

## Master 2531

### Chapter 2531 Scout It Out

"Oh, that sounds great." Gil had just gotten to the small office that Alma was working in. She had mentioned that Walker had dragged a few people to the Genesis building for a majority vote on education requirements.

He had not expected that Walker would move forward that way, but with the importance of the matter and the current issues, the representatives who were not present sent letters or communications agreeing immediately. No one disagreed so there were no hard feelings about how everything had gone.

If this was a matter of resources or important location distributions, then yes, there would be issues related to who agreed or did not agree. This, though, was a matter of education and the break down of certain important Genesis groups such as the guilds. If they were to be under too much stress and fail, then there would be a major loss in the alliance as a whole while measures were taken to repair.

In the past, agreements between kingdoms had fallen apart because of issues similar to this. One argument and they had lost the entire trade route they both wanted.

This aside, Gil had also heard about the shifted elemental planes.

"I want to bring some archers to watch the bridge to the earth elemental plane. That way people will be more at ease." The way Gil saw this, was that the manas there would serve two purposes. The arcane archers could make better earth affinity arrows with the mana and also it could be used to train earth mana resistance.

"We already offered forty additional guards." Alma had already handled it in her eyes. She had been had been doing a lot since she needed to step back from the efforts to explore the jungle canyon and other important matters.

When it came to the work she did, she was realizing that the elves were less isolated than what they had been. She had seen the complete self isolation of the forest elves and other elves.

This was different. Some of the older elves might struggle with getting out in to the entirety of Genesis or refuse to leave their homes. That was fine, they could live as they wished. But it was the younger elves who were spreading out so much that it was shocking.

They were learning new cultures and breaking older social norms for the elves that every day new events occurred that garnered Alma's attention.

"Then will we do anything more about the danger that might come? Walker went to the adventurer's guild to make sure people don't flock there in to danger. We can't have an expedition there ready either."

The materials that could be harvested there were immense according to what Gil heard. But he also understood that the danger for the average person was way too high for any of them to go there.

"You are going to get samples. Herbs, monsters, and scouting information to add to what we might need. I sent along a notice that you would go with Midnight on a scouting trip." She smiled a little too sweetly.

Now Gil knew, he'd been set up. Alma had been stuck with more paperwork regarding the young elves while Gil hadn't been helping enough. She'd gone out of her way to push for Gil to scout since it was in fact a dangerous area he could handle with his strength and resistances. It was perfect and he would be doing real work since he would need a very in depth scouting report.

"And here, is Midnight now. She went along to help Onyx but came back because I asked her if she could help you. She was more than willing to make sure you did your job perfectly." Alma gave a small wave to Gil and Midnight grabbed his arm to drag him off. He couldn't even say a word in response.

When the pair had made it to the bridge, they found that the small area around had been set with defensive structures. The lava pool was somewhat cut off since rune formations were made to maintain the lava pools in the area So the mana from the bridge was not needed.

There were some larger walls that had mages stationed but also new traps made by the dwarves who had made them from metal and runes formations. Dense spikes and arrows that could be shot out in a single movement with minimal mana.

The guards sent by Alma all made movements to close Gil's arrival. Otherwise there was a shocking number of Demi-human guards.

They all had earths affinity primarily and had dense defenses. From what he could see, they also had learned to use the ambient earth mana to enhance the strength of their bodies. Something that the Demi-humans had become more in tune with once they had joined Genesis.

"Hello, welcome to the defense force. We have five layers of protection and several checkpoints. So far no unapproved scouts or adventurers have come through. You will be scouting ahead in to the earth field of the earth vein flowers blooming outside. As noted by Walker there should be high monster

activity. Use your stealth skills and abilities to manipulate natural or wind mana to remove the vibrations in your footsteps."

The guard captain that met them had multiple papers in hand and gave Gil the report after speaking and rushing off. It seemed that he was extremely busy making sure that every defense was prepared. It made some sense though, guard captains had become much more focused on organization and tactics lately.

Midnight seemed to already be prepared and was using the wind man's around her to strengthen her scales. Gil had no idea when she had learned to focus on one mana and add it to her scales over the other manas or mixing them. But he was impressed nonetheless since even he began to struggle to notice the steps she took toward the bridge to the elemental planes.

On his side, he focused on the stealth and scouting skills he possessed. He also focused on the elven dagger techniques. The wind elf dagger style made his foot work much lighter and when combined with his stealth skills it was almost impossible to feel him moving along the ground. It would be better to say he was more perceptible as moving mana.

The pair only looked at the defensive formations and the earthen walls for a short while. Noting that there were multiple wind mages protected with potions and special robes around too. They were one of the first layers of defenses using their wind magic to make barriers of air that would deter earth affinity monsters.

While many people would notice the changes in the manas since wind blew across the land, the heart infinity monsters who had only ever lived within the heart elemental planes would feel like they were under attack or they were becoming ill in some ways.

This was just a method of deterrence by the world so that any of the weaker or maybe even some of the more powerful monsters that noticed the bridge would turn around. If they thought that they were headed toward the wind elemental planes they would most likely avoid it entirely.

Some earth monsters would surely be able to survive in the fire, water, light, and dark elemental planes. But the wind was an opposite to them. It would be much harder.

Gil and Midnight had high elemental resistances because of their training and what races they were now. Dragons could resist many things and Gil was part high elf so he could easily resist what others might not be able to resist.

The other races within Genesis would eventually awaken more characteristics of the ancient parts of them and most likely have easier times traveling to elementally pure areas. That would be in time though.

Seeing that the bridge was unoccupied, Gil and Midnight moved easily. They were not perturbed by the higher earth manas nor when they reached the end were they unsteady to see the dome that walker had created. They noticed the strength was just enough to be challenging but not enough that Midnight could not make an opening for them.

This was the only vibration the pair made as they opened their sightline to the larger field of earth vien flowers which they had been told about.

However, what greeted them was a larger field of fallen petals. Straight standing buds. And signs that something had been moving through tearing up the earth leaving behind larger claw marks and pits.

"We will have to be much more careful." Gil's softly spoken voice made Midnight take her dragon form instead of trying to be in her dragonkin form any longer.

#### Chapter 2532 Wild Earth

"The cuts in the ground are larger than what should be normal. I would assume from the prints it is a monster four or five times your size in dragon form. It also has larger claws or talons. It might even have spikes, or the ability to make larger earth spikes." Gil was working with all his tracking knowledge.

Everything that he saw said larger monster. He could tell that it had a decent weight to it since it had caused the larger breaking and pressing on the earth around even though it was already fairly dense.

Looking deeper, he was able to spot places that didn't match the same claw marking he could easily find where the footprints were. They appeared to be dragging pointed marks meaning that while whatever fought here spikes, horns, or needles of some sort were scraping the ground.

While some monsters might have these as part of their bodies, the reason he thought they might be made of earth was that there were small piles of earth which could be the skill after it was released from the monster's control. The earth spikes that Walker had made sometimes faded in to piles of dirt unless they were condensed enough or given extra earth mana to maintain their forms.

The earth walls that mages made were radically different since they were often made to last for a certain time or even made to become permanent. Something like this was temporary and for battle. Most likely an instinctive skill and not even a focused controlled skill overall.

"There were other monsters here too. Smaller tracks, almost like birds. Might be the ones Walker mentioned would be annoying to fight due to their toughness and resistance. We also have smaller insect like leg prints. Could be anything so that's not useful."

With the knowledge Gil had, he couldn't identify the different forms an insect monster might take. They were very specific and not many people could decipher their species from just a single set of tracks.

