

Master 2771

Chapter 2771 Golem Crafting Needed

It had been a while since Walker had been to the underground section of the city. He knew that it was always working since many of the nocturnal races had enjoyed it. However, it was also due to the fact that the dwarves would work themselves in to exhaustion while forging.

The building and crafting that the dwarven race did was always seen as the highest quality. That came about because of them being always close to metal and ores along with their hyper focus on anything crafting. This was also another reason that they did not have as many warriors in a traditional sense or mages.

They did however, have rune carvers specialized in weapons or building, craftsmen covering a variety of subjects, and of course the unique focus that Walker was here for, the golems.

They had all visited the dwarven home city and seen the dwarven golem workshops. They had all seen the ways that the dwarven golems were controlled by the king of the surface and how they patrolled their territory. They might be dangerous because one wrong move and someone could end up fighting the entire army, yet, they were also keeping the immediate territory safe from monsters and any unsavory characters.

Besides this, the golems modeled after monsters, especially ancient monsters, were growing in popularity. This wasn't simply because of their cool designs or unique building challenges. It was because the spirit race members more easily controlled them than a basic golems that were easily controlled using runes and a bond to someone like the dwarven king of the surface.

Being controlled by a member of the spirit race or an elemental spirit was not something easy in all comparison to other methods of control though. There had to be a specially crafted core for that golem

that aligned with the spirit in question. Therefore it could not be easily controlled by another spirit at all. It was delicate but it was also something in the real that the dwarven race exceeded.

Learning this safe method for the spirit race to live within the golems and use them as a more physical body was also making up for the past where the dwarven race had wrongly trapped elemental spirits within weapons as part of crafting methods to make unique weapons. Knowing their error and making sure that any weapons like that were undone safely along with making methods to prevent that from ever happening had gone a long way.

For some of the spirit race who had taken the chance to control golems, it was something considered a new spot for their newly founded race. The spirit race was young since the elemental spirits had always been attached to the will of the world and flow of mana. Now, they could rise up and become properly intelligent beyond just an elemental spirit and become a recognized member of their race.

The golems that were made being unique since they were styled after monsters meant that the process varied in crafting between different golems. It was a challenge to be handled but it was something that could be achieved with enough care.

"The forges seem very busy." It wasn't hard to see that the forges were removing a lot of metals in and out. The ores alone were being dropped off in a nearly unending line of merchants and carriages.

This was the main work of the forges beneath Genesis. They procured the ores gathered elsewhere or deeper in the earth from caverns beneath all of Genesis. They also refined those ores and made them to be sold to every blacksmith within the entirety of Genesis while some were sold to those outside of Genesis. It worked well since the production did not halt waiting for transport as the forges in need were right above them or just next door.

"It's good that everything is moving smoothly. The golem workshop is just around the corner." Walker heard the familiar clicking and metallic latching of golems. They moved differently since they all had been made with different specifications.

Some changes had occurred though. The dwarven golems in the dwarven city and territory had been larger and bulkier. Less humanoid than what Walker could see now. The production of the dwarven golems was now guided by more than just the dwarves which led them to advance the forms they crafted. It was a good thing since it meant other races could pilot certain golems of unique uses like heading underwater, in to dangerous caverns, or just as a suit of armor in a battle.

The monster golems were also very familiar since many had been copying them after the ancient pictures from ruins. Walker saw a few of the serpent golems copying spiked serpents or the forest eating serpent from some picture left behind in ruins he had personally looked at before. Otherwise, he was surprised to see that there was a somewhat larger gorilla looking golem copying the skull back gorilla monster that lived within one of the newly found dungeons he heard about.

With that being the case, it meant the inspiration was growing more and more. Yet, Walker worried he was not seeing what he needed to see. "There don't seem to be a lot of spirit race members here." Walker could sense the mana around. It was slower and did not hold many elemental spirits in general. It meant something was wrong somewhere in this production that he had to help fix. Or at least that was his thought since it was the only thing that could cause issues here right now.

"Hello there, I would have thought you would be a little busier tuning golems to the elemental spirits interested in them. Need any help with that?" Walker found one of the dwarves tinkering away at a golem that looked suspiciously like a large fish. From the looks of the dwarf, he was unhappy with the pieces not fitting right and had to recarve a few pieces to ensure they meshed well.

"Apparently the natural mana spirit or something like that called every member of the spirit race to a meeting. They are at the grand spirit tree." There wasn't even a second to glance up from the dwarf as they worked on the minuscule parts and pieces.

"Ah, I thought Fleur would do something like that. She recently finished absorbing a lot of natural mana and helping me out. I would guess that she wants to make sure that some of the spirits are doing well. Especially the younger spirit race members who just advanced from being lower ranked elemental spirits. There are definitely a lot more elemental spirits now that they can move between the elemental plane and here." Walker wished he could just simply call them over, but that wasn't what he should do.

Not to mention that Fleur would surely understand what he was thinking. Their bond was more unique than what Onyx and Midnight had with him. She could bond with him and dwell within the spirit mark on his body. They were linked at a level greater than what any other was. He had even heard of the spirit warrior class that specifically required an elemental spirit partner one of the spirit race to bond with a warrior to be able to gain strength.

That class was one of the ones that only required binds to grow. If the spirit race member or elemental spirit was unhappy with the warrior, then the warrior was limited to being unable to use their own mana. They ended the cooperation of their partner. It was even more refined than the ways that a tamer raised and teamed up with a tamed monster. Where the monster could live alone without a tamer and the same with the tamer, the spirit warrior and the spirit needed one another after bonding. It was a deep connection at the level of their very souls.

After sharing his thoughts, Walker sensed that Fleur understood and would come looking for him shortly. "I have Fleur bringing some of the spirits over when they have the time. Since that will be a while, can we find your master golem crafter and work on trying to plan more production of monster golems for a future exploration of a new continent?"

This finally made the dwarf working on their golem look up. When he realized that it was Onyx and Walker right before him, he dropped the tool in his hand and stood up embarrassed. He had entirely disregarded a figure responsible for helping make a dragon golem that was perfectly bonded with one of the spirit race members and an example for every single golem crafter there was.

"I can do even better than that! I will have him come and meet with you so that you can plan everything right away!" The dwarf ran off, forgetting his work for the time being and leaving Onyx and Walker fairly amused by the sudden change in attitude. They hadn't minded the focus on work though.

Chapter 2772 Rough But Wise

The dwarf that walked up to them after a few moments of waiting was not at all one that Walker or Onyx were familiar with. Instead, it looked like a warrior had been dragged from a bed somewhere and tossed in to a pit of ash and grease then presented to them. "What do you have going on that you came here to bother me? Huh? Speak or I will make you sing it."

The introduction wasn't sweet either. The two seemed to realize that this wasn't one of the more prominent craftsmen they had met who had been working since they were young and waiting to show off. This was an elder dwarf with enough experience to be left alone without being bothered even by the three kings if they could help it.

"I wanted to talk about getting the dwarven golems and spirit controlled golems for an exploration of a new area. We are trying to set sail in both air and ocean bound ships to a new continent partially underwater due to years of change." There wasn't any reason to dance around it. Walker could tell if he took too long he would just be met with a slew of insults and annoyances from the older dwarf.

It did feel like they were being looked at like they were some annoying children. And to be honest, this elder dwarf was much older than even those working in his workshop now. Meaning that the gap between him and Walker could be seventy years or so, let alone the gap between him and Onyx being much more since Onyx was still technically only a few years old but had grown faster due to his bond with Walker and every adventurer he had been through.

