

Master 871

Chapter 871 Fly Away

"Midnight! How could you do that!" Illia didn't expect that Walker would rush and jump right off the cliff after Midnight. She was stunned seeing how reaction. She had slapped Midnight off the cliff with her tail so that Midnight could become forced by her instincts to fly. This was a normal thing for a parent dragon to do to their hatchlings.

But when Illia saw that Walker was stepping through the air seemingly without Issue, she breathed a sigh of relief. It was strange that a human could do something, but now she would not get in trouble for Walkers' injury from falling from a cliff. Midnight, on the other hand, was a different story.

The wind was whistling past Midnight as she fell. She had not expected this and a guttural growl was escaping her maw to curse Illia. It was fair that she would want to get back at her but she had to remember that she was falling.

The feeling of the air hitting her scales was not at all unpleasant. However, it was calling her. For some reason, Midnight was feeling calmer by the second. Walker was shouting for her but the more she fell the more she was ignoring his voice. She could feel her blood boiling.

Another second passed and she felt her body begin to move without her will. Her wings flung out and a pain caught every single muscle on her back. The resistance was more than she had ever felt from the speed she had been falling. However, the drastic change in speed caused her to glide forward at an incredible rate.

"Midnight! You're- oh holy lord. You are gliding!" Walker felt his stomach flip flop as he realized that Midnight was no longer falling but instead softly gliding down toward the village. It was the first time she was doing so from such a height. Feeling his connection with her, Walker began to pick up his pace and sprint through the air using his wind ripple skill.

When he neared Midnight he found that there both had come to the ground. Walker stepped down to the ground as if it was a normal walk in the park. Midnight, she lost her control and made an extra close relationship with the ground. She had not flapped her wings as a normal dragon would to slow their landing and softly set claws on the ground.

The thud that came from behind the pair was Illia landing. Midnight was too dazed to hop up immediately but Walker was already glaring at Illia releasing the royal aura skill he had only used once before. Illia felt it come from him and she immediately began to compare him to the royals she had once seen. It was an extremely strange thought to have when looking at a human.

"That was not too bad. You felt your instinct and opened your wings. I would have said you would break some scales but you don't even have scratches. You are tough. But you did not land with grace. We will need to repeat that seven or eight times more today. I will have someone heal your wings so you can regain your strength." Illia was already moving on to the next practice flight when Walker realized that Midnight was not moving her wings and had lost a chunk of her health points.

The pain he felt through their connection was enough for him to start to cast mid heal on her over and over. "I'm sorry. I didn't know she would jump in to it like that. We will show her and make sure that she knows you are even better than she imagines." Walker knew that Illia had not done something ridiculous. However, this did not mean he supported the methods of teaching she used.

The response that Midnight gave after being healed and standing up fully was a slow calm growl of determination. No one needed to have Onyx around to translate. The feeling Midnight had was to prove her strength so that she could not be taken advantage of or even looked down on in any way. She would be the most powerful dragon there was in the world.

The thought of Onyx caused Walker to realize he did not see him at the gardens. A quick search of the mountain steps revealed Onyx curled up in the perfect little cliff side. It was being hit by the sun as it angled down again toward the ground. This was a good sign for Walker since he wanted to keep tabs on everyone while they were in the unfamiliar and dangerous village.

Midnight nearly dragged Walker to the cliff steps. She was going right back to the top to prove she was better than Illia believed. Illia had already headed up with her own ability to fly. Remey was still standing at the top of the cliff. She had seen what happened when she glanced up and rushed over in worry. After seeing the gliding and the rough landing she went back to her herbs. "I swear. They will give me a heart attack. Oh, winter buttercups. How rare." She was easily distracted again by the herbs.

The commotion was nothing much for the village. Yet, many dragonkin stopped what they had been doing to watch the champion rush up the steps only to be thrown from the cliff again and again. Walker would always run after her and heal her at the bottom. Then he would drink a mana potion while being pulled by the champion again. They all believed that a champion was a crazy existence. This was perfect proof.

The respect for Walker also grew. They knew now that he was technically a royal which broke many of the histories they knew. But they also now knew that Walker was extremely determined to remain at Midnights' side. It painted him in a valiant and powerful light.

Chapter 872 An Honor To Meet

"Miss, may I ask you a few questions?" The dragonkin that had guided Su had taken the courage to speak up and ask Su a few things. She had heard what Su was to Midnight and Walker but they had never met a guardian before. It was a very interesting meeting for her let alone other dragonkin.

"Of course, Just ask away." Su had no reason to ignore questions and she was led to their training area. She had been given so much information that the odds of her needing to ask questions were high as well. Both would be asking each other questions.

"Are you truly a dragon champions' guardian? That is a very highly coveted position to hold. To meet one is an honor." There was a softer tone in the dragonkins' voice. It spoke of excitement and amazement.

"That is correct. I am a draconic guardian. I used to be a shield bearer until I reached certain quest requirements and was rewarded with a system upgrade. Then I passed out only to wake up with the system I have now. I have been spending a lot of time training with Midnight and the system reflected that. It's odd to think that some time ago we had just received a hero title and were recovering in a tent where Midnight and I had rested together." Su couldn't help but think of all the times after that day where she and Midnight had leaned on each other during a quest or while resting at home.

"It is an honor miss, I hope that we can learn from you during your stay here. The warriors should return at any moment from their hunt. I am sure they will be exceedingly glad to meet you. If possible, I will stay as well. It has been some years since I was able to fight." The excited glint in the dragonkins' eyes was more than Su expected.

