He understood that the light spirit would need more help underground. He also wanted to make sure that he would be able to ask them all to join him if they wanted. He knew that would make the elder unhappy but it was up to the spirits.

"I want to speak with the fire elemental spirit. Do you think you could help me?" Remey came to Walker's side and asked a little more quiet than usual. She was trying to hide this from the others since she knew that Gil would tease her.

"No problem. But why do you want to talk to the fire elemental spirit when it wakes up?" Walker had a few ideas but wanted to get a full understating of what Remey was trying to accomplish.

"I think that it could help me in the alchemy I want to experiment with when I get back to the mansion. I already want to show the old man some stuff. I also need to start to solidify the alchemy guild. But I think if a fire element spirit helping with the fire and purification of some harsher ingredients. Then I might be able to make new potions or even a potion higher than high tier."

This was enough to make Walker think. "I bet a potion like that would be perfect or at least shock the world." Walker was expecting Remey to go on to more detail but she didn't she just busied herself setting up fire elemental crystals. She seemed like she was still missing some of what she wanted to do. But even if it was something small it is enough to be famous for.

"I have the ingredients from the elves, knowledge from multiple masters of alchemy, and my new skill. All I would need is something to help me control the flames better. And what better than a fire elemental spirit that controls fire elemental mana. Remey placed the crystals carefully and watch as the dormant elemental spirits all started to absorb the mana from the crystals. It was a sight to see and hear as the constant cracking and eventually break them.

Chapter 694 - 694. Alchemic Fire

"If you can really accomplish a potion above a high potion, then I think you will solidify the alchemy guild in the first day of its' establishment." Walker wasn't holding back at all in this evaluation. He truly believed that the news of a potion above a high tier potion would put immense faith in an alchemy guild. "It would also pout any practicing alchemists out of a job because everyone would want potions from the guild instead of private alchemists."

Remey had thought of that and was glad to hear Walker supporting her. She was about to reply with her future plans for how she would make it and the potential ingredients she would use, but the system decided to give her a heart attack.

"Gah!" Remey jumped slightly and looked like she was about ti pass out. The drastic change in her mannerisms also caused the group to become curious and worried.

"What just happened. The fire elemental crystals shouldn't be hot. Right?" Gil was the most worried since he had touched the crystals often and had never been burned.

"No! But I can get a fire skill! Alchemic fire! Even the old man doesn't have that skill. It's not a normal alchemist skill. It only shows up once in a blue moon." Remey was nearly shivering now.

"Remey, we don't know what alchemic fire is. Is it just the fire you use to make potions?" Su was confused as well but was still remaining calm while trying to get Remey to fully explain what was going on.

"No, not at all. It is so much better. It is like a fish in water. Alchemic fire is akin to breathing in relation to alchemy. It makes the potion making process much smoother and easier. If I were to compete making a potion against the old man while I used alchemic fire my potion could be better with less experience." Remey was practically shouting at this point because she was so full of emotion.

"The old man said that his mother had the skill and that was one reason she was able to literally rule over the alchemy building as the best alchemist. He still hopes he will get the skill too but it's just too rare." This was an interesting fact. If the old master alchemists' mother had received the skill why had he not? It must have some sort of hidden requirement like titles do for a master alchemist system to receive the skill.

"So, you're saying that if you can forge a spirit mark with a fire spirit the system will give you the alchemic fire skill? Will you be able to use it right away?" Gil thought it sounded too good to be true. It had worked out that he had been able to form a bond with Zephyr and Su had bonded with a high earth spirit. However, Su and the earth spirit were very similar in personality. Gil and Zephyr had been together for some time. It might not be so easy for Remey to bond with a fire spirit.

"Well, I don't know about the spirit. But we can try ever dormant spirit here and then go back to the elves and try there. Worst case I send mail to Trish and Elise to see how that goes. But the real challenge will be the alchemic fire. I will have to learn to control the fire completely instead of just alter it by adding or removing fuel. It is a much different process."