"And you want to add more work when we are already repairing this and that every five seconds? Sounds like a selfish brat to me. Why do they call you and your little group heroes again? Because you made everyone all busy with work u biting this and that?" The grumbling was more like someone had just woken a bear rather than anyone having had the chance to actually speak to someone intelligently.

"Retire and take over a brand new shop, they said. Take it as a reward, they said. Ha! It was just more work so they could milk every drop of my blood and sweat to put it in to more metal I can't even see running!"

The younger dwarf they had met was looking at them apologetically, then again, there was a slight glimmer of truth in his eyes. Like he felt the same way that his elder and boss did.

"Then you should see it. Because I am not asking for repaired golems or anything like that. I need new golems fashioned after, monsters that live in the ocean, in the air, and on land. They need to be exploration focused with small mapping orbs able to create an advanced map and gather mana faster. It also needs to be watched for functions so you and your workshop would need to come with me."

This halted the elder's steps entirely. He went from looking like he was about to start a bar brawl to actually listening. "I mean to offer you a ship flying or on the ocean to work in while making these golems and making sure that they can serve the purpose of this exploration. If you are here working then by the time we need your skills we will all be dead or in danger worse than before. I don't want a production to be sent slowly, I want solutions by my side."

Walker had been involved in a lot. Right now the rune formations being worked on to make a new floating city would take years potentially. The dark dome project to make floating elemental domes on floating islands would take years. Even a small test would take a few months. This though? It could start now and be ready in a month with the right work.

"There are plenty of younger spirit race members we want more physical bodies to interact and explore the world in new ways than just what they have been doing. Plenty have even come from the elemental planes and managed to grow and become proper spirit race members with the desire to see the world. This is a way to do that for them while also getting out of this pit. Yes it's a workshop, but what are you seeing here that's new and amazing?"

"I can make whatever I want as long as it works then? I can even make dragon golems and have all the blueprints made to be shared with my workshop?" Walker and Omnyx nodded in sync with one another. They didn't see any issues helping the elder dwarf get what he needed. Especially since they would be the pens helping advance everything in this exploration effort.

"What about the new books they are finding and writing about enchantments using runes? I can use those?"

"Yes, I have a few people working in the library and archive to check in on what we might need. I even have a visiting princess who has taken charge of getting more for the project since they feel they might find what they wish to know out there in the new continent. Not that I can bring them." Walker hoped that this wouldn't be a future argument. He would never bring a child to a wilderness like that.

"And I can have one of those floating island workshops when you can build them?"

Now Walker and Onyx hesitated. It wasn't like they could offer something like that. It was too much to just offer.

"I can't say we can just give one to you. But if you manage to build reputation and get closer to others who will be building them, I will put in a good word." Walker knew that it was not exactly enough.

"Stingy." The elder dwarf scoffed a bit as he reached in to his pocket and threw a small bronze medallion. "I don't give my name, I give my badge. I am one of the oldest goel builders from the dwarven race left and I have given eighty three students the skills I have learned over the years. You are allowed to carry that as a signifying factor I have pledged to work on your project. Even those three

brats calling themselves kings can't argue with me on that. Their parents parents gave me that when I first touched a forge and broke a few records."

They didn't realize what it meant until now that this older dwarf was here. It seemed that he was a popular figure who had not only managed to make waves in the forges as a child but also managed to win enough awards that he had gained recognition from the kings of the past. Now, he was retired and his gift had been a forge here in Genesis where the new aspects of crafting were always right in front of someone's eyes.

But being at the front wasn't what he wanted. He wanted to see how his work influenced the world. Not just repair this or that. It was something that many crafters went through. Some always saw the damage a sword they forged would take on. But they never saw the battle that caused it. The thrill of seeing their creation defend someone's life or defeat a monster capable of destroying an entire village.

This had always caused many crafters a desire to travel, others would take that feeling and bury it. But this older dwarf saw a chance and let his desire rule him. He took that chance and now he would be fine with seeing everything he could. Walker recognized that and pursued that feeling to get the entire workshop to join the expedition. Yes he had given a lot up to allow it to be possible, but who wouldn't have done that?

There was a level of skill this dwarf had that could command others to also pledge their assistance. "I will have some of my apprentices here in the next week. Start sending the spirit race participants to me and we will start building golems. First have that dragon golem blueprint sent to me. I will make a water dragon golem to explore that flooded place you want searched." There wasn't a single bit of hesitation. Things were already underway and that was that. They had their golem smith and they had their golems to be built.

"And send me good materials, not scrap but fresh ingots. I need what I need." The glint in his eyes despite the scars and ash stained face was enough to know that this dwarf might be rough, but he was damn well determined.

Chapter 2773 Carrier Golem

"Brother, I am going to speak to others about the materials. I know you wish to be here when Fleur gets here with the other spirit race members to work with the craftsmen." Onyx also wanted to stop by the library since he wished to see how the little princess of the human kingdom was getting along.

While he knew that Walker had left her working on the books, he also wondered just what level she was at in her understanding of the entire situation. From his perspective, this might be another like him, someone who could develop faster because of the bonds and skills they possessed. Due to his own intelligence and bonds Onyx has grown faster, maybe this princess was the same and he would have a good friend in her.

"I will call for you if anything major happens. For now, I think I should take a little more opportunity to learn how the golems are made so I might be able to help more with the smaller parts. I can only help with making cores to some degree and that's not the ideal I have in mind." As much as Walker wished to be helpful, he knew he was limited.

When it came to crafting, he could repair and managed his items without much issue. He had learned that from everyone he worked with in crafting. However, when it came to the more unique parts of something, he was often at a loss. The mana gems? He could make them, but he couldn't carve rune formations of them or manipulate them the same ways that a more knowledgeable and practiced craftsman could.

The same was true for the small and intricate parts of a golem. Just looking at a golem made to follow the form of a forest weasel, he saw at least a hundred small pieces that went in to the lower jaw and how it properly connected to fit with the upper jaw and still move. Just the teeth made of different alloys so they could channel earth mana was very unique due to the rune formations carved through them and how small they were.

That level of refinement in skill was what he wished to see so he could potentially step ahead of where he was now and focus a bit more on what he could do once the comfortable crafting workshops were far from him.

He knew he could always use the portable forge skill and other portable workshop related skills if he had the tools and skills that allowed for the unique spatial skills to be created. He didn't question that potential. He questioned his own abilities to achieve that potential since he knew very well that gaining the right level of skills would be tougher.

The skills he had related to space were able to create unique storages to be able to hold specific items and even dormant eggs. He could even hold plants that would not perish immediately. He knew that he could study that more to be able to eventually create a significantly different and more unique space where he might even be able to live for some time.

However, the question he had was what use would it have to add more of the crafting skills and tools together to create the ideal workshop for crafting of just about all forms? Could he get enough tools and skills to have a basic workshop good enough for alchemy, forging, woodworking, rune carving, and anything else he just might need? Could he even make a small healing tent that he had stored away and with a single thought, brought out?

These thoughts hit him constantly while he watched the dwarves working on golems with precise control of their bodies. For them, this was their everything. Years and years of dedication led to a dexterity focused on these smaller parts. Not only did they treat them with extreme care, they fit them perfectly every single time allowing the golems to even be moving while repairs were made.

