

Master 2441

Chapter 2441: Mental Games

Behind him, Walker sensed three more figures walking out of the shadows. He could tell that they had been hiding and waiting to ensure that the dragons and others well behind Walker would not walk ahead as well.

Su felt that this was a strange area as soon as she walked in. She felt the slight shifts in mana and was prepared to use her shields to defend at any time. Especially since she knew that they had been restricted from doing anything if they wanted to come. However, she did not hold much trust for these witches.

When it came to the fact that all races were allowed in to Genesis, Su had made a lot of mental changes to accept them. Her experiences of finding the middle grounds where she and others could come together had been found in the cathedral.

This was because any who were injured and attempting to find safety and a path forward often showed their true selves. Angry family members in panic for their loved ones, soldiers who wished to defend their fellow soldiers, and even those that did not wish to see the end of their lives just yet.

All of them were the same in the cathedral when faced with injury or illness. That commonplace had been a key for her to unify some races while they exhaled. Just starting conversation has been a boon for them while Su learned about their ever day lives.

She had developed a sense for truth and honesty at a level that was more instinctual. Yet, here, she felt that she was surrounded by more lies and deceit than what she was used to. Call it her distrust or negative opinion, but that was still the way she felt and she knew that Walker and Remey also could tell she felt this way.

What she didn't realize, was that Walker and Remey were picking up on something more.

Su was more physically focused and had not founded her strength in purely mana based aspects of battle of growth. Meaning that when compared to Walker her sense for some manas were weaker even though she had a bond with Midnight and had expanded her affinities to be able to learn all elemental manas.

While Remey could be said to have focused on physical sides of things, she had become an alchemist and focused on certain manas and the sensitivity needed to handle herbs. Adding to the fact that she had changed her race through unique events and means to become a true dragon soul which was not necessarily focused on the physical aspects of her body, she could feel certain aspects as well.

Her soul and body being one entity entirely was something that Walker had been curious about and tried to understand. He knew that it was an aspect that could teach him a great deal, especially when it came to life and death manas, let alone undead or just how manas came together in more than just a physical sense of the world.

Unfortunately, he had nothing to be able to guide him right now. He had been very focused on the other aspects of Genesis and how it was progressing.

Since Remey could sense manas with her entire being and had focussed herself to be able to handle manas from herbs while making potions, she could see very clearly the ways that the manas around them were being influenced.

Each mana and skill or spell around were being manipulated to make it seem that the trees, the way they walked, and even the air itself were not what they seemed. In simple words, they were all being subjected to a larger amount of illusion magic to make it appear that the needless night forest from this point was undeveloped and entirely dark or dead.

Rather than what Walker had already understood, he was sure that the endless night forest would not be some rotting and decaying forest. The dead trees he was seeing now was a far cry from what he could sense. The natural mana attempting to be hidden from him spoke of vibrant growth and life mana spurring itself forward to be able to grow more.

For Remey she could also feel the herbs and slightly smell them with her sharper nose. She knew they were there but couldn't see them? Who thought they could fool her like this. Her frustrated expression showed clearly how she felt about all this.

"If you wish to save your manas, you can show the truth here. I won't remove your illusions, I find the rune formations that you have made around here on stones, trees, and even in the air very interesting. Memorizing them is valuable for me since I can share them with the rune master, carvers, and others who research runes back home."

The reason that Walker said this was to both be clear and also to make it shown that he was far from fooled. But this also let a little bit of his own threatening appear. Just enough to show that he had no reason not to memorize their unique rune language which seemed to be made uniquely for the witches and their usage of spells.

"That is not something for my hands to influence. I will guide you." The witch with them continued to float through the air using mana. She was not setting foot on the ground and her usage of a few mana related spells to keep focus on the three of them was clear. She did not hide her wariness.

"That's fine, but stop hiding the herbs at least. You think you can keep them hidden from me for the entire time I am here? I can make grand potions and eventually will exceed grand potions. So just show everything before I start looking for them." The angry huff made a small breeze blow around.

It wasn't just the witch with them paying attention. Hearing that Remey was so focused on the herbs she couldn't see and evaluate had struck a note with the unseen listeners. The breeze showed a slight change in the ground where a few stalks of grass, twigs, or even a few very tiny flowers became visible.

Raising his eyebrows, Walker watched as Remey calmed down and took out a few dried herbs from a satchel she was carrying on her belt next to a few potions. Clearly, she had smelled similar herbs and had wanted to compare them the entire time.

"This green leaf bell is the same as that but the leaves on yours are brown and the flowers on it are also brown. It should be green and green. So the difference has to be the mana it absorbs. Yours absorbs some dark and some wind mana. This only absorbs light and wind mana. Both of them can treat excessive wind mana absorption."

The mumbling and talking out loud increased and it was clear that more mana in the air was because some had taken interest in Remey.

Naturally, they must be curious about the strange girl who was more focused on herbs than the fact that she had been brought here to speak with the leaders of the twelve covens. It would be that way for anyone, but this was just the way it was for Remey.

She hadn't forgotten their reason for being here, but they had to walk and follow some lead to that place. Meaning that she could let her mind focus elsewhere while doing so. And if that added knowledge

about herbs to her, then so be it. That would make her a better alchemist. "Remey, those twigs in the dirt there are transplanted trees, they will only grow to be about four feet tall but have been bred to give off more seeds. It's called a witch eye seed because they match the manas that a witch who plants them and gives seeds that can be used as a catalyst for unique potions, magic spells, and other methods witches use. You might want to ask about them later."

Showing that Walker could identify these things out loud was also a play. He knew that the witches would take notice and would begin to understand that their illusions were nothing in his eyes overall. That even with some truths hidden, he was able to gather deeper information than what they could even realize.

While a little sneaky to say this and let them play guessing games in their minds about what he had already learned, Walker internally knew that it was fair since he was still curious to how all this worked. Just the pressure he felt from those unseen listeners and watchers was more than what he expected.

The risk of these twelve covens was higher than what he desired to deal with since he could grasp the potential if they did not become proper allies or could not see eye to eye at the very least.

Chapter 2442: Slumbering Witches

"Hold yourselves back." The demand was made and caused the air to become very still. Remey looked up and saw a different witch ahead of them. This witch looked older and clearly smaller. Frail almost.

However, they all sensed that the strength of this witch was greater. Her robes were more ornate and held deep reds and the patterns of flames covered in more intricate rune formation patterns. All drawing the surrounding fire mana and wind mana toward her.

When she looked at Walker he felt that she was trying to use some sort of spell to probe his strength and to see beyond what he was. To see the skills and the strengths he possesses.

"I am able to do that as well, but you won't gain as much as I will."

Without hesitation, Walker met the gaze and used the all around appraisal skill repeatedly to gain more information over and over.

'Centennial witch of crimson flames- Gresna

This is one of the elder twitches of the coven of wind blown flames. Her strength is considered higher due to the abilities she uses to mix both spells of wind and spells of flame. She had been renown as the witch able to see beyond the skin.

While the respect for her strength is high between the twelve covens, she is better known for exploiting weaknesses and going to battle in ancient time before she was forced to slumber by the twelve covens. She is one of the first to awaken and begin sensing the changed world. Her race was ancient human before she happened upon the spells of the twelve covens and become a witch born. The change in race keeps many characteristics of the original race while altering the body to be able to follow the path of the covens and learn the magic spells utilized by them.

A witch is not born naturally, it is reborn and grown to stand on a path carved by countless generations in tune with unique aspects of nature and the world itself. Whether it is the darker or lighter side, the balance is sought to be maintained through mysterious exploration through magic itself.