Most of the dragonkin had blue or green scales showing that they were right at home in these colder icy mountains. It also spoke to the species of dragon that they served under. However, the eyes that this dragonkin had were nearly sparking with lightning when they said they would be able to fight some.

"Since you asked me, what system do you happen to have? I am unfamiliar with dragon kind and dragonkin kind." Su was not afraid to admit her lack of knowledge. This was true for many of the races when it came to anything related to dragons.

"Of course miss, my system is draconic martial artist. I have one of the more common systems for dragon warriors and have been honored to serve directly under elder Adair. I was personally appointed with my sisters and brothers by our lord." Su knew that a martial artist was similar to a brawler. They would use fists and kicks. However, a martial artist was more trained in a certain style. This would give them the additional strength and guidance to be more powerful than a brawler.

"We have an alchemical brawler named Remey, she may come to train. As a martial artist, you may be able to battle with her a little better than some others. It could be very good for her training since she has been focusing on alchemy for some time now." Su saw that this confused the dragonkin martial arts and spoke again. "She gained a unique system when she upgraded from a brawler. It is very beneficial to the party and in my opinion, the world. She will accomplish a great many things."

"I believe you will accomplish just as much, if not more. I have heard of a draconic guardian defeating an entire village troop just to defend a hatchling champion after it had been threatened. There is plenty of history and stories of the draconic guardians standing above many other warriors. Even those trained to defeat guardians. The wide range of defensive skills marks them as ideal protectors of any and all things."

Su couldn't help but smile hearing the incredible praise for the system she had. This was unexpected since she still had a great many questions about it. Let alone the fact that she was just now reading through a book that gave her more information on what exactly her system was known for. However, she would need to find a place to rest while at the training area she was now coming to.

"Welcome to the training area for dragonkin warriors. There is a weapon storage in that building. The training ground is smaller compared to other villages so I do apologize. However, the space is enough to battle in matches if you so desire." The space Su was brought to had large carved stone pillars along the edges. Some were wrapped with cloth to show they were for hand to hand techniques and skills. There were many scorch and frost marks showing that some breath attacks were used.

What stood out most was the building with only three walls. It hosted a myriad of weapons all made of a strong looking alloy. Su was sure that this was similar to what the wandering blacksmith was finding in the forge he had been brought to. For her, however, it would be a good chance to test her shields. She had her twin shield and the earth dwelling shield with her so that she could get the most out of both styles of combat. Yet, she knew that there was plenty more she was about to learn.

"I seem to lack a training partner. Would you like to join me for now?" Su extended a hand to the dragonkin who seemed to be staying in the area as Su's guide until she had finished training. It just made sense for Su to train with her if that was the case.

Chapter 873 Scaled Rat!

There was no hesitation whatsoever for the dragonkin. She could only hope to one day spar with a draconic guardian. Even if Su was a human, it meant nothing. Even if she was a dragonkin the system and duty were the same. The honor that came with it was also the same. To protect a champion as they grew in to their power and to be by their side was the greatest honor for many dragonkin besides being under an ancient or even a royal.

"I am very honored to spar with you. Please, allow me to introduce myself. I am Shay. I am one of the four dragonkin warriors sent to serve under the pure water dragon elder, Adair. I hold the draconic martial artist system. Please accept my gratitude." The introduction was something only done for a warrior below the one they were facing. It was honorable and a very important part of training when a dragonkin was going to learn something.

"It is an equal honor to meet you, Shay. I am unaware of the proper formalities but I will introduce myself as well. I am Su, a current member of the omnipotent party, holder of a hero title and multiple other titles, and the draconic guardian of my little sister Midnight. May we learn more than we expect." Su gave a nod and fell in to a stance.

Shay stepped forward and her hands which had small claws shifted in to sharper and more scaled versions. Su raised an eyebrow and lifted her twin shields. It was interesting to see that the dragonkin could change their bodies similar to a dragon shifting in to a dragonkin form. It was proof that they had similar blood and traits.

The claw attack was swift and the steps that Shay took were nearly flawless. There was no hesitation or pause. However, Su knew that these were not serious, it was a test of skill and not power. "Your footwork is very precise." This was a comment of praise while Su pushed her shield forward and deflected the next claw attack.

"And your shields are faster than they look. Their weight must slow you. I did not expect you to use both." Shay had never battled against someone who used two shields at once. She was more used to someone that would use a shield and sword or a buckler and dagger. This was a strange change that told her she would need to worry about a lot of blunt force attacks.

"These are specially made to protect my party. They also come together to protect a wider area." Su slammed the shields together to create a larger surface area. Shay believed that this was going to be a demonstration of her defensive prowess and began to move in to attack and test it.

What Shay didn't expect was the fact that Su was waiting for her to move. In a flash of movement, Su used her full speed and bashed forward with her shield. The resulting blow was more than enough to send Shay stumbling. The only thing that kept her on her feet was her tail.

"Lucky for me, I am a dragonkin warrior. I have another limb to hold myself up." Shay had always seen this as a benefit and was hard trained to use every part of her body to maintain her battle position. The tail that a dragonkin had were almost useless normally, But for a dragonkin warrior, it was something they trained to be able to hold them up, throw needles, or even grab opponents depending on their system and fighting styles.

"Very lucky you scaled rat! Dare to fight me and I will crush your puny pride!" Su shouted with anger in her voice. She let emotion enter her normally cold taunt. This was a skill she had read in the book she had been given. The taunt she would normally use would direct attention. However, the skill she was using now was enraged taunt.