"These earth vein flowers are all petals. They ate bleeding out mana." He mentioned this as Midnight had eaten a few. They both knew the petals were not that important but she clearly thought they tasted a little good.

It was the buds left in the stem though. They were the valuable part. But many lacked mana at all. "The monsters have eaten this area clean almost." A single bud that he found was intact. He cut it from the stem and placed the small bud in a vial.

Walker had taken a decent amount of specimens for research, so it wasn't that big of a deal that Gil wasn't gathering many. He was scouting though so he would do what he could. The few buds he grabbed could be examined for how quick mana left these unique flowers and how long they might need to bloom again if given a perfect environment.

It was only natural that they would end up being grown within Genesis. The alchemy guild would push to have them in the herbalist's gardens sooner than later. Single affinity herbs were becoming more focused in the greenhouses.

After taking a little time to measure and record the footprints that they had found, Gil spotted Midnight hiding ahead.

While she was barely making herself noticeable, she was still using her shadow wrapping skill to hide. The field of earth here wasn't perfectly flat. It moved in hills and with the blooming or bloomed earth vein flowers there were naturally places to hide.

The fact that the monsters here wouldn't necessarily have any dark affinity meant that the added dark mana from Midnight in her shadow wrapping skill would just keep them less noticed. The monsters would not be able to feel the way that the dark mana blocked out some earth mana as well. Between this and them using gathered wind mana, the pair was much harder to spot.

Midnight had snuck ahead and was watching what Gil pegged as the insect monsters.

Tiny little six legged spider creatures were balancing on two legs weaving the earth vein flower petals in to balls. Making themselves protective shells.

While very small, the appraisal that Gil used gave him some basic information that he found surprising.

'Hive spider

This hive spider is a small six legged creature known for living on very large earth monsters. Hives of thousands can live on the scales or even within their bodies.

They use earth mana to weave together naturally formed earth pieces. Petals, scales, and even random ores can be made to hold together allowing for their defenses and eggs to be hidden in.

Once hatching they will attach to larger and larger monsters while hiding and only leave them when they need to lay more eggs.

Most larger monsters would find them a good ally since they create more defense for them. But when they become older and heavier, these small monsters are a plague that will dig holes in to their bodies and use them as nests. This is why they will often allow other monsters to roam their bodies and consume the hive spider.

The hive spider bodies can be used for very fine needles since their legs are hollow to allow for earth mana to flow and be manipulated better...'

Was this a monster that they would be afraid of themselves? No not at all. However, for the dragons, it would be a very annoying parasite. Specially for Terron who would be the largest dragon and the most susceptible to a parasite like this.

Gil and Midnight easily captures a few with a claw and dagger to save their bodies. They were so tiny that they could easily keep them in another vial. Of course they had the potential to grow larger but nowhere near the size of Gil.

As the two decided to venture further out, Gil made a closer note to where the bridge back to the world was. That was their escape of anything happened since most monsters would not wish to venture anywhere near them or the roof right away.

A few more unique tracks were measured and copied on to a journal but Gil was somewhat surprised. He thought more plants or earth affinity herbs would be here. Yet, even Midnight was not sniffing out any left behind by whatever monsters had been here.

She did sniff what should be that larger monster's trail though.

When she did, Gil followed the perceived path as they began following and made Midnight stop. "That hill ahead is shaped too differently. That should be our monster." He used another appraisal scroll and found his sharp eyes were right again.

'Giant quill beast

This is a powerful monster known for the larger earth quills that form in its body. While it's called a giant that is because of the quills on its body made of earth. Its actual body is smaller but it's able to form larger quills, longer claws, and tough defenses with its very high earth affinity.

They are known to eat both high earth affinity monsters and also large fields of earth affinity plants. Because of this, it is known as a devourer to some of the earth affinity races.

It has extremely valuable blood which carries immense earth mana in higher purity. Its body is less valuable due to the fact that many parts of its body are soft under the dense earth it uses to defend itself.

Only the strongest quills survive after it perishes. These can be used to...'

"We are not hunting that." Gil made it clear he did not plan on fighting the monster they found even if it was weaker under all the earth mana armor.

A small buff told Gil that Midnight was considering ignoring him flat out. "If you try anything I will make sure that the next time we have fresh drizzle tarts that you do not have a single bite." His eyes narrowed as Gil made sure his threat was clear.

They were Midnight's latest favorite sweet snack. And if he stopped her from having them she would be crushed.

The slight growl that Midnight responded with told Gil that his point had been made. "If we kill that monster we can't bring it all back. Neither of us have developed enough space skills to do anything like that. Walker said our exposure should make a real spatial storage or space skill sometime in our lives but not yet."

This was a good point but Midnight thought a little and made a good point too. "It will attract more enemies. Big prey." She wanted to fight but she knew that she would come face to face with something way too dangerous for the pair to face alone. Anything that could eat that monster would be massive.

"Then we scout a little more and head back." They two nodded to Ken another before sneaking away.

Chapter 2533 Dragged In

"Already?" Now this was a surprise to Walker. He had not expected that a monster would have come through and eaten all the earth vein flowers along with the buds. He expected that Gil and Midnight would return telling everyone that they saw a hoard of earth affinity monsters.

Then again, the speed at which monsters and races moved within the elemental planes could be higher than what Walker knew. He was earning just as everyone else was learning about these places. The ways that the beings within the elemental planes grew and moved around would be a mystery for years.

"I am interested to see the differences in the earth vein flowers. Just the petals you brought compared to the ones on the flowers that I am preserving with mana is entirely different."

Slowly peeling off a petal from the flower he harvested, Walker showed the differences in colors to Gil and Midnight. The deep brown color that the one he had compared the light brittle brown color that Gil had was very telling.

The more that the manas bled away from the petals the more that they lost their radiance and form. Walker could even feel the dust on his fingers after touching the petal that Gil brought back.

Even the bud were showing the same loss of color and the purity in the earth mana was lesser. This was most likely because the condensed mana had been drawn away by the monster's while they ate the nearby buds of left behind by the flowers. Then furthermore because the manas were radiating in to the elemental plane again naturally.

"And what do you think about the tracks? We have some appraisals of what they are, even a few we noticed as we left." This was a point of pride for Gil. he and Midnight had managed to spot several monsters before they left which they had avoided. One being a monster that would easily cause a lot of issues if it were to come to the world.

"It looked like a worm but it was actually some weird thing with small tentacles pulling through the ground. It looks more like it belongs in water than the ground." Gil brought about the recorded appraisal.

'Thousand tentacle Worm

Thousand tentacle is the number of small tentacles it has on its body when born. As these worms age they grow more tentacles which they use to fuse with the earth around them and move through it and the ground is water.

They are able to use their high earth affinity to make parts of their bodies in to earth entirely. This ability is very rare since most who attempted it would find that they lose parts of their bodies. This is also why this species of monster could be said to be closer to a spirit at times.

While often not dangerous, this monster will fight when cornered. If it does will stretch its body to swallow massive amounts of earth while using its tentacles to whip crumbs around. It is known to be berserk at the time it does this.

They will often hold out in the same place for years at a time absorbing earth mana. When it moves it's to go to a larger area of earth mana that it can consume to grow larger.

Its body can be used...'

"Look at this thing,'it's just a mess of tentacles and it can easily swallow large areas of the ground if it feels threatened." The way Gil saw this, it was a monster that would be in the area across from the bridge for years rather than moving here and there too.

"Being able to sense that would be important. Midnight, did you get a scent from it?" For future reference, Midnight could easily mark out some scents for others with similar tracking abilities.

