

Master 2721

Chapter 2721: Grab A Healer?

To say that Walker and Midnight learned a lot from Rodney in their walk while chatting, would be an understatement. The amount of materials being moved to and from the crafting guild alone was a major development compared to what it used to be. Every day there were easily a hundred carts going back and forth just for the student to use who were learning various crafting professions as apprentices.

Adding in the materials being produced for the building efforts, and the number of carts was only rising,.. When the crafting guild location was finished being built in the second city, there would actually be a small decrease in work allowing for a more even spread. Until then, the main crafting guild would still be producing as much as they possibly could.

That was a very good thing though. Right now they were able to quickly teach and allow for apprentices to become better at their chosen path. Their class skills and abilities were growing faster than they would have before Genesis was created. Meaning that everything was being done very well.

The production of basic supplies like nails, boards, and average tools alone was enough to ensure that the production outside the crafting guild also grew rapidly. Add in the fact that every created item needed to be confirmed through appraisal for safety and quality before it was used, and the growth in the appraisal experts was also growing rapidly.

When Rodney had bragged about how he had gained new class skills, it was an interesting idea. It seemed he was already working toward becoming some form of crafting guild master. Not specifically in the terms of being able to do his specific forging craft, but in terms of leading the guild. He has received specific quests guiding him to have skill related to being the master of the whole guild and run it as a whole without being held back.

Tat alone was enough to know that he was one of the few with the potential to keep the crafting guild running smoothly. It also meant that what Rodney was doing now was seen as a constant growth and development for the guild and its people. Easy enough for Walker and Mindight to understand his importance to the guild.

When they asked about how he would be working in the second city, Rodney had explained the crafting group rotation.

Just as the soldiers and guards had a rotation for a few months stationed in certain areas before they would rotate to learn elsewhere or they would have time off, so did the crafters guild now. They would send troops of crafters that would work on specific aspects of the new city and would ensure that there was growth and development for themselves as well. This was allowing for the designs of buildings, defenses, and even rune carving to happen more efficiently while the already experienced novices gained the chance to go above being a novice.

It felt good knowing that these sorts of rotations were made and working well. It felt like there were efficient and fair steps to take from an apprentice without knowledge all the way to a master who explored new potential aspects of crafting as a whole. The more that Rodney has expanded the requirements to move up in the guild the more it made sense.

Not only would an advanced craftsman need to pass a series of tests related to their fields, they would also need to participate in contests and also apply to teach apprentices. This way, the teaching and learning would meet full circle before one could be regarded as a master of their craft and have more freedom of independent study. It was an available way to keep producing new talents and also learning from the new forms of crafting classes being discovered every single day.

Overall, the pair felt that they were better prepared for when they saw the massive construction going on in the second city. Especially when it came to the material requirements and approvals that were going on in both Genesis and outside of Genesis when the materials reached the builders. Some projects that needed special materials needed to have those materials checked many times over to ensure mana had not dissipated from them making them useless.

After saying goodbye to Rodney, the two were left preparing a little for their journey to the second city. It was interesting considering it was just a second city on paper due to not being able to properly function just yet. Walker recalled seeing the map of worker camps who were more than excited to get to a point where they could fully move in to proper rooms with beds. But he also knew that that was happening sooner than later right now.

The fact that the construction was speeding up with the underground and the foundation of major buildings done was enough. Just enough to tell that there would be an immense growth in speed of building happening now and for the future too.

"We are going to teleport soon, anything you need to do?" Walker was asking Midnight since he knew that some hatchlings depended on her. She also might make a choice to stay and help Mordant.

"Bring Alice!" It wasn't what Walker expected Midnight to say. He'd expected her to try and convince him to stop by more street vendors to store snacks away. Something he would have folded and done if she asked him a few times. Between her, and his younger sister, the town of them could easily convince him to spend a mountain of gold on snacks, something he wouldn't like to admit.

"She should be busy with training new healers though, so we shouldn't bother her." While Walker would like to just carry Alice away, he understood she also had her responsibilities. There were many that needed teaching and she had a lot of knowledge from growing up within the cathedral while also working hard to embody what it meant to help and heal others no matter what. She did have a Saintess title after all.

"The healers will come with us. We can escort them!" Midnight was not taking no for an answer. And to be honest, this was a stated fact already. The whaler groups going to the building of the city on the Sigil continent were going to be able to learn and grow faster. The constant small injuries from basic building

always offered a great way to lead bedside manner along with general rules of healing. It also allowed for emergency response teaching as well.

While everyone wished that it would never happen, there were times when accidents occurred. In life, that was entirely unavoidable. Meaning that there would be those with brutal injuries during constrictions. At those times, a healer without experience witnessing how the veteran healers acted would gain experience in various forms. It meant that when these situations occurred in the future, they were better able to handle them and make sure the injured lived another day with their families.

This changed the direction that the two were heading. A quick trip to the cathedral and the attached training ground which had recently been set up for educational purposes would be easy. Without even setting foot on the ground, Midnight and Walker managed to get a view of how the cathedral training grounds had been adjusted and set up specifically for education.

There were tents that would be in work camps, ruins exploration camps, and even war camps. They had been created this way so that the atmosphere would mimic the very same conditions. It was also why there were multiple water mages, mist mages, and light mages working to make illusions around certain tents. They were showing the healers who had never seen these conditions exactly what they might face while on an expedition.

This also expanded the abilities of a healer. They could understand what pressure they might face allowing them to hopefully surpass the panic that might freeze them in place. Being able to both heal others while protecting themselves was paramount to surviving a battle or dangerous situation. Right now, Walker caught sight of Alice ordering a small group of six healers to carry a training dummy. While made of straw, the illusions cast on it made it seem like a soldier who had lost an arm and needed immediate care.

He didn't fail to notice that Alice was giving orders while keeping her light mana entirely under control. She was training her control and usage of mana as closely as possible. She wanted to control herself so she could make the meaning and emotions behind her songs more of a focus. It was respectable and he couldn't lie and say he wasn't proud to see her working so hard. It made him wonder if he could sneak

any additional time for the two of them to brag about what they had been up to, he wanted to hear it all.

Chapter 2722: Off To Explore

"How will you deal with a monster getting in this tent? What if every guard is in chaos because of several monsters from a monster wave getting in here? What if migrating monsters with the ability to fly get in here because they think your patents are easy food? What would you do!" The person yelling wasn't Alice, she was standing next to an older man clearly ranked as a priest within the cathedral. Not that the rankings were related to any religious side any longer. Genesis now used the rankings as experience markers for years of service.

Many of the healers who heard this from the priest all began to panic as one of the tamed forest wolves pretended to be sniffing around a training dummy to "eat" it. The tamers working with the healers on this training were a brilliant idea. Walker and Midnight could tell that they were having their tamed monsters move slowly to allow the inexperienced healers the time to learn and adjust. It was an amazing idea for training.

When one of the light warriors tried to step forward, a small movement happened in the ground and held his feet. "What if you are not facing one monster, but two? What if you are not facing a monster but a tamed set of monsters who are controlled by a tamer with control skills? How will you protect those around you and make sure you get these injured people to safety?"

When Walker's booming voice added to the event, he noticed Alice smile with a little surprise. She had not expected that he and Midnight would appear, but with the addition of Midnight pretending to be a monster too, it was pretty intimidating for the trainees.

A few trainees lost their composure and ran feeling that they would be unable to do anything. Those that began to flee were trapped by Walker's earth magic. The others who moved to begin evacuating without looking at the threat were mostly the healers who understood that they had to care for the injured no matter what. A few of them even yelled that the guards and combat class holders would handle the monsters. Meaning that they showed that they understood their roles and others roles.

