

Master 761

Chapter 761 - 761. Spirit Fusion

Walker had no idea why the elemental spirits were instructing him. However, as he started to pile up the elemental crystals in to place he felt them beginning to pull the elemental mana from the crystals and enlarge their bodies.

The other elemental spirits and the water hound backed far away from this. It was as if their instincts were warning them that they should not interfere under any circumstances. Su and Elise were right next to the water hound and had worried looks on their faces. "Are you two alright?" Walker was not sure why they appeared to be so worried and had grown worried for them as well.

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"Walker, do you not feel it?" Su was worried even more by this. His shaky voice came out and she used his name to express her true emotions even more. "The pressure that they are creating with their mana?"

The fire spirit that had been using the dragon style golem as it's dwelling bravely came to Walker's side and motioned toward the spirits. "Preparing. Dense mana." Walker was being kept from all of this mana because the spirits were preparing it for a quest that involved him. This was clear to everyone but him. He had not felt it.

The fire spirit was forced to retreat again while Walker began to fully understand. The reason the spirits that had decided to join him were expanding was obviously the mana they were gathering from every single elemental crystal present. On top of that, it was also the reason for the pressure. Such dense mana rarely showed up anywhere for this reason.

"This...is this like a storm? Do you guys feel like it's about to rain or thunder?" Walker wanted to know so that he could properly learn. Storms would use a lot of the natural mana at once which caused it to be much more dense and powerful.

"Stronger. It's ten times more than the lightning in the plains." Elise spoke up this time while inching away.

"I thought I felt the wind shift. Let me help you out." Zephyr had come through the air after feeling the massive amount of dense mana. Walker had no idea where Gil was or if they had even been together.

However, he saw that when Zephyr began to channel her own mana through the air and around the others they relaxed significantly. "You should stand in the middle and let them take some of your mana. When they finish they will be resting in your spirit mark for some time."

Walker was not fully sure what was happening but this was all that Zephyr offered. She instead fell back to the others and started talking to Su. Walker couldn't hear a word.

After stepping in to the middle of the circle he watched as the spirits began to fall apart. Their elemental bodies were not what they truly were and it was clear that they would not need them. Their elemental mana was the true core of their being and that was what form they had embodied. It was not something that could be seen but something that only those sensitive to the natural mana of the world could sense clearly. Even Walker could only feel where they were but not their exact shape and design. He was still too inexperienced.

Feeling that he was being pulled somewhere he began to release his mana in to the air. It was greedily taken in by each spirit leaving a shred of it within them as they all began to chase each other around Walker. It was a strange occurrence but through it, Walker could see the natural order of how the elementals worked. With the enlightenment, he had felt before it was a much clearer show of the way the world worked.

Along with all of this, he could see the reactions of the mana coming together and falling in to balance. The strange bonding was also pulling small bits of every single elemental around him. The shadows seemed to split and the light of the setting sun was pulled in. Small pebbles and drops of water came together. The wind swirled around pulling small embers from the mansion's smoke stack towards them.

Walker could feel the small parts of his mana merging together and a burning sensation on his hand. It was nothing he had experienced before. The burning was not necessarily physical. He felt that it was flowing through his very existence.

He watched as a small marble start to form. It was black with hues of each elemental color within it. He wasn't sure how it was formed but he knew that it was the fusion of every single spirit putting their elemental and mana bodies together.

'The will of the world has expanded. The True hero has begun to heal the corruption of the world. The birth of a new world spirit has come to this era. Lesser nature spirit has fully formed. Spirit mark to the True hero has been established. The lesser nature spirit will slumber.'

The system notified Walker but he had no chance to read it at the moment. The marble sank in to the spirit mark and Walker could feel something resting within his soul. His mana that had been leaking was now flowing directly to the spirit mark instead of out in to the air.

"Huh, that solves that problem." Walker was surprised by the change but felt that it was a valuable assistance. He could also tell that the mana was assisting the lesser nature spirit to grow. He also knew that it would eventually grow to be the world spirit the system had just notified him of. It was sure to be a boon for the world and everything encompassed by it.

"Walker! Are you safe!?" Su ran up to him worried more than she had been. Walker was her family and she feared he had been hurt in some way.

Chapter 762 - 762. Swirling Mana

Su was worried that Walker was harmed in some way. She couldn't see the fading spirit mark on his hand until she had focused and started to pay attention to the details. "Is that round shaped mark the spirit mark? Did the spirits fuse together? What happened?" Su was still lost since Walker had been the only one that received a system notification.

"I'm fine. The spirits fused themselves together and became a lesser nature spirit. If they can grow enough they will become a world spirit. The system said they are helping to fight corruption. I don't know how but it's a good thing. I still have some quest left but I made a huge mess." Walker was still full of his own thoughts about what had just happened but his daze left him wondering what to do with all the mess.

There were countless broken mana crystal shards around him and there was a significant amount of mana left in the air. It was very dense and he had no idea how to deal with it all because he was sure that when Zephyr stopped helping it would all dissipate in to the city causing some trouble.

"Don't you have more dormant spirits? Su and Zephyr explained it. Also, no one introduced me to Zephyr. Even Stella met her flying in the air." Elise was puffing up her cheeks in annoyance but continued to point to the crates left inside.

"Great idea!" Walker pushed his other thoughts aside and used the current issue to distract himself from the desire to meditate of just thinking through the fact that a world spirit had just been born. Or even to push off the thoughts on what he was going to make with the materials now that he wasn't completely set on a staff, even though he still wanted a staff at first thought.