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"Ih, you finally managed to block me Gresna. Or would you prefer to be called the centennial witch of crimson flames? Should I say good morning to you? You are a young witch having been reborn for only a hundred years but forced to slumber because of the world's issues." Walker looked carefully and saw that the witch's eyes were wide in awe.

She had managed to glean some information before she realized she could not protect herself entirely. Afterwards, she realized that even she had given more than she learned.

"I was unable to see past it all. I saw your strength and connected to many things. The world and more. Why would you come to the world as such a being?" Her question was met with a somewhat smug smile from Walker.

"I came here to speak with your leaders. I would understand if none of them were awake, but even with their bodies slumbering, I feel that they are watching and can see everything happening. So I will ask again, remove the illusions and be clear and honest with your current state and your desires. Whether it be as an ally to us, a member of the Genesis council, or an enemy. That is a decision that will be made today."

The air shivered and Su leaned closer to Remy. They both knew that the ways which the manas moved around Walker had become more dangerous. If he were preparing an attack they wanted to be able to move together as well.

"It is dangerous to do such things. I would call you child, however, you have surpassed myself. My knowledge is only small compared to you as you are now. I do not have authority over all the illusions. They were created by the grand witches of our twelve covens to protect all that is during the times of great magical famine."

More was shown in that moment. Not much, but Walker felt that some illusions weakened. It was very clear now that the manas moving the air and the wind were the eyes and ears watching and listening.

These were the grand witches who were still slumbering. But what Walker could see through which Remy and Su were still unable to see through was much greater now.

He looked at the trees which had been grown in to rough homes. Larger trucks hollowed and brought back to living by care and dedication to magical runes and spells. The vines and herbs which grew continuously all making the manas flow to defend and protect these homes.

Looking deeper, Walker was able to see the forms of humanoid creatures inside the huts. These figures were resting witches. All protected by many more rune formations. Many more spells. Many more unique creations of the witches who were still unable to powerfully awaken. "Just as our people are slumbering, so shall you." The voices were like a chorus of mana and magic hitting Walker all at once. He knew exactly what this was.

A mental skill to push him in to slumber and allow him to speak closely with those who were also sleeping. Those who were unable to share their voices separately or even meet him physically.

"I am sorry for the fear you may have now. He has been called by our grand council of the twelve covens. He is meeting with them now. I will be responsible for your rest while you wait. Several of the newly awakened witches are very interested in your desire for herbs and also those potions you carry which they can not understand." Gresna looked at Remy and a grandmotherly aura seemed to radiate from her.

"And you are a guardian. You are very similar to those who use internal spells to trap their mana and force their bodies to become one with the forest. They are a unique coven who will slumber as nature itself and have taken a notice of you. Please speak with them as you wish. The path will be shown to you while you wait."

Before Su and Remy could say anything, the entire atmosphere changed and they could not longer see Walker. Their worries grew but then they sensed Walker using mana and piercing through the illusions altering their sights. They knew that he was not in danger from this. That he could easily break free in just a few attempts so no danger could actually come to him

right now.

"Ah I see you now. This is a strange inner body you see yourself as." Out of shadows a space in Walker's mind formed. It was more apt to call this a dream rather than an actual space or mental aspect. However, the figure was looking at him entirely made of bark and formed from vines or tree limbs. "I am the witch of the forest, the fifth coven. I am here to greet you first." Walker looked back on himself and he noticed his form was not at all small. It was a strange mix of elemental manas, dragon, and even mysterious forms of manas all mixing internally in to something that was beyond natural mana. But he didn't feel he was able to speak at all in this way. The strange features, the strange flow of manas was showing himself too bare. In the blink of an eye, he shifted and was looking more normal. More human. "I feel more comfortable like this." He didn't miss the flinch of fear as he had changed the appearance he held in this odd dream like space. The witch of forests in front of him had clearly not expected him capable of it.

Not that Walker fully grasped how he had easily done this. He had just covered up the manas and the feeling she was showing. "For a witch, when we become a grand witch and we truly embody the path we have taken, our form in this dream space which connects all the witches born in some way, we can not alter our true selves. Our bodies will come to match our true selves here. You have gone beyond something we believed possible."

She appeared to be telling him this as an apology for the fact she had flinched away at his actions.
"Interesting. I can learn a lot about the witch born race. There is a great deal I feel we and the others have to speak about. I wonder why it is only you here to meet me?"

"That would be the reawakening of all the witches of the twelve covens. The dangers of the world were too great and the strength we called on too small. Now a larger threat appeared and we do not know of its position." She looked at Walker and he knew exactly who she was speaking of as a threat.

Him.

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Chapter 2443: Struggling Covens

"My position will be to protect what I have carved out from the world during chaos. Twice I have faced threats that could end the world we know or could have grown greater in threat than we all understand. The issues with manas being broken due to the forced existence of the demon lord was a problem no one had handled."

"That was a problem races like yours who were hidden away in slumber could not handle or assist with. Then, the added threat of the immortal king who could have gained extreme power and had more control after escaping his self made prison could have been a threat we needed assistance with"

"None were there but the races with Genesis now and even then, we gained some afterward or during those battles" Walker looked carefully at the witch of forests. He did not break eye contact at all while speaking. His mana did not fluctuate.

"I will protect and help those races of the Genesis alliance grow regardless of the position of your race or other races who do not join. I will offer a place to join hands. The only question will be whether your race joins hands with us or decided not to. Or if your witch born race decides to to go to war with us for some reason."

Holding himself back from listing the myriad of races that were not part of Genesis, Walker waited to see what would happen. This witch of forests was the first to appear and the first to listen as a grand witch who was leading the twelve covens. He knew that she was doing more than just listening.

He could sense the movements of manas around him in this dream like world they were in. he could also sense that outside his body there were more and more moving figures. Not threatening, but curious and worried. He could sense their manas unstable and weaker than

most.

From what he could gather, these would be the awakened witches. Those who were weaker and could manage with the manas of the world. It also brought him another question.

What was the world like in ancient times when the witch born race could exist within their isolated place with enough mana for their grand witches to easily live?

They were so attached to mana that they needed strong mana in the air and everywhere to be able to connect and bind with it. Without that bind they were dormant, weak, and unable to defend themselves at all. Meaning that they must have been moving in a period of immense mana and mana purity.

"Ruling us through fear will be the source of your next curse. The hexes cast upon you will make you and all your bloodline wish that they did not exist. If you state war as your future be prepared-"

"Do not threaten a guest. We will not do such things without the entire and full acceptance of each coven. That is the way."

The next figure that radiated dark mana and was barely more than a speaking shadow had angrily claimed curses and hexes if threatened. Yet the second had been the exact opposite. More of a light based fog barely able to take the shape of a humanoid figure, yet soft and calm in her words.

"Witch of cursed mana and the witch of warm sun. They are two who have always been opposing yet managed to ensure that the twelve covens can stand together. The others may not join us from now on. Their will is known to us." The witch of forests spoke up a little aggrieved that the others might not even be able to take form in this space properly. Especially with the fact that the other two struggled so much right now.

"So you are one that mastered dark mana and the curses. I have met demons and learned to purify some curses on items and against me. But you do remind me of an ally I have. She is also ready to punch anything that threatens us. And you are very much like another ally I have. Prepared to help even if you are lacking in whatever the subject is, you would offer it."

The two were taken aback by the way that Walker spoke. "I am able to enhance the flow of mana using herb garden related planting, smaller magic tower building, and rune formations to help create naturally occurring runes. This is a project that all of Genesis has been working on and is being established as we speak in, now five, locations." He paused while taking a feeling of the room.

