

## World Mall 426

### Chapter 426 Thinning Out Their Numbers

The Tier 4 flying beast decided to shift its target from Clovis to Melody. However, Melody had expected to fight at least a Tier 4 beast in this situation. Even though she might not be able to win, she had confidence that she wouldn't lose either.

"Come here, you little bird." She raised her shotgun, challenging it to get closer if it dared. She would blast it to pieces with the shotgun.

"Reee!" The bird let out a huge cry as it rose to the sky.

Meanwhile, Clovis headed toward the injured dinosaur. They were pretty lucky that the dinosaur had lost one of its legs.

"Shaaa!" The dinosaur opened its mouth, struggling to get up.

Unfortunately, one leg wasn't enough to support the entire body. As a result, the dinosaur wasn't a threat anymore.

All he needed to do was kill the dinosaur before the other beasts came.

He looped around the dinosaur, forcing the latter to roll its body. However, this was just a trick as Clovis halted and came from his original direction.

"!!!" The dinosaur was startled and tried to close its eye.

Luckily, Clovis was fast enough this time. He stabbed the dinosaur eye as deep as possible.

"Shaaa!" The dinosaur waved its head in all directions, hitting Clovis away.

However, the left was now the dinosaur blindspot.

Clovis planned to go for the right eye, but the dinosaur had closed both eyes to avoid any further damage. At the same time, it was moving all its limbs and spinning its body uncontrollably to shove Clovis away.

As a result, Clovis couldn't come closer and the other beasts had arrived.

"Tsk!" Clovis clicked his tongue as he slashed a beast that pounced on him. After that, he dodged several beasts before killing some beasts behind them.

In addition, there was still another Tier 4 beast that looked like a dog among the enemies.

He thought that the boulders and the wooden logs would be enough, but he never thought that one of them was a dinosaur.

"It can't be helped!" Clovis muttered as he began cutting down the beasts as he made his way toward the building like the original plan.

Because there was a Tier 4 behind them, the beasts continued their aggression at full force, overwhelming Clovis.

He had no choice but to move sideways, trying to escape from all these beasts.

As soon as he broke through the encirclement, he leaped over the river, which only spanned four meters. The river would slow down the beasts for a bit.

He took advantage of it to check his teammate's condition. "Melody. Are you alright?"

"It's manageable. I can't shoot it down due to the range of my shotgun, but it won't be able to injure me. I'll keep this Tier 4 beast at bay. You have to be careful against the other Tier 4 beasts, especially that other flying beast that we haven't seen this whole time."

"Got it." Clovis tried to outrun these beasts to the buildings. The Tier 4 dog seemed to speed up after getting away from the beasts around him.

Since there was some distance between him and the other beasts, Clovis chose to turn around and engage him for a bit.

\*Roar!\*

The dog swept its paws at quick speed. Clovis was a bit faster than the dog, leaving two wounds on the dog's paws. After that, he tried to aim for his eyes or ears, but the dog hit him with its tail, launching Clovis away.

He changed his plan again and chose to continue running.

"!!!" The dog was bamboozled as the rest of the beasts caught up, slowing it down again. Unlike the dinosaur that didn't care about crushing several beasts on its path, the dog didn't do it.

Clovis entered the building through the window. Some beasts managed to react by looping around the building. However, some couldn't escape and smash the buildings.

They crushed the wall and destroyed the pillars, causing the building to collapse.

More than thirty beasts were buried under the rubbles, and a lot more were injured.

Clovis smiled as if everything went according to plan. He headed to the next building.

Once again, the building collapsed and killed a lot of beasts.

This was actually his plan. The buildings would kill at least thirty percent of their number since such a large group didn't have any mobility even if a Tier 4 beast was controlling the group.

Clovis took advantage of this situation and killed as many beasts as possible. At the same time, he was going around the tree to see whether there were any beasts left behind.

As he expected, there was a huge hole on the other side of the tree. It was the resting spot of the dinosaur.

Fortunately, the dinosaur couldn't go up anymore.

However, there was something that shocked him. There was a giant beast lying inside the tree hole.

"Huh?" Clovis widened his eyes in surprise. There was blood flowing out of that body, meaning that the beast should have died. And considering it was the dinosaur's house, it might be the dinosaur's dinner.

"Wait. Is that..." Clovis noticed something. "Melody. Look at that!"

"Isn't that a Tier 4 beast, specifically the Tier 4 flying beast?"