There were those of unique classes that made perfumes or other similar products who worked with a few people to mark known scents. Some hunters used this to their advantage when looking for a specific

prey. However, using it to mark dangerous monsters with the unique potions made by these perfumers was smart and becoming more popular.

"Yes!" She huffed out in pride while Walker patted her head. He was proud that the pair hadn't gotten in to any trouble. They had come back with good information and a lot of scouting experience to share with others who might teach or go to the earth elemental plane.

Learning that both had been able to easily move around the earth elemental plane without attracting more attention was also good. It made Walker consider going there again.

"Now you can train the hatchlings with me."

"Hmm?"

Both Gil and Walker paused while realizing that now it was Midnight starting to drag them away. Gil had stopped her from fighting a monster and Walker had been part of the reason she had to go scout. So now, she could drag them a long to some of the newer hatchlings she would bring around the city in their first walk.

While many people would think this was an odd event for the dragon hatchlings, it was a lot more important because they were the ones who would be changing the history and methods of the dragons in the future.

Learning to live through the city in their smaller bodies with care was just a simple and easy way for them to be more mindful in the future when they were much larger and had yet to learn to take a humanoid form, or specifically a dragonkin form.

The reason that Midnight wanted help though, was because this time there were seven small hatchlings whose dragon parents were letting them take the walk. While it was a method used to acclimate them to the city and help them get accustomed to other races, it was troublesome.

Anyone who knew children of any race would know their energetic chaotic attitude. They were always curious and mischievous. They would rush around and explore which meant they needed a lot more supervision.

Once Walker and Gil found themselves standing with several elder dragons looking down at them, they also felt their own bit of fear.

The threat of angry parents was something that everyone would fear. It was an ingrained feeling that would never quite go away no matter how old someone got.

The rambunctious hatchlings were all tumbling around and growling with a few outliers sitting alone. One earth dragon was snoring like nothing was happening too.

"Our children will expect the best." A thinner wind dragon leaned down and met Walker's eyes. They could care less that he was whatever he was. To them, he was not responsible for their hatchlings that would normally be in the nest were going out.

It was all part of making cultures mix and changing some of the more negative overprotective habits but it was not easy for the parents. Although the hatchlings immediately perked up when Midnight gave a slight growl to get them moving.

As Gil and Walker began managing the hatchlings who decided that they would continue to rush about and not fully follow Midnight, Su had been brought in to a meeting about the second city of Genesis being built.

"We have no monster issues but we will have guard problems sooner than later." The announcement was larger and coming right from Terron. He had spoken to many people who were unhappy hearing this.

"Why will the guards be an issue if we already sent so many?" Since she had seen the numbers Su understood that the guards should be enough.

The underground, above ground, and putter fields have their squads. It's not enough for the material gathering teams. We need more." This was where the adventurers should have come in but had been pulled away due to excitement over the potential of getting in to the earth elemental plane. Which wasn't going to happen.

However the potential was enough to make some adventurer's hang back instead of go to other quests. "Then we will ask the gamer's guild. They can have many of their learning tamers come and patrol. They will get information about monsters, the landscape, and food in the area while they train."

To her it was simple and she could manage it quickly. For Terron, he was in charge of making sure it all came together. He had learned more about leading within Genesis and was putting it all to work here and now.

"Then all we should worry about are the migrating monsters. Soon there should be the rising mist buffaloes moving through the area. They will be dangerous since they travel in groups of fifty and sixty."

And there it was another added challenge of terrain and time of year. Su should have seen it coming. They would need even more guards to ensure that the newly built walls and plowed farm fields would not be destroyed.

Chapter 2534 Migration

"Tell me more about the mist buffalos?" Su focused in on this since it was the main reason there would be more trouble coming up in the area where everyone was building.

Yes there were other issues that she could have worked toward. She was one of the best people to talk to about guards and problems with them overall. She'd spent so much time training with different guards and even helping some become well established that she had learned more than just the basics.

All this aside, as Su considered this, one of Terron's attendants spoke up with more information about the most buffalo. Even handing her an appraisal from a tamer that they had scouting the area where the list buffalo were now.

'Mist buffalo

This is a monster with majority water affinity, however the slight wind affinity allows them the ability to keep a dense mist around and in their fur to stay cool even on some of the hottest days. They used to be called rainy buffalos due to the fact that they always appeared to be walking out of a rain storm.

Their fur is valuable in survival situations since it naturally gathers water from the air in to droplets. Their larger horns also hold a larger amount of sharpening mana concentrated for when they attack making it a valuable material for weapon crafting.

When young, they will remain near pools of water necessary for their growth. As they age they can use the water in the air to survive better.

Where the issues come in is their larger numbers in each herd. They will live in groups from as little as five to as many as over a hundred. During the shifting of seasons they follow the water content within the air that they feel most comfortable with causing their migration.

Their high numbers leave areas with significant damage, while some plants need the breakage to release seeds properly, others are harmed regardless. The same for other monsters and beings within their path.

They are extremely defensive of their young as the females within their herd. This causes them to use their wind concentrated horns to pierce and gore many monsters, races, and even some trees they encounter. Even larger monsters will be attacked if the numbers of the herd are larger enough.

This is for general males of the herd, the elites which are known as razor mist buffalo are the defenders who have seen battle against various predators.

Due to their advanced age, and various survival instances, they developed control of their water and wind affinities to control the mana within their bodies. They form vicious water blades on their horns and body, which assist in slashing apart predators. This works very well with the wind mana that they also gather which leads to a deadly encounter for most that face them.

Their bones can be used to craft intricate rune carving tools due to the perfect balance of water and wind within their body. While focused on dual elemental runes, the runes carved with those tools would be much more valuable...'

The high amount of information was spectacular. There was even a detailed sketch differentiating the males, elite males, and the females. The curved and pointed horns were also easy to see the differences in for combat potential.

With all this information she also understood how these monsters worked. During their migration it was a high stress time and their desires to protect the young and females in their herd was even higher. Meaning that they were ready to fight right away no matter the opponent.

The fact that Genesis was building a second city was going to appear to be a safe and open place to run through but with all the workers it would become a massive threat.

"I would consider us halting building efforts to wait out their migration. That's not possible though. They will migrate for over a month while the weather shifts and that's too long for the project to be halted. The unfinished base will get ruined by weather in the meantime."

Logically Su understood this method would cause some significant losses. So she was not willing to offer it as a potential choice.

"It would be simple to attack them and use them as food for the workers." As much as Terron had learned to keep monsters like this at a safely populated level, he also saw it as a good way to feed the workers so that there was not waste. It was also an addition to materials to use too.

Yet, he knew it was wrong. As a royal dragon making sure future generations had food was why he and the elder dragons did not hunt constantly. They could survive with less food and just absorb more mana to maintain their health and growth.

"I am thinking we find a way to deter them. We can make walls they can't easily break. Funnel them around the territory. We will need to build more walls that are tough enough but that could work well." Since this seemed to be a good option, Terron nodded his head.

With his approval, Su started to look at a map. She could easily gauge the best places to form walls to make sure a monster or even a few travelers would be deterred.

"I can make walls tough enough to handle their dual affinity attacks. We should make them with plants too."

"Oh! That's a good idea. The bare walls would scare them more but adding plants that are also annoying, flowers that smell bad would work, should push them away more." Su was becoming more invested as she called for a few herbalists and someone who has surveyed the area.

Before the word of the monster migration being a problem even got out there was a plan being circulated. There wasn't even time for there to be panic. All the worries were addressed right as the plan and notice was put out. Even a few elder dragons had been placed under Terron's supervision so that every worker and builder could feel more at ease.