The enraged taunt was very similar in how it attracted attention. But when it was used it would also caused aggravation and throw the target off. The mana in the area would also be slightly disrupted causing this.

The reaction was not extremely powerful, but Shay was still reacting. Her eyes narrowed and her stance lowered. She dashed forward much faster than before and Su was forced to use a second skill she had read about. Shield drop. It was simple. Drop her shield when it was being hit. This seemed counter productive to the fight but was actually very tactical and cost no mana due to the skill being in the return of the shield.

The pairing of shield drop with Su's enhanced eyesight was what really made the skill better. When the shield was released, Su tracked her opponent's motion as they moved further forward than they expected. Shay fell for the taunt enough to cause her to attack with force and the shield dropping made her end up next to Su unguarded.

Su then kicked out with her foot which was boosted with mana due to the shield drop skill and kicked her shield up to her before it was blown away from her. The follow up to this combo was a harsh shield bash to the back. Shay had not seen the move coming at all and fell face first. Her tail had no chance to

hold her up and her anger had disappeared in a blink of an eye. She may not have used her full strength due to her much higher level and age, but she had been outclassed.

"Are you alright? I tried two new skills. I promise I do not harbor any dishonor or hate. Those were just an enraged taunt." Su extended a hand to Shay.

"Now that, was a battle. I like you human. Spar with me next."

Chapter 874 Warriors Pride

Su helped Shay up who was still fumbling for words in her head. She had not seen the move coming and was currently questioning her knowledge of combat. This was a move that she had not had used against her and she could only see being efficient when she would face an opponent with high proficiency in shield attacks and defenses.

"That was a valuable lesson. I may be immune to taunts to a degree, but that caught my attention and then your shield blocked your body movement further guiding me. The loss of force behind the shield was the same as if my leg gave way. I had no balance for a fraction of a second which was used against me. I am used to falling back and not as often forward. I will train myself well on this lesson."

When it came to power, Su was aching still. When it came to age, she was lacking again. Even when it came to level, she was lacking. However, Su had trained with shields since the day she unlocked her system. Furthermore, she had trained with her party constantly with the desire to protect in her mind. This reason was why she had higher tactical actions when using a shield than almost anyone else. She would exceed any expectations for these reasons.

When the dragonkin voice called out, Su was met with a slightly bulkier dragonkin. The scales were still a bluish color but they were rugged and sharp. There were even some small spines on the edges of their elbow and neck. The tail also ended with some spikes that appeared to be sharper than usual. But what really stood out above all else, was the double bladed ax that reminded Su of Barry.

"I do have time for more sparring. We are staying a few days. I am training some new skills against new fighting styles. I would guess you have already witnessed the enraged taunt and shield drop I used for the first time." Su did not hide the skills she used. The more she said the better she would be able to get more information and analysis from her opponents with how she might improve.

"Good good. I like to see new blood grace these training grounds. But first, Shay, how did a human get here?" Shay had come to her senses and showed a glare of hostility to the dragonkin warrior that had shown up. The others behind him were also looking at Su with confused and questioning expressions.

"You must greet this guardian with proper respect. This is a draconic guardian here to visit the elder. If you disrespect her one more time I will tear the scales from your body and have a new skirt made." The words were intense and surprised Su. She had not expected Shay to have such a fire within her.

"Guardian? But she's human. That's not possible." The dragonkin warrior began to roll their eyes and laugh until a black shape flashed before their eyes and skidded to a stop. The claw marks in the ground were created until Midnight had come to a dead stop.

"Midnight was that you gliding from up there! That was great! I can't believe you are so close to flying already." Su completely ignored the argument brewing between Shay and the dragonkin warriors. She was much happier to see Midnight improving. Midnight also greeted Su with a soft growl and raise of her head to show off her skills.

"You almost hit Su and her sparring partners that time. I know you were curious about what they were doing but it was dangerous." Walkers' stern voice cut through the air as he stepped down to the ground using his wind ripple skill. "You are going to have to go back up. Illia said you should practice two more times. I will stay down here and you can aim for me this time."

Walker knew that Midnight would do better with a target to land next to. He also pulled out an earth elemental mana crystal from his storage. "If you manage to stop right before me then I will give you three of these." Midnight looked as if she had won a lottery. Without any words, she was rushing towards the steps. "So, Su, who are your friends?"

"Lord, I apologize for our disheveled appearances. Please have mercy on us." Shay immediately greeted Walker and even bowed her head to him. The other dragonkin warriors were speechless. Some realized that there was a major significance to Shays' actions and copied her movements to bow. However, the axe wielding dragonkin did not even flinch.

"Reed. this is the royal bonded with the young champion you just saw. Show proper honor or suffer the consequences." Shay gave a final warning. There was nothing left to say if Reed did not follow the proper procedure when greeting a royal.

Walker leaned toward Su and whispered, "This might sound odd but I need to act my position." Walker strode to face Reed and used his wind ripple to look at the foot taller dragonkin in the eye. He stepped up slightly above him. "How dare such a weak bunch of lizards attempt to stand equal to me. If you are not on your knees bowing before my champion returns, then I will allow her to feed you to orcs on the return journey to our home."

The other dragonkin warriors fell to their knees. They could feel the royal aura rolling off of Walker. However, Reed did not budge. He felt the aura Walker gave off but he couldn't fathom a human somehow becoming a royal. He didn't believe Midnight was a champion either.