"Oh, I completely overlooked that the process would be different. You would be like me a little bit and need to manipulate the alchemic fire." Walker drew the conclusion that Remey would be doing something similar to what a mage would do when working on their spells.

"Exactly, and I am a fighter so it will be a little harder for me. The only good part is that I will have plenty of mana potions to learn. Maybe I will be able to find a way to add it to one of my attacks. Imagine if my punches had fire on them!" This made them all flinch except for Midnight who had come up to inspect each of the dormant spirits with Onyx.

"Sister says that you can train with her to get flaming punches. She can handle the heat." Onyx paused and Midnight puffed her chest and extended her neck. "Sister also says she has gifts for everyone." all of them took turned grabbing the ice jade pendants from around her neck and putting them on. The cool feeling instantly relieved the natural heat of the forge.

"Thank you. These are great. Now I know how the dwarves are able to handle the heat so well." Gil had felt that he was melting at times and was the most thankful.

Su was already hugging Midnight lovingly. She was very proud of her for thinking of everyone. It just reinforced the fact that not every monster in the world was mean and out to eat humans. Or even goes after them. However, it also brought a few questions about the dragon races that Walker had always had. But they would be for another time. He couldn't find enough detailed information about ancient dragons just yet. They were too reclusive.

"You know, I have the best family." Walker just spoke openly after a moment and saw Midnight's eyes shine. She looked like she had just been handed the world.

"I really have to say. I never thought that the heroes would be...like this. One moment I'm full of wonder at a new forging path and the next I'm grossed out by all the sweetness. Next, I imagine you are going to say or do something that will shock me again." The elder held his head in his hands trying to make sure his heart would keep up with everything changing in the last few days.

"You mean how Zephyr is already starting to awaken the wind spirit behind you?" Walker caught it in a quick glance. Everyone had become too distracted.

Chapter 695 - 695. Awakened Spirit

"While everyone had been distracted by Remey explaining her surprise about getting the alchemic fire skill if she managed to bond with a fore elemental spirit, Zephyr had been directing more and more wind elemental mana to the wind spirit. She had pulled the wind elemental mana from the net of crystal and called upon a great deal from the air itself. This was radically speeding up the awakening of the high wind spirit.

"You were all busy but I wanted to welcome another wind spirit to the fin." Zephyr sounded like a lonely child. However, Walker had the feeling that it was just because they weren't paying attention to her, He gave Gil a meaningful glance which Gil understood as one that meant to tell him to stay strong.

"Then let me help at least." Walker began to also pull at the wind elemental mana around them. He was able to easily do this since there was so much being called by Zephyr already. But it was being absorbed at a much higher rate now.

The dormant spirit was in a crystal like form just like the others. Walker already knew they took on an almost crystal like appearance since he had seen the icy cool dormant water spirit he was holding on to. He also knew that they would normally slowly absorb their elemental mana over time but here they were getting it faster due to the density they were gathering.

Like light streaming through a window, the crystal like appearance began to crack and warp. The dormant green crystal like substance started to change in to swirling wind. It was something that none of them could comprehend in the least. Walker thought that even Elise wouldn't fully understand this, let alone any elf.

The mana in the room surged and the wind gusted around them, there was a soft giggle that Walker knew no one but he could hear. It was the high wind elemental spirit rushing around excited and absorbing mana freely.

"Welcome to the party! You're so cute! You remind me of my other friends when I was flying in the clouds." Zephyr was chasing the high elemental spirit around in a greeting like game of tag. The two were causing a lot of wind but no harm came to anything even though the elder was doing his best to shield the dormant elemental spirits.

Gil realized that the wind was starting to pick up a little more than he was comfortable with. "Hey, Zephyr, can you introduce us to your new friend? We want to meet it." This was the key that got Zephyr's attention and she stopped the wind in the forge completely.

"These are my new family! I have been traveling with them and they will have some very interesting options for you. Much better than flying through the sky." Zephyr surprised the high wind elemental spirit who thought that flying through the sky would be the best of the best in its existence.