Beyond this, Du took it even further by showing up with the first squad of guards she had ever trained with. She moved in to the wilderness and detected some of the other monsters already sniffing around due to the change in weather and seasons. The predators that would come to the area to hunt the misty buffalos were easily chased away or hunted depending on their danger level and ability to harm anyone building.

Adding in the fact that some had dragon blood in them, the materials gained were immense. They went right to the building efforts making better tools to increase efficiency overall.

The more that Su worked with Terron, the more of a following she gained, so much so that a few of the farmers helping plan their future fields had begun to rave about her as if she were the leader of the second city.

This didn't deter the angels at all. Instead, they actually began to push forward even more with the idea that Genesis and the second city were one and the same. The younger angels were joining in more and more and even asking to patrol with Su.

Some of the elder dragons had begun to train with the angels to strengthen their control of mana. The angels absorbed mana through their wings singers of storing it so the mana that dragons released when training was perfect to be used by them at the right time.

Unwitnessed all of this and shared it with Walker as it happened. Making worries over the earth elemental plane and not being able to help with the building effort lesser. He trusted she was leading right alongside Terror to even better abilities than he could imagine.

Everything was coming together more and more as time went on. The forces that were guarding the bridge to the elemental planes felt better knowing that Walker was not at all leaving Genesis at all.

The lore that everyone worked on things the faster everything began to move. Just having time to remain in Genesis forced Walker to revisit important flow of work tasks. The education being one, but focusing on building roads, helping new plants get established, and even simple things like checking in in the merchants who were newly established.

As much as it came down to the overall larger events like mana and affinities or shifting elemental planes could take up all of Walker's focus. But making time for the people and improving the general lives they lived came as something that stood truer to who he was and what he wished to be.

He was a hero and so was his whole party, they were just staying true to themselves.

Chapter 2535 Small Golem Visits

"It was actually harder for me to come here than I expected. You have done a lot and the elemental kings have not stopped speaking of the world for a week now." The voice grated over Walker's ears like sand scraping on stone. Yet, it was not at all unpleasant. It was familiar.

"True sage of earth. You came to visit?" Walker had spent a little time in the fields lately. He had been focused on the greenhouses which were specifically crafted for each elemental affinity. He had even ventured through some territories so that he could make sure their mana would match properly.

However, his focus ended up on some of the more basic mass planted herbs. The areas where there were issues with nutrients and his ability to sense the manas and see where the nutrients lacked. He also found the entire process calming.

This allowed him time to get a little more in tune with natural mana, it also allowed him to bond with Fleur more closely since she had been resting a lot more lately to condense and gather more natural mana to grow even stronger. He could think about what that would mean even more later, for now, he was focused on the small shape that took the form of the familiar true earth sage.

"I did, I would like to see what else you have done. My connection to the earth here may be weak, pathetically so, but this little golem I made can speak with you. Can move with you." The warmth in the true earth sage's voice was enough to tell Walker that he was happy to see the results of good work in the world and between the elemental planes.

"You came at a good time then. We just welcomed in a new race from the fire elemental planes. They are undergoing some growth and acclimating to the world. I feel like being stuck in a place where only fire mana actually held them back more than just the flame crawling coal they need to grow properly." He didn't mean this as an insult.

Instead, the way it sounded was more like Walker was questioning the essence of life itself. How life formed and how everyone and everything grew so radically different.

"I have heard, I wondered about it and I did not hear more from my counterparts in the fire elemental plane. You seem to have met him in a good mood, but he is never happy to be around me when my earth may smother his flames and leave only magma where we speak." The old laughter made it clear that even though manas could be unified and bond, that they might not actually mix as well as what anyone might believe if not in the right setting.

"The earth here is quieter, the mana does gather but it does not resonate with the heartbeat of a core. It is strange yet peaceful and more united than what i could even imagine. This world of yours might be the core of everything, cut out, and now healed." The way that the true earth sage spoke was even more telling.

To Walker, it seemed more like the true earth sage was looking at the world and the elemental planes as if it was a golem as a whole. Something that would make sense since many monsters of earth were golems of some shape or form.

"The earth here is mingled with all manas. Even manas that don't take the right form for many people to see are here. space is here, life, death, I can't really influence it at all but I know time is here. I have no idea what else might be here but it's here."

Now Walker was the one that sounded like an old man. Telling stories about ideas and his theories of how the world worked.

"I still can not understand it. An origin being who can help calm the very bridges we connect our planes to, is so focused on the center of it all, the world where not a single thing is standing as the prominent force." The soft chuckle halted a little bit later.

"You should know that what you have done, brought a space elemental plane in to the world has shown a lot more than you can imagine. It is clear you are not slowing your growth. That you are able to handle more. I am here to see you and view more of the world. I am here to see if you can bring over more races."

Now this was the core of what Walker expected.

"We are able to take more races. The world is larger and full of unexplored places. We have dungeons appearing, natural phenomena that might even show parts of different planes disconnected or created somewhere. Whatever the case is, space is not an opinion."

"As long as the race is peaceful and willing to join others in unity. In balance."

The last sentence had power and force behind it. Walker was not playing a game here and every single race who had made sacrifices to rise up and become anew within Genesis deserved him to take everything extremely seriously here.

Their futures were always on his mind and in his hands. They deserved the safety that some of them had never been offered as a race before. So, if a race would come here and destroy that, he would be the

wall to take the brunt of that attack. He would also be the sword that was able to force that threat away.

"You have good answers and a good sense in you. That is why I want to offer you a monster that might just become a race within the next hundred years or so. They are almost extinct because of the shifting of the earth and other planes. They are peace loving creatures that could help you even more with what you are doing right now."

This sounded different from what Walker had thought would be said. He thought that the true earth sage would directly say he had another city just the same as the coal people's city. Or that there was a race of humanoid monsters that needed a home. But a nearly extinct monster? It was unexpected.

"Tell me more?" The question lingered for a moment before some nearby dirt began to take shape. Oit stretched in to what appeared to be a lion. However, from its tail came a snake like figure, five in fact.

"Is that a chimera? They are ancient monsters that should be extinct in the world." He was sure he had seen the pictures and statues in ruins. A two headed monster with a single snake tail.

"No, they are descendants of the chimera. Weaker and less violent. They are prideful and they can be sneaky. They do not fight unless they are forced and they were growing more intelligent. They even learned to make small cavern homes in the rock caverns. They failed when the planes shifted and a rumbling earthquake worm consumed half of their numbers."

The words came out with a clear hint of pain. The true earth sage had clearly had an eye on them for a long time. But then again, Walker felt that every true sage might have this habit. The true fire sage had appeared when the coal people had a chance to leave, maybe they watched even more than what many of the races within the elemental planes believed them to.

"Those left are younger, or they are going wild. They are losing the momentum they had and will become nothing of what they were or what they could have been. They descended from an ancient monster of the world that fled to the elemental planes for safety. Now they are unsafe there. So you take them. Give them an opportunity while I watch over things."

That was the key right there. The true earth sage would have an eye on the full process through and through. A watchful eye that could and would ensure that Walker did his best. But this would also mean that Walkers and all of Genesis's actions would be spoken of to the elemental kings.

They would be able to understand the very truth that was happening within the world. Whether it was the unity of races, the building of a home, or even the research in various topics. They would know the truth in all of that.

It would allow them to decide if there would be a future for more races and monsters trying to become races. If that was the case, there was more potential here. Potential for future growth when the world and the elemental planes took a deeper step to unite.

