

World Mall 346

Chapter 346 First Time

It took only a moment for Clovis and the captain to reach the wall. As expected of someone who handled the defense of the city, it seemed that all of them were connected. The first thing the captain did was bring him to the person in charge of the defense on the wall.

He was a muscular, middle-aged man. His face was stern, showing that he had a lot of experience commanding the troops under his belt. In fact, all the guns above the city had been utilized, as they killed more than three hundred beasts.

"Vice Commander Vista. I have come to help you. With me here is Clovis from Libation Fiesta, the young man who recently became famous after defeating a Tier 4 human." The captain extended his hand to Clovis, showing the youth.

It turned out the person before him was the rumored vice commander, the second in command of this city's military.

Vista glanced at Clovis for a moment before nodding as if he recognized him. "Thank you. Have you been briefed about the situation?"

"Only the general information. Did this beast wave come to us so suddenly?"

"Yes. We couldn't find any information about the origin of this beast wave. However, there is something weird about this beast wave."

"Something weird?" The captain frowned.

"Yes." Vista pointed at the north and south walls. "Surprisingly, they're not as fast to cover those two walls. And it's most likely that they won't be fast enough to reach the west wall."

"What?" The captain looked down. "That's indeed suspicious. Normally, a beast wave will spread its force in all directions to surround the beast. And that makes them easier to kill."

"I'm assuming that the beasts aren't very quick... I don't know the reason, but they're not very diverse." Vista shook his head helplessly.

Clovis put his hand on his chin as if he were about to figure out something. Unfortunately, Vista didn't give him the time.

"You and this youngster should go to the southern wall and eliminate the Tier 4 beast. Me and the other Tier 4 will stop the other two Tier 4 beasts," Vista ordered.

"So, we'll be the spear." The captain smirked.

"Yes." Vista tossed a transmitter. "Send the signal once you're done. We'll then send a team to deliver the killing blow."

"Alright." The captain caught the transmitter. "Let's go, Clovis."

Clovis nodded. They rushed to the south wall. Clovis had to eliminate all those Tier 4 beasts before he was out of the perfect state.

"Is this your first time fighting in a defensive battle, Clovis?" The captain asked.

"Yes. This is not my first beast wave, but this is the first time I defend the city from the wall."

"No. We will go down and kill the Tier 4 beasts directly."

"But won't it be dangerous? I mean, a stray bullet to the head can kill us." Clovis asked while frowning.

"That... You don't have to worry. You might like this one..." The captain smirked.

As soon as they reached the south wall, the Tier 3 captain, who was commanding the troops on the south wall, immediately greeted them with a salute. "Thank you for coming."

"Has everything been prepared?" The captain asked.

"Of course. Please come this way." He nodded and guided them to two vertical boxes. "Open it!"

The soldiers guarding the boxes immediately inputted the password and opened it, revealing a full-body suit.

It was a thick suit, but not thick enough to hinder the person's movement too much. It was even equipped with a helmet.

"What is this?" Clovis asked.

"A Booster Suit. Well, you can say it's armor. It's made of thick Tier 3 scales, which will be enough to block high-caliber bullets. Even a powerful sniper rifle will only hurt you, not blow your arm. With this, a person can go down there without worry. Wear it."

"Oh." Clovis nodded and started putting it on. "Still, won't it be restrictive?"

"Of course, but not too much since the suit is made of cutting-edge technology. We have to import it from the capital city. Each of them cost about fifty million union dollars."

"Fifty?" Clovis widened his eyes in shock. He thought he had made this amount of money in total, but it was definitely only enough to buy one of them.

"Yeah. The city only has ten of them, divided between this city and the underground city. Besides, these suits are reserved for elites."

"Now that I think about it, you said the killing spear..." Clovis frowned.

"It is as you imagine. Several elites will wear it and target one high tier beast at the same time. Then they will continue to the next high tier beast. Of course, sometimes they will choose different tactics, but yes, that's what a killing spear means."

After putting on these suits, both of them exchanged nods. The person in charge immediately said, "Open slot 31-B in one minute."

After that, he guided them to the elevator that took them inside the wall. It turned out that there was a small corridor within the wall.