A few of the light shield guardians, light warriors, and even some basic warriors who appeared to be inspired by the path of healing all reacted to fight the tamed wolf and also Midnight. They even rushed toward Walker who laughed while they swung weapons at him. He didn't disappoint them though.

As they tried to attack him, he called out adjustments to the speed and their movements. Where he noticed they were not balanced properly or where they had to improve their aim. The swords and even an odd whip strike were enough for him to feel that these braver fighters had been waiting for an opponent.

For some front line fighters, when they were left behind to defend something, they got excited when an opponent appeared. Meaning that Walker was also teaching them that their excitement and lack of caution also failed them in a way. But that courage to strike was good. Hence why he pointed out flaw after flaw until Alice shouted for everyone to pause.

After a few moments of lecturing, the priest, Alice, and Walker left the tent to allow the healers and fighters to think of their actions. Those who had fled were reprimanded and asked why they were here. They were also left with the fact that they would have additional training in real wilderness after this. Those who followed the taught path to evacuate and defend were praised while also told about their lack of caution. Very few received praise individually due to the lack of overall experience, but that was something they could change in time and hard work.

"Sorry for jumping in to your training routine here. We wanted to ask you something." Walker smiled as the priest who had been there decided to leave them and speak with the tamer of the forest wolf. It seemed that they were preparing to test another group of healers in a different tent so that the lessons could keep moving forward.

"You can come help whenever you want. It was good that they saw their failings today. Their teachers will also have better notes to help them." From what Alice had seen. There have been some glaring

losses in their education so far. Mostly things that real wilderness exploration could help them with. The preparation and fortitude that came from being out in dangerous lands was enough to temper the guards and the healers who had fled in worry or fear just before.

"You should come with us!" Midnight had not transformed in to her dragon form while they pretended to be monsters or attackers. She has been strong enough to make it seem she was just another monster whether they saw her in this or her dragon form. However, the Dragonkin form allowed for her to half tackle Alice in a proper hug while telling her she should go with them.

Although, it seemed more like Midnight could just carry Alice off wherever they wanted to go regardless. Not that she would, but the potential was there.

"Midnight said she would like to see you come to the construction as well. We are going to help there and also check on the process of helping the fallen angel cities float again. If we can make a proper floating island through and through there is a lot we can do. And since the healers might need experience healing smaller wounds, we thought you might want to lead additional younger healers there."

This seemed to be somewhat near what Alice had expected from them when they came here unannounced. While she knew Walker moved with whatever he was thinking and the problems he encountered, she also understood he would not pop in and help just because he thought it mildly interesting. He had to have a more developed idea of what he could achieve or have an idea about how he could help everyone develop faster.

"I planed to bring others to a wilderness area. We can do it in the Sigil continent safely with how many guards and explorations are happening." She knew very well that making this a bigger expedition would only be a good thing as well.

There were many ruins, work camps, and experimental research going on. Having more healers no matter how novice would be ideal for preparing a faster growth for those healers and those potentially getting injured. Not to mention that sending groups of healers there was already part of the plan. Alice also recalled Su mentioning taking her new group of elite guards there to learn as well. It was perfect.

"That's perfect then. I will wait for you to bring your groups there. And when we have a little free time I can take you out to explore too." Walker smirked and rushed off with Midnight before he heard what Alice had to say. Midnight nudged him a bit since he had dragged her along but she also knew very well why Walker had rushed off. He didn't want to hang around too long after practically saying he had a date planned. It was embarrassing.

Regardless, they had a blogger group heading to the Sigil continent now. It was perfect since he would be able to make sure that more people gained opportunities while he and the other studied making the ruined cities float again and also testing some rune formations to make a black dome of dark mana that made the inside like nighttime. Both projects would be able to advance very well.

"Midnight, do you want to head out right now?" Walker turned to see if Midnight was going to want to stay for a little longer or if they could run off now. Without even thinking Midnight was taking the lead to drag him toward the working elemental teleportation formation nearby. She was ready to explore before anyone else could stop her or ruin it. She and Walker hadn't explored anything alone for a while now, it was important to her that they got the chance.

"I can't wait to see the ruined city they have chosen to bring back to its prime. I heard that this one was considered a more dangerous area because more monsters lived in the ground and might be within the underground ruined section of the formerly floating city. That means we will be able to meet the fighters clearing out the caves. A few of the dwarven golems controlled by elemental spirits and spirit race members are there already."

This spurred Midnight to drag Walker along even faster. She loved seeing the monster and animal inspired dwarven golems. They were always very interesting and had plenty of unique skills and abilities. Who wouldn't find them fascinating?

Chapter 2723: To The Underground

Leaving through the elemental teleportation formation was quick and easy. Since there were time slots set up for the material transfers, Walker and Midnight had easily taken their chance to leave with those. They also were able to take all the supplies in to Walker's multi dimensional storage to help the building efforts move smoothly. It also gave a few people an extra day off who had already been paid, something that would surprise their families or just generally make their days better so it was a win win.

The teleportation seemed smoother even without the fact that this was a prior elemental teleportation formation that has yet to be adjusted with the space runes just yet. However, Walker believed that he felt this was smoother because of the usage of space mana he had.

He could tell that his body was more acclimate to the space mana and his will in teleporting as well played a factor. He was able to move through space with less resistance even though he was not actively utilizing his manipulation of space mana. Even Midnight seemed to feel less pressure in the process, proving that the entire party most likely had a better affinity for teleportation skills even if they did not possess any themselves.

Regardless of everything else, Walker also looked in to the fact that the people checking the supplies had been expected the shipments slower through the day. The sudden rush of materials could have stressed them, but instead, they seemed excited since they would be delivering good news to all the employees and building leaders who had projects waiting for proper supplies. With Walker's sudden arrival they now have whatever they needed plus they could gossip a bit about what the heroes were doing here.

As the building areas and the teleportation formation were a ways away from one another, Walker and Midnight took the opportunity to fly over the traveling trout between the two. The guard posts to ensure that monsters didn't interfere were well manned along with the fact that the road was well maintained. It meant that everyone was working well to maintain the building already here and that the following of blueprints for the way that the city would be built was progressing very well too.

Otherwise, Walker and Midnight noticed that some of the gardens were also being built. Specifically, there was a small forest being protected by the elves who would be managing the general herbs here, they would be focusing on this because the city would need areas for those who needed more nature oriented homes in safety. As such, the building of these areas would take much longer because it wasn't up to the materials they needed but up to the fact that the plants had to grow.

Having a park for people to spend peace in safety was also important. When studying what the feedback of many genesis races wanted, many of them had said that they wished for more natural spaces to bring their children without worrying about any monsters. Some had notably been tamers who wished for places to more comfortably rest with their tamed monsters without either worrying they would need to fight anyone in the wilderness. As such, this had become a larger focus for the construction efforts.

There were many people rushing around everywhere they seemed to go so far. The number of guards doing training was also very high. It already felt like this was a busy city and not necessarily anything under construction. Then again, as they reached the camps, it seemed like the temporary housing was actually more like a small logging camp.

There were small temporary wooden homes built so that wind and weather was better resisted along with safety from any other risks like monsters. It was wisely built to have a wall that could easily be un-built and used elsewhere for material later when the building projects reached this area. To be fair though, the ideas had been used before when building smaller towns and even expanding areas of the city, but seeing it in practice was a lot to enjoy.

Midnight made a small huff as she noticed that there were many smaller market stalls along the area trying to sell foraged fruits and vegetables from the every wilderness. When Walker saw that many of them were being supplied by adventurers he realized that the adventurer's guild had been one of the first to begin building their headquarters here.