The high wind spirit started to examine all of them, especially Gil. "That is my partner. We are bonded together for life!" Zephyr floated above Gil like she was showing off her very own child. Gil turned slightly red in embarrassment and started to fidget. Remey and Walker stifled laughter only to earn a glare from Gil.

"I'm Walker, I'm the one who has some interesting offers for you. Well, so does the elder of the dwarves here. He has an offer as well. But please forgive him in advance. I can speak with and understand you. He may have trouble, and the others can not understand you." The high wind spirit came to float in front of Walker.

"Understand! What offers?" The wind spirit had calmed significantly.

"The elder has crafted multiple items using a forging technique called spirit forging. It, when done with the assistance of a spirit, creates a home for a spirit to dwell in. Gil and Zephyr have a bow. Su and the high earth spirit have a shield. And a fire spirit in the other room has a golem core." The wind spirit turned to see Su and Gil showing off the earth dwelling shield and the true spirit bow.

"Now that is one option. The other is to join me in my quest to gather one of every elemental spirit and materials for me to make an all elemental staff. So far I am honored to have an earth elemental spirit and a dark elemental spirit with me." The dark and earth spirit showed themselves around Walker and started to whisper to the wind spirit why they chose their choice. Naturally, they kept their voices too quiet for Walker to pick up on but from the way Zephyr and the wind spirit acted he could tell they were affecting the way the wind spirit saw him.

While the wind spirit finished speaking to the earth and dark spirit Walker noticed that the elder was trying to organize more of the crystals and examine the dormant spirits. He was much more interested now that he had witnessed one come out of their slumber and he wanted to see another because he was constantly curious as someone who crafted new and unique items.

"Stay with you!" The wind spirit got right in to Walkers' face and spoke. The earth and dark spirit also seemed to cling to him even more which made him wonder just what they had told the wind elemental spirit.

"If that is your choice then I am very thankful." Walker wasn't sure what else to say. This had happened much faster than he expected.

"Those two spirits really took a liking to you. I would say they are your fan club. You must have minstrels singing of you already so having one should be normal." Zephyr teased Walker but didn't hint at what they had spoken of to convince the wind spirit.

Chapter 696 - 696. Ice Cold

Walker felt strange having three different elemental spirits latching on to him. He had the dark and earth spirit sitting on his feet and a wind elemental spirit sitting on his shoulder. He could feel Midnight and Onyx glancing at him with a tinge of jealousy. It was strange, very strange.

"What spirit now!? " Zephyr wanted to see all the spirits awaken but knew that she was not much help when it came to the others. She was only able to influence the wind elemental mana and none of the other elements.

"Well, if you want to help. Why don't we help the water elemental spirit? The air had water in it, right? Then if you have a soft cool breeze constantly coming in we can attract more water elemental mana from the air you bring in." Walker had already come up with this theory when they first set up the dormant spirits. He knew that the elements had their challenges to gather but that was dependent on the situation. They just needed to make the situation more advantageous for the water spirit to awaken.

The group as a whole looked to be impressed, "Oh, can I ask you and the earth spirit to take the dormant water spirit outside? I told Elise I would awaken it when we get home and offer it a chance to do what it wants or a home. If I accidentally wake it up early I will break the promise and also have to change the offer." Walker knew that the increased water elemental mana could awaken the water spirit slumbering under his cloak.

"Of course leader, I will guard it with my life." The earth spirit and Su appeared glad to be in charge of the water spirit that Walker handed them. He was worried that having the high water element mana inside, the spirit would awaken too early.

When Su and the earth spirit left the room with the dormant water spirit Walker was that Zephyr was starting to call on the air to move about. He could feel a steady breeze coming in. It was slight and constant like sitting in an open field. "This is kind of like the breeze in the fields at home." Gil felt his heart pulled on slightly while he realized just how long they had been away. "We should head home soon..."

"I agree. I want to read and see everyone. We should have a big feast when we get back and check on the guild. I feel bad that we have been running around definitely making more work for Clara." Walker was a little guilty that they had been rushing around making quests and not really participating in any that Clara was sending them as options. "But for now, time to focus on the water elemental mana. Zephyr that is perfect."

