

# Chapter VII: Gold Fever

*The Hexad progressed far north to the highlands, where Boss Steve and Rainbow Steve kept their foundations. Rainbow Steve's army resided in a large cave full of colors, where he and his five divisors stayed. Out of the 5, Rainbow Steve knew precisely the one who could help them with the first clue.*

**Rainbow Steve:** Down these 5 halls are my 5 Factors, Gold Steve is a part of me, he is a Gold professional. I am in no way a monarch of them, they come and go as they please, so he might not be here.

**Alex:** You should have a sign-out sheet.

**Rainbow Steve:** They'll generally say if they leave, but I haven't been around here recently, so they haven't said a word to me.

**Notch:** I see him right down there.

**Rainbow Steve:** He's probably melting gold into molds.

*They took the 3rd hall down to Gold Steve's area, and they were lucky and happy to see him melting gold by lava.*

**Gold Steve:** Hey captain. Umm, I thought you wanted to keep this place a secret.

**Rainbow Steve:** We need some help, Null is back.

**Gold Steve:** Oh that's not good.

**Rainbow Steve:** Well we can stop him, and we have a plan. But we need some help, and thankfully, you're the gold genius.

*Rainbow Steve told him all about the Ender-shadow base, and the ingredients for the Notch Apple. Gold Steve was certain that he could help until he heard the last of it.*

**Rainbow Steve:** ...made from only the purest, precious treasure.

**Gold Steve:** No gold is worthier than other gold, it all has the same worth, just might be a different size for a different price.

**Boss Steve:** Shade said the worthiest, but if no gold is worthier than other gold, then we can just use any gold!

**Gold Steve:** Well, you still need pure, edible, and above all; natural gold.

**Steve:** How are we supposed to tell if gold is edible and pure??

**Gold Steve:** The purer gold is, the more acidic material it requires to dissolve it.

**Notch:** That's not hard, but how do we test if it's edible?

**Gold Steve:** It is edible, but too much is deeply dangerous, you can only eat about 24 karats of gold before you "catch the gold fever".

**Steve:** I ate 3 dozen golden carrots last week!

**Gold Steve:** Not that kind of carrot. And speaking of eating, which of you will be the intaker?

...

**Light Steve:** I will.

**Rainbow Steve:** You will?

**Light Steve:** Yes, the enemy can only be destroyed, by its partner of opposite ability. To create the power of Infinity, and keep us all at peace ongoing for eternity.

**Steve:** Do people EVER understand what he means?

**Rainbow Steve:** In the long run, yes.

*Gold Steve knew that this would require some experimentation, so he quickly set up a table and put down a bunch of stuff.*

**Rainbow Steve:** Did you get that from Earth.

**Gold Steve:** Yeah. I can test now, did Shade provide you any specimens?

**Steve:** No, nothing but the-

*Steve suddenly looked down at his hand and saw a bag labeled "AU Man"*

**Alex:** What?

**Steve:** "To test your aptitude, find the most genuine gold of these 10. -Shade"

**Boss Steve:** Trick or treat Steve.

**Steve:** Exactly. Here you go.

*Sample 1...*

**Gold Steve:** Fake.

*Sample 2...*

**Gold Steve:** Fake.

*Sample 3...*

**Gold Steve:** This one's reading negative density!

*Sample 4...*

**Gold Steve:** That's a bracelet.

*Sample 5...*

**Gold Steve:** That's real at least.

*Sample 6...*

**Gold Steve:** Fake.

*Sample 7...*

**Gold Steve:** On point!

*Sample 8...*

**Gold Steve:** Fake.

*Sample 9...*

**Gold Steve:** A bit more rectified than sample 5.

*And sample 10...*

**Gold Steve:** This is iron!

**Alex:** Sounds like specimen 7 is our winner!

**Notch:** Yes, but that gold has encountered acid, and we can't put that in the apple.

**Shade:** You solved it!

**Everyone else:** AHHH!!!

**Steve:** Quit scaring us!!

**Shade:** You solved the puzzle, many wouldn't, so here the equivalence to experiment 7.

**Light Steve:** Why do you have all the ingredients? Do you have the Notch Apple?

**Shade:** No, I just have the gold. I needed to make sure you were willing to accept this fate...

*And just like that, gone.*

**Alex:** Accept it? Haven't we already done that?

**Gold Steve:** Here let me see that.

*Picked off a chunk, tested, and results in...*

**Gold Steve:** He wasn't misleading. It's the same. This is 100% gold. On a single unit of anything else.

**Alex:** That means the first half of the Notch Apple is finished, now we need the apple!

**Rainbow Steve:** Do we have to pick and examine an apple from every tree in the world, or is he just gonna give us a chemistry set again?

**Notch:** I think... that we ought to take a visit to the Divine Enlightenment Tree, which is where I picked the apple I got for the villagers.

**Boss Steve:** Isn't that a long way from the temple, and even farther from here?

**Notch:** From here it is... hmm... 39 kilometers.

**Steve:** What?

**Notch:** Or maybe 38. I can't tell, all this gold is blinding.

**Rainbow Steve:** Well then let's head back to the temple, and at least get 8 kilometers in, and then we can pack up, and set off!

**Gold Steve:** Don't forget the gold.

**Notch:** Thanks.

**Gold Steve:** And be careful with that. You don't want to catch the gold fever.

**Notch:** Right. Let's go.

*...Back in the territory of the temple*

**Boss Steve:** What if the tree has no more apples?

**Light Steve:** Don't think that way.

**Notch:** If so, then we've misused a good 3 hours going there.

**Alex:** 3 hours? I thought it would take like 3 days!

**Notch:** Alex, we're not diminishing our stamina and wasting time and food walking.

**Steve:** Well then how are we gonna get there? I'm definitely not wasting time with speed potions.

**Notch:** We're taking the railroad.