

## Master 2501

### Chapter 2501 Permission

The change in seriousness for everyone had been radical. Every single leader and person associated with the focus on following the leaders of their races found all of their new duties to have changed yet again. There were many tasks that were now prepared for them to begin training new people.

This was the majority of Genesis.

The first to be on expedition for the elemental planes was an honor that some believed would be the start of their family legacy. To be fair, that was a good idea since there was a high chance that they would be able to learn a great deal about what they could become beyond the average.

While this seemed to be a strange perspective for those researching and exploring the world as a whole, they also understood that the elemental planes were connecting more and more to the world.

It was the mages of the magic tower, rune carvers, and other magic classes were the most focused on this.

They were all closely related to the advancement in magic and understanding of mana. Of course, this also meant magic runes and rune formations. Both were greatly affected by the bridges to the elemental planes.

The naturally formed elemental runes were becoming more stable which would allow more places for smaller magic towers to be built. There were already multiple being built due to the changes in the world's mana and the increased growth in the naturally formed elemental runes.

These naturally formed elemental runes had been both created through planting some herb gardens and other rune formations nearby and also just normally appeared. Now that they were being anchored so to speak with the small magic towers mana would be purified and enhanced again. Those areas already showed some effects.

The naturally formed water rune had a small magic tower built next to it that helped draw more mana in. It was one of the first completed and the result brought the smaller aquatic monsters closer. The entire lake that surrounded it was showing an excess of these aquatic monsters.

They might be weaker now but it was a surety they would grow even more as time went on. The thing was, when it was noticed that the water elemental plane was leaving mana to the world temporarily as it shifted naturally, the water rune grew in size for a short while.

It proved connections even clearer. Therefore those associated with magic at all wanted to be involved even more deeply. If they could chase the sources of these naturally formed elemental runes and the depths of mana itself they could find enlightenment.

Walker would highly rely on these people because they would be some of the greater forces working toward the growth of Genesis and the elemental planes.

Otherwise, Walker knew that there was more to all of this. The prawn working to venture with him had to be trained to have the mana itself as a danger too.

This caused the start of a new training regiment. Su was leading it specifically because she had trained in these ways before.

The intense manas that were present within the elemental planes were enough to damage many just by being there. This wasn't considering those who didn't have the affinity for whatever elemental plane they would be in at the time.

Therefore, the rotating resistance training began. Groups wishing to apply for the expedition in to the elemental planes had to pass the trial of surviving time in each of the mana focused territories of Genesis.

Su oversaw all of it while the individual tests were done by the royal dragons themselves. They were the ones creating the intense areas of mana which were used to temper the restaurants of the applicants. While others could also participate, not many were there just to train themselves.

Some joined in just because they could, many were the soldiers and guards of Genesis or visiting groups of training guards who would return to their kingdoms. They would be able to advance the most by doing this and bringing their knowledge home.

This didn't mean Walker was idle. He had moved to the most recent bridge to the elemental planes. The dragon who had arrived with unique fused earth and fire affinities was still resting in pools of magma which was necessary for them to remain healthy. But the bridge had stopped spewing the mixed manas and was now only focused on fire mana.

This meant that the fire elemental plane was on the other side of this specific bridge. He could sense that the flow of the fire elemental plane would not be as quick to pass. Whether it was the changes to his body involving better use and understanding of space or just instinct it was something Walker knew for certain.

This gave him the time he needed to try and contact the true fire sage. Someone who could allow them safe entry in to the fire elemental planes. It was also someone who could easily speak to the literal embodiment of fire, one of the elemental kings.

Once one of the elemental kings knew that Genesis was venturing in to the elemental planes it would become clear that to the other elemental kings what the intentions were and how relationships could grow.

While the true sages were also somewhat embodiments of each elemental mana, there was a very high chance that those who ventured from the world would also begin to make bonds with the elemental kings and manas at a deeper level.

This wasn't even considering the unknown races who lived safely within the elemental planes. The elemental kings could easily influence the elemental planes and stop anyone from even nearing one of the races or interacting with certain materials existing in them.

Without traveling in to the bridge itself, Walker began to meditate and sense the manas. He felt the fire and he even sensed the foundations of space mana allowing a smooth flow of fire mana through the bridge itself.

He even started to pick up on the small amounts of other manas flowing back through the bridge from the world. They were manas carried by the smallest and weakest of the elemental spirits. They mixed manas and followed their instincts, balancing the world and the elemental planes.

What struck Walker as amazing was that he couldn't and others most likely could not have sensed these smaller and very weak elemental spirits before. Odds are he was and maybe the spirit race were the only ones who even knew they existed. They might not even be the lesser spirits yet, but they were moving according to nature.

It also struck him that this might be how the world expanded. The elemental planes would slowly but surely become even more attached to the world.

Just imagining the future where the world was not simply attached by the bridges to the elemental planes but a clear transition in to a vast expanse of elemental attuned lands which came together in to the massive central world. It made him wonder just what potential there was for a future like this.

His control over a small portion of fire mana flickered causing Walker to understand he had been noticed. When he felt the fire mana pulling away from him, he stood up and walked in to the bridge to the elemental planes.

It would take some time to get all the way through but he could sense some of the fire mana moving toward him so he would not need to get all the way there before meeting who he needed to speak with.

The fire mana was condensing and small flames taking human like shapes met him. Even though Walker couldn't make out a defined face he felt that he was being watched and listened to. The true sage of fire was not actually here themselves but had used mana to meet him, something that showed off the high control of mana.

"I am here to discuss expeditions in to the elemental planes. I need to understand manas and their part in existence along with how they come together to become part of the world itself. We as an alliance uniting races also wish to grow with the help of those under the protection of the true sages and elemental rulers."

While blunt, Walker knew that it was better to be clear and honest than talk around why he was here. Especially since the true sage of fire might have more tendencies to act heated due to his relationship with fire mana as a whole.

"Why do you think you would be protected when coming here. The flames of the fire elemental planes are unforgiving and also grant the chance at life. It is up to you if you can survive here. I will not spend my time protecting others when I have tasks to guard the balance above all else."

The words echoed with fierce heat which Walker resisted much more strongly than what the true fire sage expected. Not that Walker realized this. Instead, there was another long silence between them while they both thought about how to act or respond.

Chapter 2502 Fire Expedition

"I am not going to ask for protection. I want to ask for guidance." Walker made his statement. He stood still and did not allow all the manas around to be pulled away from him.

While the true fire sage had immense control of the fire mana, that wasn't the case for the other manas around. Especially for the space mana which had begun to make everything harder for the fire mana to even move.

What Walker had understood about space mana, was that as the foundation for most things in existence, it could put pressure on everything. Putting pressure on how the fire moved was not about controlling the fire mana, but controlling the space that it took up. The space that it existed in.

The flames flickered as Walker made a little pressure to influence the bridge to the elemental planes where he stood. The true fire sage shrank the humanoid flames in to a much more condensed form closer to the size of a dwarf, but that was clearly just to resist the pressure and maintain an image to speak through.

"I see, you are getting closer to what you must be to assert your will." The words were dry, rough even. Yet, they held a little interest. Just enough that Walker understood he could use his will even more greatly if he desired.

"Guidance can be offered. The humans of coal will meet you and walk with you to one of the few places kept as a haven to the fire races live. It may not be what you expect, do not harm any that dwell there and do not break their laws. You will be a guest while you seek training. Each and every individual may choose whether they wish to see what your Genesis has to offer. The world is still poison to them right now."