Walker focused his hands around the dormant water elemental spirit and began to pull at the water elemental mana from the air. He motioned for Gil to work on the crystals since Gil had his skill to pull mana from the elemental mana crystals. Zephyr looked very happy to receive praise and the wind increased slightly.

The density of water mana was steadily increasing and the rate at which it was absorbed by the dormant water spirit was as well. "Walker, drink this." Remey handed him a low tier mana potion as soon as she saw that he was starting to get pale. He was using his mana constantly and even though it was a small amount at a time the process was enough to eat away at it.

"Thank you, perfect timing." Remey graced them with a smile and returned to organizing the fire elemental crystals around the dormant fire spirit. She wanted to make sure she had the best possible chance to form a bond with it when it awakened. She also knew that it would be the next spirit they would awaken since she had a quest. The water was only because Walker had come up with a theory on how to awaken it faster.

There were small changing cracks in the dormant water spirit along with some water droplets. Walker could feel a cool icy feeling in the air around him and noticed a small layer of frost on his hands. However, something was different. This wasn't the same as a normal water spirit. It was too cold.

"Ice! It's an ice spirit! I can't believe it! Where was this spirit born?" Zephyr was so energetic that the wind stopped blowing and she was in front of the elder shouting.

"Elder, Zephyr wants to know where this spirit came from." The elder pulled open a drawer and flitted through the pages of a journal.

"My logbook says it was found in cave eighty four on line fifteen. It was one of the underwater caves with the ice jade ores." The elder was a little confused by Zephyr was even more excited.

"This spirit is unique. Water high spirits are just water and could change it to ice but usually stays with water. This one is an ice spirit. It only grew up in an icy cold place. It can manipulate water but specializes in ice! It's almost as rare as I am." Zepher was proud to share this information since she knew that she was sharing something new with them.

As they watched, the dormant spirit cracked and the frost in the room caused the forge fire to dim slightly. Walker stepped back to avoid hurting his hands on the ice that had taken over a small portion of the table.

With a sharp crack, the ice was shattered and fell to the floor. What was left was the most unique high spirit the group had ever seen. The elder was rapidly scribbling down this knowledge on spirits in a blank paper he would have used for blue prints. This was too valuable for the future.

Chapter 697 - 697. Ice Spirit Dreams

The spirit that was resting on the frosty work table was very different than the water spirits the party had seen thus far. It was instead, a cool blue icy figurine. The features were smooth and shifted slightly like water, but clearly, it was ice. There was a constant frosty fog that drifted around it. Not to mention the small ice crystals that froze in the air and fell to the ground around it.

"Hello, and good morning. I am Walker. It's nice to meet you." The ice spirit changed its position and drifted in front of Walker. He felt the frost tickled his nose as the spirit examine him.

"I sense your mana." The spirit could feel the mana that Walker had used to help awaken it and knew that Walker was the one that called it to the waking world. "You called." The mana that it used to speak was much more calm and slow compared to the other spirits. So much so that Walker was speechless for just a moment.

"Yes, I helped awaken you. I wanted to offer you a chance to adventure with me or have a home created for you to dwell in. You could also leave and do what you wish. But the other spirits might try and talk you out of it." Walker looked as the other spirits slowly moved closer to the ice spirit. Even Zephyr was holding back a little. They had all been thrown off by the calmness in the ice spirits mana which was different than their more chaotic elemental manas.

"Want to see snowy mountains." The spirit had never seen the snow on the high mountains but it had visions of them as it was awakening. It was as if it was being called to where it should naturally be. "Stay with you. See the mountains. Stay with you more." The spirit was thankful to be awake but knew it needed to see the snowy mountains. However, it did want to stay with Walker more than anything. It couldn't even bother to think about other options. It had the feeling that it wouldn't have awakened properly without Walker's influence.

"Walker. Walker. I know what's happening." Zephyr moved to Walker's ear to whisper in to it. She had an idea of what was happening because she had seen something similar before.