And they were standing in front of a gate with '31-B' written on it.

As soon as one minute had passed, the gate was opened, revealing a small tunnel that led to the outside.

"Let's go!"

The captain shouted as he ran toward the exit. Clovis followed right behind him, finding out that he was only two meters above the ground. It wasn't a height that Clovis shouldn't be concerned about. It was no wonder why the captain said the suits were only for elites.

Once they reached the ground, they turned around, locking in their enemy.

"Let's go!" The captain waved his hand as both of them rushed toward the Tier 4 beast.

Roar!

Roar!

Roar! The beasts noticed the two of them and immediately changed their positions to stop them.

The captain decided to take the lead this time since this was Clovis' first time.

When the beasts came, the captain didn't even bother to block the beast's attack, as the suit absorbed all the damage. Instead, he focused completely on his swing, sending more than five beasts flying into the air.

"Make way, make way. SWD's emergency killing service is on the way. Hahahaha!"

Chapter 347 Killing a Tier 4 Beast

Every time the captain swung his weapon, several beasts were launched into the sky, creating a path toward the Tier 4 beast.

The Tier 4 beast seemed to have noticed that the beasts couldn't do anything to these two humans. Hence, he ordered the Tier 3 beasts to take them on.

One Tier 3 was close, so it immediately stood in their way.

Suddenly, Clovis sped up, passed the captain, and said, "I'll take care of it."

As soon as Clovis was in front, the speed actually increased. Clovis slashed down the beast in rapid succession. His small build allowed him to jump from one corpse to another, so there was no need to waste their time cleaning up the path like he did.

The captain became even more impressed because it only took him months to reach this level.

In just ten seconds, Clovis finally reached the Tier 3 beast. The beast looked like a tiger, but because Melody's support wasn't here, he couldn't determine the beast's species or weakness.

However, it didn't really matter.

The beast hurriedly waved its paws to smash him, but Clovis sped up even further, causing the beast to tilt its body back and change its stance.

Clovis struck the paws more than twenty times with a force that rivaled a Tier 4 human with muscle affinity.

Numerous wounds appeared on the beast's legs, so it tried to take a step back to regain its composure.

Unfortunately, Clovis matched his movement and swung his swords again. He accurately swung toward the open wounds, deepening them even further. Ultimately, some of the wounds got so deep that the swords ended up slicing through them, cutting the legs into pieces.

Roar!

The Tier 3 beast shivered in pain, but it couldn't escape from Clovis. Now that there was nothing that could stop him, Clovis struck the beast's body and head. The latter tried to swallow Clovis, but he simply knocked the beast's head away with his full strength before moving to the body and killing it.

It only took five seconds to actually kill a Tier 3 beast. Clovis just kicked the beast down and moved forward.

In the meantime, the captain had passed him. When the beast let out a roar, the captain glanced back and saw Clovis delivering the killing blow. "Nice!"

Since the hindrance had been killed, the captain could focus on the Tier 4 beast, which was quite huge. It was a four-legged beast with a muscular body. The height was three meters, and the back was packed with muscle.

When the captain approached it, the latter stomped on the ground, causing it to shake.

It would definitely surprise the soldiers on the wall, but this was just a mere threat to the captain. As if replying to the provocation, the captain jumped into the air and swung down his big sword at the Tier 4 beast.

The beast used its tusk to meet his weapon, but the captain actually pushed the beast's head down with this clash.

The beast refused to go down easily, but the strength was simply too much.

Bam!

The beast's chin had fallen to the ground.

On the other hand, the beasts around this Tier 4 beast had surrounded the captain. They looked enraged.

Unfortunately for them, Clovis had struck the beast on the captain's right. After that, he looped around to the left, killing more than ten beasts.

More importantly, Clovis still had a few strikes to spare, which he used to injure the Tier 4 beast.

The Tier 4 beast was finally enraged. It stomped on the ground and forcefully lifted its body up.

The captain was overpowered for a second, so he had to take a step back. The beast hurriedly charged at him, ramming his entire body weight down to crush him.

However, the captain simply swung his weapon once again and stopped the beast's momentum.