The flames and grew in heat and power. The true fire sage was warning him that whether they followed these rules or not could be the difference between life and death for those that broke them.

Learning that there was a dwelling of some sort, which could mean a village or city was already a larger new piece of knowledge. But adding in that there were people it referred to as humans of coal was also important. But the true fire sage had said races meaning that there was most likely others there as well.

"It is always someone's choice to come to Genesis and explore the world. We will record and moderate those that come for safety, but as long as peace and laws are upheld we will allow them to come and learn. We are the same in that respect." Walker nodded respectfully. He knew that the true fire sage was a person who could easily fight him without much worry and win. That was just the depths of fire mana at their fingertips.

"I know you've met the other true sages so you have an idea of what I and my fellow heroes are like. So judge for yourself and watch us. Our views may be different because I was born and raised in the world and you have become one with the fire elemental plane, but that doesn't mean we don't strive for the same peace and harmony."

Walker turned to walk away and felt that this was all he needed. Someone would come to guide them to a place where other races in the fire elemental plane lived. They could learn about them and the fire elemental plane as a whole before venturing back to the world later.

Even more so, it was safer. Walker could sense and use more space mana which meant he could follow the feeling of the bridges to elemental planes. Meaning he could lead everyone safely back to the world without spending years to do so.

Yes, he might still face many dangers but he could use space mana to scare many away. He could also use it to avoid some of the greater concentrations of fire mana which would most likely be more dangerous monsters or beings within the fire elemental planes.

There was more safety than when he first came here. While the true sages had most likely done much more than what he had even realized, let alone what the elemental rulers had done behind the scenes, Walker was certain now. He could protect more people as they traveled and his party could defend them as well.

As he left the bridge to the elemental planes, Walker sensed the flow of fire mana strength meaning that the true fire sage had released his control over the fire mana they'd used to communicate.

It wasn't necessarily a written out and organized deal, but that wasn't how the elemental planes worked. They were the wilderness incarnated. The elemental planes focused more on survival than anything. And that was fair.

Survival was a basic law of existence. That's what Walker believed. He hadn't just freed the demons or the vampires because it was right, it was so that they could survive. To be free in the world meant working together to survive in unity.

That was the same in ancient times however the races were too divided. They even fought one another. If they had learned to strive against the ancient monsters and wilderness together, they could have all survived without losing so much.

There would be fewer ruins. Fewer sad stories. Yet, there would be many more stories of awe and amazement. Stories of grandeur people would look at as inspiration.

He couldn't look at this too long though. Walker had peel to prepare. People trading to be able to survive the elemental planes. With him knowing they would be handling the fire elemental planes, he could prepare training for that specific resistance to fire mana needed.

Using the fire dragon territory, he could increase the fire rune formations to make the temperature hotter while people trained.

He could use his fire mana manipulation to condense small training grounds in to places full of multiple forms of flames that would challenge everyone to adjust constantly.

Even better, he could ask Ventus to provide wind mana to increase the chaos of fire and wind mana mixing which they might encounter at the edges of the fire elemental planes.

This wasn't even considering what Walker could do with the dragon domain skills and turn an entire area in to one covered in dragon fire. He could experiment with those skills and make various kinds of flame training areas while he mentally prepared himself too.

His focus on manipulating fire mana would need to be as intense as anyone else learning to resist fire mana, if not more intense. Walker would have to get much closer to the level of some of the stronger beings within the fire elemental planes.

Once he could force their control of the fire mana around them to waive, he would have the ability to use physical skills to win any battle. That could also be the chance he used his internal manas to fight. But that would be a last resort since he would only have so much, wind, earth, or water mana with him. Light and dark might be present more so due to fire having a unique relationship with them.

Space mana would have to be his other anchor. The ability to alter the space or put pressure on others might be difficult but necessary.

When he stepped out of the bridge, Walker was not surprised to find that there were several attendants from the Genesis building waiting for him. He had told many that he would communicate with the true fire sage when possible so all the representatives had brought in additional help so that some workers would be here waiting for him.

"We will begin preparing for a guided expedition in to the fire elemental plane. Fire resistance training will be prepared by myself, Ignus, and Remey. Su will also meet with multiple groups to prepare them since she had experience training her resistances, in the same way, we will be and more."

His words made them all rush to the elemental rune teleportation formation. He would be following them as well but Walker wanted a minute to enjoy the peace on the island.

The ruins were still being investigated along with the unique plants that altered mana flow here. He was surprised by how many people found this island as an ideal home, but the sound of the waves and calm environment convinced him why they would.

A breath of peace in this age where everything and everyone worked all the time to advance was worth protecting. This little island compared to many others in the world could become a nice place where many could meditate in the harmony of nature. He might have to do that later.

#### Chapter 2503 Intense Heat And Flame

"Fire resistance training is the first step you will need to be able to go on this expedition. Some of you lack the affinity for fire mana in general which means you may not have a high resistance to fire naturally. Others are weaker to fire mana in general because of your affinities." This was the same statement that su had made to several groups today.

These groups of soldiers had been prepared to go through the fire resistance training that had been set up over the coming weeks. This was to be sure that the soldiers, adventurers, and guards who came on this expedition would grow to be able to survive it much better than idf they did not have this training.

This was also so that those who could not improve enough could be weeded out and return to their other positions. Some people would not be able to gain enough fire resistance to be able to venture in to the fire elemental planes.

While everyone understood that there would be armor prepared for everyone, it was not the end all be all of their protection. So many people would try and rely on armor, rune sewn fabric, or other accessories that helped to resist fire mana. If they did so, then they would find that they were unable to actually grow stronger at the end of the day.

Several groups of guards had been eliminated right away because they were unable to handle the simple heat of the fire elemental territory that Ignus was in charge of. They had found that they were extremely weak to the heat and were not able to resist. This can be the case for many of the water and ice mages as well. They had manas that resists fire but could not maintain them.

Some of the spirit race members who relied on fire since that was what made up their bodies primarily also failed.

This was for the opposing reasoning though. They found that they were absorbing too much fire mana too quickly. They could live within it and around it, so could the angels with fire mana affinity. Yet, then they were exposed to greater and greater purities of fire mana it was getting too great for them.

They would have too much mana enter their bodies causing them to fall ill very quickly. The worst part was that these people needed to be treated by specific healers who had the same affinities to be able to draw the excess fire mana from their bodies. For the spirit race and the angels, this was not easily done.

This was why many of the elder fire dragons had helped watch over the testing. They knew that they could also join the expedition if they could take a dragonkin form, but they also had to go through the same testing to show that they had enough control over their fire mana so that they would not violate the harmony in the fire elemental plane.

That was the specific focus that caused a few of the elder dragons to be removed from the expedition. They were not able to maintain enough control of their fire mana. This caused there to be damage to their surroundings when fighting in their dragonkin form.

This was also a requirement. The dragonkin form was better suited to traveling in groups and also hid some of their strength so that it could be used as a surprise if anything worse happened. Therefore, if fighting in that form was not something they were capable of, then they could not join the expedition.

This was very hard to be the judge of since Walker had already received a few complaints. There were people who had trained for a long time to become what they were today only to find that they were still not able to join and fight for what they had decided to follow.

The fact that Genesis had opened so many doors had made it clear that the potential everyone possessed was something that no one had ever properly understood. And when they found out that there were limits to this when they had made such a large decision to come to Genesis in the first place was tough.

However, when they began to see what Walker was doing for the more advanced trials and training, many began to understand.