Walker wasn't sure what was going to cause the spirit to want to go somewhere specific even though they shouldn't have memories of anything since when they fused and became another spirit they were forming a new consciousness. Walker nodded and waited to hear what Zephyr knew about the spirit.

"Its uniqueness makes it want to do certain things. I knew a wind spirit that always had warm air. It was a spring wind spirit. It would gain more mana in the spring compared to any other time and it would follow the warm winds across the continent before returning to the opposite end again. They are closer to nature and can be more powerful. That's why they have locations they feel in themselves." Walker could understand this. It was similar to how a baby was born knowing how to cry for its mother. It was instinct.

"I will help you get to some snowy mountain. I happen to have a friend who wants to travel to the mountains and learn some forging skills and materials. I plan to head there after resting from my journeys at home. I can promise some adventure and new sights before we head to the mountains." There was a growth in the frosty fog around the spirit.

"Yes. I like that." The calm mana was still very different but Walker came to understand that the growth of the frost was the ice spirit's way of showing its excitement. It was the same as the wind spirit when it would cause a breeze around the forge.

"Ready for the next one? We could see what that fire spirit wants? I think it will decide it wants something crafted." The elder was itching to plan another item for crafting. Especially since Remey was a strange mix of fighter and alchemist. The elder could only imagine what he could make that would fit two seemingly opposing natures.

"Leader, I already heard. While I waited I went to ask for the fire elemental spirit." Walker was always being impressed by how intuitive Su was. She was just too good at knowing how the party would move. However, this brought something to the forefront of his mind.

"Remey, I don't know if you've noticed it. But you really have a knack for knowing when someone needs a mana potion." Walker was watching as Remey became slightly bashful.

"Everyone just looks a bit pale and it feels off. I don't know. It's the same feeling I have when a potion isn't going right and needs something." Walker started to realize that it was most likely a learned feeling from the way mana flowed. It was similar to the way Walker could sense mana but Remey had learned it without a skill.

"That's actually pretty impressive. I know that the elves will train for years to get that feeling without a skill. I heard some of them talking about how they will meditate for days sometimes to even feel it a little." Gil was more knowledgeable on this than expected.

"Well, I did spend hours just standing still watching the old man sometimes. He would make a potion and it was too interesting to ignore. I wouldn't even realize it had been hours." Remey remembered going to the alchemy building in the morning and not leaving until the next morning. She would always be surprised when she got back to the orphanage and find that it had been a day and not an hour or two. "Anyways. Let's welcome my soon to be friend."

Chapter 698 - 698. Clip On?

"Need help?" The fore spirit flitted about and looked at the dormant fore elemental crystal. It was sure that it could help but was more interested in the fact that it would have another fire spirit to speak with. It was clearly excited.

"Yes, please. A little help pulling in the mana for the dormant spirit would be perfect." Walker could only smile until he heard Midnight taking a deep breath. When he turned she released more golden flames forcing the forge to return to the previous roaring state it was in before the ice spirits' frost had cooled it.

"That's the way. I will call for more coal too!" The elder realizes that he could have more coal set to cause the fire to burn higher than before and started to shout out of the room. The ruckus started again. The dwarves must have relayed the message ever faster than before since the forge fire burst up even more again. The dwarves in the furnaces were working hard.

"Leader, Gil. You two will need to split up." Su was sure of this and her reasoning was easy to see. "The dormant light spirit and the fire spirit are both starting to awaken."

Gil rushed to Remey's side and started to pull the mana out of the elemental crystals faster. Walker on the other hand realized that the light elemental mana that often came with fire elemental mana must have been enough to push the dormant light spirit to awaken.

"I will have this covered Walker. I feel like the other spirit will still awaken first since the fore is pretty hot. Well, I can barely feel it anymore with Midnight's gift." Gil was very glad for the ice jade since he had been constantly sweating against the forge fire. Walker on the other hand was watching the ice elemental spirit nearly fasten itself to the ice jade since it was the coolest thing in the room. It was easy to assume that the ice jade pendants were going to be its favorite sport to hang out while with everyone.