A small eel like golem made for the water and checking for damage to smaller channels within the canals was being repaired. A few scales had been scraped by its work and small parts had been bent slightly. As it moved one of the dwarven craftsmen slipped out the scales using a very thin wire tool and then hooked new scales in so that it didn't even break motion. The flawless move proved that these craftsmen had all the focus in the world with their one class and were not as varied as he was in any way.

Looking over, he saw another with a small tool just like a needle carving runes in to a gear the size of a marble. Walker watched and realized that being able to see the water runes on the gear was only due to his skills related to sharp sight. The fine touch used on them was just enough to cause the rune to be carved but not enough to damage the structure.

All in all, the golems could be made with incredible strength and utility, however, inside they were delicate and refined. This balance was risky but also proved that years of experience had been shown time and time again.

"If you are going to sit there and do nothing, then do it out of the way, we are bringing in a golem that takes up a lot more space soon." An angry voice shouted over and Walker moved just as a golem taller than him was brought in.

It wasn't a simple golem the size of a carriage or something like that. It was smaller, but it had a size that was easily considered very large because of the additions on its body.

'Weapon carrier horse golem

This golem was designed after the larger horses used to carry weapons in war. It has been specifically designed for a young upcoming battle master who has become obsessed with weapons. The golem is created with areas to holster several swords, spears, shields, axes, bows, and even a few unique weapons with room to improve storage later in growth for the owner.

The core has been adjusted so that it can be swapped with an automatic order following core or be swapped for a core that allows for a member of the spirit race to control it. There is a high conductivity

for mana so that magical weapons added in to the storage of the golem will absorb mana and replenish their mana gem over time.

There are also areas for food storage, potion storage, and other additional supplies necessary for long term travels. While this requires a larger amount of mana to fuel this golem, it is considered advanced enough to be able to replenish its own mana supply as well due to unique materials incorporated during the rune carving process and the overall skeletal forging process...'

This golem was much better than what some of the other golems were. While it appeared there were some unique additions for a bed roll, food stuffs, and even for what seemed to be fire wood to be stored, it was a very unique idea.

The golem would be able to move along close enough during a battle for the battle master to grab a new weapon but also be durable enough not to be easily destroyed if targeted. This also was unique in the way that it would be able to actually be around a battle compared to some other golems that were purely for exploration or scouting that would not be built as tough as this.

While the battle master class was still rare, it was hard to imagine there was an up and coming battle master young enough to have this crafted for them right now. He hadn't heard of new prodigies or anything meaning that whoever this was is either very young or they were new to Genesis.

It was more likely that a child had learned the class and then their parents brought them to Genesis because of the opportunities to learn. Such a class would need a lot of teaching and guidance. It was not a simple class that would be able to teach itself for anyone.

A slight thought came to Walker about maybe finding and meeting this young battle master. Yet, he also knew that if he made a habit of this he would encourage everyone to seek him out as a teacher too. It would be a rougher addition to his already chaotic schedule.

Then again, the fact that this golem was being made, at no small cost, attracted his curiosity so he might have to add it to his list of things to look in on if only asking an assistant to take a look in his stead.

Chapter 2774 An Experts' Work

"I have to say, I am surprised that you sent an assistant to call me back here. You are making quite the progress in ordering around the team." Walker was looking at the little princess who had clearly eaten here in the archive, and even taken a small nap here in the archive. To be honest, it was very much like a child that had found the best playroom and decided just to live there.

"The books are good. Father visited and said I could stay until we leave." Walker nodded his head. He had a feeling that the king of humans had decided to let his daughter be spoiled while here. Then again, he might be considering how she would feel if they left without giving her the chance to fully embrace something and somewhere she adored.

There was also the thought that once they returned home, Walker knew very well that it would be the same kind of boring noble life for her. She had been hungry to learn more and more the entire time that she had the ability to learn. After that she had lived in their personal library.

It was an intense way to go about life since she had basically found a way to study and chased it as much as possible. Yet now, she had everything she could ever want at her fingertips.

"I think when you go to leave you should speak to your father about finding a way to use the elemental teleportation formation with a special set of guards. That way you can travel back and forth here when you have the free time." He had said this since it would make the future easier. It was very much like a child to throw a tantrum when they wanted something but were told no.

"I would very much like that. In my name as Glenda Diamond, I thank you." he shook his head hearing she had decided on a new name yet again. This little princess had some off habits but then again, she also had awakened a lost bloodline of her family to gain those unique violet eyes.

"So, I take it you sent people looking for me because more books were found?" Since this was the only thing he could think of, Walker knew that the books should be interesting in the very least.

"A map." The little princess thrust a small paper at Walker making it clear that she had personally found it. She also had an expectant look on her face.

"You saw the bits of mana attached to the map despite it being so old and realized it might be the same as the place we are trying to explore. Great work!" He didn't hold back either. He had a little sister and knew how important some positive reinforcement was. Plus, he was genuinely glad she had been here. Her unique eyes allowed her to pick out a damaged map from the stacks of papers and books. And it did have similar symbols as other books they had found from the same area.

Taking extra care, Walker began to examine what the maps had to offer. It was faded, terribly so. But he could see remnants of harder black lines making out a mountain range along what appeared to be a faded blue ocean. This aligned with some of the water currents they already saw if the tops of the mountains were islands.

"This is actually better than I imagined. It might not tell us a lot since it seems to be a coastal map of the mountain range, but this is all about the underwater region of the continent now. We know that this mountain range became islands and that the lower side would be the open plains leading to the mountains. Meaning that the underwater is a larger and flatter area perfect for some simple exploration. There might be underwater places used by ancient monsters and modern monsters."

With this it might be easier to partially guess where some more dangerous areas might be. However, Walker was more worried about the faintest line she could see. While the little princess might struggle since she had just noticed the bits of mana on the map due to its age and being with the similar books as itself from the same area. She had not been able to see that the map had a small village and tower marked on it. Even Walker struggled to see what it said since the words were gone, but the outline of black was still there in the smallest font he could see with its age.

This was a potential location to explore and find more books of ancient magic and how people survived against ancient monsters powerful enough to control entire territories. He stills struggled to wrap his mind around the fact that there was an entire continent that was all about monsters divided in to areas fighting for territory. Not a single race was able to hold its ground. Just survival and study of magic to survive the inevitable attacks of monsters.

"I also see that there are a good number of official archivists here. They must have become interested." Walker didn't comment on the guards also here now. The king sent them to watch over the little princess but they also seemed to be taking advantage of the time to read a little. One even had a book about elven culture. It was a nice thing to see.

"The demi-human king came too. He took a book about swords." The little princess surprised Walker seeing as she had met king Rorick. Then again, if he had come to pay some respects and also take away a book then he was getting what he wanted while upholding some duty to allies. It was a smart move to take as they were all meeting here in Genesis now.

"I would not expect him to take any book other than one about swordsmanship. I assume he took one related to ancient swordsmanship of some kind?" He saw her nod and knew very well that the book would be something he used to adjust his own sword style. If anyone was a battle fanatic, it was the demi-human king. Yet again, his people were all like that. Their fervor for sparring and tournaments was too great it seemed.

This did remind Walker that a small tournament was happening where the young fighters were demonstrating some strength. Many would be recruited from it and he was certain that some of

different races might be taken to new kingdoms for work. It would go a long way to helping more races mix at a deeper level than before.

"While I am here I might as well check some of the research too." Focusing on the papers left after evaluation of other books, Walker was stunned to say the least.

These were documents condensing the books to some degree that they had found.

It was very nice to see that the experts who made these condensed documents were so experienced. Walker quickly glanced through them and had a better understanding of various factors from ancient times.