There was no way Clovis would let such an opportunity go. He struck the beast's eye. The latter covered it with the eyelid, but Clovis was still in his perfect state. His strength was enough to slash through the eyelid.

Roar!

The beast wailed in pain, but that wasn't over. Clovis climbed the beast's head and cut down its ears before he struck the other eye.

He did it in less than two seconds.

The beast didn't even have time to shake its head, especially with the captain stopping him.

'Amazing. In that case...' The captain saw the beast furiously shake its head and body so that Clovis would get hit or something.

However, the beast couldn't see anymore. The captain looped around and struck him from the side.

The beast noticed the captain's movement by following his scent, but Clovis also struck him from the opposite side. The beast chose to turn its head toward Clovis to stop him, but the captain ended up taking that opportunity to cleave the beast's body. If not for the size of its body, the beast would have been split in half.

Nevertheless, the swing had hit several organs. Still, to ensure that the beast had died, the captain went back to the head and severed its neck.

Only after that would he turn around and slash the beasts on his back. "Let's move out to the next location!"

"Got it." Clovis nodded with a serious expression. He regrouped with the captain and saw him moving toward the enemy's rear. It seemed that the captain intended to go to the other wall by looping behind the enemy's rear.

He didn't intend to pave his way through these numerous beasts. It wasn't because he didn't care about these beasts. It was because he knew these beasts would die.

As soon as they emerged from the enemy's rear, the gate was opened.

A roaring engine resounded across the battlefield as three vehicles emerged from inside. The first two were long vehicles with an open back where several people were standing on top of them with their guns. The last vehicle was similar, but there seemed to be a big gun attached on its back.

Clovis frowned. He wasn't that familiar with the terms for military vehicles, but he could see their purpose as the captain even confirmed it by saying, "So they're out now... our extermination squad."

Chapter 348 Extermination Team

"Extermination squad?" Clovis muttered while looking at those three vehicles.

The beasts seemed to have noticed them as well and started turning around. However, these three vehicles actually maintained a ten to fifteen-meter gap between them and the beasts.

After the signal, those people started releasing their bullets. In addition, the people on top of the wall also began to rain them down with all their bullets.

The loud gunshots filled the battlefield as the beasts died one by one.

"I see. Extermination squad, huh?" Clovis frowned.

"This is how the military operates whenever there are small or medium-sized beast waves. You do know that a normal bullet can only pierce through Tier 0 and Tier 1 beasts, right?"

"Yes." Clovis nodded.

"Unlike the people on top of the wall, the extermination team is equipped with Tier 1. Well, we also need to think about the cost, so Tier 1 is the limit. Some elites still use bullets that are stronger than those though."

"Still, a Tier 1 bullet should only be enough for Tier 2 beasts, right? How about Tier 3 beasts?" Clovis asked.

"Don't you see the thing attached on the back of the third vehicle?"

"Don't tell me... Anti-tank gun?"

"Yep. That gun with a Tier 1 bullet is still enough to kill a Tier 3 beast. Of course, there are some Tier 4 beasts that don't have thick scales or skin."

"So that's why the city sends out elites first to eliminate the Tier 4 beasts?"

"Yes, but that's not all. High-tier beasts are basically the leader of a beast wave, right?"

"Ah!" Clovis nodded. "You want to eliminate the brain first while letting the others chop the rest of the body."

"That's a rather unique example, but yes, you can think of it that way. If they still have their leaders, they're able to do a complicated maneuver, which might end up putting the extermination team in danger."

Clovis looked down, muttering inwardly, 'So that's how it is. If we want to eliminate Tier 4 or even Tier 5 guns, we will need a bigger gun or a higher-tier bullet. The easiest way will be to use the tank's gun to pierce through their scale, but a tank can easily be destroyed by the beast due to the gap in their mobility.

'So that leaves only a high-quality bullet, but the technology can't keep up. Most of the time, the artisans have to make the bullets one by one.

'The guns are still effective for low tier beasts and humans, but the higher you climb, the more ineffective a gun can be. It also needs a lot of resources just to make the bullets. That's why most people choose melee weapons like swords or spears, since they are more cost-efficient in the long run.