Having the guild buildings able to encourage their own workers to come and properly build up their secondary buildings here was a wise choice since for them, they would be able to start business properly sooner. The adventurer's guild being a really good and perfect guild to do so.

Being able to have adventurers receiving quests to hunt for food was a major start. These smaller merchants had small quests created so that they were able to get products to sell sooner. All the workers here were hungry and the more food in different varieties was ideal. They would need something to break upon the monotony of similar meals provided to them. For the youngest merchants trying to get a foothold here, this was an ideal way to have connections and await the time to purchase a building from their first shops or first warehouses.

The reason Midnight didn't seem happy was because she didn't see any of the popular snacks she liked eating and would have to wait for them to be built up a little more before things like that were readily available. "You already have enough in my storage skill. Just wait a while and we will see the city functioning just as Genesis does." After teasing Midnight a bit, Walker and Midnight stopped flying as they approached the main construction area. Their goal was to see the underground area first before they met with any of the angels heading toward the ruined cities.

Knowing that Terron had personally reinforced the walls and pillars of the underground section made Midnight and Walker all the more interested in the area. They could tell that the stronger reinforcements would allow for better future building. Some of which would allow for better usage of rainwater from the surface to the underground and outside of the city through underground rivers. It basically made sure flooding would never be an issue and if it got close water mages would be able to handle it easily rather than struggle.

The entire underground entrance had already been built. There were many moving in and out using dwarven golems to move materials. Some of the golems even carried out ingots made from ores still being excavated from deeper in the earth elbow and around the underground section of this area of the city. It proved that the underground forges were now being used properly.

One aspect that Walker noticed were the pipes. They were made to carry the steam and smoke from the forge fires under the city and help heat them in the winter along with keeping everyone warm in general. The idea had been hard to pass since the experiment was on a larger scale than what had been done. It required many purifying rune formations to make sure that the moisture and the smoke were not toxic and would not cause any dangers.

While this had been done efficiently, Walker also knew that the dwarven architecture had been improved immensely as others had looked in to it making this just as advanced, if not more advanced, than the canal systems within genesis right now. Pricing that ingenuity was still advancing in many ways.

The golems also appeared to be bringing out some interesting gems and fossils to be appraised. So much so that the appraisal experts had their own temporary checkpoint just outside the underground section entrance. It was one entrance of six that would spread to different areas within the city once it was fully built. This could guarantee that there would be an easy flow of the populace later.

"We need to see if there are already homes built underground. I know that the king of the deep and terron said there were for the earth wyverns, but I have no idea how large they are." Walker also considered that terron was able to walk down there in his full earth dragon dominator form. Meaning that the underground section of the city might just be larger than the current size of the underground city in genesis or the dwarven home city.

If this was the case, then there would be a safe and open place for the earth wyverns and earth dragons to live when they came here. A good thing since it would be one of the places that they did not have to take a more humanoid form to travel. That alone was enough to get Walker and Midnight moving quicker.

Chapter 2724 Larger Furnaces

While the two looked like they were sightseeing, Walker was looking at the appraisals of the walls. He was astounded by the ways that Terron had condensed the walls while the dwarves had used their improved forging knowledge to add metal reinforced pillars in to the walls too. It meant that there were two layers of stabilized stone and metal encompassed by condensed earth along with rune formations to help keep the walls and ceilings perfect.

In all of this, there was a lot more safety than what the dwarves had when they built their original city or even the underground of Genesis. This was built to last for the people who would live here. It was built for safety even against a dragon who might rage in the worst case.

A few workers moving materials along the entrance tunnels stopped to look at Midnight and Walker before realizing who they were and then giving them a wave. They had been told to be vigilant of any oddities and two people without a single material to carry stood out as odd. Then again, the oddities were mostly related to potential monsters trying to dig from other underground caverns to the city being built.

Luckily that had not happened and the few underground monsters that had been found were swiftly dealt with by those in positions to do so. It had actually been an even safer building and excavation because Terron had been there. The presence of a dragon was a very large deterrent.

While that would not be surprising outside of the Sigil continent, within the Sigil continent it was surprising enough. Many monsters had some remnants of dragon blood in them from when the dragons had been dying off on this continent. Therefore, the monsters that had some dragon blood within them had a habit of hunting any others that had dragon blood. So, it would be normal for a proper dragon to feel like they were being targeted by monsters.

The thing was, strength. That was the core aspect of what was stopping any of the weaker monsters with some remnants of dragon blood inside their bodies from going after himself and others. Terron had the strength to make his entire aura too intimidating for even the most common monsters who might be foolish enough to attempt to walk nearer to him and whatever he was.

It was a good thing and it seemed to keep being a fact. To the monsters, this was a territory established by Terron. They would not be foolish enough to even attempt to near it. They would just become prey to that intense predator marking its home.

When Walker and Midnight noticed that signs were already built in with small names to tunnels the same roads would be named, they were smiling. The names were based off the founders of guilds and the prominent guards who protected Genesis and would be moving here to protect the people when they had places built to live. It was a great idea for a grand gesture to pay homage to those willing to put their lives on the line to protect all of them.

Otherwise, the building underground when the pair reached an opening of the cavern was immense. Tall enough for people to fly around safely, even Midnight, was something to be stunned about.

While many of the elder dragons or even adult dragons could not fly safely here, that did not mean the harpy race or the batmen race couldn't. Some demi-humans could as well as others with wings or the abilities. Basically, even the hatchlings could fly around when they were able to use their wings well enough to do so here making this a great safe place for many of the younger fliers within the city, and if dragons were included then the parents of those hatchlings would be much happier.

Not to mention the wyvern races. They would be the happiest to have a safe place to fly and grow, it was exactly what they needed and wanted the most. Their hatchlings needed it. That freedom to fly and fly colors would inspire them to gain classes that the dragon race had never possessed due to the way they lived in the past.

For the earth dragons alone, it would be a change drastically different. They had left their eggs safely in caverns to grow and fight the world. Eventually, they would grow strong enough to return to them and become one of the elders ruling a village or following another earth dragon. Now, they could live safer and increase the number of earth dragons. Also allowing them the chance to grow to the point that they would be invaluable to the other races as well.

"Look, there's one of the workshops." Midnight pointed out a small workshop producing what appeared to be nails and brackets. Plenty of useful materials were already being made at a rapid pace.

"It looks like it's just one of the entrance ships purchased as a second location. If we go deeper we should see the experimental forge." One thing Walker wanted to see was the experimental forge. Mainly because it was an expansion of the crafting guild and would connect right to the above ground crafting guild so that classes and materials could be easily exchanged.

Midnight sniffed the air and started moving quickly. For her keen sense of smell she easily tracked the scent of burning metal slag and stoked furnaces. It was a little fun letting her scout the way since the roads between buildings were so well organized that they could have danced along them and still not crossed to the opposite side.

Naturally, there were smaller streets for residents but a whole carriage could still fit down them with room to spare. Meaning that it would be much more efficient for those traveling to and from work along with those delivering to residential homes. It was a great improvement on many kingdoms who had older cities built over longer periods of time.

As the two noticed the busier area, the larger experimental forges came in to view. The massive pipes attached to it for the steam and smoke were what they saw first, and Walker sensed the tube formations along the pipes that purified them of anything harmful clearly too. They were working very well from the way the mana flowed along them.

"Get that carriage moving! Building squad eighteen needs those nails to keep working today not tomorrow!" The gruff voice of a foreman shouting orders took over the outer carriage stop. It seemed like he was making sure smooth was the only way things ran in terms of deliveries and reviving. At the very least, every time the man shouted there was someone hustling to complete the tasks so that was a good sign.