The fire spirit didn't pay any attention to anyone else but for the dormant spirit. Remey was very cautious to watch it pull the mana from the air and couldn't help but notice that with every motion, the forge fire would shift as well. "I want to be able to help..." She mumbled slightly but could only watch. This was the worst part for her since she couldn't assist at all.

"While they do their and whatever, I have an idea for you and these gloves. And knuckles in your pockets." The elder had easily seen the pieces of the knuckles Remey would wear to fight along with the gloves she wore. "They may already have been modified a few times. But how about I modify them again."

"How do you want to modify them? Will they even survive another adjustment?" Remey knew that if a gear or anything was modified too many times that it would end up weaker and weaker. Eventually, whatever was modified would break or fall apart leaving the wielder without it.

"Now this time. This is a better way. I have a blue print that most of the brawlers will use. Especially in pub fights. They are gloves like yours as the base. But they had metal inlays and runes attached so that you can clip on different knuckles. It is very useful when fighting tough golems or monsters like shadow ants that are weak to light affinity metals."

"Wait, shadow ants? Clip on? How does that work?" Remey was still keeping an eye on the slowly glowing and changing dormant fire spirit. But she was interested in what shadow ants were and how clip on knuckles would help her and not just fall off.

"Ah, shadow ants are darkness affinity monsters. Very weak to light element metals and weapons. But they hang out here and there in colonies around the caves. Most of the time they just hunt monsters until they clear them out. We will exterminate them with golems but they will always come back. Insect type monster and all." The elder waves this off. He would rather speak about the clip on part of Remey's confusion.

"The gauntlets we make here for our brawlers have a glove base fitted with some reinforced metals and runes. They let the main damaging part attack and hold using a small amount of mana. Then you can change the materials of your knuckles constantly. Need a water element? Use the frigid steel knuckles. Need alight elemental? Use the holy silver. There are many more options. But you look like you could use it." This was bait for her. Remey knew this. But this was an offer she didn't think she could refuse.

"I will take it. But I want the fore spirit to awaken first." The elder smiled. Thus was exactly what he wanted. If the fore spirit wanted a dwelling gear he would take the mana crystals that modified Remeys' equipment and use them to enhance the gloves to another level and spirit forge them. He would get to forge more and Reney would still get her bonded friend.

"He wants to spirit forge again. But it's a good idea since it will help you bond with the fore spirit." Walker listen in and asked Onyx to send this message for him so that the elder could continue to feel that he was sly and sneaky. It wasn't a problem since the elder was just finding a way to craft more.

"Wait, so that means the base of the gloves would be fire elemental oriented? How will it work with water clip on knuckles?" Remey found the problem instantly. The opposing manas might not want to work well.

"I use runes to make sure their manas are separate. It's a safety aspect dwarves worked out years and years ago." The elder just shook it off and started to prepare materials. Remey would have asked more questions if the fore spirit hadn't started to awaken.

Chapter 699 - 699. Dancing Fire

The fire elemental mana surged and a small flame burst forth from the dormant elemental spirit. The leftover pieces were absorbed in to the flame which took a familiar shape. It was almost identical to the fire elemental spirit that had already had a dwelling item made for it. However, there was a slight difference in the brightness of the flames.

It was clear that the high fire elemental spirit that had already received the core as a dwelling item was brighter. It made sense to Walker since it had absorbed more fire elemental mana recently.

The newly awakened fire elemental spirit only stayed still for a moment before it rushed itself in to the fire of the forge. "Is it...dancing?" Gil was completely confused by the fire elemental spirit's actions.

"It's even weirder that it is constantly chanting warm fire hot fire super hot fire." Walker was on the verge of giggling since the fire spirit was too adorable for its own good. He couldn't compare it to Onyx or Midnight but it was still up there in the higher ranks.

"It's happy to be awake!" Zephyr couldn't help but chime in and watch the fire spirit as well.

