## World Mall 251

Chapter	251	Expl	anat	ion

Clovis didn't immediately agree to let him in. But at the same time, he didn't push him too far as well. He had even attached several links to ensure that he remained loyal to this group.
They were planning to fight a lot of people, so it would be wise if he got used to it first.
Clovis continued, "And you are probably wondering what those two powerful men did earlier?"
Ragna nodded his head furiously. He didn't expect that there were two such men waiting on the bottom of the hill. If they were normal people, they would probably try to help since it wouldn't be too much for them.
So, they might have some special identities.
"I don't know much about them either. The only thing I know is that they're here to kill me indirectly. I'm sure you've gotten a grasp of the situation as well."
"They can't kill you directly" Ragna muttered, remembering the time the assassin was forced to change the trajectory of his dagger to avoid Clovis. However, there was one more thing he remembered. "Wait a minute. Were they the ones who set up the ambush?"

Clovis confirmed it with a nod. "Most likely. I was outplayed by them. To think that they would be able to move all those beasts at the same time. We were supposed to die there, but they didn't put two variables." Clovis pointed at Ragna and continued, "You and those items."
Ragna widened his eyes. He understood why Clovis said it this way. He wanted to use him and the magical abilities of these two items to be something that those guys couldn't predict.
This way, Clovis would be able to escape again and again. Once they became strong enough, they would take them down.
In fact, their group should be able to take down two Tier 3 beasts at the same time. What if all of them increased one tier? They might be able to take down Tier 4 beasts.
That was why this was just a matter of time. As long as they played it carefully, their group could survive
While they were in danger, Clovis calculated the risk and did all this. It could be said he had failed and succeeded as a captain at the same time. He failed because he endangered the group with his existence. He succeeded in making the group stronger much faster because of the pressure from the outside.
Ragna asked, "Then, are we going to make a countermeasure against them?"
"No. I'm assuming they won't be making any move in the near future. They should have gotten some new information from the clash earlier and report it. I don't know what kind of trouble they will bring next so we have to become much stronger from this."

"Are you going to use the Rising Star Competition to get a backer?" Ragna asked. Clovis said his parents and grandfather would chase him if he revealed the existence of these items. However, if he could do that, he wouldn't have to worry against the two assassins.
So he realized that his family couldn't interfere directly either. Hence, this competition would be very useful.
It was the biggest competition in the city and a lot of people would see him.
However, Clovis shook his head. "No. We already have our own group and won't be affiliated with any other groups."
""
"Then, are you participating in the Rising Star Competition just to challenge yourself?"
"Well, I do need to prove myself a bit to get some money." Clovis shrugged. "Besides, there is another intention. I have to change my plan a little bit because we have engaged the two assassins in a fight."
Clovis glanced at Kanaria, causing the other party to tilt her head.

"What? Why are you looking at me?"
"I'm assuming that Ivan will be joining the lower tier competition. Since the assassins might be coming even stronger and more prepared, I think he won't have much time left."
"!!!" Kanaria widened her eyes in shock. "Are you saying"
"Yes. If possible, I'd like to produce a result so big that it completely overshadows Ivan's achievement in that competition. It's time for him to be cut off from the Drake Group."
Kanaria's expression turned grim. "In that case, I'll tell my mother about it. The Drake Group and the Rusth family are going to be annoying because of it."
"Yes. Please make some preparations." Clovis nodded before turning back to Ragna. "You can ask Melody the current problems that the group is facing right now."
"Eh. You're going to give that annoying task to me?" Melody looked annoyed.
"Ahahaha. Please."
"After this expedition, we are having three days off, not just two." Melody pouted after making her demands.

"Sure. I and Kanaria will go back as well. Jay and Ragna"
"I'll remain in the city for now. It won't be good if I go with you guys all of a sudden," Ragna hurriedly answered.
"I'll remain as well. It's not like I have a lot of things to do back home." Jay shrugged. "So, we're still going to continue to the third destination after this? How is our supply?"
Kanaria shrugged. "It's enough if we use them sparingly. Killing two Tier 3 beasts should be easy enough, especially since Ragna is strong enough to act as a true guardian."
"Yes. I'll definitely not let them touch you. No, I will even provide you a chance to finish them." Ragna nodded furiously.
"Good. We've gone through a lot today. Although we can't retrieve the corpses that we've killed today, let's work hard at the third destination. Please get some rest today, and we'll head to our next destination tomorrow morning."
The group agreed with the arrangement.
As Clovis predicted, the assassins chose to retreat completely. There were a lot of other things they needed to do other than try to kill them.