The manas around seemed to shift slightly as it was realized what he was saying. He had to openly say it, but he knew what he was benign to the table in terms of negotiation. "Genesis is able to help increase the mana density many times over what you have in your territory now. Even our outer cities and their territories lead by the dragons have high pure elemental manas. Our central city is even greater."

"What I am saying is, better allies than enemies. While that depends on some practices the witch born race has, as long as they can mix with all races in equality, pledge the best for the people of all races, and represent himself on a council to further progress the goal to enhance all lifestyles within the Genesis alliance, I believe a better future can be made."

Walker intentionally pulled at his mana and radiated the natural mana he had stored. In almost an instant he saw the shadow like figure become dense and appear more like an older woman wearing flowing black robes while the white foggy figure condensed more in to a sun glowing young lady wearing bright white robes.

"I see. We all see. You have elemental spirits at your call as well. We did not sense this. Are they considered intelligent life to you?" Now this played on something more and Walker felt that the witches with their connection would not be harming elemental spirits at all. It was a -clear feeling.

"The elemental spirits are beings that represent mana. They may not be the same as an intelligent race, but they are not used as tools or material. The spirit race who grow from elemental spirits stands as equal within Genesis. They represent their freedom from the flow of nature and true intelligence. One is my partner and bonded with me to stand with nature and also stand as the leading representative of her spirit race as a proper spirit able to hear the world's will and even existence's will"

Fleur left the spirit mark on Walker's body and radiated much more potent natural mana. She looked at the figures and even at empty spaces where Walker could not sense some others would be if they could

properly take form. She didn't say a word but made it clear that her presence was known by everyone able to feel the link with these grand witches.

"Our laws are strict. They will not be broken. Our territory will uphold them. Our binds with magic and the rebirth of those who become witchborn will be respected." The darker figure spoke firmly. Her demand for this clear.

"I will travel with you to your place of living. See your truths. Make it all clear in the light so that we may not be tricked or lied to." the sunny figure replied next.

"And I will seek proof of your actions. Help us bring purer mana to our territory within one month and we shall strike a contract. The twelve covens will ally only if you can prove your sincerity. In return, once we have seen it. We will match your sincerity and show you our true standing." The witch of forests spoke with the confidence Walker expected from her since they had met just a short while ago.

"I expect potions, herbs, and runic texts in return for creating a better purity of mana in your territory. That will be the cost of this transaction. After that, we will discuss an alliance or at the very least a non aggression pact."

Making it clear he would not be putting a show off for free, Walker saw the three grand witches nod. They had expected a come back in some form and this seemed fair enough.

They could tell that Walker had knowledge and his strength wasn't shallow. Because this was the case, they had internally prepared to pay some price for what he might bring. "Now, how will you join us on our return trip?" He looked at the witch of warm sun and waited. Meanwhile, Su and Remey had their own meetings with the unique awakened witches of the endless night forest and twelve covens.

Chapter 2444: Light With You

The entire atmosphere changed again. This time Walker realized that the witch of war, sun had changed the area and the other two witches were not around. The entire area was like a warm garden in the middle of the afternoon. A bright and unique place that Walker could feel a bounty of light mana in.

"This is my unique space, we as grand witches forge this as it is part of our strength in our minds and souls. I believe that light is the most natural form of mana. It is one with me and part of my rebirth. My affinity and my growth is all here to be seen."

The foggier form that she had before was more refined. However, the stark white scales and clear yellow eyes were just parts of the features that shocked Walker. "You are a lizard man? No, you are an ancient race I don't know." Walker shook his head showing his surprise clearly.

"When I was born, I was a member of the lizard folk tribe. We were descended from dragons and ancient serpents. We have grown very much in the years but the mentality of my people were never looking at the future or knowledge. I believe that my race is reduced to monsters."

Her sadness was clear to Walker. However, he could also see a little more hope. Especially with the way that she was looking at him.

"I believe that you are curious about our covens. Mine is focused on the light. I have been reborn and been able to grow immensely. Seen the world in ways that others may not. I feel in tune with the light mana in nature and also the deeper meanings we bring to it as witches." The more that she spoke, the more light gathered showing Walker the unique strength.

The way that the light mana moved was warmer. It was not necessarily sharp or purifying. Different from a mage and different from a healer's mana. The magic skill she was using was manipulating the manas to be able to move with her. The entire mana she called toad her also melded with her body meaning it was a full flow instead of a temporary usage.

The way that witches used manas was unique. It was closer. Walker could sense it all when he saw this. While he might not have been fully awake he knew that he was able to sense it with his mind and even his body a little.

"Our covens are different. By following our paths and we follow our rules. We balance one another. We are not good, evil, or anything specific. We are part of the natural order because that is what we believe."

The way that Walker was taking it was that the covens were not absolute in their control of witches. That they all acted as they wished but kept themselves from going out of control. Meaning that some covens could be against Genesis and others in favor. Yet, that could be a major benefit.

The same could be said for the dragons. They did not all enjoy the fact that they were not in charge of everything. Especially when thinking of the ancient elder dragons. They had high amounts of pride and believed that dragons should remain over all other races.

As such, there was a lot more that needed to be done when it came to the growth of all races. They needed to be growing together more and more so that they were able to pursue a better overall future.

"So, you are saying that every coven may not wish to join us. You would move as your own coven and potentially join genesis... I would prefer that all of you had agreements with us. However, I believe I am beginning to understand what you are saying. Your covens are very set in your ways and must maintain your paths as it has been this way for hundreds of years."

He saw a slight nod and believed that this is the best way for them to keep thinking while moving forward.

"I can send one of my children with you. They are a witch born member of the rising sun group within my coven. I am ready to be able to send her with you. She can awaken with the strength we have now and would follow my will. This would be a grand mission of the coven for the future of the coven."

The way that this was said did not hold as much warmth. Instead it held a heat and firmness that came with a clear order. It was that of a leader who wished to have their words followed. It was someone who was offering some trust but making sure the unspoken threat was there in case anyone thought poorly of the situation.

"Then your daughter will be safe. I will swear that on my name. She may explore the magic tower. She may see the races. She may listen to the speeches in the halls of learning. She may visit the guild, she will be treated as if she is a citizen so that you may see through her and she may feel the world we are hoping to build."

The way that he spoke matched the firmness that had been given to him by the witch of warm sun. He did not allow for there to even be a question in the way he spoke. No one would be able to say he did not speak from his heart and from his beliefs.

"Thank you. I see that there is a lot that we must learn from one another. I hope to learn about the light mana that is hanging on you. It is full of vibrance and healing. Something that is more than just used on you as a spell but also around you often and almost lovingly so."

Walker could think of who right away. Alice would be the only one that would be able to be said that attached light manana to him rather than another healer. "I have someone close to me who is blessed by light. It moves to her words and moves to her song. She is one of the greatest members I believe is always in my future."

It was true and to the point that he believed she would be more than just a member in his life. He wanted her around forever. "I hope that I will be able to meet her. I feel the talent and care in the mana she had left with you. It lingers. The emotions behind the actions in mana." Now Walker had another clear sight of what the witches were.

They could feel the emotions and goals of mana when used. Something that the other mages would not be able to do. However, Walker would say that he had also sensed these things. He had also managed to feel some of this. Regardless though, he could learn a lot when it came to all of this.

If he were to pursue this thinking he could find aspects of mana that were guided by others in their skills which would teach him a lot.