"Zephyr, if you can contain all the mana with your wind for a little longer I will start to use it to awaken the other dormant elemental spirits!" Walker gave the call as he went inside and dragged out the crates. Su and Elise jumped to action as well and pulled others from the dining hall.

Ze[hyr had a snaking smile that said this was what she hoped for in the first place. "I have been missing the years when there were so many spirits that I always had a friend nearby." She may have bonded with Gil and created a link unlike any other. But she missed the full feeling she had when there were unique spirits at every turn.

Walker was quickly [ulling dormant elemental spirits from the crates and organizing them in to groups. He knew that the mana would be absorbed no matter what by them but decided to use his newfound enlightenment on how all elemental mana worked together to cause natural phenomena.

He willed the different elemental manas to move toward each other causing a similar chasing effect on a smaller scale. This allowed the mixed elemental manas to flow past the dormant elemental spirits. The dormant spirits were able to pull at the elemental mana and separate them as it moved past them. The process was slow and taxing on Walker but it was the most efficient and safe way to deal with the elemental mana since the crystals that had housed it were broken.

"He's really gotten a lot stronger. I would hate to spar with any of you now." Elise could only watch in amazement at the higher control over the elemental mana that Walker was displaying.

"He has a long way to go. That spirit that came together was one of each element. It's a nature spirit and it can use all mana regardless of the element. He can use the element separately but fusing them is still challenging to a degree. Fusing all of them, well, that is where things get fin." Zephyr still had mana secrets and Su could not hope to hear all of them.

With Su and Elise being teased by Zephyr they were able to take the time to get a little more detail from her that they could help Walker with. Unfortunately, Walker was exhausted before they could speak to him. When the swirl of elemental mana stopped and there was none left in the air other than the basic amount everywhere else. Zephyr released her wind surrounding them. The dormant spirits had all cracked and awakened in turn.

"Helloooooooo my friends. Waker is tired not so we will have a class on what the world is like now!" Zephyr left Su and Elise taking control while the two helped Walker back inside and Su started to make up some tea that Remey had made.

"Remey said this is made from the poorer leaves of some herbs used to make mana potions. She said that they are not as good for the potion but can be used for a regenerative tea mix." Walker was surprised by it but just drank it down since he was too tired to comment.

"So...the spirits are awake..." He looked up from the empty cup. Walker wasn't sure what to say on the topic.

"I would say they are. It was the coolest thing I have seen in my life. I didn't know you could do all that." Elise flopped in to a chair and just stared out the window at all the elemental spirits. "Oh, and how in the world could you tell what that cute pixie was saying. Actually. Why could I?"

"You could understand Zephyr? What about the other wind spirits?" Su felt like the mysteries and things to explore had been doubling every moment.

"Yes, those green wind spirits kept yelling about feeling wind and flying. But the other spirits were silent." Elise just looked at the pair questioningly since she was just as lost as they were.

Chapter 763 - 763. Spirit Adventures

Walker rested his head in his hands since he could feel the lack of mana making him tired. However, he pushed through since the tea was helping a little and he wanted to put forth his theory on how Elise could speak and understand the wind spirits without issue.

"Have you been better able to understand Stella recently?" Walker knew that as a harpy Stella had a strong wind elemental affinity and could even use some wind elemental skills.

"Actually, I have. After we used our mastery skill I was able to feel closer to her even when she was high in the sky. Then one day she just looked at me and I knew she was hungry and wanted to go look for a snack. Just last week I stubbed my toe and she was able to tell and raised to find me to see if I was alright." Elise was creasing her forehead even more while trying to put the connections together.

"And have you had any break throughs in your skills with Stella? If I remember she can use wind slashes and stuff. Can you?" Walker knew this was the last puzzle piece in place depending on Elis's answer.

"I can! I was able to use her wind skills after we used our mastery skill.. That's why the guild master said I needed to train. He sent me everywhere and made me train with so many people. I was barely able to survive." Elise dramatically laid her head on the table.

"Then I think you were able to become closer to the wind element. So much so that you are able to understand wind affinity beings without needing to learn some skills completely. I actually would bet that you will receive a skill soon since you are somewhat adapting to it now and the system you have just hasn't shown it to you yet." Walker just had the feeling that this was correct. There were also the supporting factors that pushed him towards it.

"That's great! You can probably fight a lot better and if you can speak with the wind spirits you will have friends to help you fly around." Su was equally happy for Elise. It was a great skill to know of.

"Then I need to go outside. I want to make sure I have the skill soon or finish learning it." Elise was out the door faster than they could imagine. She had been sitting then stepping outside in the next moment. Her enthusiasm was just too powerful.

"So how are you feeling? Any better?" Walker knew that Su wasn't just asking about his mana. She was asking about how he felt about what they were doing in relation to his quest.

"Well, the tea helps. I have a lesser nature spirit bonded with me. I need to meditate and understand how the elements work together to create other natural occurrences. Then I also need to speak with the wandering blacksmith. My quest says I need to choose a design for my weapon. I want to make a staff but it says I can choose other options. I might use some items I already have as inspiration." Walker was very torn about all of this.

"I think Zephyr can handle the spirits by the way. She looks pretty happy to have them around. With our luck, they will begin to awaken the other dormant elemental spirits around and before we know it people will hear the rumors of true spirit forging from the dwarves. Spirits will make a return to the other kingdoms." Walker was proud in his small day dream of a spirit filled world.