Clovis took advantage of this peaceful period to kill as many beasts as possible, increasing the entire group's strength and money.  Chapter 252 One Month
"What did you say? Did he use Muscle Augmentation?" A middle-aged man looked shocked.
The two assassins were standing in front of the screen, looking at the figure of a middle-aged man that had been blacked.
The first assassin couldn't say anything since he didn't experience it firsthand. However, the second assassin got one of his arms severed, so he understood full well what kind of strength they needed to do it.
The second assassin said, "Yes. I couldn't believe it at first, but after thinking about it again, I'm sure that his strength came from Muscle Augmentation?"
"Are you sure it's not just footwork or breathing technique?"
"No, sir. It's Muscle Augmentation."
"You should know how ridiculous you sound, right?"

"Yes."
The man fell silent for a moment. "Muscle Augmentation. This is an ability that a Tier 3 or Tier 4 human received and learned. This is the biggest difference between low tier humans and mid tier humans.
"Just like Brain's Sensory Imaginary or Blood's Flow Control, they are the secrets of the mid tier human. To think a Tier 1 human could actually learn it this is not a matter where a genius can simply learn it.
"You have to acquire it first! So how did he acquire it?" The man gritted his teeth, annoyed. This was the first time he heard anything about it.
If Jay was a Tier 2 human at the very least, he might still be able to say that he was already close to Tier 3, so it wasn't weird to have that ability.
But Jay was a Tier 1. There was simply no excuse. If Jay was able to acquire it as a Tier 1 human, his value would skyrocket.
The two assassins remained silent. They were also confused about this fact. They were here to kill Clovis after all.
When they thought about it, they couldn't help but think of one possibility.



They looked confused. They had several options such as trying to get the information or spreading this rumor so that it would bring more 'eyes' into this matter.
However, the impact of this information would be too big to predict.
The middle-aged man said, "You said they're going to participate in a competition, right?"
"Yes, sir."
"For now, retreat and let them do whatever they want. We need to discuss this matter with the headquarters. It's too big for us right now."
"Understood."
As Clovis expected, they could continue their preparation peacefully for the time being. So Clovis took advantage of this and killed as many beasts as possible, using their essence to power up the entire group.

The third destination wasn't a challenge anymore. Ragna skillfully positioned himself to either block the enemy or create an opportunity for the team. A fight had never been so easy before.
Jay and Clovis didn't have to focus on defending since Ragna would be the one doing that job.
They skillfully killed all their objectives and gathered a huge amount of essence.
Ragna had also become attached to the group.
Clovis used the money to buy more stuff from Another World Mall while feeding his teammates some 'quality' food.
The first one to raise their rank was Melody. It only took her one week since they had killed plenty of Tier 2 beasts.
With Melody becoming a Tier 3 human, their efficiency rose to a whole new level. She was able to sense anything around her even without looking at the radar. In fact, her own existence acted as a radar.
Her speed also increased by a notch, allowing her to send one order after another through the Skyglasses.

The second to raise their rank was Kanaria. Because she had been living with Clovis, she was the one who got exposed the most to the food from Another World Mall. Even though her evolution rate was below Jay's, her progress was actually much faster.
Kanaria didn't expect that she would be able to surpass Jay. However, their evolution rates weren't that different, so it was probably just a matter of how much essence they had absorbed so far. There was no deeper meaning to it.
Just like Melody, Kanaria had her senses enhanced even further. While it wasn't at the level of Melody, she could see an enemy from far away without binoculars.
However, Jay caught up to her a day later. Jay's strength surpassed even Clovis's with this.
Jay knew that it would just become the same again when Clovis reached Tier 2. So he didn't show much happiness when becoming a Tier 2.
Still, Jay's strength allowed them to explore an area they hadn't visited before. A Tier 3 beast might pose some challenge, but it had become much easier compared to when he was only a Tier 1 human.
They had two more weeks before the competition started. So they had to be fast since they hadn't registered themselves.
They had to wait until Clovis reached Tier 2 so that there wouldn't be any false information. It was the

rule after all.