It could be a way to define the methods used when it came to peoples attacks and desires behind it. When they were on trial would they have meant to harm someone? If that could be discerned then it would make the laws created much more true.

People would not falsely be accused as often because the emotion to save or protect could be seen in the mana. Meaning that unique classes might appear again. They might even show themselves as ways so that they could guide others in the proper ways of using certain manas.

Remey has shown that anger influences fire mana well. That fire mana also spurred on anger. If this was something that was learned from the easier areas and guided to become more stronger, would the affinity for fire grow a little? Would things keep improving.

"I have a lot more to think about. Thank you for a little more information. I will wake up and await your daughter to journey with us." the witch of the warm sun showed a soft smile. She knew that Walker had thought and absorbed a greater deal of knowledge than she could have said. She also understood that Walker was inherently good and kind. He did not desire to harm others, not to pursue a war with them.

She had been the one to take the lead because of this and the light mana she sensed on him. She wanted the best and knew that the others would not be as equipped to handle it. She also believed that there was more to these three people she had not seen yet. Especially the other two who were speaking with younger witches.

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Chapter 2445: Trees and Witch Brew

"You are not the same as the ones I have seen in the books and dreams my master showed me." the small voice was not so small in reality. What Su was looking at, where this voice was coming from, was the body of wood and bark ten feet taller than her.

She could barely begin to understand the amount that the fog that appeared around her path, clearly part of the illusions, had allowed her to see an area where larger tree huts seemed to be. She would never have expected that some of those huts were actually the resting bodies of these beings.

"Half dragons. Not many exist through the races. You are not even born one. But you are strong. I see why the teachers guided you to us. No, the witch of forests, the grand witch of our coven guided you here." Now the voice of the slowly changing face was clear and excited.

Calling this larger figure young was hard to grasp for Su since she knew that if one were actually to grow like a tree it would take many years to reach this size. However, she sensed that this was not a tree nor a person.

"I am one of the many guardian witches training to become one that defends all territory., under the teaching I communed with the forest. I learned of the path to understand more of nature. I have

become one with the tree I planted and been reborn. I am a witch who internally channels my magic to ensure that others may be able to learn of the ways of outer manipulation and spells."

Now Su understood a little more. Yet she had still not been given the chance to speak. She was just being told. However, she also understood that this was due to the connections that the witches seemed to have. This witch who was partially united with a tree had been able to learn of her and the others through the mental bonds unseen by Su.

"I am Su, the true draconic guardian and half dragon of Genesis. Hero that protects all who stand to be harmed within Genesis and the world if necessary." Su had gained more titles but the one of hero held itself close to her heart because she understood that she would not necessarily have had this without all those around her.

It meant more than just the word and its description. It held all of the experiences she had gained from the others within it now.

"It is nice to meet you. You do not need to call me anything. I haven't earned a name as a guardian yet. So join me for a while and learn about nature around you. Your mana is all pulled in with force. I know you're a dragon but you can let it harmonize with you a little more, right?"

Su was curious until she saw a few sprouts of a tree grow from the ground and form a dense bark shield. She knew very well that her shields would struggle to break through that easily in competition. But she felt the way that the manas melded together to make that and were a part of the guardian's body.

This guardian had not conjured this. She had used the mana within herself and outside of herself and bound with them completely to make the shield one with her. Allowing it to be stronger and affected by the internal strength grown as a guardian of the witch born in its entirety.

"I can learn this. It feels familiar, like an old friend." Something in the dragon half of her had resonated with the method as she understood. Something told her it was the right way to learn more from here on out.

"She found the herbs and she even picked them the right way."

"Stop that, she is not a witch, how could she pick the bottle nosed mushrooms correctly?"

"Oh, so you are saying that she didn't pluck the pig suckle flowers correctly either? Or the drooping tree shrooms?"

The bickering sounded like three siblings had been let go without supervision. It made Remy instinctively want to yell at them the same as her younger siblings in the orphanage. The atmosphere was the same as she found the path shown to her opened in to a twisted and strange garden.

Not in a negative sense, in the sense that she didn't recognize the majority of plants or herbs here. They were all tinged with different mana affinities which were purer in nature. Many of them were dormant due to lack of mana from what she understood. But all the woody vines, sticks, and bark proved that they were protected and just needed time.

"You! Why do you have a potion like that on your hip? You aren't a witch but you were able to make a potion like ours that can help you commune with mana. But that's not the same! It's different!" The small bird that landed on the ground was shockingly speaking.

"Sister, don't demand from her, wait for her to tell us and show us. We might get to have that potion." another smaller bird landed on a tree nearby.

The third that landed cocked its head and preened its feathers a little. The pure blue for their feathers was very brilliant while the other two had streaks of red and orange in them. "Pardon my sisters. We are the witches who have followed the path of brewing. We are the youngest to awaken so far, but this is the garden our grand teacher has given to our care. You may treat it the same as you have the small herbs left about the area in return for your knowledge of that potion and the potion itself."

This third bird was a little more arrogant, but Remy felt the same sort of passion she had from all three. That spark to know just what a potion did. How an herb was able to help others. The desire to turn a poison in to a healing item. Evener desire that should be within a young alchemist was right here.

"I am the alchemical brawler who made this potion. If you want to know about it, why don't you offer up something good? You have plenty here that I don't have. Let's trade. Do you have books about your herbs? Can I take some herbs? What potions do you make with your alchemy?" She didn't hesitate to let it out and a flurry of chirping responded to her.

"The potions we use for alchemy!? No, it's brewing. We are witches and we brew. We aren't old men in a tower or cave making potions we are esteemed witches!"

"I prefer an herbalist witch, this garden is myself and I am willing to share myself with you." "We can trade those things with you. Show us first."

All three spoke rapidly waiting for the answers and what Remy might do.

"This is a water affinity potion. It's one for each elemental mana I have made. This one is a high water affinity potion that should affect someone for three hours. It used to be an hour before I received better quality herbs. I might even be able to make them for specific people if they help in the process with their blood. It helps you understand your affinity and the mana in your body. If you're able to use magic it should help you learn to use your magic too." The three flapped their wings and landed around the potion that Remy uncorked and left on the ground in front of her. Small twigs wrapped it and the potion was stilted so all three could look in to it, smell it, feel it.

"Different! It's not a witch's brew, it's different!"

They all shouted but Remy knew she had accomplished enough for them to want to know more. "You can come to my alchemy guild and learn if you want. I just want herbs for the herbalists to grow in the greenhouses, how you make your potions, and to send some here to learn with you too."

"Fine fine fine. We will try that. Greedy. We want more than this. You need to share all of them. Show us how. Make them now!" The demand was right away without hesitation. Remy had tried to be sneaky and business like but now she was just equally trading information.

This was fine though. This was still a way for them both to grow. It was also exactly what Walker would have wanted. A way for them to bond even if their leaders would not get along. A chance for them to become closer and both share more and more. It was pretty clear though, Remy had forgotten about the entire larger ordeal and was now entranced in alchemy

again...

Chapter 2446: Sun Witch

The changes in the surroundings and the shift in mists made Remy and Su stop what they had been doing. Su felt that she could keep learning more about the flow of mana and making it better acclimate to her body. Allowing her body to become one with the surrounding manas would have been an ideal way to improve her strength.

However, her mind was running wild with the feeling and ideas. How she could incorporate this in to training of every single force within Genesis.

This was a way for them to better understand their own affinities and manas that would allow them to absorb or even generally sense all manas around them based on their own aman. Something that the witches had done whenever possible because of their beliefs and strict teachings.