Chapter 2536 Smart Monster

It was odd having the small earth golem trailing him, But Walker was not as worried as he could be about the few people giving him looks when he walked toward the bridge to the elemental planes. Plenty of people had seen him make a golem like creature before. He didn't train those skills often since he had other means of strength, but they had been seen an known.

However, he also didn't want to tell people this was an extension of the true earth sage. He felt that if he did the true earth sage might not see sperm for the real events in Genesis. Plenty of people treated Walker himself differently when they realized he was who he was. Simply because of his hero title alone.

There were some thoughts in Walker's mind related to how the true sages used elemental manas as extensions of themselves.

They could seamlessly create small bodies like golems or elementals of some sort that carry their will and voice. They could actively learn more about the world or further off locations doing so.

This would be an immensely valuable skill to have and he could tell it was somewhat in relation to the skills he already had.

Whether it was actively making a golem with fire or earth, Walker could do so with most manas. Were they useful at the level he fought at now? No, they would not last against lost opponents he had he quickly moved on from using them. Especially with the fact that he had his party beside him when he fought.

Yet, now he believed he had made a mistake. Utilizing that skill set and some of the mental communication skills he had seen, heard of, and even used he might be able to do something unique.

If he had this extension of himself he might be able to send a golem all the way to the new second city and be able to communicate with Su and Terron there. Being able to do so would smooth his involvement while his main body was here. But would it be too much pressure on his mind?

"You seem to be greatly focused on something now." The true earth sage noticed this as they approached the area of defenses for the bridge to the elemental planes.

"I don't fully understand how you are able to form another body to communicate with myself. You are very far from the world, yet able to share mana, thoughts, control, and more with this golem you created."

The mana holding the little earth golem together shifted and the form changed, however, Walker noticed a small denser rock holding much more potent earth mana. Something he knew for sure he would not be able to influence no matter how hard he tried at his current level of strength in manipulating earth mana.

As the little golem took the form of a small cat, Walker noticed the detailed fur. It moved just as fur would but it was small bits of earth holding purer mana were like metal. Oriented and powerful. Able to be more solid and fluid at the same time. He hadn't seen something like this but it was a level of control above his which felt obtainable.

"Thank you. I can learn a lot from that." He knew that the true earth sage had left him with this sight and feeling of mana rather than answering with words. For Walker who was one of the origin race, he should and would feel more than what could just be spoken.

"The first one should be bringing its cubs soon. They traveled here when I scared them a little. They may act a little fierce but you just need to show your dominance and be kind."

Before Walker could ask anything more the cat golem fell into a pile of dirt and rock. He stored that soil away though since the man's innit was still unique and he had no doubt the true earth sage had left some mana within it to help him further his understanding.

What Walker hadn't really contemplated was that if he were to learn the same skills as the true sages of each elemental affinity, he could send a golem body he could perceive out in to each elemental plane as well. Learn more and become more deeply connected.

"Everyone, bring captains to me!" Walker's voice boomed out grabbing the attention of every guard near the bridge. In a rush the captains of each layer of protection appeared.

"We will have a monster and most likely more coming through the bridge. The true earth sage wishes for us to give them homes so their species can properly become a race rather than go extinct. This is not a quick project but one that could take a hundred years. It's more than a test of our strength and ability, it is an offering to bond with the elemental planes more closely. The true earth sage will be watching the world for some time now."

The guards seemed to feel the pressure the moment that Walker began to speak. They felt the seriousness in his tone that told them all they were about to handle a much more important task than simply guarding.

The monster about to approach was not a monster they would fight but one that they would be protecting. Even more stressful was the fact that a being they had heard of and were told of was coming to watch for an unknown amount of time.

The true sages were not hidden or protected information. Everyone could and most likely had learned of them. Especially the guards that took positions here. They knew very well that the true sages could utilize mana enough to cause immense damage to the world if they desired.

Did the guards believe they would do so? No. However, they did understand that if a true sage would be watching, They needed to give their best to show off what the standards Genesis set would be.

"Mages, remove your walls and defenses. Earth mages, make an open spot of hardened earth. I will cool it with water. I will be introducing myself to the monster coming here."

Walker wondered what the all around appraisal would tell him about these monsters that descended from the two headed chimera. While they had five snake heads as tails, they had the primary lion like body.

He knew that they would be strong and tough since they were earth affinity monsters. That was just a fact of how and what earth monsters would be.

He did wonder if they would have venom too, but that question seemed to be answered as a larger amount of earth mana spilled from the bridge to the elemental planes.

The larger snout of a brown furred monster break free of the bridge. The larger teeth were pointed and gave off a metallic earth mana that Walker knew could cut through average armors. He saw the long claws also prepared to fight with anything around. The fluffy mane around its neck was made of denser metallic ores making the lion much tougher in the weak point that most would have in a neck.

The hiss of snakes seemed to be the greatest defense for the smaller cub hesitantly following its mother out of the bridge. The five snake head tails were moving and watching every guard in the distance and eventually focused in on Walker along with the main lion head.

"I need you to know I am much stronger than you, so forgive me for this." The soft whisper before earth formed around Walker mimicking a dragon head, tail, and wings also brought with it a dense pressure. The nearly full control of earth mana made the parent struggle to stand and the cub to collapse. However, a second later the pressure was entirely removed from the cub while remaining on the parent.

"You are intelligent, I know that." Walker moved forward, the earth dragon body he made to protect him and exert his power seemingly glaring down. "You came here chased by the true earth sage for your own good and you will be allowed here as long as you live in peace."

When he was above the monster parent, he raised a hand and was met with a guttural earth shaking growl. It didn't have to be words, it was clear the meaning. It said that this monster would fight to the death against him even if it would die. As long as the little cub was safe it did not care for its own life.

With a single hand, Walker dispelled his formed dragon earth armor and intimidation while switching to a buff. He calmed the earth mana and he used a healing skill to show peace. The sudden change clearly shocked the monster. It didn't even move.

Walker, however, was finally using the all around appraisal on it.

Chapter 2537 Touring With A Monster?

'Earthen chimera

This is a descendant of the true chimera species, an ancient species of monster known for its brutality and the various forms it took, the most dangerous being a three headed monster with a potent venomous serpent tail.

This descendant is weaker in blood and has grown more intelligent by losing the multiple heads fighting for control of the body over time. It had a primary lion head and five serpent headed tails.

The potent earth affinity it possesses allows it to enhance its body for defense and increase the strength of its teeth, claws, and muscles overall. The venom produced within its snake head tails is potent decaying earth affinity poison. Those afflicted quickly decay and become nutrients for the earth.

While it has been able to survive by hunting various earth affinity monsters, it is significantly smaller than its ancestors causing it to be more easily hunted by larger predators.

Its fur can be used to make extremely powerful cloaks that naturally absorb earth mana. Its bones, teeth, and claws are exceptional items that allow for the creation of potent weapons that can carry the venom of the snake head tails.

It is fairly intelligent and easily understands most languages due to its fluctuating connection to the world and potential to step beyond being a monster. However, it is still trapped in its own instincts and emotions to fight other species of monster or hunt those it receives as weaker.

These monsters are fiercely defensive of their young and have been known to pursue those that harm their young in to dens. Ancestors of this earthen chimera have even been noted to hunt dragons that had eaten their children or harmed their small packs.

Due to the potent earth affinity, these earthen chimera are able to build structures, somewhat weaker than average magic, but still significant for survival. As such they have a higher potential to increase the chances of becoming a race through learning magic...'

The all around appraisal was exactly what Walker needed to see.