It was hard to say which order some events happened because there was nothing explaining years or dates, however, events like monster wars were not uncommon. Some were named due to the veracity of the battles and were named after the lord monster who won the fight. Overall though, there was always a battle between the offspring of certain lord monsters, they never seemed to end.

Yet, it was the battle and the ways that the monsters used magic that appeared to teach the mages of this era. Not only would they utilize the natural flow of mana around them to increase the density of certain manas in one place, but they would try to mimic the ways that a monster used mana. Specifically, if a monster used balls of water to shoot and hit others at high speed, then that gave birth to the water cannon ball spell written in one of the books.

There was more about self enhancement magic skills that would allow a weaker mage to be able to defend against powerful attacks that would easily kill them. That alone inspired Walker to change the ways he saw the current state of self enhancement buffs. There might be different methods to better increase these buffs for warriors who could use a little magic rather than always needing a mage or support based class user to cast them on them.

There also might be methods to allow for items to be inscribed with better enhancement buffs that enhance the user. Just getting this ancient knowledge could help a variety of classes and aspects of Genesis. If workers were hard to come by, then why not strengthen the workers they already had?

Chapter 2775: Alma And Gil

"You have done amazing things that I could never have imagined." this was the first thing that the forest elf queen had said to Alma after touring just about every herb garden, elven home, and even the archer ranges. She was amazed by the level of commitment to everything.

The training courses for archery alone were magnificent, the intricate growths of trees and bushes to simulate the forest and even the reshaping of rocks to more rocky terrain allowed for archers to change terrain in drills. It also allowed for the adaptation of skills while they trained overall.

This was only part of everything since she had seen the ways that the training areas changed when they were made in different dragon territory around the central Genesis city. This made it able to be a wildly different training area zone to zone because of the different manas being increased in density.

This also trained resistance to manas and terrains naturally which would strengthen a single archer overall rather than just enhance a single aspect of the archers overall. Besides this, there was the fact that the archers were being challenged in ways that they would not have living in their singular village whether they were a forest elf or not. It was radically different in the best possible way.

In terms of the herb gardens, the forest elf queen saw herbs that she knew for a fact had been impossible or generally extremely difficult to grow in the forests. That has limited the alchemy potential of those herbs and medicines needing them. Therefore, slowing the process that they could be traded or produced and making things riskier when certain events occurred within the forest elf city alone.

Being able to see that these issues were fixed and there was the potential to even grow the production meant that she could now see a healthier and safer future for the people she had allowed to travel and even live within Genesis. It also meant that those who trained here would become stronger more safely than before.

"I wish that we could take more of what I have seen and bring it home. However, there is tradition and respect to the ways we have lived and I will uphold those." This wasn't a rejection but an open respect for their history. The forest elf queen was ready to ensure that he would maintain the current state of her home and remain in honor of those who had done what was necessary. However, she was open to taking what she could and growing the people in her time left in the world before passing the title of queen on officially.

"I have made sure to enhance the lives of those that I could and even bonded with the grand spirit tree. I am deeply connected to everything within Genesis and understand the views of other races now too. We have a deep connection with mana and our own affinities, that was both a blessing and curse to our ancestors when they divided themselves based on their affinities. But now we have found the lost trials and methods to return to our past while enhancing our future."

Alma didn't need to practice her responses. This was what she had lived and breathed since she had been leading in Genesis. While she had not focused on her battle potential nor had she increased her strength in training. She has managed to grow stronger as a leader and in connection to the mana her people needed to learn from to grow as well. She was immensely different and more focused than what she had been before.

While the forest elf queen knew her as someone driven for her entire life, she also knew that she was focused on strength and battle a little before she had grown so much. Alma had focused on her poisonous plants and manipulating them, she had provided in hunts using those things. Now she provided by showing balance and control of her surroundings. She provided in ways that didn't need to be physical and even violent or manipulative. It was an entirely new change to her leadership as an example to the people.

"I will send a group to assist you even more closely. Not the elders, but some of the younger elves who have already taken to training here and traveling to the other villages. I know that they understand the people and they are not all forest born. They will assist you when you are focused on growing yourself a family." The words halted Alma and even made Gil who had been reading a few documents falter.

"I was impressed that Gil achieved so much and that you have also stepped well beyond the potential I foolishly believed was your limit. Yet, you are a leader but also more than that. You have every right to let older leaders like myself and others handle the work while you build something I was never properly able to build. Enjoy your family while I can rest easy knowing you are prepared for the future."

Gila and Alma were still stunned and frozen, yet, it had been a long time since they met. Time passes faster and faster since they have gotten stronger. Whether they were awake for days at a time or even up to a month, that time passed. If they lived by time they would realize that all their training, travel, and quests had actually happened over years now but they never added that up. To them time was not an option of worry when they needed to complete a task.

The entire party suffered from this. Whether it was their mindset to improve everything for everyone or it was the fact that as they had gained the hero titles they and those around them lost sense of time while achieving goals didn't matter.

What did matter was that the forest elf queen had managed to pick up on something that even Gil and Alma hadn't spoken to others about. "I am deeply in tune with our ancestors and their knowledge. They and myself can sense the growth of new life. So foster it under the blessing of myself and the forest. I will handle sending additional elves to help Walker with his exploration. It should be the last adventure Gil takes in some time."

This was both a warning and a promise of assistance. Gila and Alma still couldn't find words before they found themselves hearing a commotion.

"Hero Gil, we have some reports that there are visitors from the wind territories of the elemental planes. They have asked to see you and Zephyr. They wish to visit Genesis properly since the emissaries have told them to look for you when they arrived."

It was hard to keep focused hearing this and having the forest Elf queen interrupt things. Their minds were not as central but Gil kept his duty in mind. He had been asked for because of his bond with Zephyr as she was a powerful member of the spirit race focused on winds he was even recognized by the world.

Since Gil had her dwelling within a spirit mark and resting right now, it was up to him to handle the problems or the situation that was currently ongoing. Whether it would be a good sign or not he was excited to see what might come.

"I have a feeling that we will see a lot more than I expect in the future. Go on and forget about me. Alma and I will share some words while you work hard to prepare a better future as well." The forest elf queen was almost light and airy in the way she spoke out. It felt like she was a mother laughing at a stunned married son-in-law.

Without worrying too much, Gil dashed off thanking himself for not fumbling words or anything. Instead he glanced at Alma and kept moving when he noticed she had a slight smile playing in her eyes. It was proof that she was happy to have what she had and that was all he could care about.

Whether he would need to work harder or not, Gil knew that Walker and the others were hard at work doing whatever they needed to do for the sake of the people. He would keep doing that while he would also take a leading step ahead of others in another way.

If he could take that step as both the oldest member of his party and also as the first to walk a path of adulthood the others hadn't yet reached then so be it. He would do his best to learn and share whatever

he needed to share with the others so they too could have the best of the best they needed to achieve their own goals as well.

Chapter 2776 A Little Help Guiding

"Midnight?" A curious voice came from Su while she was sitting on a bench taking a break. She had been working in the cathedral then made her way back to the coliseum to help train others. "What are you wandering around here for? Weren't you busy training and helping escort that new general?"

She had seen Midnight somewhat befriending the new Genesis from the demi-human kingdom. It was good since Walker had somewhat had a rougher meeting with the woman, but Midnight was always eager to meet someone new. Then again, Midnight might have also dragged the general and her guards elsewhere to eat different foods or even train with her for a bit too long. It all depended on what midnight had thought at the time.