Seeing that Reed didn't back down, Walker waited with his eyes looking down on Reed as if he was nothing but an ant. His acting and poker face were perfect. Now they would see what would happen when Midnight came to land before him.

Chapter 875 Show Of Force

Su had only heard so much of what Adair had been saying when it came to Walker having to learn to act like a royal. Now she knew what they had continued to speak about when she and the others had left the carved cave. Looking above Reeds' head, she could see Midnight coming.

"You are a human. I have never heard of such a thing happening in the entire existence of the dragonkin or dragonkind. It should be impossible." Reed was completely convinced of the impossibility here.

"Hmm? Did I just hear you say something? Su, I believe you should take your friends to the side. I believe it will get a little messy in a moment. I have some orc food to make." Su began to motion for the other dragonkin warriors to move.

Midnight was just about to land when Walker started to take a deep breath. Unknown to Reed, Midnight was doing the same thing. Through the multiple jumps that Midnight had done, she had begun to grasp the basics of landing. She was by no means an expert, but when she was about to land she turned suddenly so she faced the direction she was coming from. She and Walker were now both facing Reed as she dug her claws in to the ground and scraped to a stop next to him.

That second the two of them released a large breath. The mana around them shook with the additional mana they put in to their roars. Not only did they roar together, but they shook the mana in the same way which caused the air to vibrate around them. Small embers of gold flame escaped around Midnights' maw creating a terrifying scene. Walker manipulated the mana around to block some of the sound from the other warriors to spare them the unbearable noise.

The sound may still not rival a full dragon, but it was more than any warrior in the village could hope to emulate. Reed found himself losing the color in his face and his ax starting to fall from his shoulder. The big end move though was the large thud of Illia landing behind after seeing that Midnight was not running toward the garden stairs again for the last practice glide.

"What seems to be the problem lord? Is this warrior causing any issues? I can remove them if you desire." Reed collapsed to his knees. Illia's voice had confirmed anything he doubted. He was ready for the end of his life.

"Oh no, for some reason this warrior decided that he preferred the name orc food for some reason. I gave him permission to be called that for the rest of the time I am in this village. Strange traditions you have here but I am not one to judge. Midnight, one last time. If you land like you just did I will roast two legs of horned rabbit for you to go with the earth elemental crystals." Midnight let out a secondary small roar of excitement and raced off faster than she had before.

Illia moved to the edge of the training area and lay down to watch from the lower perspective of Midnight flying. This would be the last for the day since the strain on the wings constantly in a short period of time would be harmful. That and Illia was a bit interested to see Walker and Su spar. She had high hopes for them.

"So, Su, sparing?" The other dragonkin warriors were now on edge but lined up ready for whatever they needed to do.

"I was planning on more sparring, yes. Shay here is a draconic martial artist. She has a speedy claw attack that Remey might be able to copy with her jabs. I would go and get her but she is too caught up on the herbs." Su wanted to spar with Remey too but there was not much she could do when Remey was hyper focused.

"Then maybe I will take a shot at it. You can play with orc food. He looks like he needs to get his blood pumping. The rest of you should step back and watch. The analysis you give us will be taken in to consideration so be as accurate as possible." The dragonkin warriors broke their lines and surrounded the four to have the best views.

Shay started her introduction but Illia let out a slight growl. It was clear that she wanted the match to start sooner than later and Shay immediately fell in to a stance without speaking. Walker pulled the twin

blitz swords from his inventory. "I hope you are alright with me testing my sword skills. I have slacked on a lot of close combat training for training and need to improve." Walker raised one sword and bounced side to side before he started the dance of the wild rabbit.

The mobility that he displayed was surprising for a human. Shay stayed still as Walker danced around her. The small sparks starting on his blade highlighting the use of the lightning swordplay skills. But what really caught her was when he passed by the side of her and suddenly shifted to the side to swipe at her. It was an impossible angle, but one that Walker had managed to use.

"Dance of the wild rabbit, lightning swordplay, slash zone combo. Now let's get this beat moving faster." He promptly told Shay who only recognized the first two skills. The third was foreign to her but sounded like it could easily cause the slash that had just grazed her arm. Shay could feel her own excitement rising since she rarely let loose in her sparring matches. It was rare to spar with someone new.

"This is the footwork skill of the dragonkin warriors. It is called the scale step. Good luck." She was gone from Walker's view in the blink of an eye.

Chapter 876 Melee Combat Training

If Walker did not have the ability to sense the mana around him, then he wouldn't have noticed a shift in the wind elemental mana behind him. Shay had used the scale step to speed around him and appear ready to slash with her claws.

The only reaction Walker could make was to slash one of the twin blitz swords upward to parry the claws. He had been able to do this a few times with Gil's arrows but it was a tough time based skill to learn.

'The skill parry has been taken from the fencer system. The skill parry has been automatically learned.

Perry- 1 mana cost

The user focuses mana in to sword, short sword, saber, or similar weapon. This allows for a lighter and faster slash with the goal to deflect and block an attack from an opponent. This skill works very well with counter attack skills.'

It was a simple skill but Walker had no time to think about it. He proceeded to parry the sweeping claws that constantly attacked him. Shay was pushing her movements faster and faster. This would have been challenging if she wasn't forcing the rhythm of the dance faster as well. Walker transitioned in to the dance of rabid rabbit. His attacks started to become more aggressive and Shay found that she was actually being outpaced now.