'I've heard that to kill Tier 6 or Tier 7 beasts in the past, you need missiles or a huge explosion. A lot of countries even resort to nukes for Tier 8 beasts.

'However, according to my grandfather, Tier 9 beasts are built differently. They are said to be able to withstand the nuclear blast as long as they have some distance from the blast itself. No, some of the beasts can even absorb the radiation itself to strengthen themselves. That's why we have two Tier 9 Contamination Zones in this world.'

When he thought about it, this kind of plan did make some sense. After all, the armies would use thousands, if not tens of thousands, of bullets just to kill all these beasts. And they didn't have an unlimited amount of money to afford it.

"It's rather interesting to see the military operation," said Clovis.

"Is that so? Are you going to join the military?" The captain smirked.

"Ahaha. I'm not. Still, from this operation alone, I can think of some tactics to use in the future." Clovis chuckled.

"That's a shame." The captain sighed. "Anyway, we're about to turn and head straight in to kill the second Tier 4 beast."

Clovis took another glance at the three vehicles and all the people who shot down one beast after another. They were indeed great, since it took them only a minute to actually kill a hundred beasts. With the cooperation of the soldiers from the top of the wall, they might be able to wrap this up in ten minutes or so.

In that case, they had to speed up in eliminating the Tier 4 beast.

With that thought in mind, Clovis turned around, finding the Tier 4 beast that was located slightly toward them.

When he saw the second beast, Clovis sped up, taking the lead this time.

"Oi!" The captain wanted to warn him that he would be the one in the front since he was still too young.

However, Clovis' speed was like a bullet. He didn't let the captain pass him as he created a path toward the Tier 4 beast.

This time, the Tier 4 beast didn't even have the time to call for Tier 3 beasts to stop Clovis.

This Tier 4 beast wasn't too big, but its speed was overwhelming. Sadly, its opponent was Clovis.

Clovis exchanged a few blows with the beast, his speed rivaling his opponent's. No, Clovis actually overwhelmed the beast in strength, stopping it from getting away.

The captain hurriedly reached Clovis and struck the beast's left side.

The beast let out a growl as Clovis used the small gap in his defense to cut down an arm. After that, the captain planned to split the beast into two. However, the beast was quicker than him and threw its body to the side, only to find himself being preyed upon by Clovis.

In an instant, Clovis sliced the beast's head into pieces.

It was when the captain noticed why Clovis actually took the lead this time.

'Did he... realize that the enemy specialized in speed that he challenged it, knowing that he could win against the beast without using a lot of stamina? He let me get the first one because that beast's strength is quite high?' It turned out Clovis was thinking about ending the battle as quickly as possible with the most optimal match-up.

He couldn't help but think, 'What a flexible lad... to be able to adjust it so smoothly and swiftly... Who exactly taught him all this?'

Chapter 349 Questions

The roaring gunshots resounded across the battlefield. However, the only ones that remained outside the city were the extermination squad.

Clovis managed to take down two out of three Tier 4 beasts. After killing the last Tier 4 beast, Clovis and the captain made their way back to the city's gate.

All the movements were coordinated so that they didn't have to open the gate longer than necessary.

Meanwhile, the extermination squad and the soldiers on top of the wall shot all their bullets, killing the rest of the beasts quickly.

Clovis and the captain hurriedly returned to the wall to check on the condition.

Inside the elevator, Clovis took a few deep breaths. He wasn't exhausted. Instead, he had calculated the time for his perfect state. He should be out of his perfect state any time soon.

It took him another fifteen seconds before Clovis abruptly lost his extraordinary senses. Even the captain noticed that his aura had become weaker.

The captain glanced at Clovis while thinking, 'It seems that he is exhausted. After going inside the elevator, he starts to relax, and all the fatigue strikes him at once. Still, we have to thank him. If I fight those Tier 4 beasts with another person, I don't think it will be more efficient than him. His action and fighting style are specialized for killing.'

The captain couldn't help but remember what he said to Clovis back then. He was laughing inwardly because it didn't seem that Clovis would be 'tired' of working as an explorer any time soon. He had yet to see his limit.