"First you need to rest. The day is just about over and everyone is coming home to sleep. The sun has more or less set anyway. It will be easier to worry about all of it in the morning. And sleep can help you straighten it all out. Don't forget we are supposed to be relaxing and recovering from our journey." Su was staring Walker down until he nodded in agreement.

"I wasn't sure what to start with anyway. All I know is I have barely eaten anything today since I was too caught up in everything that has happened. Did I tell you that I found a demon that was looking to be a merchant?" Walker began telling the story as Su grabbed some snacks. She was glad that Walker had agreed to relax before she had to make him stop running around.

Zephyr was outside with all the spirits. They were all extremely curious and were not sure what to do other than to explore as much as they possibly could. "Listen listen! This is a human kingdom and they have no idea what we are. They are lost to the ways of spirits and we are here to show them just how amazing we are!" The spirits hearing this they became more energetic.

"The best way to do this is to fix their fields. Bad people burned them down and nature was harmed. We can fix it and find other sleeping spirits to wake up! It is an adventure to fix it all and find more friends!" Zephyr's cry caused the spirits to start to push and move each other so that they could leave faster.

The sight of this small amount of chaos was soon gone and Zephyr was left with the odd few spirits that were trying to explore the training space and moving towards the gardens. "I can give you all tours! It's night time but that's fine!" She was excited and set off with a handful of elemental spirits in tow.

Walker and Su had met up with Remey and the old master alchemist who were looking to eat and rest themselves after many experiments and testing. So far they had not been successful but were sure they were close to making a grand healing potion. It was just missing something they had yet to grasp.

Chapter 764 - 764. Spooky Spirits

The night went on as Zephyr gave a full tour to the spirits that remained behind. The fire spirits found a nice home in the kitchen claiming the oven as their resting place. Luckily, Walker's mother had already been told what the elemental spirits were and would not be too alarmed when she woke up to stoke the fires. However, she was going to find that the fire that normally would be down to embers might still be ablaze.

The water spirits found the tranquility of the pond on the training area to be ideal. The lily that had been growing was still delicate but the mana from the water spirits seemed to calm it further. The party would be likely to find it growing much better in the future and even produce more flowers.

The wind spirits had decided that they owned the skies around the house. Zephyr had made clear to them that she was the ruler of all the skies around here and the only thing they could not mess with was the pure light griffin since it flew in the skies as well.

The only spirits that did not stick around were the light elemental spirits. They had gone directly to the pure light griffin due to the elemental mana they sensed from it. They could not leave that dense mana alone.. This was a slight annoyance to the pure light griffin but in its' realm, it was used to these kinds of things.

The earth spirits found refuge in the ground of the garden. There was a consistent amount of mana constantly flowing due to the care of all the plants in the garden. It made the soil easier for them to mold for their bodies and relax. They in turn brought more natural mana around to cause all the plants to begin to grow slightly faster and produce better quality fruits and flowers.

The dark spirits followed the earth spirits. They enjoyed the shadows that were created from the large plants that filled the garden. It gave them many places to hide in the shadows and bask in the cool darkness. There was also the benefit of the additional natural mana that they brought causing some of the dark affinity herbs and plants to grow more in the night.

This was all very pleasant and the spirits would fit in around the mansion without issue. The story was radically different when it came to the spirits that had rushed to explore. Normally, people would be more accepting of new things. The elemental spirits were not something that was necessarily common knowledge, however, some people had read about them in stories.

With the recent attack of demons that had already been explained as corrupt and now rescued, people were understandably confused and on edge. Most had been told that demons were evil and that ended with the common folk to be touchy. Add the spooky stories often told around the harvest festivals and there is added feeling of fear around.

The darkness elemental spirits that had left the mansion found their enjoyment in the night guards that were watching the walls. They fell in to the shadows and caused them to become abnormally shaped. This led to the guards reporting abnormal shadows and multiple guard captains being alerted. They filed constant reports of this occurrence until a guard reported a ghost leaving a shadow.

The fire spirits found homes in many of the forge furnaces and were welcomed with a lot more fervor. This was because any blacksmith would recognize the fire spirits from the constant stories that were told about them. It was just a common story in the trade.

The wind spirits were causing mist with the water spirits. They made a game of causing the mist to take up entire streets so that the only thing heard was walking through them. There was no sightline available. The people walking and transporting at night found themselves shivering with fear and worry every misty street they found.

The earth spirits through out the city were much more calm and started to find gardens to rest in and help grow. The only issue this was that a little girl that could not sleep saw one of the spirits moving through the garden and began telling her parents that there was a mud imp in the garden. The guards were called who found nothing and the entire street was alerted to be safe.

The harvest festival was only in a day but there were already many new rumors and stories traveling. It was just enough to cause a ruckus in the mansion in the morning which woke Walker up earlier than he had planned.

"What's going on? I heard you guys from my room." Walker was heading right in to the dining hall for breakfast only to find Su and Gil talking about what they had heard so far.

"Walker, apparently there are ghosts and mud imps and living shadows roaming the city now. Some people are saying that the harvest festival ghosts are coming back earlier this year because of the crops burning. But even crazier, the farm lands that had burned are already growing back a little. Some guards and adventurers said there are harvest festival wild flowers sprouting." Gil was beside himself. He had grown up in the farms making the harvest festival a very big deal. He wholeheartedly believed many

"Just because there are a lot of people out earlier than usual spreading seasonal stories doesn't mean that there are ghosts roaming about the kingdom. It's obvious that they are all because of the elemental spirits we awakened yesterday night." Su had already found the logic but Gil was not convinced.