Not only this, but when Walker would hop forward he would use the wind ripple skill to kick off the air and make a second step. This was the first time he had truly been using the wind ripple skill combined with his other movement skills. It was a nice combination and fit the style he had. But he was not making enough progress with the twin blitz swords.

In his uncontrolled state, Walker dropped the swords and pulled the large elemental hammer from his inventory. Earth elemental mana gathered instantly and he slammed down from a large leap. The attack may have missed but the ground shook under the pair.

When a large earth spike shot up it caused Shay to jump back away from Walker. He met this additional space by dropping the hammer and pulling the nearly unused scythe from his inventory. Walker spun the scythe and sent a thrown blade from where he was toward Shay.

Surprising Walker completely, Shay blocked the attack with her body. She had done something similar to making her hands become tough claws in a partial shift. However, this time it was her scales on her arms. They became denser and sharper in a half second blocking the attack without even a scratch.

The scythe disappeared in to his inventory again and the throwing needles that Walker had received from the extra pieces of Midnight's baby scales when Rodney Forged for the party some time ago appeared. Walker had never really used them but had remembered to coat them in the horned rabbits paralyzing poison. He had been holding them just in case but always had other skills he would use first or weapons he would use first. This was a chance to train with them and see how they would fit in to his style of melee combat.

His aim had been trained by his minimal experience with the bow and arrow. This made him better off aiming in the distracted moment that Shay was moving her arms from blocking the thrown blade Walker had sent at her before.

'The skill piercing needle has been taken from the grand assassin system. The user had learned the skill piercing needle.

Piercing needle- 1-5 mana cost

The user infuses throwing needles with their mana allowing them to pierce some of the heist defensive armors. The needle can pierce the defenses even if all shields are used. This skill can be used for acupuncture and battle. This skill is only usable with throwing or acupuncture needles. It can be used with certain sewing or crafting needles if they are durable enough.'

The needles seemed to shout danger when they neared Shay. She dove to the side using her true speed instead of holding herself back, however, she was too late. One of the needles had slightly scrapped her scales and pierced through them enough to leave the smallest of paper cuts. "Poison!"

Shay knew immediately that poison had entered her system. It was the tiniest amount, but enough to feel her arm become less controlled. Dragons were normally resistant to poisons and environmental dangers. Unfortunately for Shay, dragonkin did not have this resistance. They were too far from the pure blood the dragons had.

When Walker stepped forward again a blade of earth formed in front of him and he dashed forward still following the confusing movements of the dance of the rabid rabbit skill. Shay had no choice during her recovery to use some of her real skills other than slashing and the scale step. Her kick shattered the earth blade in to pieces while her clenched fist began to hurtle toward Walker.

Illia saw this and breathed a soft mist on to the ground. It froze Shay and Walkers' feet in place. Shay knew this was Illia stopping the match but Walker was still caught up in the dance of the rabid rabbit. He saw it as another attack on him and used his grand elemental manipulation to melt the ice instantly. His hand held one of the small forging hammers spike down toward Shay.

Illia did not attempt to stop him again since she knew better than to interfere with a royals' will. Yet, as Walker slammed down a familiar earth dwelling shield flashed in to view. The bash from Walker caused Su to slide back slightly but he was completely stopped in place interrupting his movements and studding him slightly. Walker had been stopped and Su was standing panting heavily. The sparring matches were over.

Chapter 877 Blocked

Su and Walker stood completely still catching their breath. The moment they shared was enough for them to calm themselves. "Thank you, Su, I got carried away there. Shay, I did not mean to take it that far. You are a very impressive opponent."

"I worried you would use that skill for your mana when you got low. I am glad my shield burst skill came in useful. Although, I might need a minute before I can walk around again." Su had used a shield burst skill. It was one that she had heard of other shield wielders using with their systems and one skill that was highlighted in the book she had been given. She had just assumed she would learn it naturally but as soon as she decided to put the effort in to learning it, the skill showed up as if waiting for her to call on it.

The shield burst skill was not a high mana cost skill, however, it was very physically demanding. The users' muscles would be forced to their maximum and even beyond for a single dash and block. The user would then feel high weakness due to the amount of mana and sudden stress. It was temporary but a downside if the person using it was alone.

After only a minute or so, Su was able to move freely again. Shay appeared not to be phased by the incident, yet, she continued to look at Su and Walker curiously. It was clear she had not expected Walker to have such a wide range of skills and Su to be able to block Walker so easily.

"You do not have a main weapon. That is very rare I'm the world. A al battle master?" Ilia had taken this entire spring match to ponder Walkers' system. She had not been there when Adair had heard it and was completely lost.

Before Walker could reply, a familiar roar came hurtling at Walker. Su didn't have a single hope of blocking at all. Walker and Su both became victims to Midnight as she hurtled toward them and knocked them on their backs.

"Midnight, I think you missed..." the only response was a depressed huff and a slight whine. "Oh you know I wouldn't withhold food. I just won't make a ridiculous amount. We both know you wouldn't have eaten both horned rabbit legs anyways." Midnight didn't even try to argue. "Wait, Su, weren't you in your own sparring match? How did you have time to block my attack?"

Walker had been unable to follow Su's match because he focused on his own. She had been sparring against the dragonkin that had given them a little trouble, now nicknamed orc food.

"It was a fast match: I accidentally knocked him unconscious...or he may have done it to himself. I think he was nervous and unsteady after the roars." Su sat up and pointed to orc food. It was clear by the ax

handle shaped lump on his head that he had knocked himself in the head with the flat side of his ax somehow.

