

Master 731

Chapter 731 - 731. Humming

Walker had taken a great deal of time to speak to each and every single demon that had woken up. His conclusion was that there was more to this than he understood. The world had the rules that every race had believed as true for all they could remember. That after a certain age gaining a system is impossible. However, there were demons who were being given another chance here if they helped to complete a major chain quest that would free their people.

On top of all this, there was the fact that besides the will of the world, there was a demon lord who had sent a general to attack the humans just to weaken them. They had completely abandoned the demon general Pride and their army as soon as the job was done and now the kingdom had lost almost all of its' harvest for the year.

To add to all of this, Walker was stuck wondering how all of this would fit together and what he would do. He still wanted to rest and relax. He still wanted to go and help with the building of Genesis city. And he still wanted to train and learn more skills. There was also finding a fire elemental spirit to join him and complete the staff he wanted to make. There was just too much.

Walker had been sitting in the same position staring at a wall for who knew how long when he felt a poke to his cheek. When he turned he saw the crinkled face he had wanted to see for quite some time. Alice was worriedly gazing in to his eyes wanting to know how she could help him.

"Sorry I haven't come to find you just yet. Things are a little...complicated." Walker had told all of the information to Markus Reven when he returned and also to his party members. They were all very confused and unsure how to proceed and decided to do what they could for the moment.

Markus had made an excuse that he could not report to the king just yet and was ordering his guards around to help where they could and also return the weapons to the royal armory. Some adventurers had fallen in love with the weapons and surprisingly, Markus had drawn up contracts with the help of some assistant to work out payment programs or even job places with the castle or army. Walker felt that Markus was a much better person than he had thought even after realizing his first impression was wrong.

Alice shook her head and sat down next to Walker looking at the same wall he was. She leaned against him slightly making Walker feel like he was finally back home. The stress seemed to melt off his shoulders in a way he had not realized. His body was heavy but he recalled that he had brought a souvenir for Alice.

"I have been waiting to give you this since I found it in the forest elf city. It's common there for elves with certain passive skills that cause them to lose mana through normal actions. Let me read the appraisal for you. I know you said you wanted to get the control of your speech by yourself and your own power. But I thought you might like a gift, for when you accidentally speak or just want to talk.."

Alice was looking at Walker with a very serious expression. She still thought the same but depending on what Walker said from the appraisal she would choose to take it or leave it. It was not out of distaste that she would leave it, just out of the desire to control her own skills herself.

"Ehm, I will read it word for word."

'Mana Locking Bracelet

Inscribed with two unique runes. The copper and silver bracelet is able to lock mana within the body. The mana that would escape and influence certain things due to passive skills will be unable to leak out unless the user desires it to do so. This mana locking bracelet will also be able to keep the user from having their mana forcefully taken by other skills. This bracelet was crafted from elven silver and elven copper allowing it to absorb very small amounts of natural mana to boost the wielders' ailment resistance minimally.'

Walker didn't stop looking in Alices' eyes the entire time. He was not only captivated by them but also sure she was making sure he was not lying to her at all. She knew that if he was she would not be able to look her in the eye and that she would not accept the bracelet at all.

When she held out a hand and raised an eye brow Walker was lost, "Um, do you want it?" Alice just looked down at her hand again prompting him to realize she was waiting for him to put in on her.

Walker slid the bracelet on her wrist and felt a slight change in the mana around her body but nothing more. She leaned in to Walker again and closed her eyes while humming. Walker was amazed that this was what she chose to do first with it. However, he did not say a word. He leaned in to Alice as well and closed his eyes to enjoy her sweet humming. He needed the pure moments to organize his thoughts.

Shortly after Alice had stopped humming, Walker noticed it was because she had fallen asleep. She had been running about healing the injured as well and she was more tired than the party was. Walker was

glad she had accepted the gift and felt he was more full than ever before. Now he just needed to decide on what he would say to the king and the demons. His choice would change the course of history. Yet, that seemed to be every other day lately.

Chapter 732 - 732. Citizens

Walker felt bad that he would have to wake Alice to move but it had been some time since she had sat down. Just when he was about to shake her to wake her up the high priest walked over and did it for him. He had been watching the two and was very pleased to see that their reunion had been purer than freshly fallen snow. He would want no one else to be his adoptive daughter's friend and hopefully more in the future.

"I may take the brunt of her annoyance, but let me help you out. You look like you have made a very serious decision." The high priest saw the resolve within Walker and knew that he had become ready to make the announcement he had been waiting for.

"Thank you. I promise I will take time to visit properly. I do have other souvenirs for everyone that Su and I picked out." He wanted to make sure the high priest knew he would be coming back with gifts. This only made the high priest chuckle as he woke up Alice and received an angry look for it. Walker held back the desire to call her cute or say awe.

When Walker moved to the middle of the area that the demons were resting and speaking they all slowly looked at him and grew silent. The entire cathedral followed suit and even Markus Reven who had fallen asleep himself was awake and standing toward the back waiting.

The rest of the party moved to stand by Walker and make sure that he felt supported. The elemental spirits that had been moving about and causing small bits of mischief returned as well causing the elemental mana around to fluctuate and make Walker appear to be more majestic than he was. It was a scene right out of any holy book.