Walker grabbed himself something to eat and enjoyed the conversation of the two trying to convince the other of what was right and what was wrong. When Elise entered with Stella and the baby crow was then things got interesting. "What is the harvest festival all about here? I have never been around to see it?"

Chapter 765 - 765. Harvest Festival History

Gil looked happier than ever hearing that Elise didn't know about the traditions of the harvest festival. "Well, the basics. It happens every year after the first harvest. This brings a lot of merchants to the kingdom and many of the farmers celebrate. It's all about food." Midnight was sleeping by the fireplace and instantly hot her head up to listen. She had not been to a harvest festival either. Onyx soon followed from his own spot on by the fire place.

"We will have a lot of the local delicacies on display for adventurers, travelers, and even the nobles that come from the upper tiers. Many of the farmers that brew beer and mead set up their first batches to finish by the harvest so that they can sell them to taverns for extra income. It is a big pay day for many in the city."

Gil was sure that this was a commonly known fact. "The season is ending and many things start to wither and die.. The cold winter air will just start to frost now and again so many people are chilled and on edge. It's great for spreading the harvest season stories. Monsters that show up to try and steal away harvests. Ghosts and other undead moving to the city to visit relatives or fulfill last wishes. Even demi gods and gods visiting in disguise. They go on and on."

The proud look on Gils' face spoke volumes to how many of these stories he could tell. "So it's food and spooky stories? I'm alright with the food but I won't chase after any ghosts." Elise made it clear right away that she was not about to go ghost hunting and battling with the group against evil spirits.

"That's not all there is. There are games hosted by the shops to promote their items. The adventurers guild opens their training grounds for spear throwing competitions, sports demonstrations, even a show using fire and water! The main square becomes a dance floor and the fountain is dyed orange with flower oils. It's all very festive and exciting." Gil looked like he was hiding one last detail and Elise took the bait.

"What else?" She had to ask. The look on Gil's face was telling her there was one last part that was better than all the other.

"Some people even dress up in costumes so that they can play the part of a spooky spirit or a monster for the night. It's to apparently scare off evil spirits but I'm not sure how it scares them away when most people look like other professions and cute things." Gil couldn't help but remember the groups of children that roamed around dressed as their favorite jobs and adventurers from storybooks.

"Then I will get a matching costume with Stella! We are going to be the best dressed!" Stella had been silent watching became much more excited. She had been waiting for all the information to come out

for her to react. But when she saw that Elise was excited her walls crumbled and she showed her true feelings on the matter.

Midnight and Onyx looked more excited about the food. Midnight was sure to eat every possible stall owner's supply by the end of the night while Onyx would be the translate and most likely end up assisting Midnight in her food retrieval.

"You didn't tell them about the sweets! There are gourd and pumpkin shapes candies and cakes. Then the sunflower cookies are the best!" Lisa had heard everything while she walked in and was not happy that Gil had forgotten her favorite part. "I've already made Midnight her costume but none of you have even asked for one so I had to make some things up a little. Not that I think you will wear them anyways but I figure there will be the option." Lisa did her best to look angry but the smile kept creeping on to her face.

"You made Midnight a costume already? Wait, what did you make everyone else?" Walker didn't expect his sister to make everyone costumes for it. Walker had been planning to just put on a big hooded robe and walk around mysteriously as a mage.

"I even made a pair of wings so a certain person can match with a certain harpy and be a pair of angles." Lisa was exposing too much but she knew that she would end up with Stella and Elise to try things on.

"You did!? Walker, your sister is the best! I am stealing her to go and try things on, byeee!!" Elise pulled Lisa from the room as they two giggles and talked about the details. Stella had no choice but to follow behind. However, it was clear she was more than happy to join them in the costume trying event.

"I think I need to give Lisa more next time we go out and visit somewhere. The rune fabrics were probably useful but now she's made us all costumes." Walker felt a little like a bad brother for taking so much from his sister like this.

"She does it because she loves to do it. I think that's enough for her. Plus she gets to watch the fashion show when we all put them on." Su pointed out the details and Walker couldn't argue in the least.

"Hey Gil, what happened to the demons that you were teaching?" Walker realized that they were nowhere nearby.

"Oh, I asked my father to bring them to a small group of hunter friends he has. They get together and compare what they hunt. I thought it would be a good place for them to learn about archery and arrow making." Gil had been sure that the group would be accepting but he also knew that the demons would fit in better with the small group than a large group.

"That's great! I'm glad you found them a good place to learn. I bet they will fall in to place with no problem with some time to adjust and heal." Walker knew that many still needed time to heal from what they faced. However, the hope that the new jobs and quests would guide them to heal faster was strong.

"Hey...what do you two think Lisa was thinking of dressing me up as?" Su sounded a little worried after this. It was as if she had a fearful premonition of giant orc costumes.

Chapter 766 - 766. Proper Challenge

"Orc. for sure. Or maybe a troll? If it's not a monster then a guard? Or wait, maybe it's a cyclops." Gil rattled off multiple ideas making Su get visibly more annoyed with each one. Walker was sure that he was about to watch the end of Gil's life.

Su turned to Walker with a piercing gaze, "And what do you think?" He was not so foolish to fall in to the same trap as Gil.