"Remey, I think you need to wait a little while for the fire spirit to calm down and relax before you can speak with it. I think it is low on mana. But don't worry, we can see what this light spirit is about to do." Walker was pulling the light elemental mana from the elemental mana crystals and also from the air. The amount was enough due to the constant fire and draw on crystals that the dormant spirit was showing the surge to awaken.

The entire group changed their focus just in time to be blinded by a flash of light and feel the light elemental mana pulse around them. The forge may not have been dim but the light from the awakening light elemental spirit was much stronger than expected.

When Walker finally regained his sight he found that the light elemental spirit had huddled itself against one of the crystals added to the corner of the room to provide light to the forge. "Hello. I'm sorry we couldn't awaken you out in the light of day." Walker knew that the spirit was trying to get near the light as much as possible.

He pulled out some more light elemental mana crystals and started to pull the light elemental mana from them. "I hope this helps you wake up and relax a little." The spirit greedily absorbed the mana as if it had never seen mana before. "You woke me?" The light spirit only asked this.

"Yes. My friends and I woke you up so that we could ask you a few things. You can have something forged by our friend, he will make sure you have a dwelling item you can rest in and leave as you wish. You could join me in my quest to create an all elemental staff. Or you can wait until we finish our business here and we can lead you to the surface and you can go as you wish."

The light spirit acted the same as the other light elemental spirit Walker had met and slowly floated above his head. "Why stay with you?" This was the first spirit that had asked and had not been bombarded by the other spirits' whispers. It was clear that the light spirit could see the other spirits clinging to Walker, but they didn't go to speak to it. This was a line that all of them understood when it came to spirits. Light spirits would decide and act on their own.

"Well, I have some theories of what will happen when I gather the materials and the spirits. In theory, the staff will need to be spirit forged to make a dwelling staff that each spirit uses their mana to assist with. Then the spirits would either be able to dwell within it or they would be fusing to create a nature or world spirit. I understand what that means to a spirit. But if you would like I would welcome you to the group." This was slightly nerve wracking since the light spirit was looking down on Walker like a higher being.

"I will be more? Then I will join." The light spirit spoke and started to float above Walker refusing to speak again. It was clear that it had made up its mind and that it was to be more than just a light spirit. Walker could see that the desire to be greater was just part of how a light spirit thought and that this was a big deal.

"FFFllrrreeeeeeee!!" The fire spirit burst from the forge energized and looking about at those who were outside it.

"Well, look at you. Finally out of the fire? Want to be my partner and make the world's first potion higher than a high potion? It will also come with a dwelling gear and the ability to punch some things. With fire of course if you help." Remey didn't waste a single breath. She had worked up this sentence to bait the fire spirit and also to try and keep it focused on her.

"Fire? Dwelling? Partner?" The high fire spirit was a bit confused by the fire spirit that had assisted in its' awakening came over to whisper to it. Walker could tell that it was pushing the spirit towards Remey and also towards getting a dwelling item. He wasn't sure if it was because it thought so highly of Remey that it would help her or if it was the fact that it liked the dwelling core that it had received so much.

"Fire partner!" The fire spirit roared with mana and landed on Remey's arm. There was a slight wince as she felt the burn but it faded away to show that she had received a spirit mark in the shape of a flame. "Fire partner!" The spirit roared again but Remey now understood what it was saying.

"Fire partner." She was over joyed but even more as she read the alchemic fire skill again, which was now hers.

Chapter 700 - 700. Changing Flames

Remey was standing idly for a moment as she took everything in. However, she flicked her hand and a small dark red flame began to grow in her hand. It wasn't much and the fire spirit was clearly assisting the process. "This is alchemic fire. It's best for making potions. I can make as much as you want now. Do you want it?" She had the feeling that the alchemic fire was a good gift to share with the fire spirit. She didn't want it to feel that it had bonded with her for nothing since it didn't have a dwelling item being made just yet.