But two days after that, Ragna reached Tier 3. As he expected, even though he became a Tier 3, he didn't get the qualitative leap he was looking for.
Without the help of Clovis's magical items, he would still remain a useless guardian.
Ragna had also become closer and closer to the group. He helped with a lot of other things such as chores and miscellaneous stuff. However, Clovis ensured that it didn't become excessive. He didn't want the other members to become lazy and end up getting into trouble if Ragna suddenly disappeared.
However, having everyone become much stronger in a short period of time was definitely amazing. Everyone was fired up, wanting to challenge the people in that competition.
In the remaining days before the competition, Clovis only held a short exploration and immediately isolated himself in his room, telling the others that he would come out once he became a Tier 2 human.
The people thought that Clovis had bought a lot of essence and would focus on absorbing all of it, considering there would be some reaction if they ingested a lot of essence at once.
That was why Clovis isolated himself, which wasn't abnormal in people's eyes.
While Clovis focused on his own task, the rest of the group chose to make their own preparation.

Three days before the competition's registration was closed, Kanaria gathered everyone in their room.
"By the way, I've heard from my mother that the mayor is going to reach this city tomorrow. He will bring all the participants," Kanaria explained while giving them a form.
"What is this?" Jay asked immediately, not bothering to understand what it was.
"The form for the competition's registration. I've filled up mine and Clovis. I want you to fill that up as soon as possible."
"This is surprising. I thought we would get an e-form instead of a physical form." Melody sighed, annoyed because she was used to typing instead of writing.
Kanaria only shrugged. "Just fill it up. It won't take five minutes. It's not only for the competition, but also for the mayor. We have agreed to get the sponsorship in three parts. The second part is once we reach Tier 2, so yeah"
Jay shrugged, not caring about it. "Are we going to snatch someone's participation ticket?"
"No. We'll join the competition independently, but we will probably need to wear something to show our affiliation with that sponsorship."

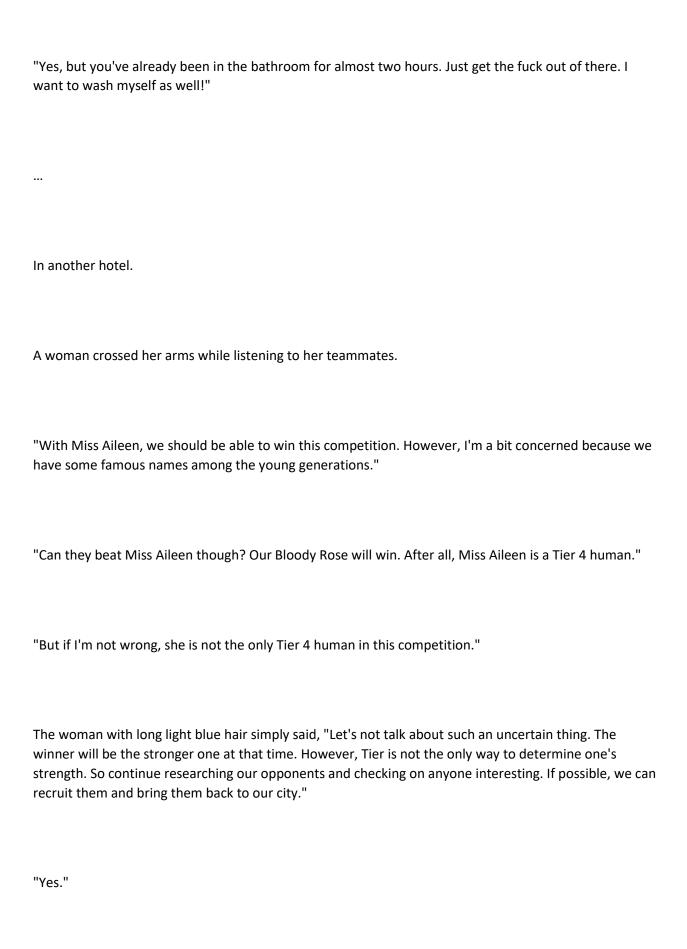
Ragna pointed at himself. "But are you sure it's fine for me to participate? I'm from this city. Although I'll be coming with you guys after this competition, I'm still registered in this city."
"It's fine. We aren't representing our city in any case, it's just a sponsorship." Kanaria shrugged.  "Besides, there are two things that I want to tell you. First of all, Clovis said that it's time to remove someone, so we'll be humiliating him with the result. Our goal this time is the championship if possible."
Ragna didn't deny that possibility after knowing the strength of these people. They were not ordinary. If they played their cards carefully, they might be able to take down a Tier 4 human.
"Who is this person that you want to remove?" Ragna asked.
"His name is Ivan. He is probably joining the first competition, so he won't be competing with us. As long as we get a result, that's fine."
Ragna nodded in understanding. Talent gave birth to jealousy, so he just nodded his head.
"The second matter is regarding the aftermath. If we have a good result, we'll be targeted even more. Hence, we have to be prepared."  Chapter 253 Participants
"So this is the Stellar City," said a young man after getting off the bus.