It was the instinct that every montage had which held the earthen chimera back. It had the natural senses to fight and survive as it needed. That was not at all wrong. It needed those instincts to survive in the wilderness and especially when that wilderness was the earth elemental plane.

Where things grew even more important was the fact that it was intelligent enough to make shelter. To pursue those that harm its young. It was able to develop those deep attachments that was more akin to intelligent races rather than highly defensive monsters.

It also had a flicker in its eyes as Walker spoke to it before. The recognition of understanding. Maybe not the perfect communication of his words to it, but enough to know that it had generations was not here to kill it or its child.

That fact alone stood out over everything else. But what made Walker hesitate was when seven more cubs burst through the bridge to the elemental planes and started to surround him and the parent.

"You have a big family!" His surprise made what could have been amusement glimmer in the earthen chimera parent's eyes.

Looking at all of them sniffing him and trying to see what he was didn't seem to be influenced at all by the change in earth mana in the air.

"They don't need the same density of earth mana to survive. I assume that's because they are predators who absorb earth mana from what they consume?" There wasn't a response but Walker knew that the true earth sage had known this. If he did another all around appraisal Walker felt he would see a similar detail.

"From this point on, everything you see may make you uncomfortable. We have a place in the earth dragon territory where you can live safely. We will ask for your help building with your earth abilities in return for food."

While he said it out loud to the earthen chimera parent, Walker knew that there was a lot more showing than telling that would need to happen. It was why he waved over a pair of earth mages.

"Show them how you can make walls with earth mana. This way they can learn and start to understand what they might assist in. They can't speak back but they are intelligent and will remember what you do." He didn't want to make anything sound like he was devaluing the earthen chimera.

The relationship as their species grew and took steps toward being a race were very important. However as the mages demonstrated some of their earth manipulation spells, Walker thought of something else.

"If I can help you a little too?" He held out a hand and he mentally asked Fleur to share some more natural mana.

The earthen chimera parent looked at him and realized he was not approaching with malice. It also knew that Walker was much stronger than it and could easily be defeated by him.

As it touched Walker's hand with its snout, it felt a movement of earth and natural mana. It made something stored within it. "That's your life mana. It is why you are alive for some part. But the earth affinity and the natural mana around you now are part of one another but also a reason that your life and others' life grows. Sense it and let it guide you. It is part of the world and so are you now."

The idea was to inspire the earthen chimera and its new connection to the world. Allow it the feeling some other s had of its own life mana and see if that spurs more intelligence or adaptation to being a race.

Earth mana began to draw closer while its fur grew a slightly deeper shade of brown. Its eyes focused a little more, maybe even making it see more clearly than it had a moment ago. It wasn't a major change but something was more. Something felt cleaner or just better as Walker shared the natural mana to help buff the earthen chimera.

While the earthen chimera didn't speak or develop any mystical ability to become a proper race right away, he knew that it had gained a new calmness and clarity that might just allow it to reach and develop faster.

If this was enough to shorten the time between it becoming a race and remaining an intelligent monster, then this was important.

Walker did notice that when he separated and allowed the mages to keep showing them earth magic while they began walking toward the earth dragon territory, that it was sensing that earth mana very well. Each time its fur shifted was in time with the movement of earth mana. Proving that its long mane was not just there for defense but also moved in relationship to changes in earth mana which would help for hunting and noticing predators nearby.

That was also where learning came in. It could understand the ways that the mage moved earth mana and develop its own abilities. Right now, it was under the influence of various buffs from Walker. The cubs all followed while watching everything around them, but feeling that their mother was intensely focused and serious, they did not run off or act the same way they had before.

"That was very interesting. I can enlighten beings weaker than myself. Share with them some small parts of knowledge or feelings. You called out to their life mana without directly touching it. You connected them more deeply to natural mana and the earth mana in balance with the world. Only yourself and a world spirit or one that stands as a voice of the world can do such things."

The true earth sage had taken another small golem form. Clearly he had been watching him but he'd said that.

"I thought it would help them develop better. I think it made things clearer. Maybe more easy to understand and less scary. If it works, I can do the same for all the adults that come." There were more earthen chimera, but they were not sent over yet by the true earth sage. He wanted to know for certain they would be safe.

"I see you already have a place for them to live for now. To create their homes. You even asked Demi-humans with lion or feline traits to go there as the guards."

"I feel like you see more than you admit." Walker laughed a little but felt a slight calm pulse of earth mana. It was slightly intentional but also a way for the true earth sage to show his approval. "I will wait and see how these young ones do here." The little golem fell back in to dirt and stone. This time Walker felt that he'd managed exactly what was expected of him and more.

Chapter 2538 Second City Progress

"This is the third wall constructed. I have to make sure we don't cause any issues in the underground waterways." Terron had been worried as she moved around creating the condensed earth walls. The misty buffalo that were already scouted out had been noticed moving in their herds their way.

The walls that terron had been made were made with so much condensed earth that there was a chance that underground caverns or flowing water ways like rivers or streams could be affected. If they were blocked off it could affect the plant life and even the monster life in the area.

"You are fine, I have come to sense the water here with you. There was much more complicated streams of water near the mountains but here, the soil has more small sand and stones in it. The water moved through without issues to find the underground rivers."

When it came to Current joining the effort, it was because he wanted to study the difference in the ways that water flowed here. He had been doing this a lot lately.

Besides the fact that he had also ensured that a small lake could be made for the water affinity races of Genesis, he also had grown significantly in his understanding. The more reclusive lifestyle was different than what Walker or the whole party had known of Current when they met him.

In terms of dragons overall, it was clear that he was just acting normally. From what every dragon at his age or even younger did, they would isolate themselves and slumber or focus on their affinity for their mana to grow. Current doing the same but moving around to study the world was caused by the relationship with Genesis that the dragon race had now.

It was a way for him to see different slides of mana and the world's working that he had not seen before. In terms of what he had learned from Walker about the elemental planes too, the dominator dragon were anchors that would ensure balance where they were.

That was similar to what the royal dragons were doing in the world right now. They were acting as watchers to protect territories that helped and came together with Genesis. Therefore. To avoid being trapped in one place forever, Current wanted to enhance his understanding of how the water mana of the world reacted everywhere.

The other royal dragon felt the same but for Ignus or Terron, they were working on encouraging other races to join Genesis safely like the wyverns in Terron's case and enhancing the growth of important necessary crafts like alchemy for Ignus. Both were invaluable and changed the knowledge that they had about their manas through their own efforts.

"We have a better guide there too, the earth and water mages made the terrain much harder to move through where the walls might get bypassed." Current and spoke with two of the head mages. They had been leading groups of earth and water images to make the terrain much harder for monsters to traverse.

While this had originally been a fear to act on since it might harm the environment, the echidna who had come to explore the area had managed to find evidence that the lands flooded now and then meaning that making it temporarily muddy and hard to travel through was not at all an issue. The plants might just grow a little more than normally since they had influenced this aspect of the environment in a season not known for its rain.

"Both of you have been working very hard. That stream that you found Current, has helped up mix better building materials and we are already starting on the first foundations for a main hall where the first aspects of representatives will have offices while the rest of the mandatory buildings are set."

When Su caught up with the two royal dragons, they showed clear happiness that they were part of this growth. The main hall would be a larger step for material communication needs to be brought up. They would be able to quickly communicate the needs to those outside the city grounds, procuring them. Even more important when the monsters migrated nearby.

Just knowing the movements of the misty buffalo herd in advance was ideal because they would be able to avoid harvesting materials from those areas. "Terron, the mages said that they have another partial wall set up for you. I didn't think they would go right to that area before you did, but they wanted to show you what they learned."