When Walker started to gather fire mana in one of the larger training fields set up in the fire dragon territory, he would make the flames appear smaller. They would even be condensed in to floating orbs that used fire mana to fuel them. It was similar to the light orb skill he used, but utilizing only fire mana.

In Doing so, Walker was able to focus on the what and the fire mana radiating through it more than anything. It was a shocking method to make an area much more focused on pure heat rather than just fire mana.

Some people had learned that they were able to resist the fire mana better than the heat. There were some earth mages, and even a few rock mages who had begun to fight with their strength. They would make armors of earth or stone around their body to protect themselves. It was a good method and many of them could keep the armor they made, just thin enough so that they were able to keep it on their bodies indefinitely.

Yet, this only protected them from the flames. The fire could not land on their bodies and burn them. It was not able to ignite the stone or the earth either. Where things became dangerous was the heat.

The fire would heat up the earth and the stone armors making them slowly but surely begin to overheat themselves. The people using these skills would end up burning like they were cooked in an oven making it very dangerous for the earth and stone armor skills to be removed by the whalers. This had been one reason where the specifics of skills like this had been stopped.

Since Walker invited those who complained that it was not fair to witness this stage in training, they had all begun to understand the depths of what they would need to resist. Not just the flames that burned but the heat around them in general.

Besides this, there was the issue that came when Walker and Ignus cooperated with Ventus in the toughest training session.

They had managed to get the coliseum to be available and reinforced with new and improved fire resistant rune formations. It had taken a few days but proven very valuable to what was needed for this level of training.

When Ignus used his dragon breath and Ventus used her wind dragon breath, it created a violent torrent of flames and wind that mixed together at a much greater temperature. It was then that Walker began to gather more of the manas and contents it in to a constant burning storm of flames that acted as a real challenge.

"In the fire elemental planes you will find yourselves facing the constant flow of peaceful fire mana. You will also see the monsters and races that live there who can make that peaceful flow in to a deadly storm that you can't even control if you wanted to. Can you survive that?"

His words of challenge had echoed through the coliseum and inspired many.

Several groups had been tasked with walking through the colosseum to the opposing exit. This would be easier for the average person if there were not flames, but the sands had melted into molten glass that changed with the fire. There were even flames that caused their armors to melt. That was all putting aside the fact that most defensive skills were not doing much to prevent this.

The dragonkin who had the greatest fire resistances were grabbing everyone who failed after a few steps and bringing them right to healers.

Slowly but surely, Walker witnessed a small handful of guards, adventurers, and soldiers make it through. They would be greeted at the end by Remy who spent time judging their injuries and also directing them to take special healing potions that allowed them to focus on the feeling of fire mana and how they were able to resist it.

This sort of training was harsh, but it was the path to being able to go on this expedition and many more in the elemental planes. This would have to be repeated for every elemental plane as the expeditions were planned and permission received.

Walker would be able to lead them, but one day this would have to be done by others. They would always have to be powerful enough to lead and protect others. Those people were who Walker wanted to have the opportunity after this first part of training for the first expedition.

#### Chapter 2504 True Test Of Flame

"You are ready to do this?" The training for fire resistance had gone for two weeks straight now. Those who had passed through each test and obstacles created had been growing at a rapid pace.

After they had moved through the various trials and training they had done so again, but they had been limited. Carrying weights to slow them down, learning to equip fire resistance gear, and even having buffs used on them.

Where many lost out was when they had been in a situation where debuffs were used on them. They had been weakened which slowed their abilities to move and to resist fire mana overall. This had been done to show them that the dangers they face would most likely be multiple in number.

There would be plenty of lobsters or races that could debuff those that came to fight them. Just some of the basic fire magic that was studied was able to make their opponents more susceptible to flames. It was just smart to have these sorts of abilities.

Walker was looking at Ignus who was surprisingly on edge with this final test. He and various fire dragons had been preparing this run of fire obstacles. It was the hardest test and training so far.

Besides the obstacles wreathed in flames, the newly made area full of naval and magma had been utilized. Away from the new inhabiting dragon but still enough to be able to add more challenge.

The intense heat and fire manas would even pose some risk to Walker if he was not moving properly to defend himself. Just because he was able to use all manas and twist them better did not mean he would take any damage. He'd also been training as well during all this.

Many of the soldiers had rallied with him and broken their limits when they had seen him beside them. For any soldier, having a commander, captain, or leader of any sort was a spark of inspiration to go beyond. They weren't alone and watched, they were one and the same in survival and battle.

"You will be beside them. Good luck." Ignus saw that Walker had accepted this without more words. He was standing next to the sixty passing members.

There were soldiers who had taken in strength well above what they had before when resisting fire mana. Adventurers who had been rising stars and taken to the training immensely.

The level of strength that Walker had witnessed was greater than what he had imagined. He'd expected some growth from many who had joined the training and tests. He knew they would rise to the occasion, but not this much.

The effects the world was having as a whole when it came to the changes in mana were huge. That new sand at, but the races in the world were also growing more than what anyone expected. So in so that just the knowledge that 60 had managed to pass the very high standards was executorial and beyond expectation.

"You will all follow me. Today we will cross the entirety of the fire territory within Genesis lands. We will be tested through and you will treat this as if we are in the fire elemental planes facing dangers."

He had prepared this and even flown over the projected course. It had brought plenty of people to watch as well. The seemingly simple goal of training had turned in to a massive last day event that all of Genesis was witnessing.

Some had even begun planning the next elemental events and decided that it would be a yearly trial to show off strength. The Demi-humans loved this since it was similar to the coliseum. However, in this case it was a pure battle between the elemental manas and their bodies.

This could be a good development since it's entertainment but also the fact that it will keep pushing everyone to gain strength. It would even be better when more expeditions in to the elemental planes grow too.

There will be a day in the future when the bridges are less bridges and more large paths to the rest of the world. At least that was Walker's vision.

Making a move, Walker heard the thud of steps behind him. Everyone lived together at his pace as they set foot in to the fire elemental territories.

The sudden flat of fireballs arched through the air causing multistory heavy shielder to leap ahead and raid their tower shields. They'd train this to resist Flames but also to take the full force of magic attacks.

This was something focused on because there would be many magical attacks that monsters and other races in the elemental planes naturally used because it was their nature.

The shields breaking the attack was followed by another large push ahead. The focus or power through as a group had become more of a tactic without direction. Simply out, everyone had learned about the buffs and the effects their gear had together.

The increased resistance to fire and heat when grouped together was something Walker hadn't said since he wanted to see who would learn. As they all understood it, the more they began to instinctually build tactics.

This growth was powerful since it worked in their favor to enhance their natural traits. But it also showed weaknesses.

The mages prepared to set up flame absorbing fire walls. A new skill they discovered through this training. Taking the surrounding fire and heat to defend themselves and dissipate attacks. That also left them open for attacks.

The flurry of arrows that came next pushed everyone to change the way they ran. It was forcing them to run to the left of their designated path.

There were multiple paths to travel but the ideal was guided and planned by everyone clearly. Walker had hope. And explained that the elemental planes were variables. Nothing was solid. Up could be down and left could be right in a blink of an eye.

As the archers with him countered more arrows, Walker was amazed. The few elves who had shown their affinity with fire and arrows had taken lessons from Gil. Their sharp eyes were allowing them to match the trajectory of the arrows and counter them in the middle of the air. A massive show of strength for any archer.

This easily ate them as some of the most advanced archers there are within Genesis as a whole.

As they managed to take a different route, Walker leaped up and started to walk in the air. His reasoning for his was to cause the next obstacle.