"I can not say for what reason the world has given you a chain quest. I know that it seems impossible, but you all may be able to gain a system of your dreams. Congratulations." Walker paused as a lot of murmuring came through.

It appeared that Markus was not the only noble that had made it to the cathedral. There were many that spoke in hushed tones after the confirmation and began to scribble down letters. This appeared to be more valuable information than expected.

"I know it sounds easy. You have a chain quest, however, and that is not easy. It asks you to help free your people from corruption. The demon lord and his general. On who enslaved you, Pride, is part of the corruption I believe the quest speaks of. You must grow strong if you sit for this. I believe in every single one of you. As proof, I hope you all accept citizenship in the soon to be built Genesis city. It will be home to every single race no matter the standing. I can not imagine it without demons such as yourselves."

The murmuring uncreased and the demons this time looked as if they had just seen light for the first time. Walkers' words help hopes and dreams they had never been able to reach.

"Things may be slow and there may be many obstacles, but we will reach true peace. I believe that is the only way to discover more and find the way of the world. There is one thing that I hope for as well, that this will be the start of something amazing. That the world is revealing that not finding a system at first is not the end. That there are other ways no matter how much time has passed." Walker's claim brought louder murmurs but this time they sounded hopeful and warm. None daunted this and instead began to support it.

"For now, I am sure that the king would not turn you aside. You have a home in this kingdom and if necessary in the hero's mansion." Walker ended his speech with this and decided that the rest of the talk would be with the king since he needed to speak about the farmlands and the fact that war was breathing down their neck.

"To add to the leaders' statement, you all have tasks from what I understand. We hope to help you with them and you are welcome to ask us anything." Su made sure she added this. It brought even more hope to the demon's eyes.

"Actually" One demon raised a hand and stood. "I see one of you has a bow. I have the chain quest requirements that I need to learn basic bow upkeep. I want to build bows for my brothers to use." The young man stood and pointed a twin demons next to him. They both were already clutching arrows in their hands. It appeared they had already met Gil and had been given two normal wither spike arrows.

Gil moved to him and instantly began discussing the subject. This broke the bubble and many other demons began to ask questions and walk to different party members. Markus Raven rushed off with a handful of other nobles. They had many reports to file and people to tell.

"Leader, there is a group of mages over there. I told them you would speak with them." Su Had thought that the only one here with enough ability to manipulate the elements was Walker and it would be the best way for them to learn something.

"Good idea, I will teach them the basics. If you and Remey want to make a list of the other quests details so we can get them to the right people after today that would work. I will also touch base with the high priest. I think they will be able to stay here for a few days at least." Walker relished the fact that he would be able to teach some before having to go and speak with the king about solutions to their food shortage. Their harvest festival was coming up and they wouldn't be able to even celebrate the bounty they had due to the fires.

Chapter 733 - 733. Change Of Clothes

Walker was enjoying the teaching aspect of this situation. He rarely got to speak with anyone about meditating and sensing the elements to better understand them. None of the demons seemed to be able to sense the elemental they were trying to learn. But that was to be expected since they had just started trying to learn. Even for someone that had just received their system it would take some time to sense things.

Soon, Markus returned. "Let me guess, the king is ready to speak to us about everything that is going on?" Markus nodded. "Alright, I will get my party and head to the castle." Walker was about to head away when Markus spoke up.

"The king is here. He said he wanted to meet the demons. He said that he had not met one before and if he was going to be part of the Genesis alliance that he couldn't be ignorant about an entire race." This was very unexpected. The king was not supposed to just casually leave the castle.

Seeing the king walk in wearing clothing that the higher military official wore was shocking. They did not expect that he would be wearing anything other than the royal robes that he was shown in and wore when meeting guests.

"Do not bow to me or kneel. Please. I am here to welcome you to our kingdom." The king held up a hand. This was not a time for formalities and garnering favor. "I wish you had come to visit on better circumstances and apologize for the situation. I hope that the Genesis alliance can help you and your families in the future."

The demons were in awe to see a kind leader. They had never met one that actually would stand on the same level as they would. It was more common for the higher ranked demons to stand above or only step down to kick or kill another demon.

"I know you have already been offered a home with the Genesis city. I also know the heroes have opened their doors as well. You will be surprised that you are not the first demon they have rescued. They managed to find a little demon girl in the demi-human city under the control of a criminal. I hope she can guide you all to the ways of the city while you rest here." The king was playing his cards well. By mentioning that the party had rescued a demon before he put them on a pedestal. The party would be much more revered by the demons now no matter what.

"I understand you have become shocked. The situation here has changed many things and the wheels of fate are moving. The world has changed from what we know and fighting the demons unfair treatment seems to be moving things for the better of every race. I have heard you all have been given quests to learn various basics. You are not the only ones. Humans here in the city have begun to reach out in this chaos. I even spoke with other rulers using a item to learn they have similar occurrences. You are not alone."

This was indeed shocking news. The party and every single demon was stunned. But this also brought a wave of calmness. Knowing that this was in theory, happening around their world was calming enough. "In the coming days, I will spare no effort to assist you with the staff and guards I have within my power. If you need food, ask. If you need guidance, ask. Anything, just ask. There will be other races right by your side learning as well. I will have my officials go around and issue an identification. You may sign up as a Genesis city citizen today if you desire."