Once they reached the top, they were greeted by several soldiers as well as the vice commander.

"Oh! We're done!" The captain nonchalantly waved his hand. He helped the military, but he wasn't a part of the military. So he didn't bother to salute.

The soldiers immediately helped both the captain and Clovis take off the suit.

As expected, the vice commander was staring at Clovis intensely as if he didn't expect that this young man managed to contribute that much.

Vista said, "Thank you for helping us. We only need to exterminate the rest of the beasts after this."

"Don't mind it. I'm simply near the wall, so I come here." The captain waved his hand as if implying it wasn't a big deal.

"Mhmm. I couldn't promise a lot of reward, but I would definitely reward your gallant effort." Vista nodded.

"You're too stingy. We just killed three Tier 4 beasts, you know. Three Tier 4 beasts!" The captain repeated the most important part to let him know how important the task was.

Vista sighed. "What do you want me to do? You already know that the military budget is always tight. And you're still going all the way to extort us."

"I don't really care about the reward." Clovis waved his hand. "But I hope that Vice Commander Vista can answer three questions of mine. I'm still confused a bit regarding this beast wave."

"Oh?" Vista raised his eyebrows in surprise. He glanced at Vista as if he were telling him to be as generous as the kid. Vista smiled. "Sure. If it's something I can answer..."

"But is now the correct time?" Clovis glanced around. Since they were still attacked, he thought he should wait until things calmed down.

However, Vista waved his hand. "It's fine. We're in the cleaning-up process. I've entrusted that task to the other Tier 4. So just ask whatever you have in mind."

If it was something that the soldiers shouldn't know, Clovis would insist on asking the questions another time. But it seemed that it wasn't that important.

"In that case, the first question is regarding the movements of the beast wave. You said earlier that the beasts usually spread in all directions."

"Indeed. This beast wave was weird because it didn't follow the usual pattern. I'm also confused about the reasons." Vista nodded with a serious expression.

"Can you think of one or two possible reasons? Just an assumption is fine." Clovis asked.

Vista didn't understand why Clovis asked such a useless question, but he thought for a moment and explained, "I can come up with two scenarios. The first one is because the beast wave is not natural. While it's true that we spot no humans among them, those people can just lure in the beasts of their choice."

"!!!" The captain suddenly understood why Clovis asked this question, considering his group was attacked. This attack might be related to it.

"The second scenario is that the beast wave is trying to achieve something. Yes, I still think that this beast wave is not natural. If I were them, attacking with a small beast wave like this would have a certain purpose. And that purpose must be related to the west gate. They have picked the beasts to spread them everywhere except for the west gate after all."

"!!!" It was Clovis' turn to be surprised. As expected of the vice commander, his wisdom and experience did provide good insight.

Clovis fell silent for a moment. "In that case, my second question is... what kind of beast wave can the city handle?"

The vice commander frowned. "We can handle everything. And I don't think I can answer that question in detail. However, I can give you a vague answer. Do you know about the five types of beast waves?"

"Yes. A beast wave is categorized into five categories based on their scale. Type 1 Beast Wave consists of a hundred beasts. Type 2 Beast Wave consists of up to one thousand beasts. The other three have limits up to ten thousand, a hundred thousand, and millions."

"Indeed. Do you know why they categorized it in numbers instead of tiers? If a Tier 9 beast suddenly comes, we won't be able to do anything, right?"

Clovis thought for a moment. "Because numbers change the way they fight? After all, if there are stronger or even stronger beasts, there will only be one pattern. Crushed."

Chapter 350 Agreement

Vista smiled. "That's correct. If there is a strong beast, no matter how we fight, that beast can simply crush our wall and destroy our city by himself. No question asked. On the other hand, the way we fight will be different if there are more beasts. After all, we also need to consider how much food we have in store, how long we can last, and other things, assuming that our power levels are similar."

Clovis nodded in understanding. Still, the vice commander hadn't given her answer yet.

Noticing Clovis' curious gaze, Vista added, "That's why, for the current base, we can probably handle Type 3, but we'll be destroyed by Type 4."

Clovis fell into deep thought. This information might not be important right now, but it will certainly play a part in the future. "I see."