Flames of deep red and white arched up causing everyone to break their formations. Walker's manipulation caused many to change their formations and regroup as they had trained to do so. It was amazing watching the defenders separated join other groups and even themselves out within just a few breaths.

It was intense to see some mages counter and completely control the flames he had started as a challenge. It was even better that their pace increased with his additional pushing to halt them.

Before they got to the central area, a roar of fire burst in front of them. They all expected an elder fire dragon, but found Remey standing in front of them. They found her fists coming at them covered in deep red flames. The very flames Walker had been using just a second ago.

The mages who had sensed where the fire mana started, used their means to try and disrupt her. However, Remey was powerful. She had intense control of fire and physical might.

Several shielders took stance with others swordsmen sheathing swords to bolster them with hands in their backs. The reflective flame shield they used as a cooperative skill was another amazing skill learned. It reflected power right back, harming the attacker as long as more people added their strength to defending.

Another breath and Remey released herself from the encounter causing another huge burst of flame breaking them all apart again. This time she disappeared in the flames and another roar echoed as Ignus landed in full fire dominator dragon form ahead of them blocking the final stretch.

"Here is a buff. Dodge and run through and around as he attacks. Larger monsters are dangerous but we can fight!"

The speed of everyone grew while pushed through those new obstacles. The buffs worked while they felt the change in atmosphere. This sort of threat could be every day.

Claw strikes and flame breaths came with sudden bursts of heat radiating from Ignus. Walker leaped in and helped shield some while also passing mana to others to strengthen attacks. Their goal was survival than for attack or waiting.

The constant flow of tactics and movement showed the true strength and the flames and heat burst around before everyone started to leap over the lava streams.

A roar of shouts came through the area as everyone waiting in the earth territory saw people making it through. Every squad that started crosses through. Every single one landed right in front of the healers with them who had been carried or protected every step for healing. No death or major injury, just shouts of accomplishment proving they could take these steps forward.

#### Chapter 2505 Other Preparation

The show of strength and fire resistance had proved to be an interesting event. While many people had been unable to travel near the central area of the fire territory to be able to see what was happening, they had been there to witness the strength Ignus used in the end.

He had used his dominator dragon form as a way to show that it was not only heat that would be faced. Plenty of the monsters in the fire elemental planes could be larger than the average monster. Meaning that they would use their size against everything while the flames and heat they radiated would be a side effect of their nature.

It was also a show of strength for those that were going on this expedition. It showed how those with the right training could and would be able to resist even the challenges of the strongest within Genesis.

It was similar to a balance of proof in power. People could come together to handle anyone and anything that outgrew itself and was not leading properly. There would be no tyrants in the future of Genesis. That would all be avoided by having the strongest soldiers, adventurers, and in general every class.

When all was said and done, the injuries as a result of this training and trial were minimal. Nothing that would stop any of the participants from continuing even further in to the flames if they had needed to. There was also a clear gain in strength.

Walker didn't need to use the all around appraisal skill to keep checking people and their growth. Instead, he found that they showed it in their faces. The advancements of weak fire resistance skills had grown to high fire resistance skills at the very least through this whole process.

A few had managed to achieve even more due to their race, extra training, or affinities. They had the grand fire resistance skill which was the same as saying they had a mastery skill. They were able to resist the majority of fire mana related damage along with heat which would be an immense boon for them.

The greatest benefit though were the mages who had been training. This included the flame archers and flame swordsmen. These three examples of classes that had gained strength were the ones Walker could see as the greater fighters when they went in this expedition.

Since the fire mages had been learning to take more control of fire mana in combat, they were advancing their understanding of fire mana related to their battle instinct. It had awakened skills related to natural defense and also passive skills to sense fire mana moving around them better.

For the flame archers, many could make arrows from fire. They were a type of arcane archer after all. However, they were able to make more condensed arrows able to damage others who used fire mana. Their fire mana in their attacks would interrupt the fire mana of their targets.

Where a flame swordsman grew, even more, was in their ability to cleave through fire mana. Being able to cut apart enemy attacks and recognize the weaknesses in enemy fire defenses was immense when talking about their battle capacity.

These areas had been clearly published right away as theories but also now proven as fact. The idea that this kind of training, however harsh it was, did work.

Walker didn't spend much time at any celebration or recovery after running through the challenge trailing fire resistance. He had to focus with Remey. He had a lot of work to do.

The pair had been planning out potions. Remey had a significant amount of fire resistance potions and fire affinity potions made already. She hadn't been resting enough for Ignus or Walker to be happy but they both wouldn't stop her since she would just get angry with them anyways.

The introduction of witch brews had brought an interesting change to some of the potions that could be used. More topical potions that could boost fire resistance and heal over time had been made from mixing the very basics of alchemy and witch brewing.

This meant that potions able to be thrown and hit people would be able to be used much more often for beneficial reasons. This was something battle limit did but they would usually focus on explosive potions and poisons instead of healing or resistance potions.

Since Walkernha made the promises to help improve these, he was off to the alchemy lab only to find that he was also there with a fire affinity dragonkin he'd not expected to be assisting them.

"This is one of the dragonkin that Ignus sent to watch and help. But he didn't even realize I didn't need the help." Remey was grinning slightly while saying this pricing she was more than happy he'd sent this dragonkin here.

"But she has perfect intuition for alchemy! Ignus didn't even realize the skills she has." For a few minutes Temeh was raving about how easy it was to teach and work with the dragonkin standing nearby.

He didn't want to say a word but he believed full well that Ignus knew exactly what kinds of talent this dragonkin had. Especially since he had been working so closely with Remey the whole time. But if he said anything it would ruin the small gift that Ignus had prepared by scouring his own dragonkin subordinates for the best alchemy talent he could send to help Remey in his absence.

The potion that Walker had been called for here was the most important focus. It was a potion called reflection. It was more akin to a salve that would cover the skin similar to some sun resistance and light resistance creams. Where it differed was the mixing of witch brewing herbs and knowledge to make it repel fire mana entirely.

While the effects lasted only for three hours, that was fine if Walker could store larger amounts of it so that it could be applied consistently through their expedition in the fire elemental plane. The longer they were there the more they would sue but adding a whole new layer of protection was exactly what they needed right now.

Walker would be the one purifying and offending the fire mana from herbs for Remey. The herbs she used were able to absorb and lock in fire mana, this made them valuable in place that fire mana was not desired. However, the putter coating on their leaves was what brought them the value they possessed here.

The fire mana they released would cause a lot of issues for the potion to be made. If it ran rampant it could cause the reflection ability of the potion to become an absorption and increase which would cause more burning than reflecting at all.

Since this was the case, the fire mana needed to be gathered, condensed, and purified. This way it would be added back to potion in a harmonious format that allowed for the overly potion to act more like the qualities of the herbs added.

They could argue that they could wrap their bodies in the herbs instead. That would work for a much shorter time and require a massive amount of the herbs in question. Basically, the result would be an over harvest of the herbs which would stop them from growing properly.

As Walker didn't need to ask what else he needed to do because he trusted Remey, he was interested in the herbs.

There were some spiky leafed herbs and also some with long tubular leaves. These were herbs grown in the endless night forest that the witch born had developed for years.

The tube like leaves were perfect for keeping the inside cooler and trapping water which a species of insect monster lived in. Walker had learned this since the witch born needed that insect as another ingredient for their brewing of potions. Without either they would not get what they needed.

Another clear example of nature and what had to be done to ensure that a balance was maintained.