Was it the perfect method? That was to be decided through trial and education. It was though, a different way to see things which had been lost due to the witches forcing himself sin to isolation and dormancy to survive. The witch born race was not just a race which disappeared. It was a race which could be reborn from any race.

That was a strange occurrence but one that was not uncommon since so many bloodlines and traits from ancient times were appearing. The world's changes reflected directly on the people in various ways. None of them were bad since each presented a trial to overcome which in turn offered a large leap ahead in growth for all.

The anger Remy felt when she was blocked from seeing the alchemy garden she had been in was enough to make flames begin to dance along her body. However, she heard the three vices of the avian witches she met telling her to come back again. To bring herbs and potions as well.

They had been the same amount of obsessed as her so they did not see any reason why they couldn't ignore whatever differences that their leaders had to be able to share more. It was that unique focus and obsession in crafters that was hard to handle.

The wandering blacksmith had always been a perfect example of this. He had ignored races, kingdoms, and laws to travel places and learn everything he could. To find new ways and examples of better

forging. He was a master above other masters for this reason. He even managed to earn titles other masters didn't think possible.

Remey was similar. She might have founded her base in the desire to help those she cared for with alchemy but relied on her fists yet she still found a way to become an alchemist in any form. She maintained a hold on the strength she had to fight for people both physically and also the mentality to heal and help with alchemy. Two balancing aspects that many would struggle to maintain.

Remey had left the three with a single promise, "when I come back, I will have too much for you to do. I want to meet more and see the rest of your garden. I could smell it and feel it, you hid all the good things."

She had felt the breeze rush past her after that, proving that she had been correct with her words. But that was fine. She could wait a little. This was a hidden treasure trove and brought a few other apprentice alchemists to learn.

The methods that the witches used were not seen as alchemy to them. They called it brewing, or witch brewing. A potion or a witch brew. Both used manas and techniques differently to achieve similar to slight different effects. Both sets of effects worked but they worked in slightly different ways. Alchemy could be made more attuned to individuals but was used for reasons and overall effects, witch brewing was almost always individual and specific.

The potential that could come by combining the two schools of thoughts and producing an enhanced format of alchemy and witch brewing could progress the study beyond just years. For that though, there had to be knowledge and many minds working together.

"Who is this?" Walker heard the voice of both Remey and Su as they made their way to him. He smiled a little and then held his hand to introduce who was standing next to him.

"This is a witch of sun, the daughter of the grand witch known as the witch of the warm sun. She will be coming with us to act as eyes and ears for the witches. They are seeing how genesis works and if they wish to form a working arrangement or anything else with us. We are also going to help them increase the gathering of mana within their territory, after that we will also get more from them along with promises for more growth between our peoples." Walker had more details he knew he could share, however, he noticed that both Su and Remey were more focused on the strange appearance of the women wearing a yellow and red robe that would be going with them.

"It is pleasant to meet you. I can feel the essence of the sun's light from both of you. I am one of the youngest witch born who slept for the longest. I was unable to practice due to my injuries. Now that I am healed and have woken, I can serve as thanks to the mother who took me in and the covens who need knowledge to carve the paths of our future."

They were both nodding to her introduction however, they were also shocked by her appearance. The yellow, almost gold, skin on her body had a strange light like lines over it as well. The white hue of what could have been tattoos but were actually unique rune patterns the witches used was hard to follow.

"Before I was reborn in the ways of the light and the sun, I was from a small race known as the light walkers' tribe. A monster known as the death horn lizard was able to consume our people. A handful of us survived and even fewer managed to come to the mysterious witch covens for safety. Now I may repay that kindness."

She could tell what had caught Su and Remey up. It was very clear that she understood and that she also was lost when it came to their races as well. She knew she could and would learn a great deal.

"We would like to know about your life before and during the years resting. We have different stories we can also share. You will be allowed to see everything a normal citizen of Genesis can see. I promised that. Your knowledge is also a sharing aspect of what we will gain in return for our assistance."

Walker set pace to leave the endless night forest and found that he could see through the illusionary mists much more than before. He also saw that the sun witch with them was nodding and reacting slowly. Easily proving that the other witches were communicating with her mentally.

Walker pulled at some mana and wrapped them in it, the wind buff to walk faster made the sun witch surprised as she had not felt the mana sussed in this way. Su and Remey knew that Walker was doing this to move things forward more, but also because he wanted to show off a

little.

This was a race awakening and very territorial in their ways. Extremely strict as well. If he wanted to make headway, he had to show much more than what he did for some of the other races who had been found in times of need as well.

Their arrival where others were waiting was met with Midnight there. She had sensed Walker coming back and returned as well. However, she had several soldiers waiting with hunted monsters nearby that she had sniffed out.

He had left her here to handle it and she had done so. Finding hiding monsters, dangerous ones, and even a few that had begun to become stronger due to the way manas changes. She knew that he would learn everything he could and she would make things better for everyone who came to this area.

Her time was not wasted and her effort would give clear chances for growth. She had fulfilled her duty to those who would come here. Now, she would get to hear what Walker, Remey, and Su worked on. Her energy was ready to burst.

This was only added on to as Mordant and Ignu's gaze fell on the sun witch beside them. This was a lot for the sun witch to handle since she had never faced dragon, let alone a royal dragon known as dominator dragons now.

But she had still not seen them all. Many more had come with Walker to this place.

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Chapter 2447: Larger Growth

"You have this handled?" Ventus looked at Walker and saw the slight nod. She left without saying another word. She had looked at the sun witch and didn't have much to say. It wasn't that she did not care, it was simply that she trusted Walker with the current events and knew that this was some step in the right direction.

Mordant and Ignus still remained but that was it. Many of the other dragons who had come saw Ventus leaving as permission from the royals to also move back and go about their business. Some would remain here as a camp to wait on things as the deliberations and even agreements were made. Whether that meant they stayed there for a month or a year didn't matter.

It was just their duty to be able to remain and ensure that their presence was not forgotten. Plenty of effort was being put in to ensure that this matter was handled appropriately, if a few years of their long

life were used on it, then that was a minuscule price to pay in their minds. "So, would you like to travel by air, on foot, or have Mordant carry us through the shadows? I can promise you that all of those would be very interesting." Walker smiled but everyone understood he was showcasing another of the many seemingly absurd aspects of Genesis.

They could travel by air incredibly fast with buffs and the methods that came naturally to most of the dragons. Or they could walk on foot which would have them face various monsters and show the unity among those marching with them. Or, there was the uniquely powerful method of moving through the shadows which would show the immense control of the dark mana that Mordant had.

While the final method would be more intimidating, it would be a clear example of strength. The grains had a lot of power and held back for the sake of peace. But it would also show the strength that Walker had since he could fight amongst them and win if they were to battle. Something that should be respected.

"It's my decision?" the sun witch appeared more confused. She didn't know why she would be allowed to choose but soon she nodded. "I would like to travel by air, please. I have not flown and I do not believe I would enjoy traveling through the shadows." part of this was true and the other was clearly because she would not have control over light mana or have connection to the other witches.

"Then to the air we go." The sun witch had thought she would be carried by a dragon. She didn't believe that she would be able to ride one since she did know of the pride that a certain had. However, when she felt the wind wrap her body and watched as Walker stepped in to the air, she was more shocked than anything.

This was simply because she also saw Midnight, Su, and Remey take to the air. Remey used wings of flame which seemed to be a part of her body as her own mana, Su had not shown her wings but as a half dragon she had them folded and covered by armor that made it appear they weren't there at all, and Midnight easily flapped in to the air like it was all normal around her.