"Ha! I knew you'd come here first. You're getting predictable." The king of the deep caves slapped Walker on his shoulder. Walker had noticed the dwarf coming out of a carriage with a pile of rough iron

ore but he knew that the king would head his way. "Liking the new forge and cave city? It's brilliant, that ceiling is five times taller than my city. Do you know they are planning to build homes on the top of that ceiling? It's something to look forward to."

The excitement and vibrant energy from the normally silent king of the deep caves was astonishing. But to be fair, all the metals and hard work here had come about because of his early investment in time. The king of the deep caves had also been in the underground section of Genesis making sure the ore shipments would arrive, and when they did he'd also gone along to check progress on the mining operations here.

"It all looks like a well oiled golem for sure. Nothing is out of place and no one. Seems to be missing a single detail. I assumed you came to steal away some ore to bring back?" Walker and Midnight knew full well that the Sigil continent had some different variations of ore that could be swapped around in terms of the crafting guild.

"You are spot on. That green vein copper can be made in to marble looking bronze that some of those fancy nobles like. We have quite a few orders since the human kingdom will buy em." His bragging showed just how entertained the king of the deep caves was by all this.

"Have you seen the master furnace yet? It can let twenty people forge in it at the same time." Now this was news to Walker and Midnight. They hadn't heard of a project like this just yet.

"Now that sounds like something we want to see." Both Midnight and Walker had a feeling that they might be able to have a little fun checking out a massive forge furnace that allowed twenty blacksmiths to work constantly.

Chapter 2725 Just Massive

When the king of the deep cave had said master furnace and explained that twenty people could forge in it at the same time, Walker and midnight had been very interested. They had worked together forging before using Midnight's dragon flames and Walker's collection of skills.

As they approached the area, there were many other groups bringing materials toward and not bringing them back as often. This was normal for larger projects. There was also a growth in what was very noticeable to both Walker and Midnight. While they had resistances to just about everything at this point, the heat they felt was proof that there was a lot more mana and activity ahead.

Looking though, they just saw a massive pillar. A structure that they believed to be holding up part of the ceiling. "That's not a pillar for support, that's the master furnace." This caused a stutter in Midnight and Walker's steps. They hadn't expected it to stretch all the way to the ceiling to deal with the fumes and constant exhaust. That meant this fire was always going to age within.

"The forge furnaces in the underground could heat a lot of the city when it gets cold, which is great, but this, it will be a perfect guarantee that people will never need to worry about keeping their families warm again." From the way that the king of the deep caves spoke, it seemed he had heard and met with those who struggled to stay warm in the past.

There had been plenty of demons who had stories of losing their family members to the cold. The ice and snow that came seasonally had been a horrible villain to them due to the fact that the sin title holders and demon king had treated them as slaves. They never received help and anything good they had was stolen or destroyed. This being a driving force for many leaders now as a way to improve the lives of everyone and avoid those past traumas.

Seeing that the king of the deep caves had it in mind and used his influence to ensure that it happened, Walker was not going to comment at all. It was the right thing and the right thing didn't need praise. Sometimes it just needed silent supporters standing shoulder to shoulder with them.

"All the ore mined around here can be brought here for general smelting. I can't say that this master furnace can make refined this or that. It can make mass produced ingots and alloys though."

"That makes more sense. There would be contamination from other metals and the burning slag. It would disrupt the mana flow and purity. All the metal forging techniques that need herbs or other woods to be burned would cause some break down in quality too, so this is perfect for making the iron for all the nails and hinges for doors. It's actually perfect."

As Walker and midnight approached, larger doors were opened exposing the massive surrounding room. This huge forge had been made around the master furnace then walled in for safety. There were hundreds of small rune formations built to protect everyone from heat and fumes while also reinforcing everything here. While explosions for forges were very rare, having protection for everyone in case it happened was imperative.

There were also large stocks of ores against the walls that were being fed in to processing areas to be made in to the ingots cooling across the opposite side. This was a massive square assembly line to make the most ingots of different ores as possible. It also would guarantee a cheaper price on ingots for the average blacksmith trying to make a project or to advance themselves through their work. Meaning that many would not need to worry about costly prices due to the lack of local materials.

"We have enough blacksmiths working here right now, and we can hire more since this forge will never stop unless it's for maintenance. Those other two are angry they can't come here and see it." The king of the deep caves was clearly speaking about his other two fellow kings of the dwarven race. One was in charge of the people while the others in charge of the forges. However, it was the king of the deep caves who came to Genesis and supported them the most.

Walker looked back internally about how the king of the deep caves had allowed them in to the caverns to explore and help. Because of this, they had come to a better bond and built their relationship leading to where they were now. Yes there was more in all of that, but it was all steps toward a better everything for all the people of Genesis.

"We can also bring the wood here to make charcoal, can't we?" Walker looked at the king of the deep caves, who had a wide grin despite the ashes and black smears on his face.

"You are right about that. We can make charcoal for all of those merchants when they try to go off exploring or trading in the winter. We can even manufacture some ingredients for long lasting torches without magic or runes being needed." This was a great plan and idea. The productivity and affordability would make this master furnace a perfect core of the city. It would support so much of what went on during the coldest and hardest time for any city, town, or village.

"What else is there to know about the master forge? I figure you have something special if you want to show off so much." Walker and Midnight both focused on the king of the deep cave. He was giving them a knowing smirk too before reaching in to his pocket and tossing Walker a stone.

"Give that an appraisal and tell me that the slag from this furnace isn't making something unique." The laughter as he watched Walker use his all around appraisal skill was all too telling.

'Earth glue

An entirely accidental creation due to forging multiple ores and alloys within the same furnace. While this is normally discarded as slag and broken down in to other items for production, this earth glue was made in such a large quantity that someone finally saw the value in it.

Just like metal and ore, when heated it becomes malleable. However, when cooled it is exceedingly rigid and tough. It can be used to meld metals together without needing to forge or fold them together. Because of this, it is ideal for construction of walls and even metal roofs which will need to flex and shift

with the natural flow of seasons and time. It is also ideal for crafting weapons that have many moving pieces or other forms of armor that need reinforcements without adding extreme weight.

While most people would not realize the benefits of this, there are additional benefits when breaking this items down further in to pure earth glue which can be used as a material when creating earth and even metal magical equipment. It would be ideal for spell swords, magical forgemasters, metal mages...'

The appraisal was interesting and surely unique. "So this was a material that had been ignored for generations as waste and broken down all the same with normal slag. We missed this because we just didn't look close enough." The realization was striking. So many good things were missed because people didn't slow down and take the time to actually look. If someone had seen this earlier, each mages alone would have better magical equipment for them to use.

Walker's mind drifted to the steel lamia race that used metal magic. They would find this sort of material very valuable since they would be able to use it to enhance their strength. Since that race would be visiting them sooner than later, he knew that stocking up on it would be a valuable goal.

After explaining his idea to the king of the deep caves, Walker didn't mind that Midnight had taken the piece of earth glue and was using her dragon flames to heat it and mold it like clay. He was actually happier that she found some interest in utilizing her dragon flames in a more refined manner. It meant that Midnight was growing just as fast as he was in terms of her own abilities.

"Don't worry about the stockpile of this. I will have it all set up to use as we need. Just make sure you push forward a request to get my teams of miners better pickaxes. We have a lot of broken tools because of how fast we are working." The king of the deep caves knew that Walker could push forward his orders and he didn't seem to mind that he was being a little manipulative. Regardless, Walker smiled as he and Midnight headed out an hour or so after they had spent playing with the earth glue and learning more about it.