"My fire? Your fire? Our fire!" The spirit seemed to be even more excited than before and Walker wondered how it was interpreting all this so easily. However, when he glanced at the other fire spirit he knew that this was its' doing. It had shared more than he expected with the newly awakened fire spirit and pushed it to Remey with the promises of flames.

The fire spirit moved to the flames in Remey's hands and started to change its own flames. The color of its flames became darker and more red. The mana it released around it was closer to the mana that Remey released and the two became closer than before.

As the change occurred everyone could only watch in awe. Even Zephyr was lost as to what was going on until the fire spirit moved away from Remey having taken on all the characteristics of the alchemic flames. "Our Fire!" The mana reverberated through the room and Remey couldn't stop smiling.

"It absorbed my alchemic flame! It's just like alchemy fire. We are going to make the best potions and fight the best and be the best!" The two were in their own world and Walker knew that it was better to just move on than interrupt the two.

"That was strange but really cool. I think that fire spirit is an alchemy fire spirit now. How awesome is that?" Gil nudged Walker to get his attention and found that Walker was already directing both earth and darkness elemental mana toward the last two dormant spirits.

"It was a very big surprise. I'm pretty sure it completely stunned Zephyr. She looks lost." Walker glanced at Zephyr who was examining the alchemy fire spirit with curiosity. She had known about the ice spirit but now she was lost. She had very little knowledge on how a fire spirit could adapt and change its flames in such a way.

The elder was already preparing and starting to heat some of the metals he would use to make all the different detachable knuckles for Remey's modified gloves. He had made many of them and it would be faster than any of the previous forging experiences yet. Until it came to the glove modification of course. For that, he would need the new fire spirits' assistance.

Midnight, when did you bond with the fire spirit that has the dwelling core?" Su's surprised voice broke through the room. The fire spirit was resting on her back now that it had whispered and successfully helped Remey and the newly awakened fire spirit.

Midnight huffed and raised her head a little taller. "Sister says it only makes sense that two dragons form a bond." Su was confused until she remembered that the golem that the fire spirit dwelling core was inside was going to be a dragon style golem.

Su laughed a little and shook her head, "It does make sense. I guess you two are a little more than just bound if you are both dragons." Su was wondering how they would get along since the golem was going to be slightly bigger than Midnight but at the same time, she knew that Midnight would one day dwarf the golem.

The earth elemental and darkness elemental mana started to grow in the room. The earth spirit and dark spirit that were holding tight to Walker had started to help him awaken the last two spirits. It was clear that they would awaken just as fast as the others.

Walker didn't have any intention of asking these two to join him in his quest since it would be an insult to the spirits that he had already had accept his request of the same element. However, he did wonder if Onyx was going to reach out to a spirit to join him. It would make sense that a dark spirit would bond with Onyx since he could hide in the shadows at will.

"Brother, the spirits." Walker was brought back from his thoughts to realize he had sent a lot of elemental mana to the earth and darkness spirit. The two dormant spirits were awakening at the same time.

The room was turbulent with earth and darkness elemental mana making everyone unsteady. The ground trembled slightly as the earth spirit pulled the earth up to form its body and look about the room. The shadows arched as the dark spirit fell in to them and popped out here and there to look at everyone. The dark and earth spirits that were with Walker rushed to them and started to whisper to them. The earth spirit with Su went to them as well and did the same.

"Hey, I think they might want to focus on what the elder can do for them. Unless they want to leave the city that is." Walker made it clear that those were the options so that the spirits wouldn't promise them things he couldn't do.

Soon the earth spirit came to rest on the hammer next to the elder. The dark spirit, however, sank in to the shadows and Walker couldn't find it. "Brother, it will come with us." Onyx spoke up and the darkness spirit he had lost track of was in Onyx's shadow. "It seems to like my shadow and I will let it stay." The spirit had not bonded with Onyx but it was clear that it enjoyed the slightly denser shadows Onyx had because that was where he stored away his hidden larger body.

"Alright, just let me know if you need anything." Walker accepted this but wondered what would become of the two befriending each other. For now, he would just chalk it up to Onyx's unique skill at making friends with anyone.