Seeing that Remey was expertly cutting the fingers from the leaves and brewing them separately, Walker realized that this mix of witch brewing and alchemy was unique. It was still using all the parts of

an herb as witch brewing would, however it was separated processes so that it could be added together in the end for a better result.

While he was here assisting with this, the crafting guild had begun making unique fire resistant armors along with a group of goggles trade rune seamstresses were hoping them to make the clothes under the best for resisting fire they could be.

These groups had unified for this and would be showcasing bestbcompained protections they could. It was yet to be seen.

#### Chapter 2506 Fire Proofing

"Where is my little sister?' Walker had fully expected he would be meeting Lisa here when he was going to see the new armor and the rune sewn fabrics on the inside of the armor. He had been looking forward to it.

His sister had spent her time sewing as a seamstress, now, an arcane seamstress now for months. She had been doing so more and more making huge trends in fashions and advancement for clothing constantly.

However, she was rarely home even though she was younger than Walker. She was also becoming well advanced beyond her age for the simple fact that she had been running a business and learning from many who were more experienced than her in running a business.

When it came to the money she made or the unique items that left her shop, that was all too hard to keep track of. That was just how fast things moved. Where it was easy to track was when they were preparing something amazing, like the armor and rune sewn clothing sets for the expedition.

The first plans for them had been displayed and every change and alteration displayed as well. The reason it had been shown so much was to ensure the attachment of the general people. The clarity in their actions was an example that allowed more trust to build with the crafting guild as a whole while also showing a unique perspective on the processes that went in to a crafting job.

More crafters were needed. The classes that people could get in terms of crafting were so much greater than what they had ever been. So now that people could see that, they would pursue this as a way to plan as well. The choices that the young made were not always the only influencing factors in what classes they gained. However, if it was a small chance to attract and help others find a passion for crafting, then this was a great way to do so.

That was why many were surprised when they saw the displayed armor and rune sewn mixed sets on display today.

Walker looked at them as multiple variants based on body size, class weapons, and even the general fact that some would be ended for those who needed a more silent step compared to others who didn't care for stealth. Some even allowed for there to be additional effects compared to what was expected.

One effect from the all around appraisal was a unique rune formation causing a skill to activate on the weaker armor used for mages.

'Fire shield rune formation

This is a rune sewn rune formation made by an arcane seamstress and several supporting rune carvers. The fire runes are made in a unique formation that causes the fore mana to rotate through once activated in to a bubble. The flames may slightly obscure the vision of the one wearing this, however, it increases the defensive ability by creating a bubble of flames that slightly reflects of fire mana and also absorbs and disperses a larger amount of fire mana.

While this rune sewn formation is not able to handle massive amounts of mana, it is highly regarded as ideal for handling the general mass attacks that would attack multiple targets. It is also easily able to work in tandem with the fire healing rune formation added by the flame purifier who worked to imbue her skills in to the runes through three days of sleepless effort...'

This had given some additional information about how much effort had gone in to this. The elemental healers were nothing new, but had increased in number as the manas of the world increased in purity. There were multiple elemental healers but this flame purifier was a fire affinity healer who used fire to purify poisons from the body and even used it to seal and begin healing wounds.

This was all something that had spurred a great amount of conversation about life mana and its role in bonding with elemental manas in general. But that was a thought for another time.

Walker was stunned by the days of effort to make a rune that allowed for healing through flames on this protective fabric. It was amazing that the effect had been added to various pieces of rune sewn armors in this entire set.

It would remove some stress from the shoulders of healers coming with the expedition. They would be focused on their safety as well since they were not a primary fighting class. This way they could ignore and preserve manas for some of the larger wounds or even use their mana for bolstering others when necessary.

The designs of the metal aspects of the armor weenie. They were shiny and reflective, a high amount of dense metals had been thinned out to make them reflective. This quality naturally allowed them to reflect heat from the armor and allow for people to be able to resist the heat around them better because some heat won't be building inside the armor.

Every little bit helps.

The armor sets also covered everything. While most would look at the head coverings and helmets thinking they would reduce vision, it was the opposite.

There was plenty of conformity to the ways the helmets had been made and the fabric had been sewn. This allowed for adjustments to fit closer to the body and keep vision clear when moving. It would allow for safer defensive efforts if attacked from any range.

The boots were made all very similarly. Some had additions or detracted parts to provide for stealth however the boots were made to use some wind and water mana to cool and protect from whatever the feet were on. In this case flames and incredible heat.

This was ideal since there were also accessories using water and wind manas to ensure cooling of the body. These were accessories that had been withheld during training until the final day. They were easily worn and could be kept protected under the armor so they would not be lost during battle either.

Several guards had come with Walker to begin their fitting but he was sure that his own armor would be the same as what he'd had so far.

The reason Walker didn't worry about changing the armor he had was because it was set up to assist him using all manas. Even some of the benefits he had with it would allow him to use nature mana as well.

The eternal codex also could change form. It was his best weapon, armor, and accessory. It could still be improved but that was something he would look toward when he had more materials geared towards time, death, and life mana.

He'd understood that it could easily channel space mana. Not because of its materials but because he had the ability to use space mana and also because the eternal codex had space mana inside it naturally.

This made things easier for him but he also understood that everyone would need this new armor. The armor for Remey was actually set up to absorb fire mana rapidly. So much so that it would most likely be harmful to anyone else that wore it.

This was because of her unique ability to use fire mana as part of her. She would use it to take that martial or almost full dragon style form able to fight which could be an immense boon since in the fire elemental planes she would be at her proper full strength. If Ignus hadn't helped her to begin with, Remey would have struggled living here in the world while it wasn't properly adjusted with better and purer mana.

When it came to Su, her armor focused on pure physical and magical defenses. Only boosting her innate defenses and resistance. This was all to play in the intense training she had always pursued and succeeded in. She was powerful, so her armor only needed to supplement it. Especially now that she had entire sets of elemental twin shields.

Gil was similar, his armor had to be light but that didn't mean it wasn't geared toward increasing the elemental arrows he used. His fire arrows would be much more volatile now.

When it came to Onyx and Midnight, their scales were exceptionally powerful defenses. Adding buffs to them was more than enough to defend. More than enough to ensure their safety. And that wasn't even considering buffs from Walker which would be even better.

Everyone would be prepared and armored. It was such a matter of what else they would need. Every single person on this expedition had their pack of potions, armor, rations, and extra weapons. All they would need was the next few weeks of training to be more familiar and comfortable when they went in to the fire elemental planes.

It was why Walker allowed his kind to drift towards these coal humans that he had been told about. Another race he didn't know and needed to learn about.

Chapter 2507 One Last thing

"Brother, I am prepared to go on this expedition. Before that, I want to make sure that the others are ready to handle things while I am gone." This was the biggest worry for Onyx.

He had been focused on the fact that the naturally formed light and dark rune in his governed territory would not be secure enough with him leaving for the expedition in to the fire elemental plane. As much as the younger serpents and told him they would handle it, he would not stop worrying with just that.

"I know that you want to check things again and again, but you need to show them trust. You have many of the younger serpents who have managed to go through training with guards, soldiers, and even some of the other representatives of Genesis." The way that Onyx looked at Walker showed that it was not having much of an effect convincing him.

"Fine, then look at Midnight. She hadn't been worrying about the dragon hatchlings since she made plans to have others check on them. She specifically made plans with multiple elder dragons of all affinities to check on them and make sure they are not straying for their planned education."

This did have an effect as Walker saw that Onyx had lowered his head and was clearly thinking. "I made sure that Ibis would be venturing there to check on them. I can ask for the vampires to go as well as some of the demons." While Walker didn't expect that as an answer, he did hear that the vampires and demons had actually become closer with the serpents under Onyx's guidance.