Chapter 2726 Take It Slow

While the master forge furnace had been something interesting because it had yielded a new and unexpected result, there was more that Midnight and Walker had seen.

After leaving behind the master furnace which was very impressive, they had seen some of the buildings being worked on. The alchemy guild had similar processes for the smoke that would leave it as the forging areas. The pipes would provide heat for the city above and around. However, there was a catch there.

Where the forging would produce mostly smoke and useless fumes, the alchemy guild might have condensed smoke that could become important liquids used in further alchemy experimentation. Hence why Walker and Midnight were amazed to see that each pipe being made as a chimney was directed through an ice formation to gather the steam and let the liquid get extracted.

While this was the same as using a tool for it, it might be able to capture more. There could be some lost fumes that were more valuable and would just need further refinement. Or, if multiple herbs were used to make a potion, there could be a whole added potion made as a result. It could expand the usage of herbs to another vial compared to what other alchemy labs produced.

Since every lab would be more advanced like this, it would mean that the alchemists working there would be able to gain a great deal more. They would have better equipment that was more up to date while they learned and be able to acclimate to even newer equipment once they were passed the learning phase of their education. There was also the simple fact that many of the angels had different views on herbs and had been digging in to their history with elemental alchemy. They might be able to use this location much better to bring back their older forms of alchemy.

Otherwise, the area set aside for the tamer's guild was basically untouched so that they could develop it better as tamers for their monsters. It was better that they were able to do so over time so that their tamed monsters could be more comfortable. The same for the training areas of the soldiers, they needed to set their equipment, teaching processes, and even the barracks for sleeping themselves. It was better to set that up according to their wishes since it will affect their education plans for each soldier who would protect this city first.

The residential homes and small shop streets were the least built, but that was also because many of them were not sold or were not being planned just yet. Many people were still getting in touch and trying to decide on plots available for building. The shops being built to suit the business going in there was something that attracted many. However, to keep the rush of merchants down, right now there were limited locations for shops being offered. It would expand as the entire city was built though.

When the two finally crossed the entire underground section of the city, they came up the opposing entrance leading them to realize that it had shifted to night time while they had been underground. It was somewhat ironic that they had gone in to the dakar underground city still not equipped with as many light and glowing crystals only to find himself split by the moon and the stars above round as well.

Not that it was an issue, there were builders working still and the section that the pair came to had an already functioning set of shops selling food. While they had been the few allowed because the workers needed to eat, the smell of roasting meat and frying vegetables had drawn Walker and Midnight in. He wasn't even surprised to see one of the eateries bragging that they had permission to use a recipe Walker's mother had created. Since she has been so free and successful, the recipes created had been presented as parts of contracts to be used elsewhere.

Food wasn't all they found though, they found the location of a larger square where the cathedral here was going to be built. The moonlight shown colorful through the rainbow of stained glass on display before they could be fitted in to the stone walls. The pictures were of each race building the city and helping one another. It truly was an art that allowed for the unity of Genesis to translate to the people who would come to this city and live together as well.

In terms of art, that was something growing even more. Whether it had been halted due to the fact that all the races had not cooperated as well or that some races had been oppressed, Walker didn't know. He did know for a fact that now there were many artists appearing. Not justice rafters who made something that could be called a work of art. It was those that appeared pursuing artistic beauty overall.

Surprisingly, that mindset had led to some interesting discoveries.

It came to the mana gathering theories about certain formations and forms. While not necessarily runes, the paints made by artists could have an effect on how a painting could attract certain manas. For some, that was an important aspect of their personal growth and understanding when it came to an elemental mana. It was already said that a forest elf had been meditating trying to understand natural mana but struggled with it. Yet, when they looked at a painting made of a deep forest clearing, they had been inspired by the emotions and essence behind the painting allowing them to gather a small amount of natural mana and become more in tune with the forest itself.

Moments like that were few, but they were increasing. The idea that someone could put intent and aura in to a painting or other form of art was a major potential for growth in terms of the young as well. If there were children surrounded by various forms of art they may be able to be inspired by their natural affinity or even guided toward the class which would be ideal for them.

There was also the fact that some artists who carved stones had found ways to understand ruins differently than the researchers and explorers. Their position as an artist gave them the perspective of how a stone wall might have been carved or why. It gave them the ability to notice mistakes that would cause different symbols to be interpreted by researchers or translators. Basically, their perspective could allow for clarity in some instances along with avoiding false information about why something might be made.

Otherwise, there were just the general benefits that came with art. People would feel inspired and have goals to make something like that. It increased trade and also allowed for those who were aged to view the beauty of the world where they could not travel. Not to mention the higher class people from various kingdoms to purchase art they enjoyed.

The more populated area where the night time workers had started seemed to be full of planning. Many meetings with different teams and even a few with guard squads for the teams heading out to harvest

materials from nearby. Walker was not at all surprised to hear about the fact that the logging team was searching for a type of tree that naturally glowed. Not just because it would give off the gathered light mana from the daytime, but also to plant those trees along the road and naturally grow a light source that would not cost as much mana.

It was a smart idea for them to utilize what grew on the continent naturally. And luckily for Walker and Midnight, the way that the logging team was moving was toward the floating cities of the angels and the ruined city that they were going to explore. Even more so, there was a rough road carved out in that direction which would be pathed with flat stones as soon as they had been carved properly. It just needed time to be done.

When the leader of the logging team and head guard escorting them had noticed that Walker and Midnight joined them, they were ecstatic. They had the best safety they could and they also could ask Walker and Midnight for their inputs. Not to mention, they had all heard about Alice coming with healers in the next coming day. It was all good news and they were more comfortable hearing it and now seeing that it was not just a list of rumors being made by people to cheer up or keep the morale high.

Plus, Walker and Midnight liked taking things slow. They enjoyed meeting the loggers and new guards with them. It allowed them to relax too. Especially since they got to hear stories about some monster encounters and also how the building was going in the eyes of a worker.

Chapter 2727 Walk To The Ruined City

The logging group was appearing a lot more prepared than what Walker and Midnight expected. They were moving with care and extreme vigilance. It seemed that their experiences in the wilderness chopping trees as materials for building had led them to encounter enough monsters that they were always wary now.

There was also a perfect cohesion with the guards. When the loggers moved, the guards were also moving. Their movements were so well in tune that Walker and Midnight even found themselves changing the way they moved so that they could cover any blind spots as well. What really stood out was the fact that when Walker and Midnight would move, the guards would adjust themselves so that

Walker and Midnight would act as major walls to protect the loggers. This was because they understood that those two were stronger than them by a great deal meaning they could reinforce one another better now.

This made everyone more relaxed too. Instead of being paranoid about safety like many novices, they still chatted about their work and the goals they had. The luminescent trees they were going to gather wood from, seeds, and saplings from were the hot topic.

Walker managed to see a small sprout glowing and get an all around appraisal which helps him understand a deeper aspect of the trees instead of just what he was told in relation to their unique light affinity.

' luminescent tree sprout

This tree sprout is very unique in the way it developed over the years. In ancient times this tree was considered a pure light affinity tree known for the purified sap it bled when damaged. Over many years it weakened due to dark mana in the area eroding it causing a change in how it protected itself and the properties of its sap and flowers.

Nowadays, the tree absorbs light mana during the daylight hours and releases light mana at night to stave off gathering dark mana. This causes it to glow and light up small areas while also nourishing unique species of mushrooms and very small rodents that eat the mushrooms.

The sap may have lost the purifying effects, but when it is exposed to too much dark mana, the same degrades in to a useful material for creating potions with other dark elemental herbs. This causes the sap to repel light mana however.