A middle-aged man came to them while saying, "Come out now. Because this is a new city for you guys, we'll try to get you used to it. This Stellar City is stronger than our city, so there are a lot of things you need to learn."
"Yes." The young man nodded as more and more people came out of the bus.
And one of them was actually Ivan.
Yes, they were the participants in the competition that would be held in a few days.
"Mayor Revan." The middle-aged man moved to the car on the back. "Where are these so-called geniuses you claim to be able to make their name in this competition? I've heard that you've sponsored them without putting their name on our city's starting roster."
"Well, I'll be visiting them pretty soon. But it's better not to say anything about it for our participants, lest they become unpredictable."
The middle-aged man understood what he was trying to imply. "I understand. Are they really going to participate in the second competition? Their age should be pretty young, right?"
"Yes. Unfortunately, one of them is already quite old because of some circumstances. So they choose to participate as a team."

"Stubborn." The middle-aged man frowned.
"They call it confidence." Mayor Revan smiled. "Settle down our group first."
"Understood."
While the middle-aged man brought the group away, the mayor couldn't help but look at the sky, wondering how the kids were doing. They had promised that they would produce some results, so he couldn't help but feel anxious.
He didn't want them to be too reckless just for the sake of reward since survival was always a matter of priority.
However, they were not the only people coming into this town. There were some other towns that came to participate. Of course, the people behind them also came to cheer.
Even Kanaria's mother chose to come so that she could see her daughter's progress.
"I guess I should meet them soon."

Ivan looked around, noticing that even at this point, Clovis's name wasn't on the participant list.
In addition, this time, Lovelia joined Ivan's group. Since it wasn't an exploration group, no one would say anything if she partnered up with Ivan again. She had pent up frustration in her heart.
Even the president of the Drake Group, Thomas, came to this town to ensure that the city didn't register them.
However, he was a bit concerned about the movement of the mayor.
Meanwhile, Clovis and the others had become comfortable with the Stellar City. As usual, Ragna and Jay had become gym buddies and spent most of their free time there.
Melody became shut in, creating a simulation game. She was also trying to find out all the people who wanted to participate in the competition and did some background checks.
Kanaria was buying items. It seemed that bullets were still too powerful for Tier 2 humans, so they required them to use special bullets for this.
Kanaria couldn't help but furrow her eyebrows when reading the rules of the competition. However, her face distorted even more when she saw a message.

Mom: I'm here. Where are you guys? Have you registered yet? I'm asking for family registration and competition. The mayor seems to want to meet you guys.
"" Kanaria pinched the bridge of her nose, wondering if her mother could be normal just for once. Still, she had to meet the mayor with the rest of the team so that she could get the second part of the reward.
Hence, she replied to her mother about the meeting. Unfortunately, Clovis couldn't participate since he still had no sign of coming out.
Just like them, the participants this time seemed to be much better due to the huge reward that was promised by the city. The people in this city weren't the only ones looking forward to it.
In a hotel, a blond-haired man was sitting in a bathtub facing the city. He fixed his bang while saying, "Mhmm? I wonder if there are any decent opponents for the genius, me."
"If you need a decent opponent, you still have me." A red-haired man glared at him from the entrance of the bathroom.
"It's not nice to peek at a gentleman taking a bath."