"Ah, sorry again. I'm not really helping anyone today am I?" Walker gave a half hearted laugh but felt he had caused a few too many problems since he came from the gardens. "And I have the jack of all trades system." He glanced at Illia who was hiding her annoyance when she felt she had been ignored.

"Lord, if I can selfishly request another match it would be my honor to spar again. I feel that I was pushed very well when it comes to skills. I have not needed to think in a creative manner such as your fighting style in a long time. I hope to learn more if you can guide me." Shay was ready to kneel and ask.

"Don't bow or kneel. I can still train more. I want to slow down a little and focus on the movements. The way you moved was very fast and precise. Teach me while I teach you." Shay believed that there was always something to learn in training. Hearing Walker mirror that belief caused her to develop a major respect for him beyond that of a royal.

The sparring continued under the watchful eye of Illia. She did not hesitate to ask questions to the other dragonkin warriors after they had watched and joined in. The rotation was more than any of them had expected and the new training partners brought them new revelation in their stagnant skills and strategy. It was easy for a long lived species to forget to make themselves uncomfortable to improve.

"So this is what makes you fly so high. It's amazing." Gil had climbed as high as possible on the mountain section they were in. The garden was the highest he could go that was flat. The higher peak above one side was nearly impossible to climb.

Zephyr had returned to him and given him the proper push with wind here and there to help. The two had made it up part of the mountain above the gardens that only someone with a climbing based system would get to alone. It was all thanks to their bond they had managed it.

"It's more than just the wide open feeling. It's knowing you are free to go anywhere in the sky and more." Zephyr felt the bond between her and Gil. If anyone would have asked her years ago if she would bond with a human or even another sentient race, her answer would be no. Now, it was different.

"Do you think I will ever fly? I was never born with wings, you know." There was a slight sarcasm that made Zephyr puff her cheeks and threaten to blow him away from the heights. The two stayed in silence

before Gil began to take out some materials he had from a small bag on his shoulder. It was time to make a new arrow.

Chapter 878 Building Arrows

"I told you there were wind elemental materials everywhere! This is the top of a mountain. The winds that hit every single pebble and the plant that survive the cold breeze are everywhere. This is the best place to make the perfect wind elemental arrow!" Zephyr had felt the strength of the materials as soon as she had gotten near the mountains. She was sure that Gil could ignore his desire to make water elemental arrows for a short while.

"I know, I know. I grabbed every single thing you told me on the climb up. I just don't get why I need to be up here where I can fall to my death at any second to make a proper wind elemental arrow?" There was still confusion in his voice since the materials all seemed to be rocks or pieces of broken bushes or random dried plants.

"They are wind elemental materials and this is the highest you can get. Wind spirits come up here to blow with the breeze and travel the world. The mana is being directed by nature and it can be condensed better. You will make the best wind elemental arrow ever!" Zephyr had no doubt that Gil would be making an amazing arrow.

"Alright, I hear you. I will focus and see what we can do." Gil pulled out the piece of wood from the bush he had found dead and dried between rocks.

"That has been in the cold winds its entire life. It even dried it out and started to fossilize it." Zephyr pointed out the fact that there was no way this broken wooden bush branch wouldn't have wind elemental mana.

As Gil began to cut off the small imperfections he could, he found that it was radiating wind elemental mana. The piece he had found was small and only able to be cut in to four pieces for arrows. However, there had been many other similar pieces around showing that the bush would have to grow seasonally then die off quickly.

It did not take long for Gil to balance the pieces and have four rounded arrow shafts. They were not very special but there were many hollowed lines within the wood. "I think the wind started to blow through where the water would travel in the bush this was from. But the constant dry air has almost tempered it." Zephyr was moving about excitedly now that she saw Gil was mumbling with interest.

The next step was to shape the light rocks that Zephyr had insisted he pick up. The strange part was, that unlike the other rocks around these ones, were light and felt almost weightless. However, Gil had to use a lot of effort to smash and break them in to smaller pieces. The shards from them were what he would make his arrow heads out of.

He used his dagger and a few other small blunt tools to chip away and create an arrow head shape. It was a rough diamond shape until he started to smooth it. The constant dragging against a tougher piece of rock was a little rough on the ears but to Gil, it was music.

The rock itself was almost impossible to tell from another. The only factor was the weight, however, Zephyr had already told him it was the exposure to constant wind elemental mana that changed it. The fact that they were on the top of many other rocks was proof they were always being exposed to the windy mountains.

It was much harder to shape arrow heads to perfection. Yet, when Gil had smoothed the rock and fitted it in to the arrow shaft he could feel an instant connection with the wind elemental mana. The mana was traveling through the arrow shaft and already collecting in the new arrow head. It was a wonder that it worked so well at storing wind elemental mana without any external prompting from Gil.

His next movements were faster. Gil had become much more interested now that he was seeing how everything was coming together. "Be careful. Those leaves are sharp." Zephyr was worried about the final material that she had felt was full of wind elemental mana. The leaves that would be the fins of the arrow.

"I can see that, they are almost like razors. I can't imagine what plant these are from and I don't think I could grow it anywhere but a mountain." The extremely thin and stiff leaf could easily be confused for a piece of green and white striped metal. The edge could slice through his finger easily, but this was what made it a good material.

The thin fin would cut resistance and Gil would be able to make the arrow fly through the air much more smoothly and faster using it. The method was simple. Cut the leaf halfway up to the point and slide them in to a notch he had cut in the back of the arrow shaft. They would fit perfectly without the need for any additional materials. Even the arrow head was cut perfectly to fit in to the arrow shaft. This was a skill that only someone who had experimented with their own arrows could have.