"Well, We already told Lisa about the shiny silver golem so she might try and make you look strong and powerful like that. Or she might follow the golems Remey told her about and make you look clean cut and efficient. But in all honesty, you will look great in anything that Lisa gives you an option for. I bet you could even add more dragon like equipment and dress as a dragon kin. Midnight might like that."

Su seemed to calm down and liked some of the ideas.. The thought of matching Midnight was a delightful one that she decided she would bring up to Lisa as soon as she finished dealing with Gil. "So who said I would be dressed like an orc? A giant orc?" Su placed a strong hand on Gils' shoulder making him wince.

"Umm, no I just. Well, I was still too tired from this morning walk. I need to wake up and speak properly. I'm sure you will be in the strongest and most beautiful costume." Gil fruitlessly tried to dig himself from the hole he had dug.

"Oh, I'm sure you will be dressed as a goblin or a gremlin. I will talk to Lisa about some green face paint or maybe even some smelly clothing to make it all fit better." Su left the room with Gil worrying in place.

"You know, you did that to yourself, right? Su rarely gets angry." Gil knew all too well that he had brought it on himself.

"Well, you could have tried to help me out. I was just talking on instinct. We are supposed to be brothers now." Gil pretended to be offended. "Anyways, do you think the elemental spirits are really causing all the trouble? I didn't see Zephyr this morning so I have no idea what has happened if you woke up more elemental spirits."

"Well, I went to wake them up and we managed to awaken the water hound spirit that I had been given in the forest elf city. It was a surprise but I'm sure Su mentioned it since it is currently running around the training field chasing after the water spirits by the pond." Walker could see the cute water hound just enjoying the open space.

"Su did mention it, and that you helped fuse the spirits that wanted to stay with you in to a nature spirit. Then she said that Zephyr helped contain the elemental mana left to wake the others. However, some must have stayed here while others rushed off elsewhere?" Gil had already figured most things out with Su but he wanted to confirm it all With Walker so he was giving proper answers to anyone that was asking.

"Exactly, now I need to work on a few other things but I think letting more people know about the elemental spirits roaming about will be better. But I feel like the kingdom can adjust well without any issue. There are plenty of people getting quests now that never had systems. I'm sure some will get spirit related quests." Walker was holding hope that this would happen and that the kingdom would accept spirits faster.

"I am sure they will. Well, I feel like I need to go and spread some knowledge now that the spirits are around. I have a few people to talk to about arrow materials too. I used a lot the past month and really should stock up. Also, you used all the elemental mana crystals..." Walker looked apologetic as Gil left but they both knew that it was unavoidable for the situation.

"Midnight, Onyx. I am going to see what the wandering blacksmith thinks of my quest to make a weapon. I think I will wait until after the festival to meditate for a day and begin forging. So if you two want, we can check out costumes after?" Midnight was a little excited about what Lisa could have made her but she was more excited for the food that would come the next day.

Midnight followed with a spring in her step and Onyx curled up on her back to bask in the morning sun. He was content with the way things were going and had been enjoying the last day back in the mansion. It was much calmer and relaxing than traveling. Plus he was able to spend time in the light getting stronger and napping. It was a habit he had picked up from Midnight and enjoyed just as much.

The scraping sound that was coming from the forge was very intense but clearly coming from the sharpening of weapons. "Hello!" Walker announced their presence and the wandering blacksmith looked up slightly before returning to sharpening a small dagger that Walker recognized as Gil's. "Looks like Gil needed some maintenance."

The nod came again and the wandering blacksmith finished with his task and gave Walker his full attention. "Alright, so I have a quest that I wanted to make a staff for. But it changed a little and I can make just about anything. I was thinking that I would make a staff anyways since I have materials that work well with it. But I have a skill that allows me to mold crystals and I happen to have made a moldable crystal ball." Walker pulled it from his inventory showing the wandering blacksmith.

"I was wondering if we could use this as a base and make something that could use every single element and possibly transform in to any weapon as long as I have the proper materials and skills to change it." The wandering blacksmith looked like he had just been handed the greatest challenge of his life. "Oh, and when the lesser nature spirit awakens it will help us spirit forge it so that it can use it as a dwelling." The wandering blacksmith felt another hit. This was more than just a challenge. It would take all his skills to master such an item.

"Finally." This was all Walker received in response.

Chapter 767 - 767. Failed

Walker was looking closely as the wandering blacksmith examined the moldable crystal ball. The looks of attention and care he had while examining it was only that of a master. "Dark and Light..." The wandering blacksmith saw the balance of elements already in it and wasn't sure it would work.

"I was thinking we could remove the dark and light then somehow fuse these with the orb." Walker showed the pure elemental crystals next, shocking the wandering blacksmith yet again. "These should be able to balance each other without too much issue and would easily fill the space of the dark and light elemental mana." Walker felt proud of his plan and the wandering blacksmith nodded along.

"I also have this branch from a certain tree that can be used for the base. Even if it takes a staff form that I can transform, that is fine." The wandering blacksmith recognized the branch instantly. He had never crafted with something with such perfect attributes but could tell that the ageless attribute would let the weapon last well beyond what it would if it was made with any other materials.

"With the lesser nature spirit helping the mana can be balanced, the moldable crystal ball can allow a change to happen, and if we use the branch and orichalcum we may have a very powerful and strong weapon.." Walker was sure all of it would come together perfectly.