Yet then again, the dragons and a few others were also carried in to the air the same way that the sun witch was. Walker was wrapping them in wind mana and magically pulling them along without any wind hammering them or the speed decreasing. It was very quick and very efficient. She had underestimated his strength and also clearly underestimated those he could buff with magic alone.

As they sped along, Walker noticed the communication crystal had a message waiting for him. Upon looking, he was surprised to see it was from Gil who had been busy with the spirit tree.

The simple message from Gil said, "Don't be surprised when you get here, we managed to connect everything and it got a little out of hand."

Walker could say he wanted to say he wasn't worried, he had a feeling he would be more shocked than he wanted to be.

Or only took a few minutes of flying through the air with slightly more buffs and his usage of a bit more mana, Walker saw it.

Trees.

Massive and tall, the spirit trees of each elemental affinity had grown five times the height with branches thick and strong enough for dragons to roost on. The central spirit tree which united all the manas was even more brilliant.

It towers ten times more than the other trees branching out and seemingly anchored in the sky by its binds with manas as well. Naturally forming then formations also seemed to exist on its bark proving that it linked to nature and manas immensely.

Beyond that, Walker also sensed the resonance that the magic tower had with these trees. It seemed to be enhancing the manas with them without a direct connection made. Almost like they both melded together because of their purpose of enhancing and purifying manas.

"It's perfect." He whispered this but Su and Remey still noticed. They knew that the roots must have dug deeper and helped reinforce the underground city of Genesis as well. They knew that the branches had become aspects of the manas that the city needed.

"This is Genesis. We have a magic tower, multiple elemental territories for specific living and study for all races, spirit trees that assist in the natural growth of all this, and laws to unify all races to become better together. I hope you will enjoy the view before we go to the Genesis building to register you as a citizen."

Were there words in the sun witch's mind?

No, how could she?

She and the grand witches had believed that this was a gathering place for powerful races and a smaller city created during the chaos of the world changing. Not some grand masterpiece that placed race together and melded entire kingdoms.

So many races had cleaned to do similar things like this but it had always ended in different forms. The immortal chasing race had brought captured people in for experiments, the vampires had used their blood to change races, and the angels had even fought amongst themselves.

Yet now there was a mystical place like this created out of what seemed to be thin air? No one would have believed it but here it was.

Every grand witch found themselves speechless while trying to reconsider their actions when they had encountered the scout of Genesis and met Walker. They now knew his words were not just for show. They were founded in truth and strength. They could not be shaken easily and would grow with or without the covens of the witch born.

Now that they had this new view, they as the grand witches would need more. They also began to throw what they desired the sun witch to look into at her mind making her completely

freeze.

Walker noticed this and understood. It was overwhelming and now, the powerful connection with grand witches was ordering more and more from her. That was how everyone who came here first would be though.

Overwhelmed and curious. It wasn't just a place to live but somewhere to thrive.

"Wait until you can walk through the markets or explore the underground merchant road to the dwarf's kingdom. We also have plenty of places to eat, guilds to join, and monthly competitions. The Coliseum is a major attraction too. Or you can check the farms and herb fields." Su added in to the mental chaos the sun witch had to deal with.

She knew that Walker had achieved his goal and she supported him. The witches had radically bud dragnets and misunderstand them. With this state, she could feel the intense emotions the grand witches must have were going to drive the sun witch in to a frozen state for hours.

"We are very interested to see everything we can. The mana here is more than expected." The sun witch spoke and Walker knew she was speaking for all of the grand witches. They all felt they needed to learn as much as possible.

It was funny to see this change since Remy knew that the witches had used some powerful magic to block the things she, Su, and Walker were able to witness in their endless night

forest territory.

Now the age side city and surrounding territories showed them so much without hiding anything they couldn't help wishing they could learn more. They didn't have the time! "Welcome to Genesis. The home of every race in our alliance and the home we built for our own families." Walker spoke showing his true intentions and warmth. Nothing about his tone said he didn't care for this place. Instead, it screamed that it was the pure center of his heart.

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Chapter 2448: Attracting Attention

"There's so much pure mana here. I can do so much. I can even feel the sun when near the shadows." This was the first thing that the sun witch had said after they set foot on the ground in the middle of the square in front of the Genesis building. For a few minutes, she had been entirely stuck and unable to even move.

The connection that the grand witches had was too intense and she even seemed to be struggling with some mental pain because of it. That was to be expected. She had been the one sent and was now burned with the thoughts

"Is there a way to make this easier? I know it's hard being connected so well to others." While Walker felt blessed he never had any stress from the bond with Midnight and Onyx, he was sure that the potential was there. She should feel she had some support.

"I can. I should maintain the connection for the duty of my position in the coven. However, the pure light mana here can shield my mind to a degree." an almost mischievous expression too the sun witch's face before a little light mana was pulled in. A few symbols of white witch runes took form on her body before she seemed to gain a significant amount of energy.

The calmer side they had all seen was suddenly pushed away and the sun witch began to look around excitedly. She was even bouncing in place a little. "I can feel so much mana and there is so much here I have not seen. I have spent years only learning from the others in their mental spaces. Can I go see more?"

She pointed toward an area where she felt a significant amount of light mana. Walker knew it was the direction of the cathedral, he knew very well that before heading toward the light dragon territory where the light spirit tree was, then that would have a dense amount of healing light mana which might seem closer to sun as this witch would sense.

"I promised you would be treated as a citizen of Genesis so first we get your identification. We use metal, wood, and a few other magic materials to make identification. The plaques we used to do have been made in to smaller cards, still a little larger but enough to easily carry and identify you. It is also extremely hard to influence with magic or alter. Meaning that you will be held accountable for any crimes you commit."

Su saw Walker sharpen his gaze before explaining some more details about how the identification also had a copy of the core laws of Genesis. It also would allow for different admittances to guilds and registering with the banks functioning within the Genesis City and also other kingdoms. The currencies were all the same thought now, just minted with different marks.

That was a major factor that would be maintained. Keeping the value of their money so that everyone could easily move through kingdoms and to Genesis was a major focus of the Genesis Council at first.

"I think that this place is amazing. It feels so warm. Look at this, a fire that guides light and fire mana together to make a light when the dark mana gets greater. I can feel the magic used and how it was crafted. It is like a smaller sun ready for purifying the darkness." the sun witch suddenly stopped.

She was amazed by the lights made to help some at night since not everyone was a nocturnal race able to see easily in the night. Yet, she then raised a hand and mimicked it drawing a large ball of light and fire mana together to make a brighter ball of heat that radiated all around.

The sudden magic attracted a lot of attention and Walker reached out quickly to halt the mana. His intervention shocked the sun witch since she had felt all control she had over the two manas vanish. They simply did not move with her will at all, and she was even deeply connected to them in the way of the witches.

"I know you did something to make it easier on your kind, but randomly using magic in a busy place like that is dangerous. It's the same why larger races aren't allowed to fly lower around the city." Walker was calm but the sun witch still felt shocked.

"I used the pure mana to make their voices in to whispers. I may be reprimanded but I can learn more this way. I've never seen what you have done. Even the grand witches leading the covens can not entirely remove the mana form following the will of our spells."

"I see so you can utilize the purer manas in the air to allow you more strength overall. I know others who can do that too. It's good that your witch born race has similar abilities. It's something to bind over." He nodded as he spoke proving that he was carefully learning about them as well.

Before Walker had a chance to say anything else, he sensed a familiar person approaching. Remy also came back who he'd noticed slip off.