To grow the saplings of this tree faster...'

Walker skimmed through the long all around appraisal until he noticed an interesting aspect.

'It is possible to grow and breed the luminescent trees to return it to the purifying light tree if only exposed to pure light mana for twenty generations. This process may take a greater amount of time but could be done by those with proper skills...'

"I think Remey would like a few of these luminescent tree seeds when they are gathered. Plenty of them would be perfect for the light mana greenhouses. Maybe even better for the ideas with the floating cities and islands planned right now." Midnight had listened to Walker state the all around appraisal. Now she understood why this thought came to Walker since she also understood Remey's focus towards alchemy.

"She should fight more!" The puffed cheeks and annoyed response proved that Remey might have turned down Midnight in the last attempt to spar before she had met up with Walker.

The thing was, Remey didn't need to worry too much about neglecting her brawling abilities. She had used those skills since she had been in the orphanage as a child taking care of her siblings. Meaning that was the most known and memorized set of skills for her. Alchemy was a new world she had always wished to explore and finally was exploring properly.

"Why don't you and I worry about some sparring later. Maybe we can even find a few interesting monsters to-" just as Walker was going to say something he noticed one of the guards stabbing a small bush and hacking it to pieces.

"That's not a monster so why did..." Walker stopped speaking. He saw the all around appraisal of the bush cut to pieces.

'Poison bird berry bush

This bush is not something native to the Sigil continent. The angel, immortal chasing, and vampire races accidentally brought them over during their wars causing them to grow everywhere. Many of those who live on the Sigil continent cut them down when spotted in an attempt to destroy them.

The poison they produce is only resisted by a specific species of sparrow native to islands and not the main continent. This means any monster that accidentally consumed it will perish within a day and will most likely not develop a natural resistance to them.

The small seeds are easily tracked on boots causing them to be spread by anything that steps on the rotting small red berries. Because of this the bush easily sprouts rapidly...'

Walker stopped and the logger and soldiers cutting down the bushes noticed he understood how. They all knew of his better appraisal skills and they expected him to learn of the reasons behind their actions quickly. Proving them right, Walker and Mindight sparked flames and began burning some including the ground around them to destroy the seeds.

Midnight's dragon flames went a long way to destroy the seeds and rotting fruits, helping the entire group. They finished the small side quests they received whenever they discovered the bushes much faster than they normally would. It also spoke to the level that the will of the world affected these small quests since this was a species of plant causing harm to the future development of the Sigil continent and every monster as tiny as part of the ecosystem.

"This is something we always do. We come across all kinds of little quests like this. Plenty of plants and insects brought here accidentally that cause trouble. If we don't do these things the trees we need to harvest will die out and never grow enough to keep up with our harvesting." It appeared that there was a lot of care in the minds of all the loggers. Clearly, their minds were open wide to see everything that happened to the forests they needed to harvest from to survive.

This brought out a larger issue that Midnight and Walker were both considering. Midnight had seen how Walker and the others worked hard to ensure that some plants were brought to the elves to bring back extinct species to the elven forest. Yet, hearing that some plants should be killed off was a larger difference that meant some monsters she liked to eat might die off if those plants weren't controlled.

Where Walker's thoughts drifted were toward the plants that would change and develop differently due to the higher mana in the world now. Many would most likely become more dangerous to the environments they were in if they were already a problem. Especially when poisonous or invasive plants were already an issue now.

The growth of mana in the world was proving to have more widespread and unique problems associated with it now. The fact that Walker hadn't seen or heard of the issues loggers were dealing with until now just proved how specific some issues were.

However, it also proved that many people were working on quests and handling problems before they even reached the meeting room of the Genesis council. It made a clear stammer of competency and strength for the people at all levels of their alliance through and through. Something to take some additional pride in.

Besides all this, Walker and Midnight felt that their walk toward the ruined fallen city was better off this way. Especially since when they reached the logging camp they managed to meet some of those who

had been waiting to be replaced by this group. Otherwise, they had no idea what was happening in Genesis.

If they knew that Remy was using three full alchemy labs at a time and Ignus had brought two other fire dragons to help, they might be interested to see just what was happening.

Or they might be interested to find that Alice had gathered a hundred young healers instead of just forty as she had planned.

Maybe they would have been impressed that Su had already left with her group of elite training guards and was less than two hours behind Walker and Midnight.

But realistically, the two would just need to wait and find out all the interesting details since they would be dragged in to it later. The only one still working and staying in Genesis seemed to be Gil. Not that he didn't have his own troubles. He was already meeting some of the elven representatives preparing for the first elf queen who would be along in just a few more weeks.

The meeting between the forest elf queen, human king, and Demi-human king was approaching faster than anyone realized.

Chapter 2728: Planning Ruin Clearing

A walk through the wilderness to the ruined city that Walker and Midnight needed to get to was nothing for them. They moved quickly and only spotted a handful of harmless monsters. They did stop to burn a few of the invasive plants they now knew of but that was just a small matter.

This wasn't to say that they did not enjoy being out in the wilderness, however, it couldn't really be called that. They had noticed these traveling paths made for the research groups and the supply

caravans that brought them what they needed. Meaning that they had no issue finding the way after leaving the logging group.

Even more so when they started to hear the chatter ahead of them. With so many guards and different researchers, they were making enough noise to scare away the majority of monsters that might come sniffing around. It was also enough for Walker and Midnight to step in to camp without needing to follow a path or a map.

The larger tents were set up in a fraction following efficiently. The resting tents were organized in to blocks for the researchers with the guards' tents around them making a squared ring. The central tents for the main research of items taken from the ruined city and also for the leadership meetings were prominent but seemed to have begun to age. There was already some moss growing on it to prove that point.

There were also multiple cafeteria tents and medical tents. However, those seemed to be a little less populated. The only reason there was so much talking and noise was that there were several meetings going on about the current state of the excavation and the monsters within. Along with the fact that they had begun to find different rune patterns which caused a lot of confusion due to their damaged state.

The rune carvers and researchers couldn't easily identify what they used to do in terms of effect due to their broken state. The rune and formations they were part of should be easily appraisable, but when they were broken so badly, the appraisal skills were not so good. Only higher class appraisals would work, and even that was a long shot since something so badly damaged couldn't give a lot of information in the first place.

It was understandable that this would cause a lot of annoyance for the researchers since these formations were pieces of the massive puzzle they needed to solve. It was even worse for the angels who had been reassuring the ruined cities of their ancient past and also the two still running cities.

Their homes floated for safety and had just begun to return to some functional capacity. Their cities could somewhat move again, over the oceans? No way, but they could move over the Sigil continent slowly which was very good for gathering resources or helping villages.

The issue was, the rune formations were also damaged or barely kept together over the years. The changes made had not been as original and refined as those that had begun the floating cities. Meaning that they could not gather proper information to recreate and rebuild the floating cities already fallen to the ground from the information they had. They had tried and the results were not successful.

There was also the fact that some of the twisted and hurriedly repaired runes were ticking time bombs. The moment that they failed again, there was not enough of the original formation left to be able to fix the currently floating cities. While the knowledge gained recently from the Genesis Alliance had managed to repair a massive amount, the world was still in progress, much of which was stuck waiting for new knowledge or for past knowledge to be discovered.

Hence why Walker and Midnight didn't even get noticed by anyone when they walked in. The research groups were all too caught up in how they would begin accessing the more core areas of the fallen city they were currently at.