The king backed away and many nobles and other higher ranked guards and military officials came forward to take over. It was an enlightening and pure encounter. Walker couldn't help but feel impressed. The king had really outdone himself and put his best foot forward with this incident.

"I know you may have questions, but I have little in the means of answers. The quests seem to be guided towards the freedom of the demon race. I feel that something has interfered in the world for many years and that is why there are age caps on the systems. Our oldest history books have pictures of children and elders dazzled in light that we assume is their system. We assume now that it was the world blessing them with their systems at any age. My scholars are reviewing the records with a new perspective. I mentioned this to other rulers and ancient records are not well kept. Even the elves struggle with the exact time this age cap became normal."

Walker spoke slowly in response, "So we may have been wrong for generations because the world has been fighting off corruption. Do you remember the story I reported about the immortal King? He told us of an experimental subject born with a hero system. That person rejected the will of the world and was cursed. Maybe it's related?" Walker didn't have evidence or even proof that could be possible. But his gut was telling him it was the right direction.

"In the least, it is pointing us to freeing the demon race. I have received a letter ahead of the merfolk representative. He will reach the location of the new city in three months. We have to think about the dragons too. Apparently, there has been smoke rising from the highest mountains." The king looked worried but steeled himself.

"I know you are going to want us to go to the city and be there for the summit. We will be. But we rushed back to be here for rest. Although, it seems like we will be out of food and will not be able to rest." Walker brought forth the main problem the kingdom faced.

"Do you think of me that poor a ruler? The harvest festival is barely upon us. I have already solved that small problem." The king had a sneaky smirk that Walker was about to inquire about before he heard a commotion at the cathedral entrance.

Chapter 734 - 734. Marked Path

"Small problem? You already solved it? How could you have already solved it? The fields are still blackened and ashy?" Walker was now questioning what the king was saying or if the king was actually the king at all. The change in clothing and the decree that he had already solved the food issue made him very suspicious.

"Ha! I knew you would be skeptical." The king looked at every party member and saw the same confused and quizzical look as Walker had on his face. "Just go outside. By my estimate you should be seeing the first of the coming deliveries. It cost us a decent amount but it is why we have allies."

"What is he talking about?" Remey was the first to break the silence as the entire party moved out toward the open square of the cathedral. They had their attention drawn by the commotion at the cathedral entrance but had just assumed it was a last minute injury. Now they were not so sure since they found a group of people looking straight up at the sky.

When Walker looked up he found that he was not looking at the pure light griffin that had been taking everyone's attention. Instead of the griffin, there was a massive hawk descending towards the open square.

"You all see the giant hawk right? It's not just me?" Gil had never seen such a massive hawk in his life and thought that he might be seeing things. The light from the griffin may have messed up his eyesight after all.

"No, I see the goliath hawk as well. They are monsters that live in the deserts on the other side of the mountains." Su was still amazed by the sight but was able to answer with the knowledge she had. She had come out on top with her knowledge once again and Walker made sure to store it away in his mind for later use.

Midnight let out a soft growl until she began to bounce around happily. She could smell something familiar and had already told Onyx not to spoil the surprise. Walker looked at her but felt his attention pulled back to the goliath hawk.

The wind was kicked up as the white belly of the hawk came lower and lower. The large sharp sand yellow talons came down on the stone and the wings ceased to flap. The person on the back of the hawk was all too familiar and perfectly explained why Midnight was so excited.

Before Walker could call out another shape flew down and landed next to the hawk accompanied by a very small shadow hopping out from under the goliath hawk. "You don't know how much trouble you have caused me the last few weeks."

Elise had hopped off the hawk and was standing next to Stella and the little crow which had grown much larger than the last time they had seen it. "First I heard the heroes were at the dwarf city saving the from slimes. I gathered up a bunch of new tamers to try and contract one of those yellow slimes. Then I get there and find out you are already gone."

Elise and Stella were walking over to the party while she rambled on, "Then I ask around and apparently you told them you would stop by the tamers' branch there but ended up heading home instead because you were homesick. Next, I get back to the demi-human branch and get told to turn back around because I am marking the path for the goliath hawks to transport emergency rations from the store houses for the demi-human kingdom." Elise ended up right in front of the party with a massive smile plastered on her face.

"It's very nice to see you again Elise and Stella. And you are still as adorable as the last time we saw you." The little crow cawed softly at Su while Su knelt to pet it.

"I bet you all have some good stories to tell me, right? I want to hear all about them. But I need to head inside and give this scroll to your king. I was wondering why I was told to look for the cathedral but they are right. It is the best place to land. Oh, and that griffon was beautiful. I wish they lived in this place.

But you know what they say. A summoner brings summoned monsters from elemental dimensions and a tamer bonds with existent monsters in their own dimension." Elise rolled her eyes and jogged inside the cathedral.

Midnight and Onyx were next to Stella in a flash. The crow was a little more fearful since it was still young and not used to many people. Luckily, the crowd of onlookers was focused on the goliath hawk and not on Stella. She was a harpy and it was odd for one to be around but the goliath hawk was much more to look at.