"Recruiting!" The happy response that came from Midnight should have been what Su expected. Since Walker was looking to recruit people to go to an undiscovered land, why wouldn't Midnight have jumped in to help right away?

"If you are going to ask me to try to convince more of the guards or soldiers I have been sparring with, I can't say it will work. There are a lot of them who wish to follow one of the rulers who are here right now." Su knew that this was not what Midnight might want to hear, but then again, it was the truth.

"No! I am looking for blacksmiths." Now this was different from what Su thought Midnight might be looking for. Yet, she also knew that the flying ships and the floating ships would need to be focused on for travel. It was also hard to get those built faster, meaning that there had to be a recruitment of more craft focused class users.

"If we can manage to get those then maybe a few people will want to go with them. You should advertise to merchant groups who might want to send small groups of guards there to collect new

materials." She wanted to help Midnight but Su wasn't going to go out of her way to try to convince those who might have other jobs elsewhere. It was a busy point for Genesis right now.

Rulers were visiting, there were new visitors every day from various elemental planes, and there were long term training plans for specific projects like being an emissary for the elemental plane travels and negotiations.

"Miss Su and Miss Midnight, I am very glad I found you. There is a meeting happening with sir Gil in relation to a new race wishing to come from the wind elemental plane to Genesis. Would you two be able to leave and assist him?" The harpy that gracefully landed in front of them extended a small letter with the location and the rough details she had already spoken about. It appeared that everyone was being given some notice of this and Gil had taken the lead.

"Yes." with affirmation, the harpy flew off to communicate her letter delivered so that another task could be taken. Both Midnight and Su enjoyed the fact that they could easily receive communication without having to check communication crystals or career multiple of them. They knew new things would come to take their place but a small note or letter always seemed better than the other methods so far.

"I guess we can worry about Walker's plans later after we have seen this new race." Midnight's eyes glimmered with excitement as Su took the lead toward one of the bridges to the elemental planes. While it was toward the one between the earth and fire dragon run territories, they knew that if they were meeting a race they might need their expertise to help block some mana.

While Su had great defensive abilities, Midnight could work as a similar role. They could ensure that a lot of mana didn't bother or even reach those being escorted if that was the case. Especially if they had others working with them and the right gear or potions to also assist this new race.

When they did reach where they needed to be, it had only been a short half hour because of their speed in moving. They did find that quite a few mages had been called and had already set up wind based defensive bubbles. While often used to block arrows or thrown projectiles, they were also good for keeping wind mana moving around certain areas or targets. For this, it gave protection to this new race who were not accustomed to the different manas of the world.

"Su, Midnight! Glad you came. I want to introduce you to a few friends who heard about me and my partner Zephyr through the emissaries. They are very excited to come here and meet others who practice archery and wind magic." Gil was bright and seemingly too energetic while standing beside several very tall robed figures.

The robes were made in Genesis and all had runes channeling wind mana and protecting from other manas. They were made for situations like this but it also seemed that the crew who came could handle the wind mana very well. They were cloaking themselves in wind to keep themselves safe but clearly had strong resistances for other manas as well.

"These are Midnight, a true dragon champion and hero and this is Su, a half dragon, true dragon guardian and hero. Both of them are family to me and you can treat them like myself since they will help you all the same as I will." Gil brought the two of them over and both Midnight and Su were somewhat shocked. They had never seen Gil acting so personable and professional. They almost stopped and asked Gil if he had been replaced within one of the mimics or mimic slime race or something similar. They might even be looking at a doppelganger.

"It is kind of you to come to greet us. We are of the scaled hawk race and came here searching for a new land to nest. We were told that there are no predators who will consume our young here. We can also rest well at night without watching mothers and fathers perish due to exhaustion in fighting and guarding their nests." as they removed the hoods of their cloaks, the scale like feathers covering their hawk heads and rough humanoid bodies were clear.

Now the bulging at their backs proved to be wings along with their feet being sharp talons made for grabbing on to prey. Their hands extended to shake and create them were more like a dragon's claws

but halfway between becoming a normal human hand. It was an interesting anatomy but even more so an interesting feeling from both Midnight and Su.

"You can tell right? They have a mixed bloodline and became intelligent from their mixing of bloodlines and years of survival. They have ancestors of wind dragons and a monster called the tempest sky hawk because of that they have amazing wind affinity. They also travel, finding better nesting locations for their people every year. If they are able to come here, they will be able to overcome their past losses." Su and Midnight appeared to understand what he was saying so Gil returned to the conversation he had been having before the pair got here.

"I believe you will have to test it out, you have a lot of resistances because you have traveled near other elemental planes. That is in your favor since the world is always balanced. Some places have denser manas for one or a handful of verities, but they all have mana balanced together. That is how our world works." He offered a guiding hand to the leader as they left the threshold of the bridge to the elemental planes.

They all saw as Midnight and Su were using skills related to wind to cover their bodies and repel manas around them. It was something unique since they had not expected self buffing skills to be used to enhance the safety of an area. Yet, it was all because Midnight and Su had worked together for a long time that they were able to meld their formation in this way.

"Welcome to Genesis. This is the fire and earth territory area, we will quickly move you to the wind territory where the royal wind dominator dragon Ventus will greet us. She just returned from some personal training and quests along with meeting her children." Gil saw the slight flinching of the scaled hawk race, the manas around were rougher on them than he hoped, but he also saw how the mana from the mages invigorated them enough to move strongly ahead.

"We are eager to see your home. If what we have been told of it is half true, we will find peace here." Hope was a brilliant thing, and the leader of the scaled hawk race possessed a great amount of it.

Chapter 2777: Some News

"I believe it would be easier to travel with you if we took to the air. It may feel more comfortable for you to see things from up high?" Gil phrased it like a question but he was already taking to the air himself. What he hadn't done much or even shown was the challenging ability to also step on the air.

While Walker had the wind step, air step, and even wind manipulation skills along with others to fly, Gil had been trying to understand how to fashion a skill that copied the ways that the wind elves could walk through the sky but also make it better.

Make it a skill for him rather than just adopting it for himself like he had with other elven skills.

This struggle is small in comparison to the others he had faced so far, but Gil had brought it on himself to change and grow. In this way, he can show the elves he is both one of them and also able to live up to the high elf blood he has. He can lead by example and give them goals by chance, for every affinity elf and not just those who can follow the high elf path he now walks.

As he took a step forward, it was like he was just casually strolling through the air. Small puffs of wind beneath his feet kept him moving while all he did was slowly shift his weight like he was waiting for someone to match him. It was stunning to the scaled hawk race leaders who had believed that flight was only for those with great wind mana control or wings on their backs.

"This is an adjusted skill I learned from the wind affinity elves. They have a wind walker or wind dancer skill, some even use wind steps. I use wind striding mixed with wind steps to make myself a skill called nature's wind rider. I am using the natural flow of wind mana in the air around us to walk as if I am on the ground. So come with me and see Genesis on your way to the wind territory. After you have judged it, you may bring through others if you desire."

Gil's attitude showed a brilliant amount of potential in just his words, but he also showed trust. No guard took to the sky that was showing any sort of weariness or hostility. The ones who took to the sky were those protecting the scaled hawk race.

It didn't go unnoticed either. As leaders themselves, they felt that they were being offered a hand to stand taller instead of being looked at like any form of threats. While they innately knew that those around them could easily turn to defend themselves, any stress they possessed about venturing in to the world was beginning to wash away.