Part of that was because they had been able to share in some of the common dark and light affinities which they shared through their people, but also because they had the habit of being awake during dawn and dusk more often as a focus. This allowed them to interact more often than what some of the other races did.

With this worry being eliminated, Walker turned his head to another last minute issue that had been brought up to him while he had been trying to make sure all the preparations were completed. "Now, can you explain to me why the elves are trying to send seven additional members to the expedition?" Walker brought this question to Gil.

"Everyone else managed to succeed with the training. They managed to push through all the issues and struggles to be allowed to come. They are not at risk as much as these new people would be at risk. They have also trained with one another now so that they can help without a single doubt. Why would we add unnecessary risks?"

This was something that Walker knew every single Genesis representative would ask. To be fair, it was also generally strange that this was even a conversation. There shouldn't be anyone trying to join this expedition last minute even if they had been through part of the training.

"It's related to the high elf bloodline that more elves have managed to awaken and strengthen themselves. There was another path that was found because of the training and these elves have just awakened." For Gil to be so serious, Walker felt that this was something he had not expected either.

"What do you mean something else awakened?" Gil looked at Walker with a clear seriousness that told Walker this was a matter that was extremely important to the elves. So much so that Alma might have specifically kept it a secret until now so that nothing poor could develop.

"It's the elves who decided not to focus on the high elf bloodline that we have all mostly strived to return to. Some believe that the changes in the bodies and over time for the race have been leading us to a different path. They don't have issues with the high elves, but they believe that like races developing in the elemental planes and the world being different, it is the same thing."

This was not just the elves that believed this. There were many angels who wanted to meet their related ancestors who had become different races within the elemental planes. This would allow them to understand the traits that they shared along with the many other aspects of their current existences, which might be able to lead them to further understanding of what they were.

This was just part of it though, Gil looked like he had more to say so Walker held himself back from saying a word. Naturally just this idea was not enough to just allow a few more people to join the expedition.

"They focused on the fire elemental affinity that they were able to learn and grow over the years. Instead of being able to awaken a high elf bloodline that changed them and focused their potential on a more natural side of things, they pursued a purely elemental focus."

"The appraisals of their bodies when they were injured during the training said that they had been healed even though their bodies appeared to be damaged still. When we attempted further healing flames began to bloom from their bodies and wrap them like cocoons. We thought this was an illness or worse until we used more appraisals."

Now this was a secret that Walker didn't know about but felt was touching on something more important with the purity of fire mana that had been used during all the training.

"They are called true flame elves. Elves that accepted only the fire mana affinity and purified the mana in their bodies to reflect that. They were able to take in and grow the fire mana and now fire burns on their bodies at all times. They are also able to directly communicate with the fire elemental spirits and more easily with the fire affinity members of the spirit race."

This was the key. They had pushed aside the other aspects of their ancestry to be able to take a new path which just have been the final step in the natural development when the elves and split themselves many years ago. They had remained true to their fire affinity which shaped their bodies and race. Meaning this was possible for the other elves to do. Whether they returned to their ancestors as high elves or pursued a different path, it was clear that the choice was theirs to make.

"They are asking to be identified as their own race and enter the elemental planes to search for others that might have developed the very same way. They believe that they might find elves who adapted in the same ways as they have. They accepted that the higher manas they received from training was the cause of this. That they instinctively took this step because they had the right environment."

Now this was an issue that had to be kept secret simply because it might cause a lot more conversation that ended focus before the expedition. If the other races began to theorize they could split himself sin to other races and lose their footholds it could cause some chaos.

Many were unsure of where their race stood right now since they were all focused on development. If their race's numbers split in half because they became an entirely different race, that could cause people to stop focusing on growth and instead on whether someone was loyal to their race. Right now they needed loyalty to unity of all races, not a focus on one race.

Besides this, the elves that had taken the change to become true flame elves were small in number. They might be ostracized at first because they changed their race and went against the desire to return to their ancestral ways. Something that the elves were very passionate about right now. Beyond this, there could be no telling what others might think.

"They will be able to come then, but there is going to be a lot that they need to answer for. Alma will need to prepare a clarity announcement along with them all making a stand to show their loyalty to Genesis. They want to be their own race, that is fine, but it needs to be done right and clearly so that all the people feel they are able to understand safely."

Panic and chaos was not an option. Gil had been serious for all the right reasons. The fact that the training and this effect proved how close the world had been to breaking down and was now again moving toward an even more unique future. The number of races would just grow and grow as everyone came together. It makes the future unique, but also could be seen as unsettling. Walker had to do his best to keep it positive.

Chapter 2508 In To The Flames

Walker followed it to a separate room which had been converted from storage to a simple resting and healing room. It seemed that the elves had done a lot to ensure that the true flame elves would not garner much attention. This was just safety until arrangements could be made.

While understanding the potential risks that could come of the true flame elves being known to Genesis right this second Walker knew that meeting them before they went on the expedition would potentially change his mind.

While the true flame elves had convinced Alma and Gil that there was nothing untoward that they planned to do when it came to the expedition as a whole, there was still the fact that they were now technically a whole different race of elves that were separated from the high elves and the elves who had been separated from one another for years.

When he saw the group of true flames elves sitting around a small fireplace made to allow them the ability to train their newfound innate magic, he noticed the changes in the ways that the fire mana moved.

It was very similar to how the spirit race moved their flames, even more so similar to the ways that the echidna would move elemental mana since they had learned to manipulate their affinity manas more naturally. He also noticed that quite a few fire elemental spirits were lingering around each of them, watching them and interacting from time to time.

"So you are the ones who wish to join the expedition in to the fire elemental planes even though you did not succeed within the training." Gil stepped back from Walker quickly, he was a little shocked that Walker was putting so much force in his words.

The manas were unsettled as Walker looked at each of the true fire elves. He could easily see the changes. Their hair had all become very red and whisper flames sparkled up through them. Even their eyes seemed to be trapped within them.

Their ears were still pointed but had small almost Rune like patterns around them. Their skin was also slightly more yellow and orange in coloration, like they had grown to mimic the colors of naturally occurring flames. Besides this, the fire mana around them was dense which would put some people off if they were sensitive to it.

"I can see you aren't the same as other elves, but another race entirely who deserves special exemptions? I don't know." He put more pressure using the manas in the air. The fire elemental spirits moved away and were maintaining distance now too.

Walker had deep control over manas and if he was expressing his will to create pressure it was enough to make them understand there was a reason behind it so they should be away for the time being.

One of the true fire elves finally spoke out even though the words were hard to speak. "We are different. We need to find out if others like us are out there."

With the words raspy, but clear enough, Walker looked at the younger elf who had managed to speak. He didn't feel malice or anything negative like the elves who had come from the north and tried to cut ties with Genesis against the wishes of their elders.

Instead, he felt that there was a pure curiosity and desire for attachment. a longing.

"You are made more of fire in a spiritual and natural sense now. Going there could mean you do not come back." Walker wasn't joking or making this up right now. He was looking carefully. He used the all around appraisal several times and one note stood out most of all.

'The attainment to naturally occurring fire mana caused the majority of changes within their bodies allowing them to purify their bloodline and separate themselves from any other elf race species. The same affinity focus as a true flame elf means they may enhance that quality and must remain in areas of dense fire mana or they will become ill.'