"Alright, that is that. He didn't loo angry that I wanted to come back out here. Your king is pretty nice. He told me to make sure I was able to rest and spend time catching up." Elise was very happy to have met the king but happier to see her friends.

"Gil, why are you looking at Elise so weird?" Remey had caught Gil staring at Elise a little lost. "You know Alma might get jealous, right?" Remey needed to tease him a little though.

"No no, it's nothing like that. I just realized we know two Elise's now. One that is a tamer and one that is an elf who can speak with spirits. Pretty crazy right? If they ever meet we can just say hey Elise, and we will have both their attentions." Gil laughed a little but he had caught Elise's attention.

"You met another Elise!? I want to hear everything about my elf twin!"

Chapter 735 - 735. Teasing

"So you're telling me that this elf Elise has bonded with elemental spirits like the ones that are with you and that they can live with her? And that she is like a more than five times my age?" Elise was still shocked by everything they told her about the elves. "I wonder when we will get a tamers' branch there. I want to visit!" She wanted to rush there and drag the party now but there was too much to do and she knew it would be wrong to drag the party out on an adventure.

"If you think that's wild, then imagine a tree a hundred times bigger than the biggest tree you have ever seen. That is where they live! Then they have tree houses and even under the ground they have places to grow crystals!" Remey had jumped in to a high energy rant that Elise was following perfectly. She was even managing to ask questions in between.

The entire party felt exhausted just watching the exchange between them. No one dared to try and keep up. "So Elise, where's the rest of the trio?" Walker was mostly wondering where Laurence was since he would expect he would come instead of Elise due to his experience.

"Both of them are at the border. They were sent to assist with the monsters that were crossing and keep them from being killed on sight. The demons are chasing out some of the monsters around for when they bring in their armies." Elise was a little less energetic saying this.

"I understand. Well, I'm glad you came. Sorry for bringing up a weird subject." Walker felt bad instantly but Elise easily shrugged it off.

"Why do you guys feel different? I feel like I'm talking to the master or a really strong tamed beast. There's just a different aura around you that I can feel through Stella." Elise was picking up on the high levels the party had now than they did before they parted ways with the tamers.

"We leveled up. We are a lot higher leveled now than we were. Plus we have been training like crazy. Learned new skills, and have a lot stronger gear." Gil was the one to speak up and showed off the true spirit bow where Zephyr was resting. Gil was still a little curious about how Zephyr would react when she met the pure light griffin in the skies above the city. It was clear they would have to share the skies while the griffin was present.

"I see, and by the way, you didn't give me the proper answer before. Again, Mr party leader, why didn't you go to the tamers' branch in the dwarf city." Elise was more annoyed that she had missed them than anything but decided that she would go all in on this aspect to tease Walker and maybe convince him to do some training with her and Stella later.

"We had reasons to stay, I won't lie. There's this albino glowing mole egg that needs a home. But we acted a bit impulsively and decided to come back. We have been away longer than ever before. But if other tamers are coming it kind of works out since we can find a hole for the albino mole egg." Walker did his best to put a silver lining on the situation.

Elise looked like she was ready to reunite until Walker said it was an albino mole egg. "You have an albino monster egg!? Do you know how rare albino monsters are? Has anyone told you they have special skills? If you aren't raising it there are tamers who will give you anything for it." Elise pulled out a small scroll that had some runes on it.

She hurriedly whispered in to it until the runes glowed and the scroll burned up. "There, I sent a message to someone I know will come running. If they aren't on the back of a goliath hawk despite their fear of heights, well, that would mean the world had ended"

"Someone really wants an egg we found that badly? Honestly, I wasn't too worried since we could always find a home for it as long as the egg is dormant." Gil was able to speak up in his surprise. Elise had just used a scroll which wasn't something cheap in the least.

"I think we should just be thankful that Elise is here and she will be visiting for some time. We will even get to meet one of her friends." Su was keeping things on track and brought a brilliant smile to Elise's face.

After nodding a few times Elise returned to their conversation about the other Elise that had spirits for friends and sold elemental mana crystals. Eventually, the group moved on to the topic of quests appearing and systems showing up as a result of chain quests.

"You know, it always felt weird that some of the people that worked in the monster pens cleaning or transporting straw were without systems. I once saw a kid who was really good, and I mean really good, at getting the monsters to come and eat even when they didn't like the food that was offered. I swore he was a tamer but they told me he wasn't a system user at all." Elise seemed a little downtrodden with this but then brightened up.

"I bet he has a quest too. The king told us a lot of people were getting them. I bet there are some people in the city that want to be tamers of some kind one day and are looking for guidance." As soon as Remey suggested that, they all knew it was too late to just tighten things up and try to head somewhere to rest.

"Then we need to go talk to the demons. What if they want to be an avian tamer?" Elise rushed towards the doors and Stella picked up the little crow in her arms following her. There was a small smirk on Stella's face that she had expected this.

Chapter 736 - 736. Tamer!!!

Everyone followed Elise inside while Walker held back a little glancing at the goliath hawk. He wanted to use his all around appraisal skill on it before he went on. His curiosity was too much for him even though Su had already told him what she knew.