After grabbing the attention of a guard nearby, Waller began to ask some questions. "What are the issues you face entering the ruined areas of the city? Are there too many monsters or is it the collapsed passageways due to the fall of the city from the sky?" The reason that he needed to know this more than any other reason was simple, Walker and Midnight could easily defeat monsters and clear the way, however, the opening of passageways was something that took more care.

Simply put, if they began to clear passageways and caused a greater collapse, it was others lives they were playing with. People would be behind them and could be trapped or killed in a larger collapse. Not to mention whether there were passageways above or below that would collapse as well making

whatever runes and other knowledge on the walls erased forever. It could cause a massive leap backwards in progress for those working right now.

"Sir, it is the monsters right now. The passageways are maintained by separate runes that reinforce the fallen city on impact with the ground. It is already theorized that these were made in case the fall of a city happened. This city we are exploring now is one that appears to have been lowered before failure. It is better intact than others in the underground areas."

Now it made a lot of sense why there were a whole bunch of problems lined up to deal with. Various monsters living in these passageways had been nesting there for years and years. Regardless of some areas being degraded, the monsters had made this their primary home. They would not easily flee even if a dragon came knocking. Instead they would remain within the passageways and begin fighting even more when they had the chance. It was instinct and nature that the researchers came face to face with, not a simple ruined city collapsing on them.

"Alright then, you might want to cover your ears, I am going to make an announcement." The guard looked at Walker questioningly. He wasn't sure why he needed to cover his ears if Walker was going to simply shout. Then again, no one would hear a shout with how much conversation and planning was going on right now amongst the leaders of all the researchers and guards.

"Listen up!" The boom of Walker's voice reinforced with a dragon roar skill made everyone flinch and silence themselves. They hadn't expected such a larger noise but it had worked exactly as Walker wished it to. He has everyone's attention now.

"Now that you can hear us... Midnight and I are going to clear the way inside the passageways of the fallen city. We need your research to begin two projects related to the floating cities and the potential to have isolated floating herb gardens. This is part of a larger project to have herbal floating islands, workshops, and living places. It will expand everyone's potential within the alliance and also allow for wilderness areas to remain as such without rapid expansion of multiple cities on the ground." Walker's words were stunning to some and showed a great deal of what was being planned for the future.

Those who heard the goals of the hard work that they were doing seemed even more invigorated. Anyone who was annoyed by the loud outburst had quieted down significantly and were now preparing themselves even more. Some of the guard captains were even sending off their assistants to get their guards in to lines for battle. If they could follow Walker and Midnight to exterminate the problematic monsters, then they would all be growing a lot more as well. It was an invaluable experience.

"There will be groups of healers arriving and we should see other guards for training coming within the next week. In this time I wish for everyone to begin preparing for the next monster clearing. Researchers can help by examining aspects of the ruins that may benefit the effort. I understand that the ancient floating cities used to have defensive rune formations and weapons. Knowing how to avoid them or utilize them will be an immense benefit to every single guard risking their life in this endeavor."

Now he had their attention. This was something warned about by the researchers but not overly utilized as a way to help clear monsters. It was natural that damaged rune formations were dangerous in the first place. Why would they activate defensive and weaponry based rune formations if they were damaged and could cause problems? It was a poor choice.

"Now, I want the head researchers, head guards, and anyone else with the highest leadership responsibility to share their current strengths and standing. I want to make sure we safely go through with all of this. If we need anything, I will make it happen."

Chapter 2729: Guards Together

"Keep in line, your formations cannot fall apart in the wilderness." Su shouted out and saw those faltering begin to return to perfect positions. While many did not choose to follow the double shield style that she had developed, these elite guards she was training had all chosen at least one shield form to wield with a weapon.

There were those who had a morning star with their shield to deal brutal damage, others that had a short sword for the precision, and multiple had a single bladed ax for the practicality. Their choices had

been valuable to them and would change the way that they adapted to Su's training and usage of shields in a more attack oriented format.

So far, Su heard that Walker and Midnight had left ahead of them making her feel like she would fall behind. This was a great chance to train these younger guards in to the best shape they could be in. They were blank slates. Perfect for taking on new muscle memories for their battle styles. Perfect for learning how to adapt to the changing circumstances of the world. Perfect for being molded in to elite guard captains who could protect far off ruin explorations and their homes.

So far a few had changed to and awakened classes that Su hadn't heard of. One was a village guardian, making it appear that the elite guard would easily be able to guard an entire village alone without any issues. For starting villages, that sounded like it would be an ideal guard to have until they were properly developed.

There was another who managed to claim a class called the dragon flame defender. At first they had been just a demi-human with the smallest of lizard traits, nothing that stood out. However, they gained quests to consume certain herbs, fight dragonkin, and then train with Su causing a change to their physique. Scales grew and the signs of them awakening aspects of a lost bloodline proved that they had some relationship with fire dragons in their past family lineage. Therefore, this class had been an amazing surprise to gain more strength in the future.

Since she had been there to witness some of the events that led to all of the elite guards she was training or chosen to train gaining better classes and abilities, she had decided that they would have to eclipse the strength of the previous group she trained who now led their very own squads. Su wanted to see each and every single one of them take the chance to rise higher and be able to stand on their own. To be able to protect every single person that their hearts wished to protect without worry.

The drive she had was infecting the elite guards. When Su trained, they saw the higher standard that she held herself to. They saw how she always kept herself strict to be able to maintain what she believed. Most of all, they saw how she would put aside her own rest to volunteer at the cathedral to assist in healing and making sure the elderly were safe. All things that inspired the average person but sparked

flames of determination within the guards who she had hand picked to become the next group of elites beyond the average.

A few had already asked permission to fight in the upcoming battles in front of the demi-human king. They wished to show the entirety of Genesis that they were strong and had learned well. Besides this, those who had come from the demi-human kingdom knew that this was their opportunity to show that moving to Genesis was more than worth it. That they did not abandon the ways of their people, they just found the best place for them to uphold their way of life.

While they had traveled in formation, Su had managed to pass a logging camp mentioning how Walker and Midnight had assisted in eradicating some invasive plants. It made Su understand that the two ahead of them were not just playing around while they traveled and that they would be working hard by the time they got there.

However, right this second, the formation halted and Si noticed that the larger pale furred figure ahead of them was blocking the trail they intended to take. There was also a few of the green leaf deer dead on the ground, a hunted prey in an inconvenient place. Right in front of the group without an easy way to skirt around it.

Not that going around mattered. The monster had already looked up and focused on them. And it was not happen that its meal was being interrupted.

"What monster is that? I know you all studied the location notes I gave you access to about this areas and the documented predators." Su saw this as a chance. While the monster studied them and began to decide it would fight them, Su tested the elites who were still in defensive formation as she had taught them to fall in to the second a threat appeared.

"White back bear."

It was a monster known for its brutality and high hunger. It would hunt for a full day if not multiple days in a row constantly defeating and eating as much as it could. After it had its fill and its rage calmed down, it would then find a muddy hole to slumber in. The reason it was called white back was due to the fact that it grew in its sleep, as such, the fur of its back was often exposed to the sun causing it to be bleached white over time.

This monster was nothing to laugh at for a traveler. It was brutal and would chase after anything even larger monsters than itself so that it could consume as much as possible. It didn't have the intelligence to run away when faced with an opponent that could defeat it. Hence why Su took the lead and acted as the first line of defense in their formation. "This enemy will not run, your job is to surround it, set your defenses, and keep it confused. We will attack when it loses focus on one of us. If you find yourself about to be struck, hold steady and make sure it can not break you."

Her orders drew the attention of the white back bear and it began to charge toward them. She knew it had been eating the deer but that didn't matter. It saw prey and foolishly thought that Su would be a good meal. However, if it was smart enough, it would have run for its life.