"Just put some of your mana on this you don't have to go inside. You and Walker would be out here for days if someone didn't go get your identification. This speeds things up." Remy looked toward the alchemy guild then then at the sun witch.

"I don't think she was focused on witch brewing Remy" Su smiled softly and Remy left toward her guild. She wanted to figure things out before they went back.

"This is Alice coming to meet us. You'll sense the-"

"Such pure light mana! You are blessed by light as well. If only you also were blessed by flames you could easily follow the path of the sun and become closer to nature." The sun witch seemed disappointed to lose a potential witch born like this. Yet also extremely curious.

Alice just looked at Walker. Her eyes were slightly annoyed but also curious about who this was. Yet, the more that she observed she could tell that he had been fairly busy and not running off place to place without her knowledge.

She had been busy and so had he. They hadn't been able to spend much if any time together. Something she had wanted to change before seeing This strange person looking at her.

"Alice, we just returned from the endless night forest and met with the 12 witch covens. They are a race called with born, all races can join them if certain requirements for rebirth are met. This is the adopted daughter of one grand witch the witch of the warm sun. She is a sun witch. She's here to witness Genesis and feels an affinity for light and fire combined to make sun."

As far as Walker could see, witches were less about singular elemental mana and a melding of multiple manas which made a unique mana like sun light or at least what witches called sunlight mana.

Just this insight alone was enough to make a big step in understanding the witch born race. They might not be a traditionally born race, but they were one that had unique paths that utilized a completely different point of view. Because of that, they would be able to radically improve Genesis and the flow of growth.

Just alchemy and witch brewing together could help many. What about mages and witches working together. Unifying the with runes and the current forms of runes already being mixed would also be exceptional. So much potential.

"I will show her the cathedral and you will come too. Su, it's nice to see you back." Alice latched on to Walker's arm and he knew that she was making it clear he had nothing else to do. Even if the two of them were touring around the sun witch.

This left Su changing her mental plans to pursue Meeting others at the cathedral as well. She could focus on what she had just learned and acclimate her body's mana with the mana around her better. Understand natural mixing of manas and the manas she had trained in dragon

breaths recently.

If she could achieve her goals... well she would be much stronger.

Midnight also found herself left alone. She didn't feel bad about it. She knew very well that Walker had handed off the monsters to others and they were being taken to the adventurers guild examination area.

A place that had become its own aspect beyond just the adventurers guild. It was for dissecting, examining, and learning about monsters from their bodies. It was deeply attached to the tamers guild and alchemy guild as well. The information was not paramount and led by every race. She could explore there a little.

Chapter 2449: Changed Monsters

"Oh! You're lady Midnight! I am so glad to see you here. You must be here for the scheduled inspection this month. I know the Genesis building was asking someone to come over but it's great that they sent you over." The sudden excitement that Midnight heard when she walked in to the large building felt a little wrong.

She had come because she was curious and not because she had been asked to as one of her duties. However, she also didn't mind taking this on as one of the duties she could perform. This way she would be able to help out a little more without actually cueing any large problems.

"Send a messenger to let them know I came here at this time." She said this to the woman who nodded since it didn't seem out of the question. She knew very well that there were other facilities that dismantled monsters and studied them. This was just the main one. So making sure that it was known Midnight came and was inspecting was more than understandable. "This is a surprise for us. We also received the monster you brought in and more than a few people are amazed by them. They have unique traits and some of them even have different ways of storing mana within their bodies than some other monsters. One of the plant type monsters forms a core like a golem while another snake you brought has small crystals in its bones. It's exceptional."

This rant of excitement proved very much the adoration for learning that some people had. Midnight was excited about fighting and food. She loved to explore and discover new places. But for these people here, every new monster was a mystery to them. It was something to learn about.

"This is the entrance used and attached to the adventurer's guild. We have taken advantage of several plots behind it to create a storage area for paperwork and acceptance of smaller monsters. This also leads to the main research area behind the training fields used by the adventurer's guild."

"The space allows for multiple elemental research areas and also the study of how some monsters might be able to survive for years without the mana that they have an affinity to or the food they need. We have already discovered that some monsters changed to survive after the changes of the world."

"Their diets were different because they would eat specific plants or hunt species of monsters for food. Without the right nutrients they perished or the survivors were changing their bodies and even lost entire affinities and skills innate to their bloodline. We are amazed to see those things resurfacing. Some monsters don't even know what to do with their reclaimed skills or affinities because they only have their instincts to go off of."

This educational rant was a little more than what midnight could handle. She was looking at the fact that there was so much around her. The documents that were being prepared in to the familiar monster guides she had seen being sold lately, the research papers being discussed in rooms with others who would educate others, and even the fact that some were working on the warning notices for general travelers.

All of this was just the paperwork side that was working to ensure the safety and growth of those leaving the safety of the city. So much changed every day with the knowledge that was brought and grown here. Yet, it was made and sent to the right people to be shared rapidly.

Just the fact that so many communication guild members were coming in and out proved that the knowledge was swiftly being brought to those who needed it. Not that it wouldn't if it was shared in others ways, but still, it was so quick that no one professional could claim they didn't know of the risks nowadays.

As Midnight moved and found the carts and other methods of transporting monsters, she was able to smell the different species in the air. Her senses were sharp enough to tell that two of the boars being moved were extremely different.

"Ah, those are two new entries. One is the ember hair boar and the other is the stone hair boar. Both live near the volcanic lands or the lava fields. But they preferred to live on the cooler side where less lava flowed until recently. We believe it's an awakening of the innate bloodline. We also believe they could be raised and domesticated easily as well since they are only aggressive when they protect their young."

These were traits that midnight didn't expect. She thought that the awakening of an innate fire affinity to mix with the earth affinity would mean these monsters were more aggressive and violent. Yet, they were still somewhat safer as long as distance was kept, meaning she could see them being kept within the city territories in the future. An interesting turn. "They are safe to eat? They can be raised easily?" her questions were simple and Midnight also saw the woman who had noticed her nod with energy.

"This way to the examination and dissection area. This is one of the main areas run by fifty members who used to be butchers or other similar professions. Over the course of the last months they have gained unique classes and some can even cut through tough scales or bone armors that some monsters use now."

The room opened up and was exceptionally clean. Each working area had rune carved patterns to protect from dangerous poisons or venoms that could be released in to the air. Multiple assistants moved around helping care for parts and also recording information.

The large boards had diagrams of each monster being studied and broken down for their parts. The strength of scales, thickness of bones, and even weaker points in the body. So much information was gathered that entire books could be written on that one species of monster alone.

Just watching how smoothly and cleanly it was all done proved to Midnight Had Genesis was advancing well beyond what she had known before walking in to this room. Walker would be stunned that the appraisal skills here were so focused on specific aspects of each monster that his all around appraisal would be seen as useless.

Just the information here alone could help prevent the largest dangers when fighting monsters. Every single guard or young adventurer could learn the best way to avoid, fight, or defend from monsters that lived within the areas they worked and lived. An exceptional standard to have.

"This is a scaled wolf, the tails have been reported to grow longer and we believe that the scales are actually due to serpent or lizard traits. See how the tail looks similar to a snake? We believe that it means that their tails will eventually develop in to snakes and be another form of attack. There are even ancient documents found that describe the snake tail wolves and their deadly venom."

The woman showing Midnight the area pointed out the protected organs which have some dark mana oozing out. The beginnings of a dark mana venom sac. A clear and perfect example

of changes in monsters.