' Goliath Hawk

The goliath hawk hunts the vast deserts. It's white belly makes it almost disappear in to the clouds while in flight causing its prey to be extremely surprised and taken off guard. They have very good eyesight and can see for a very long distance. They will live in the mountains making nests on cliffs. They prefer to roost in small groups of ten to fifteen. They are popular with tamers and merchants due to their strength in flight. Goliath hawks are able to carry three times their body weight in flight.'

Walker was surprised by their flight strength but could only understand that it had to be true based on the size of its wing. The goliath hawk Elise had flown in on was already nestled with a head under a wing sleeping but Walker still remembered the fierce winds from the flapping wings as it landed.

After he had learned what he wanted he left as another wave of [people came to view the monster they had never seen before and most likely only see once in their lives. Little did they know that they would be seeing many coming to deliver supplies in a few hours.

"Active tamer here! Come and learn some taming! If you have a quest to learn taming basics come on over and meet a member of the highly regarded tamers' guild!" Elise had fully moved in to her speech and shouting to attract a demon with a taming ability.

"She's been doing this since she walked in the doors. She scared a woman half to death when she started." Gil was barely able to hold back his laughter as he told Walker about it.

"Hey Onyx, want to show off how much you have grown?" Walker was thinking it would be funny to let Onyx show off and potentially tease Elise a little. It only seemed fair since she was shouting so much inside the cathedral where there were people trying to heal and rest.

"Of course brother. She has not seen me since I was very small." Onyx was a little too innocent as to what Walker was really after but he did it anyways.

When Onyx slithered up Elise gave him a smile but slowly lost it as she watched the large shadow start to come toward Onyx. She was slowly dropping her jaw to stare in awe at Onyx as he grew. She had completely stopped yelling and Onyx reached his full size at the moment. Walker took notice that Onyx had definitely grown another inch or two. Not many people would catch the growth.

"How did you get so big!!!!" Elise shouted in shock and many people were also curious. There were five or six demons that came to examine the situation. However, there was one female demon that was much more focused than all the others.

Onyx lowered his head and looked at the demon girl who was holding a hand out, "I do not bite friends so you can see my scales." The demons were warming up to Onyx very easily. Some were even chatting around him mentioning how similar he looked to the tail their friends had in the demon lands. It was an interesting twist.

"Brother, this young woman says that she is going to learn about taming skills. She wants to learn from my tamer." Onyx looked like he was trying not to say more because he wanted Walker to look as official as possible.

Walker on the other hand wasn't going to let it slide, "I'm glad you appreciate taming. But to me, Onyx is a little brother and Midnight is a little sister. They have the same standing in the family and the party as any other member." Walker did not let his face show any emotion. He wanted to drive the point home that these monsters were not monsters but family.

The demon girl was instant in her reply, "I apologize for my lack of knowledge. I will remember this." She even went so far as to begin to get on her knees and bow as an apology.

"Never bow either. You can't possibly stand equal if you bow like that. It may have been the way in the demon lands but here everyone has the chance to rise. Especially since the new Genesis city will need strong people to come and build it properly." Walker did the only thing there was to do. He offered the demon girl a hand. She was too shocked to react as fast as before since this was too different than what she had been used to.

As a few tears fell she took Walkers' hand and wiped her face. The new look of strength that grew in her eyes was only matched by her question. "How can I be the best treant tamer ever?" Walker wished he had an answer, however, when he glanced at Elise, he saw that she had one.

"This is Elise. She has a lot of energy and has been with the tamers' guild for a long time. She grew up with her sister Stella the harpy over there and she has answers to your questions." Walker leaned in, "She even was given some training by the tamers' guild master. She's a good one." Seeing that the demon womans' eyes grew wide he knew he had hooked her.

"Elise came over and began to explain the thing she knew about treant monsters and how they grew. It was very informative and only rivaled by the fact that she had a friend that could bring a treant egg to them. Walker was amazed to see her use yet another scroll to send a message. There were plenty of things he would have to ask Elise later. For now, his eyes rested on Stella. There was something he wanted to ask her.

Chapter 737 - 737. Harpy Feelings

Stella was still cradling the baby crow in her hands. She knew that if she let it get away it would hide in her shadow for the remainder of their time in the human kingdom. She was also in charge of teaching it how to fly. These two jobs were more important to her than any other since Elise had not even thought about finding a fourth monster to tame. The goliath hawk was tamed and trained to carry others by another tamer who lent it to them.

"How are you Stella?" Walker knew that Onyx was preoccupied with helping Elise. He was still at his large size and all the demons and humans that came up would speak and ask him questions instead of Elise allowing her the time to speak more with the demon woman that wanted to become a tamer.

Stella smiled and nodded a few times to show that she was doing well. He pointed at Walker with one clawed finger and turned her head. "I am doing well too. Glad to be home and I can't wait to see my family." Walker wasn't really sure how he should ask his question but it was nagging at him and he knew it may be an important step for a harpy.

"I hope this isn't offensive. But, as you may have heard, my party became friends with some goblins striving to become their own race. I was curious how you felt about that and the fact that the demi-humans have befriended a harpy queen with intelligence that is trying for the same goal? I know that gaining the recognition as a race is a very big deal for anyone, not just a monster." Walker held a calm voice and face only mirrored by Stella.