On the rectangular table, Kanaria was sitting next to her mother. Jay, Melody, and Ragna sat next to each other on one side. The mayor and another person sat on the other side.
The mayor looked quite impressed after seeing Jay and Melody. The aura in their bodies had changed from the last time he'd seen them. Kanaria was having a playful smile because she was with her mother, but she, too, had become much stronger.
The one that made him concerned was the new person in their group.
"Is this Clovis?" The mayor asked with a wry smile, wondering if Clovis had changed so much that he didn't recognize him anymore.
"Please allow me to introduce you. He is our new member, Ragna. He is registered in this city, but he will participate with our group."
"I am Ragna. It's an honor to meet you." Ragna politely nodded.
"Is that so? How old are you this year? I'm not much of a fighter myself, so I can't measure your strength accurately."
"I am turning 20 years old in three months. I'm currently a Tier 3 human."

"What? You are only 19 years old and you're already a Tier 3?" The mayor looked surprised, especially given the fact that Ragna came from this city. It was no wonder why this city was bigger and stronger than their city, even a genius like him was so easy to find.
Then again, Jay and Kanaria were still 16 years old, but they had become Tier 2 humans. By the time they reach 19 years old, they should be able to reach Tier 3 or even Tier 4.
He couldn't believe what he had just thought. Tier 4 under twenty years old, their fame would definitely spread and their future would be limitless. It was true that the city shouldn't contain these talented people. At the very least, they had formed a good relationship with their families.
Still, the mysterious one would be Clovis. He came out of nowhere and wreaked havoc. It was said that Clovis was stronger than Jay and it had only been a few months since Clovis turned 16 years old.
The mayor coughed a few times, clearing up his throat. "By the way, where is Clovis?"
"His Tier is about to increase, so he is absorbing a large amount of essence at the moment. I'm sorry that he is unable to meet you right now, but he promises that he will be coming out tomorrow or the day after."
"No problem, no problem. So, he is going to become a Tier 2 as well, huh?" The mayor fell silent for a moment. He obviously knew Clovis's low evolution rate, so it was quite surprising that Clovis was still able to become Tier 2 this fast with that evolution rate. In addition, it didn't seem like he monopolized the essence since other members were advancing by leaps and bounds as well.
"Yes. After that, we will proceed with registering our names in the competition."

The mayor nodded. They had indeed delivered on their promise. It was a shame that he didn't choose them directly as their representatives.
Then again, their promise was simply too ridiculous. It was no wonder he couldn't believe them completely. Hence, the mayor pointed at the middle-aged man next to him. "This is the trainer of our city, Mr. Qazzie. He is a retired veteran explorer that the city has commissioned for this competition.
"During his time, he has become a Tier 4 explorer. I don't know maybe if you have any questions, you can ask him."
The middle-aged man nodded his head. However, he didn't say anything.
He was a bit skeptical about this group when he heard about them. It was ridiculous that they wanted to join the second competition when they were so young.
If they joined the first competition and sacrificed one of their teammates, it wouldn't be weird for them to actually win first place.
However, these people were foolish and arrogant enough to use this competition as a 'challenge.'
Looking at them like this just reinforced his opinion that they should focus on winning first place in the first competition.



"Speaking about agreement, aren't you forgetting something?" Kanaria smirked while rubbing her thumb and index finger against each other as if reminding him about money.
"Hahaha." The mayor chuckled. "Don't worry. I will send it to you soon. You can use it to buy better equipment or something."
"Thank you very much." Kanaria smiled, not knowing how important this money would be for Clovis.  Chapter 255 Unexpected Encounter
Clovis gradually opened his eyes. He had been sitting on his bed for a while.
Instead of ingesting the essence, he had been eating a lot of stuff from Another World Mall, using it to push him to Tier 2.
And during that time, he thought about a lot of things, especially regarding the matter of his mysterious strength.
The mysterious strength came without any reason and somehow powered him up greatly. According to her grandfather's clue, it seemed that this mysterious strength allowed him to wield the power of all five evolutionary traits.
However, he still needed to know the trigger of this condition.