It wasn't until they had reached a higher height in the air that they felt a change. The wind mana around was strong and the negative feelings related to the denser fire and earth manas at the entrance to the elemental planes was fading. They now understood what they had been told about the mixing of manas always being everywhere. They could still feel the threat of fire and earth manas, but they didn't need to worry since they had gotten higher in the air and been surrounded by more wind mana.

Yet, that was a thought for a brief moment only. They had seen the entirety of Genesis in the distance. Buildings they had never imagined. The feeling of mana and mysticism they couldn't place.

Everything they were seeing was unique and different. It was something that they had wished they could see in their own elemental plane. Yet they had always found themselves fighting against monsters and losing their young. It was a struggle to survive because no matter where they faced the wind currents had brought them new fights. It was an endless battle day in and day out.

"That is the main central city where all races join together to learn and grow. I believe you would enjoy seeing everything there. Especially the more important areas. The archive where we store knowledge, the crafting guild where everything from weapons to homes are built, and even the main Genesis hall where every leader works together to help all the people of the Genesis alliance."

While Gil was laying it all on thick, Midnight and Su were still somewhat shocked. Gil wasn't just playing some part to sound more professional. He was showing off an entire aura that he was a pillar and leader in his own right. He rarely acted like this unless he and Walker were shoulder to shoulder. Yet, this was proof he didn't need support to be a leader or stand this tall. He could easily represent the elves while also representing Genesis as a whole.

He just had to show it. But they still wondered what had spurred this in him lately.

"Gil told me you would all arrive, but you are quicker than I expected." The larger form of Ventus in her dragon form seemed to scare the scaled hawk leaders before they realized her wind was wrapping and protecting them. "I welcome you to the territory I manage for and with Genesis. It has plenty of space to develop homes for you and your people. Please allow me to take the lead here now."

It felt like Ventus was trying to tell Gil, Su, and Midnight to leave her alone while she handled everything. Then again, they also noticed one of her children on the ground watching and realized she might be using this as another way to teach them leadership. "Thank you for your help. You are all in good hands, Ventus is one of the strongest leaders within Genesis and always puts her people and family first."

This warm encouragement made the scaled hawk leaders appear even more relaxed without the weight of stress or other manas on their bodies. It also appeared that Su and Midnight releasing their skills and defensive buffs showed that this was indeed the case many times over for safety.

"Good luck exploring our home, Midnight and I have to have a meeting with Gil now that he is free." Midnight huffed a little and waved while she and Su grabbed an arm, each of Gil's to drag him away.

As they left they heard Ventus laughing slightly while taking her dragonkin form and mentioning that the hero group always seems to run off to help or work on something. It was yet another addition that

appeared to help along the ice breaking efforts since it would be tough to open up to new people that the scaled hawk race barely knew. However, just seeing the actual peaceful life all around them, they were already beginning to grow expectations and latch on to the hope for a better future for their people.

"You are acting a bit weird Gil," Su spoke first as they set down to the ground just a ways away from where Ventus was meeting with the new race for the alliance.

"Very weird. But good weird." Midnight's reinforcement made Gil seem to be a bit more thrown off since the two were watching him with a bit of pressure.

"Well, Alma and the forest queen are meeting right now, but I was made to leave and work things out here. I have to be a bit more of a leader before I get too busy. I also need to take a bigger part in the exploration of that other continent so I should do more." This was like Gil dodged the question rather than just answering.

"That's not all a lie but you aren't telling us something. You should be more forward, just say it and we won't make fun of you too much." The sneaky smirk on Su's face made Gil feel like he was a target for entertainment rather than a family member or party member.

"Well..."

"Well, what!?" and then Midnight's impatience won out and Gil felt like he was about to lose everything.

"ehm...well...I might become a father sooner than we realized since the forest elf queen had a feeling that Alma might be doing more than just growing stronger herself as a leader."

The jaw dropping silence was enough to prove that Su and Midnight hadn't expected this. The two had gotten married in the elven ways and become true partners beyond just high elven ways and the forest elf ways. They were some of the highest leaders to become married since Genesis had been founded.

"I believe I have to speak to Alma. She might need help." Su had gotten a bit flushed in the cheeks but was already turning to rush off. Midnight on the other hand started bouncing in place thinking of having another younger sibling to play with.

Chapter 2778: Kinda Dumb For A Smart Guy

"Good morning Alice. Thank you for bringing me breakfast." As much as Walker rested, he didn't. He had been captured by the planning and assisting in preparations for a new exploration. He had also received amazing news on the rune research lately along with the research within the ancient angel ruins.

With everything going on, he had become a desk worker rather than out using his hands to progress everything like he wanted to. Then again, this might just be a natural progression since so many people working in Genesis were so talented now. They didn't need his intervention to move everything along.

They stood on their own with their own skills. They had their own strength.

It made everyone proud which was a good thing to be right now while they expanded Genesis even more.

"I thought you might be working too hard." Alice leaned in to Walker more than knowing he was still stuck thinking about the potential needs of the exploration. Then again, would she like him any more if he didn't care so much for the people following him? She thought not.

"I have been neglecting any rest, I know, but mana can keep me going very well. If I had been awake when the spirit race came to the forges then we would have missed all of the good things. I didn't know how many elemental spirits wished to interact with the world they drew their mana and formed themselves from. As many elemental spirits become proper spirit race members, their hope to bond with others and interact is much greater than I realized."

This wasn't just Walker finding it amazing that he had so many members of the spirit race who wished to be able to control the dwarven golems for the exploration. It was because the pure intent to interact with the world and others that the spirit race possessed in their youngest members was truly pure and not empty as other promises may be in life.

They truly wished to be part of the world in more than one way. They wished to experience what they had felt their whole lives before being able to intelligently understand their connections to mana and the world.

They had been part of the world at a core level before growing enough to be an official member of the spirit race. Upon doing so, they now desired to live the same ways as other races. To be part of the great changes and growth they had witnessed and felt.

The wild feeling of exploring unknown lands.

The intense emotions to a battle protecting others.

The adoration that came with those who saw their hazard earned efforts paying off.

The spirit race wished to grasp that with their own hands and they could do that with more truth when they bonded with a dwarven golem made for them. Even better, if they lost that golem and experienced pain, they could leave the core and flee so that they could live another day. They could also bring back the information that they gathered in that painful moment. It was unlike other races who had fewer life saving measures as part of what they were as a being.

While Walker had not pushed this as a reason behind why he wished the spirit race to join this exploration, he was glad that those of the spirit race who came understood their strength in this endeavor.

While the spirit race had been amazing teachers of mana, they did not wish to be some race of just natural knowledge. They wanted to fight and argue. They wanted to trade and celebrate. If they could do the same properly with the other races, then they would perfectly be one with them rather than feeling separated from them like they did now.

That was one thing Fleur had begun to feel from the spirit race and as a leader wished to make sure that it was not something that they felt as a race. Walker had been impressed with her since she had seen the potential in his project to make her own race feel as if they mattered more to everything within Genesis and not just part of little things here and there without as much substance emotionally.

"Su and Midnight have been very active lately. They are meeting with Remy today for something they said they needed a lot of." This caused Walker to become confused. He couldn't imagine why Alice was focusing on this and why she had brought it to him. But looking at her small smirk, he began to understand she was hiding something from him, which was very unusual.

"You know something then?"

She smiled widely, blinding him a bit as she hummed a bit. "I might." After a short pause, Alice responded in a sing song voice, "But should I tell you when you haven't spent enough time with me?"