Stella held the calm exterior for some time. She was not very worried about the question Walker would ask and she was thinking about how she would reply to him. After staring at everything around her, Stella pulled Walker close. He was very surprised to hear her whisper in his ear. "I have always been the same as Elise. Nothing changes."

Of course, this shocked Walker. He knew that a harpy that could speak was usually one much older than Stella. He could only guess that due to the fact that Stella had been around humans who spoke all the time that she had managed to learn speech much sooner. This meant that she would be able to use the signature lullaby skill that harpys' were famous for.

"I understand. I guess that does make sense. You have never needed to be anything other than her sister. I hope that if it does come, you can guide them a little. You are kind of a harpy human relations expert." Walker laughed a little and was glad to see that Elise was too. "I assume you have only just got your voice since you whispered. I hope you can use it well. I have read that the skills harpies can use their voice with are very useful and beautiful to hear. Especially the lullaby skill."

Stella nodded her head so many times that so many times in a row that he was afraid her head might fall off. After the two watched for some time more, Stella saw that Elise's eyes had fallen on her meaning that she wanted Stella to come and help. She gave a wave to Walker and Stella went to Elise.

"Leader, what were you two smiling about?" Su was curious about what had made the two so joyful while speaking to each other. Su couldn't really stop and speak to her healer friends because they were caught up with their work. The healing may be done but they still needed to return the cathedral to its natural state.

"Oh not much. Just asking Stella how she felt about a harpy queen working towards their harpy monsters becoming a harpy race. She surprised me a little and whispered in my ear. She's pretty ahead of any harpy I have ever heard of." Su was also surprised.

Her face showed it for a split second before she put on an approving look, "I wouldn't expect anything else from a harpy who has always grown up on the same level as humans. She is even thought of and treated like a sister. Even if they become a race, I doubt it will change anything between the two." Su hit the nail in the head. She had not considered Stella just a harpy and was not planning on it. Knowing that Stella was getting along well with the knowledge that there may be a time other harpies were the same as her, was pleasant.

"Now what will we do? Everything is calming down here. The demi-human kingdom has sent supplies with the tamers, and the demons appear to be branching out. Although, they may stay in the cathedral for some time before they can venture out comfortably. I believe that they will be out to explore for their quests sooner than anyone expects." Su also had an eye on the king who was still speaking with nobles and even the high priest.

"I think we can stay here for a little while longer. Midnight looks like she is having fun playing with the children over there. It's always funny how dragons are said to be fierce and powerful but as soon as Onyx and Midnight get to the cathedral and child around decided they are their best friends and playmates." Walker wanted to comment on everything Su had asked. But at the end of the day, they were watching it all unfold.

"You've got that right." Gil joined the conversation with three demons behind him. "These three are the ones from earlier. They are interested in arrow making and archery so I invited them to come to the mansion with me. I also promised them some clothing that isn't given by their former general Pride." Gil rolled his eyes speaking of the demon and the three demons behind him didn't even flinch. They had fully accepted that Pride was gone forever.

Chapter 738 - 738. Off They Go

Gil was the first to leave and head toward the mansion. He was already promising the three demons that they would love the place to craft and practice. Although Walker didn't miss the fact that Gil was preaching how amazing the garden and the food was.

"So Gil is the first to get followers? Or is it students?" Remey was very amused with this occurrence when she noticed.

"Says the one that is going to have an entire guild with her soon." Walker returned a punch to Remey's shoulder for once. Instead of punching back, Su and Walker were surprised when she did not react with anything other than some embarrassed mumbling.

"Speaking of that, we have used a lot of your potions lately. Will you be able to produce more?" Su knew that the party must be very low on potions and that Remey would have already taken note of this.

Snapping out of her embarrassment Remey was right to it, "Yes, we are low. I also want to start testing other potion ideas. But I need to get an herb garden planted. It will be very important. I think we should have a greenhouse built. I know a few from the alchemy building that will be able to find a crafter. But herbalists will be important too. I have a lot to do. Not to mention shock that old man." Remey was betraying her words. Her face said that she missed the old master alchemist and was not actually trying to shock him at all with all her new information.

"I would say I will help, but you know how things go. I will most likely end up being dragged here or there. But when I see something interesting I will do my best to bring it to you. Not to mention that I have the herbs and seeds stored in my inventory for you." Walker was a little sad that he would surely end up being pulled off somewhere else.

"Su, what are you planning to do? I know you have missed healing here at the cathedral." Remey realized that Su hadn't said what her plans were yet. She had kept fairly calm for a while.

"I know that leader is going to have to train with Midnight since she wants to learn of other elemental dragon breath attacks. But I want to learn more about my system. I am a draconic guardian. I am related to Midnight and dragons as well. I feel like I have ignored it and need to properly understand the skills I can learn and use." Su was firm with her words and it made sense. She had a system that they were all lost to so far. Even Remey, who had a unique system, was a bit more knowledgeable.