"I will draw designs. Give me time." The wandering blacksmith spoke all of this then took the materials to display on the main work table. He was already building multiple designs in his head and found that they would all work. However, they were not the best he could do and he would need to branch out.

"Just remember, the harvest festival is tomorrow. Please try to get out and relax while enjoying the food and such. I'm sure the forge will have a few blacksmiths at the adventurer's guild you might want to check out. Some might even have some materials you want to use." Walker didn't want the wandering blacksmith to miss out on the festival.

He only received a nod but knew that he would not receive anything else. The wandering blacksmith looked as if he had just been handed a new toy to play with. He only wanted to discover and build from this. The blue prints were already to be drawn and before Walker left he saw that the first prototype was being drawn. The skill the wandering blacksmith had were far beyond what Walker could do anytime soon. It was a major boon to have such a friend around.

Midnight looked around and seemed to want to help forge something with her new golden flames. But it was not the time however, Walker had the feeling that she would want to help and stopped for a second, "Midnight will also help with her dragon flames. She is going to learn other elemental dragon breath skills but has one that produces golden flames." This made the Wandering blacksmith crumple his design and start over. Yet, Walker saw the wide smile on his face and knew it was a good thing.

After she huffed in agreement, Midnight followed Walker out of the forge. The two knew it would be some time before they could forge anything and that the time would be used to strengthen the dragon breath skills along with Walker's understanding of the elementals. It was a two birds with one stone scenario.

"Brother, there is a great deal of dark smoke over there." Onyx had raised his head to find black smoke billowing through the air. Walker knew this had to be coming from the alchemy lab and rushed to check the situation.

"I told you it was too hot! The spirit could have lowered the temperature of the flames and we could have added something to neutralize the impurity. But you just had to push on yourself without listening."

"Oh, yeah? And what if the process had evaporated too much? What if we had half the amount of potion?"

"Half? That would be better than the burned sludge we have now! We can't even use this to fertilize the garden!"

The argument between the old master alchemist and Remey was too loud to miss. Walker almost backtracked and left the extended alchemy lab. But he had already been spotted by Remey who was gesturing for him to enter.

"This is basically poison, think Gil can use it on arrows." Remey wanted to make the best of what their failure had brought them and did not hesitate to start in on the issue directly.

"Umm, let me use my appraisal skill to see what it can do." Walker was a little thrown off by the prompt question but did not hesitate.

'Failed health potion

The failed health potion has an incredible amount of impurity. The potion has been cooked too long and not properly condensed. This leads to the opposite effect if spread on the skin or ingested. It will force the afflicted to lose three health points per minute until the failed health potion is washed away and detoxified by the body.'

"It's a health poison. It can cause health to bleed away over time. I think Gil can use this pretty well. But I think the smell might tip off animals and monsters so it might be better to sell elsewhere." Walker's evaluation was helpful and the two began to bottle it up for sale in the Garnet family auction house.

"By the way, Lisa made some costumes for everyone to choose from for the festival tomorrow. Feel free to check them out. I'm sure you will have a lot to choose from that suits you two." Walker knew that the old master alchemist would not be left out. Lisa was too thoughtful for such things to ever happen.

"Ah! Festival time already? I can't wait. There are plenty of fall herbs that will be brought in by the merchants. I have a small fortune to clean house again this year." The old master alchemist cackled in his victory to come.

Chapter 768 - 768. Sprouted?

"Huh, and here I thought that Remey would be more excited." Walker watched as the old master alchemist began writing down his to do list for the festival. The previous annoyance at their failed potion was nothing to him now.

"Old man, if you steal all the herbs how will others get them?" Remey felt that the old man had dastardly ideas for all the herbs and wanted to rescue them.

"Aren't you thinking? The alchemy guild needs a great deal of herds to make sure that we can regulate the price and begin selling potions at set prices. If we lack that then we are just some small time group that doesn't have any weight to throw around. That's how the alchemy building does it. We have money so we buy power with it." Remey was getting taught a valuable lesson. One she would need to know when she was part of the guild she was trying to form.

"He's got a good point. It would only make sense that as soon as the guild was formed that the competitors would try and buy you out of herbs so that you couldn't stop them from controlling the prices and movement of potions.." Walker could see it happening now. There would be a rush the moment the news spread to the markets for herbs.

"So you're saying we invest the gold on to this now so that we can resist the rush later? And after we have the potions and herbs stocked we will be able to properly regulate and begin classes?" Remey already had a hand to her chin thinking. "We can pause our potion experiments for the day. We need to procure gold and prepare for a takeover."

Remey was already starting to clean up. "Oh, Walker, I will stop by and talk to Lisa later. If you see her first tell her I am looking for something formal and business like. I want to be noticed when I take all the herbs with the old man." Remey had a glint in her eye that was only seen in the old master alchemists as well. The two were going to take the merchants at the festival by storm.

"I knew you were my family. We might not have blood little Remey, but we have more than that!" The old master alchemist was in higher spirits than Walker had ever seen. He wasn't sure if Remey would react negatively to his words so he decided to push himself out the door.

Surprisingly, instead of hearing a yell or a slam of a punch or object falling. Walker only heard a soft thank you as he left. Remey seemed to be in a much better mood than he believed. It was touching how Remey had managed to find a family member like the master alchemist even though she was just a child with only the other orphans around. Out of all of them, she had made herself a family before even joining the party. Remey had the largest family out of all of them.