A small growl, almost like a purr came from Terron as he began to stand back up and move ahead. He didn't need to say anything. He was proud that they had learned a lot from the ways he used mana. The methods that a dragon like him who had learned about earth mana and become so much closer to his affinity was valuable to every mage.

They had seen how he took control of the earth mana and how he had been able to separate the kinds of earth and stone that he chose to manipulate within the walls he condensed. Just that alone changed the ways they looked at general earth magic. A few of the mages and even begin to separate certain stones and soils from one another to begin altering what they might be able to do.

Their goals were to be able to carry higher quality or closer to their affinity quality earth with them. That would enhance their abilities to use their skills but also improve their overall strength. They also had the simple ideas that they might be able to be more than just an earth mage.

The idea that some earth mages had already done so without sharing how they did had been a larger factor to this. There were a few metal mages who spoke about the mixing of certain forms of manas that also could lead to the same path but have more affinities within a person. This had left the general earth mages stunned.

While the more common mages found this as a mystery how the same result of manipulating metal could both be a specific earth mage type but also multiple manas working together to do the same thing was possible, it had also shown a lot in the higher forms of magic that could be used.

"I take it that you will return to the springs we found a few days ago?" Su mentioned this to Current who looked away toward the area as she was talking about.

There was a lot of excitement when the deep earth springs had been found. The mages that were looking for a simple well location found them. A set of tunnels that pushed water from deep in the ground. Yes the water was warmer but in now means was this a hot spring for bathing. It was an interesting event.

For Current it was water mana deeply influenced by the heat and dense earth mana of the underground magma flows. It cooled because of the distance it moved under the ground but it presented him with new knowledge how the water bonded with fire and earth mana so closely.

"I will do so, I am not needed here until those misty buffalo approach closer." he was gone with just that leaving Su to look over the paper she had in hand.

Just having two of the royal dragons fully focused on diverting the oaths of the misty buffalo had been exceptional. The progress and even increased because everyone was more comfortable than what they had been before this.

There were also crafters coming from Genesis to get more experience. They wanted the chance to learn on hand skills and keep training to be able to compete in upcoming tournaments. Some even had the idea that they would be able to advance enough to be able to take on their own leadership and teaching roles.

The education initiatives that Walker had worked on were massive in encouraging them to do what they wished. Some crafters had found solace and a future in their craft, they wanted to share that and also help bring new crafters in to this ever changing and growing world of new crafts.

Besides this, Su also found that the guards who came here had been finding ways to get practical experience. Handle the dangerous monsters that might be out in the wilderness. Compared to Genesis,

the guards here in this second city had more chances for real combat, giving them better strength to catch up to the veteran guards they had been trained by.

Overall, she felt that the second city project was going over better and better. The angels had even begun to help more and more over the past few days. All good things.

#### Chapter 2539 Shadow Guards

"Brother, they are very interesting. We sensed the difference when we came and stopped to look." Onyx slowly moved out of the shadows at his smaller size and wrapped himself around Walker's arm.

"Nice to see you back too, how are the little serpents? Growing well?" Walker hadn't left the mansion yet and was doing a little training with basic weapons in the small training area. He had wanted to improve himself without mana in the slightest free time he could manage.

"There are three who have grown very well." three shadows released larger serpents. Nowhere near the massive size that Onyx could take but all three would give wolves a run for their money if they were attacked by them. It was clear that the light and darkness naturally occurring runes were extremely valuable in their growth as of late.

This didn't even consider the fact that some of them were influenced by the unique light and dark affinity herbs growing there for the serpents to consume. Walker had half a mind to go back to their small village and see what had been developed as the land and anchor for the entire race Onyx was leading now.

But that would have to wait. Onyx would invite Walker when he was ready to show off their achievements. Things that they had founded themselves to show they could stand equally with every race in Genesis. Many other races had the same mentality in their own shape and form. It was amazing to hear and see it all happen though.

"I don't think you came just to introduce me and to tell me you've seen the earthen chimera monsters that are trying to become a race?" Onyx shook his head at Walker, Walker knew that Onyx might have some other good news.

"The dungeon we use opened earlier, I thought it needed the right time with the moon and manas absorbed. The conditions changed because we were there and all the mana from training was absorbed by it."

Easing his eyebrows, Walker hummed a little. This was very good to know. Dungeons were unique aspects of the world now, they absorbed mana to manifest and heal the spaces they had. Meaning that if having training areas or general living areas works that allowed them to open sooner again was a good thing.

While this would have to be tested for safety, it was a good thing to know. There was always the potential that too much mana would go to one surrounded by living quarters or training grounds and it would open too often to keep up with. Not that it was a certainty for it to work that way.

"Also, these three came with me because they have gained a special class that lets them grow larger and tougher. Their affinity for light was even cut in half when they accepted the class." This made Walker refocus on the three serpents waiting patiently.

They did appear a little uncomfortable being out in the open, their tails were starting to drift back in to the shadows of while they waited.

"They are shadow guards. We have had people call themselves shadow guards but they were assassins that protected from the shadows. Their class is called shadow guards."

"They lose a lot of their light affinity to gain more connection to the shadows. They can remain silent and unnoticed with stealth in the shadow of someone for weeks on end. Their shadow armor can remain for hours with minimal dark mana added in. They are ideal guards to raise and a few more may awaken the class among the others."

Now Walker could understand the point that Onyx wanted to make. "You want the Genesis council to begin hiring your shadow guards to be able to defend them if something happens?"

"Yes, brother. I can wrap you in a coil and protect you. They can do the same in the future. Or they can protect important guests." Onyx had pride in the serpents but he also saw a lot of value in their class mixed with their affinities and race.

"I think this will be perfect actually." Walker had heard a thing or two about the queen and her daughter visiting Genesis. If these three shadow guards watched them, it was an added aspect of comfort and also a chance to show some respect to the home Walker and the others came from.

The human kingdom was a little further away now that the world had changed but they were still very supportive and sent a lot of merchants towards Genesis. They were also the ones who spoke directly with Markus Raven as their Genesis representative. Meaning that their relationship to Genesis was all the much stronger since Markus helped establish the majority of the Genesis treasury.

After outlining the idea, the three shadow guards blended in to the shadows, clearly they were more comfortable hiding but Walker could still see clear excitement in their eyes to show their strength.

"So, I take it the rest of your day is free?" Onyx nodded softly at Walker.

"Then that means you can come walk with me to see the coal people. Their leader has awoken from what I have been told. The eternal ember might be able to walk about now." That new day little more hope from Walker but if it was true it would be a good thing.

Neither of them could imagine the coal prowl being able to venture around all of the Genesis territory safely. The pair talked about how some races couldn't enter certain areas due to the lack of resistance they possessed already.

However, as Onyx and Walker neared the higher fire mana dense boundaries of the coal people's city, they noticed they had plenty of farmers working up a storm.

There were various herbalists and additional Genesis farmers in fire resistant robes and armor while speaking with the coal people farmers. They were already preparing the land and clearly stunned with the earth being so different. They had to add more fire mana to make their plants grow which would work hand in hand with their newly found skills to manipulate fire mana more clearly.

When the pair made it beyond the flame crystal walls, Walker felt that the walls themselves now helped a more calm form of mana. It was closely connected to the world in balance meaning that it also worked in turn with the rune formations across Genesis now. A striking improvement he didn't expect to naturally occur.

In minutes they were greeted by guards. They appeared larger than before, not intimidating or like they had gained weight but just generally healthier. There were also more common folk out too. The children mostly stared up at the sky since it had vibrant clear blue instead of the normal flaring red and oranges of the fire elemental plane.