Now Walker was even more distracted and dumbfounded. Alice never acted so pushy and teasingly. Normally she was so reserved but right now Walker felt like he was losing some sort of battle. Like he was the prey and he had to step up if he wanted to keep the brilliant light that he had.

"Then why don't you and I take this chance to walk and find out what those three are working on? The little princess was taken away by the king for a while since she fell asleep three times while reading. Rest is important for her even if she wants to grow up faster with that unique skill. The archivists here have plans and maps along with plenty of help. So we don't have to stay here reading reports."

"You don't need to read about the new discoveries in the angel ruins or the rune research for gravity and floating control?"

"I can wait to read it all later. If my family needs help with something I will help them first. I already know that the gravity rune research is advancing a lot now that the ruins have been explored more. The layering rune formation techniques are also being tested to see if they can be improved and not interfere with one another." Alice just nodded a bit since she could tell just how excited Walker was about hearing all of these things.

Even as he rambled on about the potential she just hummed softly playing with the light mana around her while listening. She knew very well that when there was a proper potential to make more floating islands, that there would be floating islands made specifically to move and remain in places where healers were needed. A floating cathedral would bring healing to places it was needed the most. On top of that, it could operate better than a floating ship would since it wasn't necessary for the same amount of staffing.

"We need to stop here first." Alice halting Walker in his tracks outside of a small clothing shop made him wonder just what was going on. He was even more confused when Alice grabbed a few small blankets not even large enough to be used as a spot to sit outside for a picnic.

"You are brilliant, but I wonder what would happen if you weren't told some things." Alice was still teasing him and even giggling at his confused expression while they left the shop and made their way toward Remey's alchemy lab in the alchemy guild.

Of course the walk had been short, but he hadn't expected it to take them too long regardless. Instead, he was more confused when he saw so many herbs being brought to the lab where Remey was working on some nutrient potions. As far as he could tell, she was working to develop quite a few more than normal, and they were high quality.

He also heard Su and Remey bickering amongst one another about Alma needing them and how Gil would be staying up without sleep.

"Oh my holy flow of mana, Gil's going to be a dad isn't he!"

"Are you dumb or something? Shouldn't you have guessed that's why we are all getting together to make these things? Alice even went out to buy some baby blankets for your sister to put rune formations on. The rune sewn fabric can be used to bring calmer mana around the baby when it's born." Now Remey was even yelling at him.

Walker felt like he had just missed the biggest sign right in front of his face even made. He should have guessed it, especially when he had last been around Alma. He should have sensed the flourishing life mana gathered within her body. How had he missed it?

"Wait, is this why you said Gil was getting ahead of..." Alice was smirking and started to giggle again. Walker was just left feeling like he was on the losing end once again before Midnight leaped over and started to brag about how she would have another younger sibling.

Chapter 2779 Some Room To Grow

"He shouldn't come and explore with us, right?" It was a while before Walker could take the chance to actually think about all of this. He had been teased for a while since he had entirely missed all the hints that the girls had given him.

Even when Onyx had arrived, Onyx had guessed this in just a few moments of the others dropping small hints. It was even more embarrassing since that started a whole new round of teasing for Walker.

"If you tell Gil that he might fight you to the death. He is going to come on this expedition with everyone because he has to. It's not going to be about just one adventure before he is busy with family matters, it will be about establishing a potential future for everyone who relied on him to grow here."

While the words Su said were sweet, they also had a backbone to them that told Walker she understood what Gil would feel. She clearly felt the same when she was looking to teach more guards to be stronger to protect people. Yet, she also knew very well that she would have to go out and explore herself so that those guards could face new challenges. If she stopped exploring and working toward new lands, then she wouldn't be teaching anyone at all any more.

While the ideals were different, they mirrored the same feelings of desire for the future and the present. Gil needed to be out there because that was how he would establish more for the future. That was just the fact of the matter.

"I don't want to stop him, I just want to make sure that we are doing the right thing." Walker looked at the various nutrient potions and other items before storing them away in his high spatial storage. He

knew that the multi dimensional storage skills were progressing and he could do more with it, but just having a basic storage was nice. If he delved too deeply in to space mana and the new skill he felt he might lose something here.

That was why he was worried for Gil. If Gil headed to a new land with them, then what if he realized he was going to be missing too much? What if he realized his true passion was out there in the unknown and would struggle to show Genesis and his family what they needed from himself?

While the worries were not in line with who Walker believed Gil to be, that didn't mean there wasn't potential for everything. There was always the chance that something more could happen and that would need to be established.

"There are many who will support Gil and Alma in the future. So Gil should find the adventure he needs to have stories for the elves he is going to teach and raise." The perspective that Alice had was always bright. She gave so much to everyone that in her mind, this expedition was a new gift to the future.

If Walker and the others with hero titles led everyone to explore the state of this untouched continent, then there would be a lot of potential for exploration in the future. Some people were born and raised with the heart of an explorer. Right now, those with such feelings were focused on the elemental planes. A place that was exceptionally dangerous and might not be possible for everyone to venture in to if they lacked the resistance to certain manas.

However, this continent was supposed to be larger and partially underwater. That meant there was an exceptionally large amount of land and water to explore for everyone who wished to take that chance. It could be explored by those who were unable to venture in to the elemental planes.

And even better, a hero like Gil would come home to share the stories to inspire the next generation while assisting those who wish to take that journey in the coming years. It was a brilliant tinder for the spark of hope and excitement for others to have.

"I guess we can force Gil to be in charge of the explorers heading there after. He could organize groups and teach them the newest information before they take a flying ship, ocean ship, or teleportation formation." Walker was liking this more and more.

"Walker! I was sent to three different forges and a training field before I found you!" The slightly out of breath appearance of Gil in the doorways to Remy's alchemy workshop proved to be enough of a surprise to make everyone wonder why he would be rushing around like this.

"I managed to get seventy members of the elf guard and even a few extra adventurers who want to join your exploration. I will go too since it's a big deal but I wanted you to help me tell them how to train for it." With how serious Gil appeared, everyone knew exactly why, but their smirks and slightly knowing faces proved to be an oddity to Gil.

"We heard that there is some news you want to tell us, Gil. something about the forest elf queen sensing a little more life than there was before." Now it was Gil's turn to appear bullied and teased. The others hadn't shown this much focus on Walker but he knew what Gil was in for.

"I should have known that Su and Midnight would catch on to all this since they were around me enough. But it's still not going to be made easy, is it?" with a large sigh he sat down. "I need to speak to my parents so don't go bothering them about all this. But apparently the connection to generations and generations of elves helps tell when there might be a new elf born. There are signs that appear not everyone can see."

There was a bit of an exhausted look now that Gil understood everyone had already reached the same conclusion and had been waiting to tease him. "Actually, Alice, can you help me with the best healers for her? I know there are ways that the elves do things, but I would feel more comfortable knowing that at least one expert healer could remain near Alma for a while. I don't want to risk anything in the next month or year."

"I was planning to as soon as I finished here." Her bright smile lingered before she gave a glance to Walker and turned away. Now Walker really felt like he was in trouble since he hadn't spent a lot of time with Alice lately. Her duties and his had kept them very busy, but it seemed he had to make sure another duty took the front and top of his lists.

"Thank you, I have already guessed that things might move a little faster than normal with Alma." Now it was everyone else's turn to be confused.