"I'm glad those two are getting ready for the festival. That just leaves Gil who I bet will end up a goblin or troll. He probably didn't risk stopping at Lisa's work room before he headed out to shop. Oh! Look, there's his mother and Lewisia. I guess we should say hi before we head up and try our own costumes on." Midnight seemed to support this idea with a huff and even Onyx nodded. The two were enjoying the bright sun too much to leave the outdoors just yet.

"Hey, how are the sunflowers going?" Walker was sure that there had not been much change but he wanted to see what had happened and what Lewisia may have learned already.

"Oh, same old same old. They already sprouted and Lewisia here is a natural plant whisperer. Did you know that all the seeds she planted so far have grown without even adding her mana? It was pretty amazing. Could be luck or could be that she has a knack for this." Gil's mother was pointing out twenty perfect little sunflower seed sprouts that had grown overnight more or less.

Lewisia went to bow to Walker again but stopped halfway through realizing that it wasn't necessary and she didn't need to. "I'm glad you are catching on. I didn't want you to have to worry about bowing or anything. You are an equal here and we will tell you every single minute of every single day until you believe it." Walker sounded overbearing but knew that the demons needed a firm hand. They were used to such methods and if that was how they accepted the freedom and released their past then that was what he would do.

"They will be beautiful." Lewisia nodded her head constantly while promising this. Walker could only smile and look at the miraculous rainbow sunflower sprouts.

"They will be the most vibrant flower in the garden. I am sure of it." Walker had to support her believes and saw that Gil's mother also nodded along.

"By the way, I spoke with the master alchemist and we found a good guy to come and build the green house. It will take a week to build after the festival but it will be the highest quality. I also think that he can add some self heating and cooling elements if we hire a mage." Gil's mother had thought this all out properly.

"I will leave it all up to you and the master alchemist. I trust your experience." This was met with a positive look and Walker knew the result would be perfect. "I am going to take Midnight up to Lisa's room. She already has a costume for her and I need to try a few things on." Walker gave a wave and had a feeling that the garden was only going to get bigger and bigger as the weeks before winter went on.

Chapter 769 - 769. Costume Show

Walker really couldn't figure out what Lisa could have made for costumes. There was too much possibility for their to just be something simple like a cloak and hat. Especially since Lisa had been gathering materials slowly but surely since they had moved in to the mansion.

When he and Midnight reached the top of the stairs and turned the corner to reach the work room that Lisa had been using, Walker noticed a change. "Onyx, does the work room seem bigger than before?"

"Yes brother, it looks as if Sister Lisa had taken up three more rooms in a row." Walker was sure he wasn't seeing things but he wasn't sure if he was counting wrong.. Onyx confirmed that Lisa had taken up three more rooms, for a total of four rooms for her work area.

Knocking on the door, Walker entered, finding that the first room was a full display of different clothing and apparel. There were mannequins that Lisa had purchased to display vibrant colored clothing and detailed dresses. They were all more than Walker had ever expected his sister to be able to create.

The next door appeared to be a modification to the room to separate the display area from the work area. Once he moved through there was a set of shelving and cubbies that stored all the threads, needles, fabric, and additional mannequins. From this, he finally found the large work table and sewing machine that had once been too expensive for his family to own.

"Walker! Finally, I have been waiting for you three all day. What would you have done if I didn't make the measurements final?" Lisa's hard glare made all three of them unsteady. She was measuring them with just a look and they were sure that she had many plans for their costumes.

"Sorry, I had to speak to a few people before I came. I also didn't want to interrupt Elise and Su. I can see the white feathers there, I guess the twin angel costume worked out?" The many white feathers Walker could see laying about the room made it too clear that the costume had come together very well.

"That is something you will have to wait for tomorrow. I won't be telling you what Gil and Su are wearing either and if any of you ruin it I won't dance with you at the festival." Walker felt this threat was too real. Dancing was a big part of the festivities and it was a major loss if Lisa boycotted it.

Well, Midnight, Onyx, and I can see each other's costumes right? That would be silly to split up now." Walker saw that his bargain was accepted and Lis pulled a sheet from the top of the table to reveal Walker's costume.

"I present the evil gentleman costume. Top hat made of black sheep wool. The same with the pants and jacket. The shirt made with scarlet rose dye and the clear glass monocle is required no matter what to complete the ensemble. Not to mention the black silk tie."

Walker was impressed. The costume was fancier than what most nobles would wear and exuded an air of mystery. However, there was one thing, "Do I really need to be an EVIL gentleman? I'm supposed to be a hero. I thought I would be in some light armor and sword with lots of white and silver."

"That's so predictable. This is cool and aloof. You will get more attention with this because it goes against the personality you have. It also will look dashing." Lisa was dead set and Walker had no way to refuse. "Now, Midnight. It's time to try things on. Come with me."

Lisa pulled Midnight away to the final room which Walker was sure was a changing room if things were working the way he believed in the four room layout. "First costume idea, Midnight and Onyx sibling costume, the chimera!" Midnight jumped out with a lion like fur around her neck along with a golden coat covering the majority of her body. Onyx had seamlessly taken a spot by Midnights' tail in a red sweater like fabric that made him look demonic.

"Not the one? Doesn't shock you? I have more." Lisa pulled them away. A few moment later the door swung open again. "I present, Zombie dragon and the worm eating it, combo costume!"

Midnight shambled out. Lisa had made a piece of fabric that had leftover bones on it along with green and brown cloth scraps. It definitely made Midnight seem like a zombie that had started to fall apart and show off her bones. Onyx was in a white sweater pattern now that made him look like a bone white worm.