"What is your third question?" Vista asked.

After hearing about the third question, he hesitated to ask the third question. After all, his home was destroyed by a beast wave as well.

He asked, "What will happen to a beast wave if you attack them from behind? What if the attack consists of powerful elites? What if the attack only consists of numerous normal soldiers?"

Vista contemplated. "If that's the case, the enemy will definitely be taken aback. While they do have sharper senses, their reaction time will still be slower than that of humans. After all, the beasts can't train 'discipline' like humans.

"In the first scenario, they can use the same tactics, which is to kill the highest tier beasts, which will slow down their reaction time even further. Depending on the situation, you can actually spread from that position or loop around. Then again, it's most likely that we go with the first case scenario since we can't send out an extermination squad.

The elites might get hit by stray bullets as well.

"If they're normal soldiers, it's better to attack them from afar. Of course, it's better to not cause any damage to the walls, so the bullets will be quite mild. The beasts will definitely turn around and try to destroy the reinforcement, so there will be a lot more casualties since you don't have a wall to protect you. That's why it's better to go with the first scenario."

Clovis nodded his head. He had gotten a good grasp of the situation, especially regarding Vania's warning about the beast wave that would happen in a few months.

"Thank you for answering my questions." Clovis politely nodded. "As I said earlier, I don't need any rewards. You don't even need to recognize my efforts here."

Vista gave a wry smile. Even though Clovis said that, his conscience would hurt if he didn't give any reward.

"Since the situation is already under control, I will excuse myself." Clovis turned around.

"Oi!" The captain didn't expect that Clovis would just leave as he pleased. Then again, the soldiers could take care of the rest. Hence, he followed Clovis.

When they were inside the elevator, the captain asked, "Are you sure you don't need a reward?"

"Yes." Clovis nodded calmly.

"Still... the first question..." The captain paused. "Do you suspect that the enemies are trying to kidnap your girlfriend and run away outside the base? And that they're planning to run away through the west gate?"

Clovis also suspected it. "If you take a look, the beast wave causes some panic. A lot of people are hiding inside the shelter or in their own houses. But there are some who are trying to escape from the city. And their only choice is the west gate."

The captain nodded. "Indeed. If you think about it, the city has no choice but to let them out in case they try to cause chaos. And they can mingle with them so that they don't stand out. Once they reach a certain point, they will go another way, most likely toward their base."

Clovis sighed. "Do you want to earn some money?"

"You can't bribe—"

"One million for your team. Only a few hours for the strike."

"You know, we are officially affiliated with the govern—"

"Three million for your team."

"When will we strike?" The captain abruptly changed his way of speaking, as if he were trying to flatter Clovis.

Who could earn that much money in just a few hours? Of course, Clovis didn't care about spending this much money since that money had been registered in his Another World Mall.

It wasn't like they needed a big upgrade to their equipment. Kanaria wouldn't really protest if he spent this much money to kill Ivan.

In addition, the SWD team was extremely powerful. Considering the attack this time could be considered a terrorist attack due to their method and timing, the SWD team would most likely get dispatched to crush Ivan.

So the captain didn't hesitate to accept the offer once Clovis offered enough money.

"With your expertise, when is the best time to strike?"

"Hmm... Attacking right now will be the most dangerous because they will be on alert because of the failure. But taking too long will also allow them to prepare things.

"So I think tomorrow will be the best time to attack. We can also divert the police attention toward the investigation inside the city to lower their guards.

"As for the time... we can go in the morning or once the sun is set to use the darkness as our cover. Then again, if we go in the morning, my team still needs to patrol the area, so I can only bring two or three people with me."

After a few seconds, Clovis decided. "Let's strike them during the night. I'm also waiting for Melody to wake up."

"In the meantime, I will try to investigate the area to find their base."

"Mhmm... Thank you." Clovis nodded.

"No worries. I'll sure to work according to my pay." The captain winked playfully. "Anyway, I'll regroup with my team and discuss it with them."

"Alright." Once the captain left, Clovis' expression turned cold. After seeing the injuries his people suffered, there wouldn't be any more peace between him and Ivan.