"That sounds like a pretty good goal. We have some time for things to figure themselves out so it will probably be the best time. Especially since the date of the summit appears to be three months now instead of one. They need to accommodate the merfolk who are sending someone. If they went on with it without them then it would potentially sour the relationship with them." Walker was sure that this was all going to fall in to place. However, he did worry the demons may act again before this.

"I think I will head out now. The more I think about all that, the more I want to make more health and mana potions." It was understandable that Remey was feeling a little stressed. If making the potions that could save lives and help others was her way to relax then no one was going to argue with her.

"When I get back I will drop all the herbs off in the alchemy lab. Then you and the master alchemist can work through them." Walker knew that Remey would need some time to speak with the old master alchemist before they could even get in to the herbs that they brought back. Knowing that she had that time was relaxing enough.

"Then I'm off. If you happen to see a demon that needs to learn alchemy, make sure you extend an invitation to the alchemy guild that will be built soon." Remey smirked as she walked away. She was going to have it all set up sooner than she ever imagined. She had believed her dreams would not come true so easily but now, they were one after the other.

"Hey, isn't that your friend over there?" Walker pointed out a certain violin player walking through the crowd with a few other musicians.

Su looked away and found that there was no one that would tease her and realized she could just nod. "I should go say hello. It would be rude if I didn't." She headed off leaving Walker who was smirking as well now.

"Your party seems to have gone off on their separate ways. It makes sense now that you are all back again. Everyone seems to be thrown in to a lot of chaos these last few months." Barry had returned

from the fields after issuing quests to the adventurers to evaluate and patrol the fields. There were also escort missions for farmers to return to what was left of homes to collect valuables and begin to decide how the kingdom would rebuild farmhouses and barns.

"They have. We all have some personal goals we want to work on since we are home. Thank you for everything. I never thought I would be able to fight beside you." Walker couldn't help but let his amazement show in his voice. Fighting with Barry had been intense. He felt the power Barry had in each move.

"I didn't think you would be able to keep up so soon. You still have a ways to go, but you make up for your lower level with skills and knowledge. When you get up to my level you may just be unbeatable." Barry laughed his hearty laugh.

"Actually, vice guild master Barry, what level are you?" Walker had to ask. He needed to know. He put on the best polite face he could to bait Barry.

Chapter 739 - 739. Bar Fight

"Do you know how few people actually ask me that? I rarely get asked anything to be instant. I'm pretty sure everyone in the guild is terrified of me." Barry looked a little hurt by this but also fairly amused.

Walker on the other hand perfectly understood that there were many reasons why Barry would be the person to avoid. He was known as the berserker which meant that he would give his mind away for strength in skills and battle. He was often sent to deal with powerful monsters or hoards like the horned rabbits and he would succeed without many injuries if any. Not to mention, the look on his face when he battled made it seem that he was a monster in human skin.

"I have no idea why they would think that. It would be way more beneficial to befriend someone with powerful skills and levels." Walker was trying to make sure Barry was happier rather than down. Even if Barry was just messing with him or didn't mind he wanted to make sure someone said it.

"Of course you don't," Barry smirked even more than before since he found it even funnier that Walker was trying so hard to get Barry to tell him his level.

The two stood in silence only for a moment before Barry spoke up, "I know you were told I was part of the military before I left to join the adventurers guild. I left after being stationed at the borders for some time. I can't say it was enjoyable. Due to my system, I was thrown right in front of any demon that

attempted to rampage or any group of monsters." Walker could understand why Barry would leave the army as soon as the required time period was up after he had joined.

There were many people that would join the military and attempt to rise in the ranks. Often times, they would become stuck trying to surpass those that went to the military academy. It was normally a monetary benefit of the merchants or rich nobles. However, there was a chance for promising youths to join without any fees. There were many scouting teams that would visit guards and sometimes children who unlocked vital systems to the army.

"I'd say I spent about two years straight just fighting around the plains and finding towns or taverns to drink until I passed out. But due to all of that, I received the drunken brawler skill and managed to get in to a fight with a certain white Ibis, hero who defeated countless undead." Barry looked back on it with a smile. He had not told this story for a long time...

"You bastard! You spilled my mead! That cost me.. Something... just get on your knees and buy me ten more!" The entire tavern shook their heads watching the young man in his torn and dirtied military uniform pick another fight. This was the sixth time that very night.

"I spilled your drink? And if I was to say that you stumbled in to me, what would you reply?" The wise man approaching the pique of his adulthood was aged and weathered by countless battles but was clean in white robes nonetheless. He had eyes that told everyone that interfering would be worthless.

"Ha! Like a welp like you could be enough to block my path." Barry attempted to stumble forward and found that he had to grip a nearby stool to stay standing. "You use some skill to mess with me. You wanna go? Outside! Now!" Barry challenged the older man he was sure to beat. He was in his prime while the older man was starting to pass his pique and could be brought down.

"This is what I get for stopping just anywhere. I wonder what I should summon to deal with this?" Ibis just talked to himself as he followed the stumbling Barry outside.

When the two reached the front of the tavern Barry roared and started to charge. He didn't waste his time with rules. He just fought like always.

Ibis shook his head. "You know, I do find you familiar. Just like a certain rising soldier that suddenly gave up and disappeared after the end of their contract." Ibis had not chosen this tavern in vain. He had stopped there hoping to find a certain berserker that had made waves then disappeared.