"Ooo, that one is really good. But is it wise to let Midnight walk around with bones?" Walker pointed to Midnight that seemed like she would eat the bones in the costume at any moment.

"Alright alright, next try." Lisa pulled them back. A few moments later she opened the door again. "Princess Midnight and her faithful fairy Onyx!" Midnight had been adorned in pink and purple fabrics with a points ribbon had. Onyx had a similar fabric causing all but his head to blend in with Midnight. His head had been made to look like a floating fairy.

Walker proceeded to nearly fall to the floor laughing looking at this costume. It did not fit Midnight and Onyx in the least. It was the opposite of their personality completely. "Please- hahaha- just ahahahhh-stop!" Walker laughed until Lisa brought the pair back away again.

"Fine! This is the final trump care I have been holding on to. You will be blown away by this last costume. I swear you won't be able to say no to it or even judge it a little. Lisa's voice was strong and it snapped Walker from his laughter. He, instead, eagerly awaited this costume.

Chapter 770 - 770. The Magnificent...

Lisa came out of the changing room first holding back a wide smile. She coughed a few times before starting her little announcement. "Today, I am here to introduce you to something truly wonderful. My friends and family. The is in the air on the eve of the harvest festival. I present the magnificent Midnight! The witch of dragon and mystery! By her side, the trusty familiar, Onyx the slithering warlock of cuteness!!!!" Lisa dramatically threw her arms to the side as Midnight jumped out.

"Holy lord...you even made a small witch hat for Onyx." Walker couldn't help but feel his heart melting. Midnight was adorned in black and purple fabrics sporting a pointed witch hat. There were even darkness runes stitched in to the fabrics making it seem like Midnight and Onyx were part of the shadows. Onyx was wearing a matching clock tied around his neck and a small pointed witch hat.. They were made in the perfect sizes just for them.

"Sister says she liked this costume the best. She will cast just like brother does." Midnight let out a huff of golden embers to support what Onyx was saying, making the four of them laugh.

"Lisa, I'm impressed you managed to learn the darkness rune from the elf fabrics. I thought you would be stuck on it for a long time. My sister is a genius!" Walker was extremely impressed. He knew that she must have been up all night since they returned to make sure she could learn it.

"I had to learn that one first. Midnight and Onyx like to hide in the shadows so it only make sense that I would make them things for it. It's also starting to get cold again so they will need some new winter clothes. This year Onyx will have a rune sweater!" Lisa had grand goals for the partys' winter clothing. Walker couldn't argue with it seeing how happy his sister was.

"I am looking forward to big sister Lisa's sweater. It was cold last winter." Onyx was already thanking her even though they had some months of the harvest season before the winter would rear its head.

"Actually, Lisa, I was wondering. I have a costume, Midnight just found hers. But what about you?" Walker had no sooner asked when Lisa had dropped her jaw.

Her slight whispery voice barely managed to get the words out, "I completely forgot to make myself a costume..." It was as if she had just uttered a sinful sentence. She was the seamstress that made everyone's clothing and yet, she had forgotten her own. "Walker...what do I do?" She wasn't sure how to fix it before the harvest festival. She couldn't stay up all night or else she would lose her energy and not be able to stay up to dance and celebrate.

"How about we ask everyone for some of their extra gear? You can dress up as any one of the things we can do. I can give you my staff and you can wear a cloak and be a mage to match Midnight and Onyx in . Or you could borrow some things from Remey and be a brawler. I bet you could even find one of mothers' old chef hats and be a cook."

Lisa looked at Walker as if he was a saving angel. He had made multiple ideas of last minute saves in just a few seconds that she was too panicked to even think about. "I am definitely going to be something awesome. But I am going to ask Su for help. She has some clothing from a friend that she said she can't wear. I can modify it for me!" Lisa darted from the room leaving Midnight and Onyx both still wearing their costumes.

"Want me to help you two out of those for now?" Midnight and Onyx both nodded and Walker also removed the top hat from his costume. He was even more excited now that he had a costume. He wasn't sure if he actually looked evil or not but he definitely looked like a noble gentleman which he had never dressed as before. He had never even worn clothing as fancy as his costume would be. It really hit him just how much his life had changed.

As soon as Midnight and Onyx had been freed from their costumes the two fled toward the kitchen. Walker could only imagine that they were heading to hound his mother for food since it was a little past lunchtime now. He pulled his own snack of jerky from his inventory and wandered toward the garden.

Walker wasn't sure what he should do with the rest of the day since he had the time to relax before he needed to sleep to prepare for an early morning at the harvest festival. He knew too well that the best time to check out what the merchants had brought out for the festival was right when they opened up their stalls. It was also the best time to get some of the breakfast delicacies sold during the festival.

Feeling that he wanted to make sure he would see everyone he called for a messenger and sent a letter to the high priest and Alice. He also made sure to contact Clara who he was sure would be busy but he wanted to ask her anyway. He made sure that they all knew the party's plans to start together in the main square in the morning then wander through the festival all day. This would ensure he would see them and also get to show off the costume.

Walker was also sure that he could buy some small snacks to hand off to the guards. His mother would normally bake off leaf shaped cookies with jam inside them but since she was busy with the additional break orders, Walker wanted to take over. He would get to the festival early and buy some small snacks to hand to the guards and send to the guard rooms. It was the least he could do since so many guards were assigned to keep the peace during the festival.