'There have been a few instances when the mysterious power gets activated. The first time was against the Tier 3 proconsul. It was my first time against a Tier 3 beast, so I was desperate to fight it and protect my whole team.
'The second time was when we were besieged by two Tier 3 beasts and a lot of lower tier beasts. It was a tough battle, and Jay almost lost his life.
'The last time was during our escape. From those three instances, I could see several similarities.
'First of all, I was desperate and needed to do everything I could. That was what I believed from the bottom of my heart.
'The second similarity would be the fact that our lives were in danger. Was it because I wanted to protect my people? I mean, I could understand the feeling but is this going to be some bullshit like the power of friendship? Well, I'll still take the power even though it feels a bit cringe.
'The third similarity was thatmy life was in danger. I had been in a life-and-death situation multiple times, but those three instances would probably be the closest ones No, shouldn't I add that time when I was pushed off the car and surrounded by the beasts?'
Clovis couldn't find concrete evidence, but he had gathered some possibilities. If he could test it in one way or another, he might be able to understand this mysterious power.
'Is this the reason why my grandfather believes in me so much? Even though my evolution rate is low, I can still utilize all five evolutionary traits, an achievement that no one has ever gotten before. He might think I can do it because I have never lost faith in reaching Tier 9 even with that low evolution rate.'

Clovis couldn't help but recall the first time he awakened and found out his low evolution rate. He was disappointed, but he didn't lose his heart and drive.
But with the help of Another World Mall, his hope became bigger, and the flame in his heart flared up.
'I don't know what my grandfather is thinking. There's simply no way to understand him. Even I cannot. In any case, I've heard that there are going to be Tier 4 humans participating in this competition.
'I haven't fought a Tier 4 beast personally, so I won't know how they are compared to them. For now, I will try my best to fight them, even if it means I have to rely on others.
'Right? I don't have any thought about the ranking, but I surely want to make as much contribution as possible. Only by revealing one's strength and talent can they be given appropriate reward and sponsorship.'
Clovis took a deep breath and closed his eyes for a moment. He had become a Tier 2 human a moment ago.
'So this is Tier 2. My senses are getting stronger, and my muscles are filled with strength. I can also feel the blood flowing in my veins If I have to fight against a Tier 3 beast again, even without the mysterious power, I might be able to win against them pretty easily.

'More importantly, I can understand Flow Control a bit more. A special ability that is reserved for those with Blood Affinity, Flow Control. I can speed up or slow down the flow of my blood, which will give me different types of strength.
'In addition, the blood seems to be able to carry more oxygen, allowing me to last longer and produce more strength. I have witnessed Jay's fight as a Tier 2 human, and I don't feel like losing.
'Ah, right? I should see the items in Another World Mall later. There might be some new items that will be useful for me and the team.'
Clovis smiled, feeling pretty excited. There were still two days to register, so they could go tomorrow morning.
"Now that I think about it, where is everyone?" Clovis frowned and walked out of his room, finding no one in there. He checked on his Skyphone but found no message, so he called Kanaria.
Kanaria told him about the meeting. Apparently, they were still in the restaurant.
Clovis thought it would be good to meet the mayor, so he told her that he would be there in a moment. The mayor would definitely love to meet him, the captain of their team.
Clovis hurriedly grabbed his coat and headed straight to the restaurant. To his surprise, by the time he came out of the hotel, he would encounter someone he didn't expect to find.

No, it wasn't that he thought this person wouldn't be here. Instead, he believed that the mayor would be pushing these people away so that they didn't have to meet, considering the bad record between their two groups.
Yes, Clovis actually met Ivan's group when he had just left the hotel. It seemed that they were going in the same direction, probably because their hotel was that way.
However, both Clovis and Ivan frowned in an instant. Ivan was accompanied by four women and one man. He could see that Ivan had progressed by leaps and bounds, but it still couldn't be compared to the progress the Another World Mall gave him.
In addition, he recognized Elina, the mastermind of the group, and Lovelia, Kanaria's rival.
Ivan gritted his teeth while glaring at him. "Why are you here?!"