The moment that it was about to lunge in to the twin shields, Su angled them up so that the pointed ends faced the bear. Its attack became one that caused itself pain since Su was more than strong enough to lift it without its claws striking her whatsoever.

The deep cuts caused it to howl in pain before growling and drooling in rage. The elite guards followed their orders surrounding it. Once Su released her defensive attack, everyone began using their skills to gain its attention. Having control skills that forced less intelligent monsters to look at them was a basic skill for anyone with a shield. Here though, it grew confusion and created attack opportunities.

The cuts and the blunt attacks were perfect. They wore away the larger enemy that they faced. It was not instant and spoke to the weakness of these elite guards by comparison to veteran guards. Yet, it also

proved that together they could stand tall and avoid injuries. Every single attempted swipe was met with one or two shields protecting them from harm. Every single turn to attack someone was a strike in the back or toward the joints which further weakened the bear.

In a matter of five minutes an opponent that would easily have killed half of them without guidance had been taken down with barely a scratch and scrape amongst the elite guards. "How many of you believed we would leave that fight unscathed? How many of you knew the characteristics of these monsters? You will all be leaders in the future. You should be able to stand alone and ensure those around you survive. Learn as much as you can about where you are and what you might face. You may have that information in your life later."

"Now, we will carry this prey back to meet Walker, Midnight, and the researchers. Once there we will go over the best ways for us to help them. Is that understood?" The shout was met with agreement from every elite guard in training. Su didn't say it out loud, but she was glad to see them all work together. They knew what it was to work with a team, but now she would be guiding them to develop their strength and make wise decisions as leaders themselves. They just needed the time and opportunities to get there.

Chapter 2730 Su Arrives

The stomping of a march made the reports from the assistants falter. Walker and Midnight have barely been working on their plans for an hour before they heard the commotion. So many of the guards and the researchers had stopped to watch and see what was happening. And to be fair, there was a lot to see right now.

Su and the elite guards with her had gathered a larger group. Most of it was because there were bodies of leaf deer and one very large bear that they had carried all the way there. Not to mention some of the bark wood scorpions which appeared to have been trying to get at the bear corpse they carried, pieces of its fur were still caught in their pincers before they had been clearly smashed by shields.

"Looks like Su decided to make an entrance." Walker had a small chuckle before he and Midnight went to check in with her. Although, Midnight was the one who ran and leaped in to her arms. While they had

not been separated long, Midnight's joy in seeing everyone she recognized as family would never fade for them. It was also nice to know that they were valued no matter what.

"I thought you would need some help fighting monsters in the ruins. I also need someone to give these younger guards a chance to learn something about leadership. The guards here have been leading squads for months now, they deserve to have the chance to teach someone who will one day be in the same positions as them."

The way that Su phrased it showed exactly how the guards here at this ruin would be able to teach the elites how to lead without the promise of stability. The situations that they faced here were something that needed an adaptable mind and plan. Meaning that the guards here already had experience and wisdom that these young elites would not have for many years to come. If they took to it and learned from the older guards, they would have a massive step up compared to any other guard training right now.

Su wasn't training soldiers. She did not want to have soldiers who would leave to fight and then that would be it. A standing force for an army that was ready for war. The reason she wanted defenders and guards was simple. Protect the people in every place possible. The Genesis army should not be made of soldiers who were ready to fight and kill, it should be made of those who stood to defend the honor, livelihood, and lives of the people at all times in every single aspect.

meaning that a place like this, a ruin infested with monsters was ideal. The researchers were not equipped to fight and they were always at risk. Meaning that by bringing these guards here they were protecting an important aspect of the future to be discovered by them. The discoveries were a massive piece of the future for all of Genesis. If the guards did not protect that, then they were not doing what they needed to do.

All of this unspoken reasoning wasn't hidden from Midnight and Walker's thoughts. They knew Su and knew why she did what she did. She could spar for hours, but what was the point of that if the values were not the driving force behind that sparring?

"I think we are about to set the plans for the guards moving through different passageways and the researchers who will be sticking with their groups. Now that you are here we can begin having your guards join the teams as a secondary learning opportunity. They can stand aside and see how each group functions. How orders are given. How the formations are used along with how they will work with the protected party." Walker gestured to the various rune carvers, rune researchers, ruin explorers, and even a few small adventurer groups.

"Adventurer's too?" Now it was Su's turn to be surprised. Walker and Midnight hadn't said a word about the monsters that her group had hunted and she expected them to be focused on that. However, seeing that Walker and Midnight were focused on the current plans and what needed to be done, she didn't worry about the monster bodies.

"Yes, they took quests to assist in scouting the area. That quickly developed in to scouting certain passageways too tight for larger groups of guards and researchers to explore. They are personally responsible for finding several control rune formations and even some damaged orbs believed to be terminals for using mana to manipulate the larger rune formations. It's very similar to the degrading active formations and orbs within the two floating cities already."

This was something Walker was excited to explain since he knew the value of the research so far. The scouting done by the adventurers was exceptional since they had reported everything in extreme detail. One of the adventurers even had a mapping skill they used to explain just how damaged some of the partially collapsed pathways were. It was a testament to how these younger adventurers had seen the level of skill needed and risen to the occasion.

"They managed to impress everyone enough to get a long term quest too. They are going to make a splash in terms of the new city and the ruin recovery operations. There are at least five more of the floating city ruins on the Sigil continent that the angel race has disclosed. They do know there might be two more but that is lost to history." The additional information was good to know for Su since she was sure that the elite guards she had chosen to train would work on more than one of these expeditions.

"That's perfect then. They will be able to learn something too since the adventurers will need to learn to work with the next generation of highly trained gourds. I want to see if they can help show how their mapping and scouting can supplement an escort and protection plan." Su was already changing her focus to how she could pull new lessons from the surprise of adventurers being here. Especially the young adventurers like this handful who had been brought to the adventurers' guild due to the boom of quests and work for them to take a new path in life.

"So how about you take those monsters to the cafeteria tents and they will process them in to another feast for everyone. You and I can work on the planning and assignments while Midnight makes it clear to everyone that they need to start working a little more in tune with education unless there is a major threat at hand." Walker said this since he knew that Su would want to understand the level of danger.

Since she heard Walker say that this was not a huge major threat, then she understood that the guards she brought should be able to learn as long as they kept under the command of others. Without any radical outlying events they had all the opportunity they needed.

"Oh, and Alice is on the way too. I had a communication crystal message from her and a few of the head healers I know. They are not just bringing a few new healers. They are bringing a full one hundred to the new city with an additional two hundred scheduled to come in rotation every two weeks. That means fifty of them and Alice will be coming to this research area within the day."

It was much faster than what Walker had expected. If this was the case, the exploration would be moved up. Supplies were nothing in terms of worries or needs since many of the guards could go out to hunt additional food and gather additional food as well. Besides this, Walker also had a larger stockpile he had gathered before Leaving Genesis. Not to mention the items he had carried for the camp here to use as their natural supplies.

"Su! Come and see the plans!" Midnight started to drag Su away. This was much to the awe of the elite guards who knew that Su was, in no terms insultingly, very heavy. They had all sparred against her and

had been too weak to even make her step back let alone move a few inches. And yet Su was being dragged by Midnight like she weighed the same as a feather.

Walker laughed a bit more knowing that he and his family were outliers themselves. They were heavier, stronger, and overall just strange compared to the younger generation that they were beginning to teach. Even the word younger wasn't really right, it was more the next generation of people trying to take new and unique paths for them. Some of the elite guards were older than the party, but it didn't matter. They were young in terms of their potential, that was what mattered.