"Have none of you heard anything?" It wasn't abnormal that this wasn't something that everyone would have caught on to, but it was clear they needed to hear it out loud.

"Well, with all the mana, better food, safe living arrangements, and no issues in terms of war or slavery that some had been through, birth rates are climbing. Even the dragons are saying that they are expecting the highest safe birth of eggs in their nests in the last fifty or more years. The demon race is saying that mothers are healthy and safe which is different from the last years they know of. And the elves are saying that they are no longer expecting women to carry a child for over a year since they can gain better nutrients and mana flow to the child before birth."

This was a lot to take in. if all the changes in the world came together and the growth of Genesis came together... "You're saying that everything returning to flow and the races coming together means that there will be more mouths to feed and a need for more people to buy and build homes sooner than later."

"This is all why the dragon territories are so empty right now, plenty of room for the dragons to expand and other races to expand too. We also have a second city getting residents and now an entirely new third continent to explore. Perfect for expanding and growing even more." Gil sighed and realized that everyone had been too focused on their own paths that they had missed one of the big overall pictures.

"He's really all grown up. Like a real adult."

"Remey's right. Gil has made a lot of advanced decisions and is acting like a king now."

"Elf king Gil!"

"Oh come on, even Midnight is joining in on this?"

"Brother Gil, we know you are ready for this step. I understand the challenges you may face and will be beside you if you need me." With Onyx being heartfelt, Gil knew he wouldn't have much trouble. He just needed to what some support with his emotions and mind in a mess.

"Don't worry about it, the family is growing and we are all excited. We will make everything perfect. So let's make sure whoever your first child wants to be has that room to grow in to." Walker slapped Gil on the shoulder before they all stood to refocus on their hard work.

Chapter 2780: In the Corner Of His Eye

"This advancement in gravitational rune formation discovery will alter the usage of all flying ships. While it takes an immense amount of mana to keep in use, it will be ideal to use when acceleration and fire taking off in to the sky. With more research, we should be able to work this in with other rune formations being tested to improve mana usage."

The report that Walker was receiving after a celebratory dinner the previous night was good.

He was very happy to hear about the advancement of gravitational rune formations and even the work on gravity magic. Both would be an advantage to the floating ships to help them right now. However, it was not something that could be used in the floating islands project. Mostly because the large amount of sustained mana usage would be too great as the world is now. Meaning that mana gathering rune formations would need to be increased.

The idea of layering the mana gathering rune formations was there, but that had already been shut down as a potential plan. The failure of the ancient angels was their reliance on layering rune formations and being unable to repair or improve their rune formations because they were layered.

The technique had its uses but more so on temporary items and not items they could use for the long term. That was fine in the cases of things like magic scrolls that could be made with unique methods and of adding layered rune formations, might be able to produce powerful temporary effects. But that was a long way away from being possible due to the research and materials needed just to start testing all of this theory.

"There is also an improvement in the knowledge found within the fallen floating city. The ruins yielded several more rune covered rods and several tapestries stored in sealed containers that explain the theory behind some smaller working parts of the ruined city. It is believed that the crafting method of the central mana gem pillar is part of that information but it is only partial information."

Hearing this part of the report was exceptional. The central mana gem pillar was something very hard to manage since it would need to be made with exact specifications. However, creating it would make the best central core for the future floating islands and testing on that aspect now would be perfect since the rest could be researched faster than that. The sooner there was progress the better.

"The report from the isolated herbal garden about the dark domes is good as well sir hero. There is a successful alteration to the rune formations allowing for longer term domes to be made. The issue they face is the mana within is causing harm to those who just harvest the herbs but removing the formation temporarily would cause damage to the herbs."

"Hmm, we can send potions to those to help them resist the mana but we might have to start having specialized staff in each elemental greenhouse. It has been a slow shift lately but it is ideal for the way we need to produce herbs in the future." Walker saw on the paperwork that was being read to him that the same conclusion was reached by the researcher in charge of that project so he didn't force the idea, it was already in practice.

"Otherwise, there are only minor reports as new applicants are arriving for the exploration you are planning. Some are requesting to be captains with squads to lead. There are others who are trying to supersede the requirements needed to participate."

"Thank you for your reports. I know that a lot is happening but please ask the guards to focus on the requirements to participate and give firm answers to those trying to get in who are beneath those requirements. It is not only their lives on the line but everyone around them if they come and are too weak to safely participate."

This felt bad since Walker knew that those who showed up but didn't meet standards wanted to go on the exploration to grow. Yet, if he saw them join and fail to defend or have problems and others die, then that would be the failure of every leader. They had to bring teams that could hold their own and at least survive dangerous situations to be healed later than those who might perish immediately.

He remembered the first time they had taken to the water in a ship. They faced storms and dangerous monsters along with risky situations that were better handled by those stronger. If the same occurred in

the water and the sky and those with him could not handle it, then he would be held accountable for every life lost.

Walker would not permit himself to lose anyone whatsoever.

"Understood. I will return with your replies." The attendant who had taken the lead in delivering reports to Walker while he worked in the grand archive rushed off. It appeared he was better at gathering information and condensing it than others. He might have a chance to flourish here or in the Genesis building as an information manager or coordinator. That was something to think about later though.

Looking down at the papers and some additional materials, Walker felt that the mage tower ruins he would be hunting for would be more advanced than what he had previously thought. Not in the ways that the magic used would have more advanced meaning, but the ways that these people had learned how to use magic.

Just in one book the feeling of water flowing or the change in water due to the weather or season was focused on much more than today's magic teaching.

Meaning simply that the reasons why water mana and magic might change based on the rest of the world around it was extremely important to the ways that magic used to be used in the towers.

This was similar to how the echidna race and some of the elves lived when they focused on magic and nature. However, the mages in particular interacted better with mana because they had first been raised to respect nature. The proof here and in these ancient books was more than enough to change the ways that Walker felt magic should be taught.

It wasn't just the underlying beliefs or methods that mana took, it was how the world turned around that mana affected it and why it was affected by it. Even someone with a pure water affinity would be able to become stronger and utilize their water mana better in a season with more rain since they would be able to tap in to the flow of water mana in a more natural form than drawing it in themselves.

It would mean that with more information and matching to current studies, the ways that magic was taught or just the ways that mana affinity was interpreted could become much better. It might even mean that those with mixed affinities could better understand what their actual affinity could be called. There were already people with affinities like clay or steam, it was just a matter of time before everyone could see those more clearly for what they were and why.

This was also taking in to account that he would have to bring intact information about these ancient methods to be properly recorded and studied. "I am going to go out and speak to a few others about joining the expedition. I have a feeling that a few demi-nhumans might want to prove themselves if King Rorick is encouraging them to go and come back with achievements to brag about in the name of his kingdom."

Walker was clearly playing a little dirty. He knew that the desires of the demi-human race were to show their strength and power in battle. If they were the escorts for this expedition, they would certainly face the unknown and appear home afterward to share their strength many times over. It would establish their power and the reputation of the demi-human people yet again.

As he left, he also was reminded that he should look in to the twin grimoires again. They had a lot to do with mana and if he managed to utilize the mana from the elemental planes he might have the chance to look in to them much more. The information within might lead to another skill he could learn related to better appraisals or maybe even better mixing of mana further than what he was capable of now.

This didn't change the fact that Walker was still focusing on the sharper mana senses he had. Especially since he kept seeing that slight flicker of mana every time he began to look toward the potential of someone or something. He knew very well that his senses were beginning to catch on to time mana more and more as he realized just what it might be.