This small section in the all around appraisal said everything. It meant that true flame elves could be forced to remain within the fire elemental planes once there for the future. They could not have the ability to leave it unless the world adjusted and gained even deeper fire mana which could be many years away.

While the elves lived long lives, it wasn't outside the possibilities that their lifetime would end before they had a single chance to return to Genesis let alone the world. Knowing that would be a pressure that

could make living even harder for them. These elves knew people here. They had lived and grown up with them. How could they never see them again?

This wasn't even considering the other potential dangers that came with being forced to remain in the fire elemental planes. They surely would not grow strong enough fast enough to survive alone. They would need assistance from the true fire sage or other races there.

Things would get even more complicated if they did or did not find more true flame elves.

If they did they would have to learn and adapt to that developed culture. If they didn't, they would need to live with the fact that they separated themselves without enough support. They would be building a whole new race from even less than what Onyx had at his time.

Neither option of these two possibilities was easy or simple.

"We are prepared to face whatever consequences come of this. We will speak out to all of Genesis on our intentions and the desire to understand what the effects of the world changing have been and are now. If we were never separated from the elemental planes then the elves may never have split up. The high elves might grow to be entirely different in the future."

"But we are what we are because we separated and now we are changing to fit our beliefs and a different future. We are still elves but we yield to fire, our natural affinity and embrace it and its nature with everything we are."

The older female elf who spoke didn't hold any doubt that there would be consequences. She accepted them entirely so that Walker could see their confidence in every choice they made and had to act on. It wasn't a small choice but one they were ready to accept.

"I understand. This is what I require from you. State that Alma will still act as your race's representative. Show respect and honor to your ancestors in that way while you search for your future. You will announce your reasoning and your current state clearly with hopes for more unity. And when we venture in to the fire elemental planes, you will act as healers and move as if you are healers. Carry potions, bandages, and extra armor. You will not fight since you do now know the limits of your race."

All seemed fair. But doing all this, they would show they only wished to support others in good faith and caring for the work Genesis has put in. They would show they had no intentions of panic or grand change for the worse to divide their race or any other race.

It would also go to show even more unity that they were willing to carry healing potions over fighting in the expedition. Proof that they wished to support and help as much as possible.

"We agree!" All the true flame elves spoke with a spark in their eyes. They felt that Walker was trusting them here. That he wasn't doubting their goals and instead was offering them an opportunity he would offer every single race equally.

Their unified answer was also what Walker wanted to hear. He'd put pressure to make them show their determination, not to intimidate. Just enough pressure to know that they were willing to stand in the face of threats or hardship and commit entirely.

"Then we will have the announcement prepared for tomorrow morning. After that we will venture in to the flames together. In the time before that, please begin training together with the healers." Walker turned and left them.

Gil remained behind to help them, but Walker could hear that Gil was proud of their resolve. He still cared for them as the eleven race he'd become so close to. He had to stand as one that looked out for all of them and this conversation had allowed that to continue even as some changed at their very core.

With this as the last thing Walker could think of as their requirements for leaving, Walker felt excited now. He didn't forget his worries, but he could feel the energy around him. The city was buzzing with curiosity and mystery while they all wanted to know what new unexpected things would come from this expedition. Every day was a step in to the future.

Chapter 2509 Well, It Is Fire

Grand ceremony aside, Walker tried to not think about it. He knew it was important to the people and he had given his speech. He had listened closely as the true flame elves had explained their stance, and accepted their hope that Alma would stand as their representative as well.

Many had been surprised by the fact that races could change this much, however, they also understood why and how to some degree. Walker and the rest of the party were more or less proof that races could change based on extreme conditions or the bonds possessed.

While that was a fact, this change was more related to the state of the world and how it had changed causing a new progression. The changes in mana would cause more than just the monsters, plants, and landscapes to change. It was causing the very people to change.

The demi-human race showed this very mucus since they were some of the ones awakening the bloodline connections to monsters or increasing the prevalence of the traits they naturally possessed.

Since this was the case many people looked to them for guidance when it came to the way that every race may change. For the witch born, they highlighted the facts that they would regain their magical abilities in terms of manipulating and binding with nature.

That was something that the echidna and closely came to understand and were very quickly beginning to bond with the witch born over since they spent their time focusing on how nature world. The echidna race even bonded with natural mana and focused on moving toward understanding nature and the cycle of life and death, something even more abstract than most races touched on right now.

This and many other things aside, the positive impact that came from the introduction of a new race and the potential that some had developed beyond the ability to return to ancestral roots was shocking.

Many people had begun to talk about it being proof that there was a future rather than proof that there was a division between even the elven race who was still trying to unify again.

The reason that some had stated that they believed this was a step in to the future was the fact that the entirety of Genesis had elemental sections of its territory. They were made to acclimate the dragons and many other races who would struggle with the mixed environment. Therefore, those places would always have specialized races that were best suited to live there.

It was something that had already been demonstrated and with so much buzz about the elemental planes, it made even the average person understand that this was a mirror to the elemental planes and hope Genesis was the prime example of the elemental planes joining with the world as a whole.

It was a good mentality to hear and feel as they all moved through the elemental rune teleportation formations and took positions to walk in to the bridge to the fire elemental plane.

Not much conversation happened as they set forth. Most were nervous or already on edge. However, Walker had explained that battles and enemies would happen or be found in the bridge. Simply because of the ways that the manas moved, using magic for most or even trying to fight was impossible.

For the average person, no matter how well trained there was a natural pressure in the bridge that detected fighting and kept everyone held back. Even the fire mana moving through the bridge right now was hard to pull in to control for anyone due to it being in flow to enter the world.

Walker knew he could influence the manas and even touch the space mana. He wouldn't do that though. If he did he could cause damage.

What he did sense though, was an increase in fire mana gathered ahead. It wasn't the same as fire mana moving about or just gathered because of some herbs in the area. It was gathered because it lingered around something. Meaning they were moving right in to the guide promised... or.

Moving through the bridge only took a few hours, but the burst of heat and intense fire mana hit every single member of the expedition immediately. This was the unrelenting nature of the fire elemental plane without restriction.

In no way was it chaotic, but it was naturally powerful without apology.

The prepared stances helped everyone handle the what, however it was the force of the moving fire mana that shook their formations slightly.

Walker looked up in to the eyes of a larger creature than what he had expected to meet. It wasn't simply a large being but a massive one. Something they had not even sensed the true size of in comparison to the fire mana he'd noticed earlier.

'Flame swallowing turtle

This is an ancient monster known for existing in the harshest of fire environments. They live for a thousand years while consuming massive amounts of fire mana. They can condense their size since the majority of their body is made of flames.

Using any form of fire mana against it is akin to offering it food. Even some of the more powerful fire elementals can not handle when it moves about the fire elemental planes.

Often wise in the ways of fire, they are known to even overpower the fiercest dominator dragons in their elderly years, however they often live peacefully unless bothered...'

Walker didn't bother with the rest of the all around appraisal. He didn't need to know this monster was intensely powerful beyond what he or the others should aggravate.

The shell made of deep orange flames and the large maw showed the raging inferno which was the creature before them. Flames that most would not be able to gather and condense in lifetimes.

"Children of the world. You will follow my children to the city of coal born sparks." The rumbling flames shook the very area as the massive flame swallowing Turtle left in just a few steps. While Walker wasn't sure if it was even stepping or just changing the location of its flames, he was certain that this monster had been sent by the true fire sage.

There was very few who he could think of that were able to control or send a monster this powerful. Yet, as much as he wanted to think about this, he noticed smaller and denser flame swallowing turtles similar to the size of Midnight left behind.