Before Midnight could look around more, she heard a little commotion. Behind her, another monster being examined had begun to break down at an exponential rate. The dark mana was decaying its body rapidly and multiple rune formations activated to contain it. This would have been dangerous for everyone but the runes ensured safety.

It wasn't the fact that the dark mana was decaying the body, but it was the way the monster looked and what was happening to it.

The dark mana and the rapid rot was also condensing. Many researchers, doctors, and assistants ran over to watch in shock. Before they could even record their thoughts, a fist sized egg lay on the table the larger avian monster had just been.

"Get the appraisal experts and the scrolls now! We have a change in front of us and we need to record it all!" The air was filled with orders and sudden usage of skills to analyze this. But as Midnight felt the instinctual clash that came with innately powerful monsters from the egg, she also understood that she had just witnessed something even more unique.

"There's no way! It's an extinct monster!?"

"They were never extinct; they just lost their bloodline entirely and needed to revert. I saw the carvings of them and how they had many types just like dragons."

"You idiot, the dragons never devolved in to just monsters. These did."

'Not just monsters, they were-'

Midnight pushed through and growled a little to silence everyone. She didn't hide her look before she walked to the egg and examined it closely. She then turned her head and waited for the appraisals. She wanted information.

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Chapter 2450: Return OF An Ancient

"Ancient bloodline awakening of what was known as a shadow cloud falcon., it was also known to be one of the deadliest nearly extinct dark monsters that flew at night other than bats, owls, and unique monsters. It could have been said to be nearly extinct because no one without specific skills could find them. Making them assume extinction."

One of the researchers explained what the monster was and what they had thought about. Midnight listened carefully to every single word. She knew very well that this was not something like that any longer. The idea that an ancient bloodline was in this monster said a lot even if it proved not to be true.

"Some time ago, General Scylla came to visit and explained the traits associated with her ancient bloodline. We have also noticed that other familiar traits are in some other monsters but significantly weaker. Specifically, a leviathan that was born separate from her and is not related to her as the others are. Unfortunately, not many monsters or others have awakened ancient bloodlines."

"Because of her clear examples and actions, we were able to deliberate and come up with the proof that ancient bloodlines can be entirely hidden and often act the same as existing monsters like today's monsters before the changes in the world. That was because most similar monsters are descendants or they were related in other ways."

"This monster has awakened its ancient bloodline upon death meaning that it will perfectly fit the species of solitary monster known as the ancient phoenix. A monster capable of condensing all nutrients, mana, and even its knowledge to a degree in to an egg upon death so that it can live again."

Midnight watched as a few of the assistants brought over a copy of stone carvings that they had found. They were pictures of great birds flowing with different elemental manas. "The flame phoenix was known to live in the heart of volcanoes, the ice phoenix would live in the untouched frozen lands, even

earth phoenixes would battle with wind phoenixes causing massive sandstorms. All of this was recorded."

"Like dragons."

"Yes! Just like dragons, they are an ancient species with immense flexibility able to handle all manas or even handle them to a much higher purity. They also can retain better instincts and knowledge making them a monster that is only not a race because of their solitary nature. They could easily have been intelligent enough to learn throughout their regenerative lives and rival any other ancient monsters."

Exciting. That was the thought in Midnight's mind as the assistant and researchers raved about this discovery and event. They all knew very well that there could be a monster reborn right in front of them that would be able to learn for generations to come through constant rebirth.

After that, it would be extremely powerful in using manas that it had an affinity for. The dark mana it used naturally when condensing in to an egg again was more potent than most dark mana that Midnight had ever seen. Let alone what the other researchers had seen.

Midnight and even sensed that Mordant would not have been able to interfere in any way when it came to the process. Meaning that a dark dominator dragon would have struggled. Saying something like that was just too much!

"Mordant. Come out." These three words caused the shadows on the floor to shift and Mordant to appear from them. He was not surprised that Midnight had sensed him. Then again, he sensed a potent dark mana and at first believed that Midnight Had been the source before the egg sitting in a research area caught his attention.

I perplexed him.

"Dark phoenix. Take care." it wasn't a question, it was a blunt order. Mordant wanted to laugh right away since midnight was not even using more words to explain. However, he also had the same thoughts. He wanted to understand this thing that could do better with dark mana than he could with instincts alone.

"So you knew I sensed that I had come looking. I was busy with other matters. This does take precedence though." His eyes became sharp as he glanced at the ways dark mana moved outside the egg. He gave a slight flick of his hand and a large amount of dark mana broke away from his shadow to mix around the egg. In just a few moments, it had melted in to the egg and the darkness intensified.

The egg's shadows seemed to be writhing in energy. Excited. But it didn't show any movement, just the shadows moved making the researchers and assistant rant and rave even more about what they were seeing.

"The dark phoenix egg

The only current awakened ancient bloodline of the phoenix species. Currently, this egg is undergoing immense change to reawaken the proper form of the dark phoenix species known for even quelling the light of stars in the night sky with their massive wingspan.

Using the weak wind elemental mana they all possess, they would fly much faster, however, the dark phoenix often removes this affinity from its body and relies entirely on the shadows to use as a second sky. Allowing travel through various elemental planes, lands, and to rest in. Some say that a dark phoenix will always make a nest of shadow within the darkest crevice and area untouched by light to nourish its body and preen its feathers. Even known to become one with darkness to avoid fatal damage to its body and put it in to a risky egg state.

Known for being able to utilize the knowledge of dark mana it learns over its lifetimes instinctually, it can often do a larger amount of actions with much smaller amounts of its own and the surrounding dark mana. Some who learned from phoenix's actions in ancient times mastered natural dark mana...'

"Amazing. How amazing." Mordant listened to one of the gathered appraisals from one of the researchers and Midnight knew that he was entranced. While the dragons and phoenixes might have clashed in ancient times, one thing was very clear to Midnight right now.

They would be allies within Genesis.

"I trust you to care for it." Adding this, midnight began listening to the other appraisals and the research area became even more vibrant. Mordant nodded along with all of it, the more he learned the better.

He had a lot on his mind and this was just the best thing to look forward to a new method of future growth for those within the dark territory of Genesis.

While this happened, Walker found himself under the harsh gaze of Alice once again. They had managed to get to the cathedral and the sun witch was conversing with a large number of nuns and healers.

The reason that Alice was glaring at Walker was the fact that the healing magic the sun witch had used mixing fire mana and light mana within the cathedral to create a warm glow of healing all around her was taking his attention.

The sun witch had called it healing solar orb, a spell that gathered denser manas from around her and radiated warm light which focused on smaller injuries. It also promoted the life mana within that a person being healed to act up more and use natural healing in the body even

more as well.

Alice had wanted to talk about her new songs, and the new healers who had joined that could also use music to heal. Unfortunately, the addition of new healing magic that utilized a unique form of mixed manas was enough to trap Walker's mind.

"I'm sure that song you made which creates a healing ring around you is more potent. Your healing always heals quicker while also buffing the energy of others." He tried to compliment her but found her eye didn't waver.

"What if I promise not to do a single piece of work for the rest of the week? Then we can go out and explore a little ourselves. I know your song book should be getting full. And the healing staff could be improved with new materials. I can make sure we get that done."

Now Alice's face softened a little proving that this was the kind of promise she wanted from him the entire time. The time to work together and focus on each other was exactly what she

wanted.

However, neither of them were prepared when another figure came in to the cathedral and the light mana seemed to change flow toward her.

"I thought I sensed a different kind of light being used. That's for mana mixed with light. A dual affinity made in Tonkin affinity. I haven't seen something like that. We will need to talk." Rise had woken up and made her way here sensing the odd light mana.