"Shove it!" The growl of Barry's voice was discerning but before his fist could touch Ibis a white mass appeared and blocked the hit.

"My summon has a decent defense. The white striped emu is a very tough and heavy light elemental born from...well, I don't know where I summon it from yet. But it's worth the mana I pay to have it here as a partner." The white striped emu that had blocked the attack also caused Barry to fall backward. It proceeded to kick out and push Barry even further. It may be too big and heavy to fly but it can hit hard too. Want to make a bet?"

Ibis was sneaky and smirking. He was sure that Barry would accept. "Bring it on. If I win you have to buy me a full barrel of honey mead!"

"And if I win you come and work as my right hand at the adventurer's guild. It would be a lot of work. But you wouldn't have much choice." Ibis nodded at the white striped emu and it rushed in. Barry had been too drunk and the next morning woke up with a letter containing the details of his new position...

"Yeah, it was a pretty strange way to get a new job but it really brought me a reason to live again. That bastard put me through the wringer at first but back then I was level fifty three. Now? Well, now I have worked my way up to seventy two. I think I am the third highest in the kingdom now." Barry smirked and walked right to the king.

Chapter 740 - 740. Help The Demons

Walker just stared at Barry while he spoke to the king and reported what the guild had for information so far. He was diligent and also made sure to greet most of the nobles. The adult attitude paired with the perfect working mentality was too much. How could Walker ever believe that this man had been in the military, left, gotten in regular bar fights, and then was tricked in to the adventurers' guild?

On top of all this, Barry had just claimed that he was the third strongest person in the kingdom at level seventy two. This was a level much higher than anyone could usually hope to get to. Walker had heard that some of the older and higher military officials were in the level sixty range with some of the generals being at seventy or close.

There were rumors that the king had a personal guard that went out of the castle for special quests under the kings' order who was higher than level seventy. But who would be the other top three people in the kingdom? Ibis had already told shown that Barry was stronger and even admitted it by calling for him. He was in the older years of his life and it was understandable that he was not what he used to be.

With this information, Walker was sure that one day he could surpass all three of them. His heroic leveling was the best way to do that. A normal person was subject to the traditional leveling system or their own unique ways based on their systems. But it was clear that the party and Walker would still need to work hard. If they were higher level that was good, but if they could use their skills well to their advantage it was better. Their skills and use of them could surpass their levels.

After thinking for some time on this Walker noticed that a guard had begun to usher those from the farms and the demons toward the cathedral door. From what he could hear, the king had tasked the guards to prepare every inn possible for the farmers and the demons. He had even made sure that the demon who he knew had suffered greatly were put to rest in the high tier inns at the noble housing areas.

When they realized some were staying back Walker knew that it was his turn to head forward again, "It looks like some of you haven't decided what to do just yet. Do you want to come to stay at the herpes mansion? I can take you all for a walk to whatever place fits the quests you have tomorrow?" There were a total of three more demons that were there. On was a woman who seemed very skinny and malnourished compared to the two average looking men. Walker could barely tell they were demons if not for the sharp nails and small red tails they had. It was terrible how Prides' skill had been able to force men and woman demons alike in to his own image. It had to have left a lasting mark on them.

"Lord hero, we have some quests we aren't sure can be done..." The woman spoke up having a much stronger voice than he expected. She looked frail but her voice was strong and held a lot of steel. Walker could only assume it was the desire to get stronger and surpass those who had enslaved her.

"Well, tell me what they are and I can start to think of ways to help you three out. My party members have already found some of you that need help, those three with arrows are with Gil. Our friend Elise has a woman who has taming quests. It's our duty to help those in need." Walker was using the knight and shining armor tactic to help put the demons at rest. He knew that they needed someone to show them that the world isn't all corruption and oppression.

"My quests revolve around growing herbs. I have a very strong affinity for water and earth and that was why I was deemed useless by lord pride. It's not normal for demons to grow plants or want to grow plants..."

"You know, my party member Remey is an alchemical brawler. She makes potions from herbs. If you truly want to learn how to grow herbs and plants she can give you a place. There's also Gil's mother who retired as a farmer. She has the entire garden under her control. You can learn from her as well." Walker saw a light shine in the demon womans' eyes. The party would need someone to specifically tend to herbs and he would much rather find someone willing to grow in to their dream than hiring someone just with gold.

"Is it really alright for me to come with you and learn from them? I can't afford to pay any masters to teach me?" The woman had seen how things work before. She was not so foolish that she would expect something for nothing.

"Then how about this deal, you work hard toward your quests and I pay you. Housing, food, and a wage paid in gold?" Walker watched as the woman struggled to keep her knees strong. This was not something any of them would ever see as a demon unless they were born powerful.

"Yes! I promise on my life that I will work hard!" The demon woman was energetic and starting to lose herself in awe.

Walker tinker to the other two men, "And what can I do to help you?" Walker felt that these two had to be siblings. They were both almost the same height and had the same features.

"We are... greedy. We want money around us all the time." The one man spoke calmly.

"And we like to count it and control it, but that was useless since general Greed controls the demon lord's wealth..." The other man spoke up and Walker felt a smile grow upon his face.