They didn't appear to speak but they bobbed their heads in a means to get attention. "I am Walker, I am leading the expedition and we are heading to meet the other race slicing within the fire elemental planes. Thank you for coming to guide us." He gave an appreciative nod which was met by several fire swallowing turtles bobbing their heads again before walking ahead.

The fire mana was being drawn in to their bodies slightly decreasing the pressure that the flames that made up this entire plane put on everyone.

The only person who appeared to be in much more comfort was Remey who was moving about with more energy and vibrancy. She seemed a lot more energetic. Something that Walker had not realized decreased from when he had first met her.

However, she had changed races to become a true fire dragon soul. She bonded with Ignus at his very core and was part of his and her own growth. So, she had needed more pure fire mana than she could easily get in Genesis. Meaning now her body and soul which had united as one were gaining exactly what she needed to freely move about without anything holding her back.

The true flame elves also appeared to be more vibrant. The flames around their hair and some even in their arms were stronger and a deeper red than what it had been before. They didn't appear to have any other changes though which could be a good sign they would easily be able to return to the world without issues.

Walker could sense the space mana around him still too. He could feel the locations of the bridges to the elemental planes. The one they had come from which was close, and even the furthest vibrations of space telling him the direction he could go to discover more.

It told him more about where he was and would be allowing him a better feeling for where he was and the directions he would be going. The elemental planes may shift naturally but he was now able to understand that shifting and follow his own path to get where he needed to be.

"So, that was a greeting if I ever saw one." Gil kept Walker focused and nudged him forward. He knew that the monster they had just seen was one that didn't come to harm them but he wanted to make Walker spill the details about it.

#### Chapter 2510 Space and Gathering

The flame swallowing turtles moved fairly quickly and Walker was easily able to move with them while everyone else took pace well too. There was not much worry in the landscape so far which seemed to just be various flames covering a darker black land.

While Walker understood this wasn't actual land because it was actually condensed forms of fire mana which made up the fire elemental planes, others would easily interpret this as land or earth that had been charred black.

The elemental planes were the purer forms of their elemental manas and that was easily felt in the ways that they were penetrating everyone's bodies. Their training and the measures take to help resist them were major right now. Too many risks were appearing while they traveled.

In the distances bursts of harsher flames with greater heat were clear to the groups as they moved. They had their squads so that they could shield and protect one another. The whalers had to support constantly with biffs to boost resistances. The potions and salves were timed to be applied in rotations so that every squad was not finding themselves without at any point in time.

So far this trained rotation was more than enough. The all around appraisal was also enough for Walker to identify what was around them.

He was quality gathering some herbs or small plants in to the high spatial storage which he could better understand now than ever before.

The small seeds he noticed were carried on fire mana currents just the same as if a wind current would carry the pollen or smaller seed of the plants of the world. This interesting similarity also allowed Walker to understand how the elemental planes related since they could become their own larger sections of the world if his theories about how the world and the elemental planes would develop together over more and more time.

The observations that Walker made were also going on while he thought about what he gathered in his high spatial storage. He had used it often and for so long it was certainly one of the reasons that some of the party members and his family were able to to have an inkling at the very least when space mana or space related skills were used.

However, now with his more intense understanding of space and accepting a larger amount of space mana in to his body Walker could tell the full grasp fo what he had in this skill. It was not just some frozen space made out of nothing.

The high spatial storage was an entirely space elemental plane almost. That was the best way for Walker to understand it. Nothing could be created within it, everything that went inside was isolated which was why most conventionally living things could not go inside. It was also why nothing else could get inside it or cause him issues with the items aging or rotting.

This was just another aspect that he was able to grasp and contemplate as a usage of his space mana manipulation elsewhere. If he were to manipulate space and make more areas like this but allowing manas to flow inside and if he grasped some time mana...

The ideas were plentiful since Walker considered the fact that he also had the mobile forge he could bring out using the right amount of items and tools along with the spatial skill. It was a skill that was considered amazing for traveling and repair, a skill that allowed him to be able to help immensely while here in the elemental planes.

The simple idea that he would be able to repair any damage armor, weapons, or tools was already major. They didn't have to bring any other crafting class users who would be at a greater risk without the proper equipment and resistances compared to others. Therefore, they were at an advantage for how every single squad member would be able to remain in top condition.

The wear and tear on the items brought in to this place were not small. The fire mana even if it was being resisted, reflected, or even nullified entirely would still cause damage to the reformations and also to the metalass and fabrics themelevs. It was the same if the items were just used in perfect conditions at all time. Blades on swords would dull, armor would get worn out, and even accessories might begin to lose their color. That was just the price of using them.

This wasn't to mention the mana flowing through the rune formations would eventually wear away and cause the rune formations to become unusable. That was why the rune carvers found the ancient runes to be so amazing. They did not wear away as much as the current modern runes did.

While the rune knowledge had advanced so much, they were still far from having rune formation carved in to materials that would last hundreds and thousands of years. They needed to enhance their skill levels so that they were able to do such things. It would take time but the matter was of skill and combining knowledge. They had the time to do that.

Walker caught sight of something a little more interesting ahead. It was not the arc of flames they had been watching appear here and there. It looked more like a vine or a tree branch had sprouted and quickly burned away in its dissipated fluttering leaves of flame.

'Flash flame tree

This small tree grows in a single flame. The seed gathers immense fire mana and will eventually explode in growth causing the leaves to fly off as it burns and dissipates. In this action it causes the leaves to transform in to more seeds which will then repeat this process.

It is considered one of the most valuable sights to witness when many of these flash flame trees grow since it means that there is a split second of brilliant flames exposing the gathered nature. Some even gather unique fire mana within them causing the entire small tree to disappear in a flash of different fires than others around it.

Some of the more powerful fire types being within the fire elemental planes like to grow these and will trade valuable knowledge for the seed if they are not filled with large amounts of fire mana yet.

These seeds can be saved and grown even slower if they are brought in to the world. If this is the case, they can be used to absorb larger amounts of fire mana in an area to protect other plants or maintain a better balance. They can not survive in the world alone without care however...'

Walker started looking rapidly and Gil noticed that he was searching the ground for something. When he noticed Walker to spot a deep black rounded object, he realized that there were several spread around and they were pulling the tiny sparks of flame on the blacked ground they walked toward them.

"These are seeds?" He looked for answers before he saw that Su and Remey had grabbed a few too. They looked like their hands struggled to hold them due to the what but Walker smiled and stored them away when he was handling them.

Midnight and Onyx didn't appear to be interested in what the group was doing, instead, they were maintaining sharp eyes on the flame swallowing turtles.

"We are lucky that we found some of these flash flame tree seeds. They are traded for knowledge and can also help us out in the world absorbing fire mana. I bet a few people would need these to grow in certain greenhouses or for medical reasons. Remey, you will have some when we get back. You just need to find the right people to grow them."

He shared the all around appraisal knowledge with them but he was clear when it came to the fact that they were not normal seeds and would have to be cared for specially. But it was a nice addition to what he had found so far. They were lucky and he would take a little luck with this. It also showed that they were moving through some untraveled places since this flash flame tree was somewhat rare in terms of what could be found out here in the fire elemental planes.

Was the fact that there were not many being here good? He couldn't say that out loud, but Walker felt that it was a benefit to them since they were in search of knowledge and this was a piece they could add to what they did not know before.

He also looked out further in to the flames and was comforted with the fact that the larger flames out away from here were not chaotic but burning calmly proving that disturbances were not heading their way. They needed to take times like this for the most they could give.