When the final piece came together, Gil felt he was looking at an off arrow. The appearance was not shocking but the powerful feeling of wind elemental mana was much stronger than any of the other

arrows he had or the arrows that he had seen at the forest elf village. The simple reason? The materials. These materials had given birth to the much stronger ability to absorb and manipulate the wind elemental mana that would be stored within them.

Gil did not hesitate to start pulling the wind elemental mana around him and focus it in to the arrow head. The entire arrow acted like a sponge to pull in more mana than he intended and expected. This wasn't a problem though, it brought an excited smile to Gil's face.

Chapter 879 The Winds

"Alright, that's it. Four new arrows done and ready to test. If everything world well then I will have a new arrow to use when I need it." Gil was not very impressed by the basic look. However, he knew the potential it had. He could let it absorb a substantial amount of wind elemental mana without him even needing to assist it.

"We need to fill it with a ton of mana first. We need to see what it can do!" The reaction Zephyr had was much more energetic. She was darting around the air with a flip here and there.

Zephyr didn't even wait for Gil to be prepared. She started pulling the wind elemental mana toward them so that he could begin to store it in the arrows. This process was slightly different from pulling the mana from a mana crystal since the mana was all around instead of condensed already.

The mana was cooperative to a degree. Just like Zephyr, the wind elemental mana was not easy to compress and guide. It preferred to move around freely and spread out in a wide area. Therefore, Gil had to use a significant amount of mana to pull it in to the arrowhead. If it was condensed in to a mana crystal then the mana would easily flow out with his manipulation.

When the mana did not cooperate at first, Gil tried adding another arrow in to the absorbing space. When he finally added the fourth, the lack of mana within them seemed to be enough to attract the wind elemental mana. In just a matter of minutes, enough wind mana had been forced in to the arrow heads.

"It's not full but I think it will work. I need a lot better understanding of the wind to be able to condense it more." The melancholy in Gil's voice was soon washed away when he felt the slight breeze that was around the entire arrow.

"It wants to fly. We should let it fly." Zephyr returned to the bow as she spoke. She could feel the mana within the arrow was enough to cause a decent effect. There was also the fact that her patience had run out. If she had to wait any more she might go crazy from anticipation.

"Then here we go." Gil started to draw the arrow back. The string was vibrating with the slight breeze it let off. The air around Gil became still. The only thing affecting the wind was the arrow. His breathing slowed and he focused much more than usual. He could feel the weight of what was in his hands and how much power was welling up in the arrow.

As Gil pushed the arrow to life with his own mana a flurry of wind spun around him. It wasn't enough to displace him but it was enough for him to know that he needed a stronger stance. Gil fed the last little bit of mana he thought it needed to fully come to life and on a single breath out he released it in to the seemingly endless horizon.

The aim had been away from anywhere that might have life. Gil did not intend to harm anyone or anything by testing a dangerous arrow. He assumed that if he failed he would possibly suffer some backlash or just watch the arrow destroy itself. However, the high pitched scream of wind was not what he had expected.

The arrow was pinning as it shot forward at a ridiculous speed. The wind was split apart causing a screaming effect all around. The very air vibrated as the sound continued until a great distance away Gil witnessed a small tornado form. His arrow was by no means an arrow that should ever be used at close range or even mid range. It was a long distance success that could decimate a small area.

If Gil had lacked a skill that improved his vision he would have missed the small house sized tornado dig a chunk of earth out of the distant mountains and throw it in to a small rockslide. It was clear that the arrow was more than a success. One could even say the arrow was an incredibly destructive weapon. Its effects did not show what a hero truly was. Instead, it showed the strength that came with high elemental affinity materials and uncontrolled power.

"I definitely can't use this too often...but..." Gil was finding himself at a loss for words. He had expected to be making water elemental arrows and now was looking at the best wind elemental arrow he had.

"It was great! The wind loved it. There was so much movement and fun. I want to do it again. We should make a better one. A bigger one!" Zephyr was already pushing Gil to create more. He just sat back in to the previous carving position and started in on the arrow making process while Zephyr continued to exclaim her joy for their new creation.

Onyx had been napping peacefully while enjoying the sun. He had been absorbing it well and maintaining most of his warmth since he had found a perfectly flat rock that was a little darker than the others on the mountain steps. He was daily happy until Gil's ear splitting arrow had sped away from the area.

It was easy for Onyx to figure out what had happened and even witness the strength of the arrow, however, he knew that more trials would come and that meant fewer chances to sleep. Since he had been rudely awoken, he made a mental note to make Gil take the night watch next time they were on the trails. But this did prove to be a good time to descend from his spot on the side of the cliffs and explore a little. He was curious about the dragon village.

Chapter 880 Forging Passion

Onyx moved down toward the village. He was feeling the chill returns to his body but he had absorbed a significant amount of light elemental mana. This was a good thing since it would warm him for quite some time.

The village was still small so the little activities of the dragonkin would make it feel busy and bustling. However, he only saw a handful of dragonkin as he went around here and there. The stone houses were surprisingly better carved than he had originally thought.

They may have lacked real doors, but that was due to the dragonkin having higher resistance to the cold and water elemental mana. The water affinity they had was mostly because the elder dragons of the village had this and they dragonkin would follow a dragon of similar affinity.