This was natural since they had come to a new land, undergone a baptism of sorts, and now were acclimating to the world as a whole. It was nice to take in the little wonders.

There were others who also appeared to be more energetic than they had before. The coal people were not hiding in their homes full of worries, they appeared vibrant and excited. Even the attendants who led them in to the familiar meeting hall were nearly skipping while they walked.

When they spotted the coal person who had been leading everyone, the eternal ember, their king or lord, he looked entirely different.

The coal he sat upon was more part of his body now while he stood taller and the embarking flames within spilled out to create even more defined features. the coal parts of his body on his head even seemed to form a crown of sorts.

"We have seen too much lately to understand. Yet I still feel and see so many of my people full of joy. We may not venture far from here just yet, but we feel it."

"I can see it. Everyone looks healthier already and our mages are still working on creating the flame crawling coal you will all need. I would go so far to say that you all rely on the world's fire mana more now. In time I feel like you will all be able to travel the entire Genesis territory without much worry."

As much as this sounded overly positive it was clear that Walker believed it to be true. He could sense the mana was bonded more to other manas but that would become more unified as the years went by.

"We have started to find more out about ourselves. We are not just bodies of solid coal but bodies of pure flame within a shell. We can extend ourselves beyond." The flames moved and formed a hand showing the real form of the coal people.

"You are very much like the spirit race in that respect. I believe speaking with the fire affinity spirit race members you canceled a lot about your mana manipulation skills." Walker spoke earnestly while Onyx observed the attendants and their clear excitement.

All of them were ready to build and do more than anything they had ever done before. They had the abilities now. The stress was gone and they were ready to carve out their own paths. He just had to help Walker support them.

Chapter 2540 Inner Flame

"We have seen a change in some of our food supplying plants and some of our farmed monsters." This was not what Walker expected to be brought up right away. He expected there to be long conversations about laws or changes in their classes.

"Will you be able to feed everyone?" This was clearly the reason that this had been brought up first and foremost.

"We can feed everyone. The issue is our food is going faster. The livestock is also stronger too, there's more mana in their bodies. The food has more nutrients than it used to when we harvested."

Walker furrowed his eyebrows in curiosity, "you've already harvested food?"

"Yes! It was less than twelve hours to grow a stalk of soaking wheat. It is different now. It had a slight wind affinity according to the farmers. Our cows have magma in their bones and are called lava field cows. Our farmed flame foot rabbits grew nearly double their size and eat more too."

He and Onyx were getting a full picture of how much just parts of farming had changed for the coal people. It was a shock to them and also a major adjustment from what they had known. Now the Genesis farmers and herbalists had to help them adjust to all of this with their knowledge as well.

"We also have differences in our bodies, the flame within are our true essence. We have decided we will name our race. The world has offered us that." This made Walker's eyes become sharper. He hadn't expected that the world would do that, then again he knew that it would make sense.

The coal people had been known by that designation within the fire elemental planes. They had struggled to adapt and upon coming to the world they had changed vastly. Now they were different and should be called as such.

"We will take the name inner flame as our racial name. We require the flame crawling coal to protect us, to house our very hearts. But we are of fire at the core of what we are, always embering and bursting in to true flames when needed."

The attendants all nodded and buzzed with conversations. They were supportive of this while also showing their growth and involvement in their people.

"Then let me welcome the inner flame race to Genesis. While it may be unsafe to travel too far from your city for now, you are not the only ones with such restrictions. In time all races should be able to travel, you will build resistances. We can help with that training and with potions that will help resist manas."

"For now, we can use communication crystals to converse with the rest of the Genesis council when voting. Any knowledge you need we can share." Walker and Onyx began explaining how to ease communication and how he could leave one of his serpents here to also assist.

This would be ideal training in fire resistance for the little serpents he left here. Not to mention building more relationships with the inner flame race. It was a slight advantage for Onyx who was leading his young race on their path.

As they all spoke, Walker learned that the new skills the inner flame race gained were many. They had gained a natural racial defensive skill called burning coal shell, it would change their coal shell body in to a denser burning armor. It was ideal for defense especially in a fire based environment.

They also gained the skill flame body enlargement. This allowed them to use the inner flames which were their more spiritual and mana based body become even more physical while altering its shape for what they needed. It cost them more mana but was well worth it.

Just these two skills alone gave them much more safety and versatility in every day life. Those who were guards or soldiers would be able to stand much taller knowing they had improved their abilities to defend their people from just about any threats.

While this all went on, an interesting interaction with the dwarves and merfolk had begun. Gil found himself the center of it as he was the most nearby representative of the Genesis council who could assist with any issues.

He'd been working with a few elves to improve their skills related to elemental resistances. Elves wore primarily lighter armors so when it came to their defenses they were lacking.

With the new forms of crafting and various new forms of materials to use were ideal right now. Having a slow reshaping of all elven armor would be perfect for future endeavors. It also would enhance the focus on resistances when they understood the strength an armor had over them now.

Put a little harder inspiration in to their desire to get stronger.

But the issue he found now was that the dwarves had managed to make small tools that could enhance the way that the merfolk swam. Originally this had been to help them match up with the fact that they wore denser armor which made them sink faster.

Some merfolk saw it as training while others felt it was worse to wear armor like that. But when the dwarves had offered armor that covered their fins and allowed them to move faster they were insulted rather than happy.

"They will numb us to the feeling of the currents and the changes in water mana!"

This was the Crux of the issue. The merfolk had taken it as an insult which would make them worse than the dwarves golems. This wasn't the case but it was a clear misunderstanding in culture and ability.

"We made improvements because the armor is too heavy. This helps attune to your skills and lets you-"

"You aren't considering-"

"All of you shut your mouths right now! You are two teams handling the exploration of an underground underwater caverns. The mines you have found down there and undiscovered monsters have been extremely useful."

His stern tone and force made them all freeze. "You have not tested the new armor and equipment they made. They are made to help you and if they block your senses it can be adjusted. And you can all work together on it and the dwarves side of it needs to be clearer. Even with surprise work like this, you need to speak with someone in charge so they understand what you are doing. They also might have valuable intelligence on what they need or feel as a merfolk."

These events were fairly common still but the way that Gil made both sides shiver in fear for a moment was shocking. He rarely lost his cool and acted with force. However, they respected his opinion and view how. They saw he shouted to calm them and make them see the error of their ways.

The merfolk and the dwarves were the closest team when it came to caverns. Even Current Had spoken to many of them to get better feelings of what they do under the ground where he can not fit his full dragon body.

"These fin covers can protect you better while channeling the water mana into them. This allows your skills to work and also for you to sense the mana itself. You can alter it to fit their fins better while also allowing them to test it and make sure it does not harm them."

After he said this, the two leaders of their squads began discussing the armor pieces in particular. It was calmer and more clear what the benefits would be. There was also a clear benefit to this conversation since the groups since now they were making sure they cared for the differences in their race better while also uniting more closely.

While this was a small part of his day, Gil realized that he would be needed in moments like this. Where emotion took over and people were not seeing clearly. It would happen often but being able to pull back and see the error in all involved was enough to fix it.

While Genesis was growing faster and faster they had to remember that they were all very different in reality it was not exactly years yet. They needed the time to develop and grow together.

This would only be clearer through more time and more hard work. The fact that some many had grown and developed to this point was spectacular. Sometimes they would all need help from one another but that was the point of all this. To grow together.

"Let's all remember how much our lives have changed. Every day you prove that we are better together. And in the future we will be even greater.