There were a few with mixed color scales that made Onyx realize that they were multiple affinity dragonkin. The one he saw the most was a slight amount of green and white mixed in to the scales. This showed that the dragonkin was having a wind or light affinity mixed with the water. This was common because this was a combination that could make ice or showed up in nature often.

The strange part was that they were not very talkative. It seemed that they went about their actions of gathering food or crafting specific items almost silently. Walker had read Onyx some of the books about dragons and after the interaction with Illia and Adair this made sense, Dragons were not talkative and close creatures. They would often prefer to be alone or in pairs to study their elemental affinity and become more powerful.

Of course, there were exceptions to this when it came to some of the dragons such as Midnight and the royals that would have some followers or other dragons in the same village as them.

While Onyx moved he noticed that even in his smaller form that the dragonkin took note of him. They have very sharp eyes and it made Onyx realize that Sun had the same trait. Each dragonkin would catch his movement and nod toward him. Every single one had already heard of who he was and why he was there. This put him at the advantage because he was able to better explore.

The sound of hammering was what attracted him to a large stone carved building. The smoke coming from it was clearly naming it the forge that the wandering blacksmith had gone to. It was a very large forge made so that a dragon could waltz in and check the work being done. Therefore, Onyx did not hesitate to change in to his larger form slightly and slither inside the warmth.

"Hello, It got noisy so I decided to explore. This looks interesting." Onyx greeted the wandering blacksmith who was testing the tools. Most of the tools and other items in the forge were made of dragon scales and other very tough materials.

"There are different elemental affinity hammers for crafting other gear?" Onyx was surprised to hear how in depth the tools went. He was able to communicate mentally which proved to be extremely valuable now and whenever he was alone.

The row of hammers hanging on the walls were clearly a full set. Some radiated elemental mana and there were even two that hang almost no mana affinity at all. They were surely amazing tools to have access to. The light elemental hammer seemed to glow in the darker corner of the forge and Onyx was tempted to curl up next to it. Yet, if he did so he could risk absorbing the light elemental mana from it and ruining something he could not tell the values of. These tools were nothing new and most likely had years upon years of use on them.

The test hammering the wandering blacksmith was doing was on a simple piece of iron. He had pieces he had used with every single hammer there to test what one would be best for the tools he would be making. He still needed to craft his hammer using the centennial ice. This meant that he would need one that didn't bond with what he was making and didn't interfere with what he was making. If the elements clashed then he could just aimlessly be ruining his new hammer.

There were also some carving tools that he wanted to replace. If he had them so that they maintained heat when he carved runes he would be able to better and more efficiently carve a rine. There was also

the added bonus of being able to maintain the temperature of the metal while he worked on it, therefore, he would have more time to work if he needed it.

The soft sound of thudding steps began to approach and Onyx knew it could only be one person or dragon. It was Illia that came through the doorway and looked down at them. "I made a deal to give cracked scales to you and here they are. Now I will return to the training I was watching." Illia opened her claws to show many of the broken and shattered scales. The wandering blacksmith didn't know how to process this or even speak. It was a prideful moment for Illia since she felt it was better that a human look in awe at her than any other way.

After Illia had turned and left, the wandering blacksmith began sifting through the materials. "Frost dragon scales. They look very good for crafting even though they are broken." Onyx was examining them too and noticed the touch but cool feeling they had. The air in the entire forge was colder now than it was before just because the scales were there attracting more water elemental mana and freezing the floor slightly.

"You are using these for a hammer? I thought they would be for armor since they are strong?" This was a good material that could bond with the centennial ice, but it seemed that making armor would be a better use of the scales.

"I see, if you fused the pieces that are here you would have a great deal of imperfections that made up the difference. I understand. Then this is better for crafting small tools and the slightly bigger pieces the hammer." Onyx grasped what the wandering blacksmith was thinking at him easily. He was always able to catch on to things a little easier but this was a simple thing to understand.

The pieces were the same cool blue coloration that Illia had on her whole body. The same toughness of the hardest ice and the same cold that surrounded her. The fact that they had broken was not a big deal. Dragons would train and get in to combat when necessary. It was simply a matter of time before they would break a scale here or there. The scales that built up would be saved if they desired and most likely end up right in the forge where they were now. The dragonkin blacksmiths or crafters could always use them.

The main focus of the dragonkin blacksmiths was obviously making gear and other items to trade with other villages. There were some weapons and items on display that had other affinities. They had been made out of materials from hotter areas or places that had a lot of darkness. This proved that they were made using materials from other villages that had these elemental affinities in higher numbers.

The craftsmanship of the armors was also very high. It would take years to get to the quality that was being shown here and this made the wandering blacksmith become much more dedicated., Unlike the dragonkin, he was human with a little dwarf mixed in. That meant his lifespan was more or less the same as the average human. He would need to accomplish double or even triple the amount of experience in his life to get the same amount of knowledge and quality as the dragonkin blacksmiths.

This was not a deterrent at all though. As Onyx watched, the wandering blacksmith began to draw and plan his own set of elemental hammers that he would make over time. The scales were also marked for the water elemental hammer and the centennial ace started to get compared and evaluated. The entire process was art in itself as the blue prints were made from scratch. The ideas that the wandering blacksmith had appeared to be endless as the rolls of blue prints stacked.

There were not just hammers and tools outlines, there were swords, spears, armors, and even cooking utensils. There was no end to the things he could do and the things he wanted to do. If there was anyone else in the world with a pure blacksmith mind, then they would still pale in comparison to the wandering blacksmiths' genius. These were the only thoughts that Onyx had.