"The dinosaur must have eaten it. I don't know if it's because of conflict or something, but this is our chance."

"Got it. I can unleash everything I have against this bird."

"Yes!" Clovis couldn't help but smile. Their plan didn't work at first, but the dinosaur really helped them.

Baam!

Rumble!

The buildings kept crumbling down, killing more than two hundred beasts. The Tier 4 beast was intelligent enough to order some beasts to go from a different direction to surround Clovis.

However, it wouldn't pose too much trouble without the Tier 4 dinosaur.

"Ouch!" Clovis rolled a few times and hurried to get back up. His face was filled with shock, but he soon remembered something. 'Ah. The buffs are gone. Gotta eat again.'

Chapter 427 1 vs 800

Roar!

Roar!

Roar!

More than twenty buildings had been destroyed. Clovis managed to kill more than four hundred beasts.

He also cut through the beasts that stood in his way. The only ones that could stop the current him were the Tier 4 beasts.

Seeing such a situation, the Tier 4 dog decided to ignore his own rule and sped up even if it meant trampling over other beasts.

Roar!

The Tier 4 beast crushed the building by himself. The other beasts behind him had no choice but to go around or climb the rubbles.

"Hoh?" Clovis smirked. "It's too late already."

Instead of going to another building, Clovis actually moved back toward the trap. The Tier 4 dinosaur was still struggling to get up.

Seeing Clovis return, the dinosaur panicked, causing it to slip.

"Shaaa!" The dinosaur could only scream.

"!!!" The Tier 4 dog was wondering what Clovis wanted, especially with the fact that he was charging straight at the dinosaur.

Clovis took out his pistol and shot the dinosaur's head. He was aiming for the dinosaur's eye but to no avail.

The dinosaur had closed its eyes and turned its head to avoid him. It was also listening to the gunshot to locate Clovis.

When Clovis was in range, the dinosaur immediately tilted its head with its mouth wide open.

Little did it know, Clovis had realized its intention and chose to loop around the head, avoiding direct confrontation. After that, he returned to his original path.

"!!!" The Tier 4 dog came to a realization. Clovis was planning to cause mutual destruction between the dinosaur and the beasts behind him.



The dog jumped to the side and informed the beasts. "Barf!"

The beasts were unable to stop in time. In fact, the beasts much further behind collided with the ones in front of them and pushed them forward.

As a result, the entire group came crashing down to the dinosaur.

The dinosaur's giant teeth stabbed several beasts, but their entire weight almost broke the dinosaur's jaws.

At the same time, due to most beasts collapsing, Clovis had a chance to attack the dog again.

The dog waved its paws, but like last time, Clovis was faster, leaving several wounds on his body. It was quite hard for all those beasts to get up after that major crash, so Clovis wanted to severely injure this dog if possible.

Bam!

The dog stomped the ground as Clovis jumped into the air to avoid it. He swung his swords at the dog's nose.

"Aooo!" The dog backed away and smacked him from the right.

Clovis tossed his short sword to the cliff and pulled himself to the wall. After that, he used the wall to launch himself back to the dog.

The dog wanted to avoid it, but Clovis reached him one second faster, cutting its right ear.

""Aoo!"

The beasts went berserk, trying to help the dog.

Unfortunately for them, in such a disarray state, they just became Clovis' prey. The dog wanted to stop Clovis, but the injury was painful enough to decrease its reaction speed.

Clovis ended up killing forty beasts in just one minute.

However, the real reason why he came for them was because he planned to use them to blend in.

Without the dinosaur noticing, Clovis had arrived next to it as he stabbed its eye.

"!!!" The dinosaur flipped its body in anger as it lost both eyes.

Several beasts, who chased after Clovis, died after being crushed by that massive body.

"Barf!" The dog tried to warn the dinosaur that it was killing the others, but the dinosaur didn't care. It was the apex predator here.

As a result, the dinosaur distracted the dog so much that the latter didn't notice Clovis came back for him.

Clovis hit the dog's right front leg.

"!!!" The dog was dumbstruck. Clovis didn't hesitate to slash the dog's body multiple times, leaving several deep injuries.

This was another reason why Clovis believed he could do this mission alone. The beasts, while they were quite smart, could be easily controlled.

Then again, everything went smoothly because Melody was here. If not for her activating the trap and taking down the dinosaur, he might struggle a lot more.

Clovis let the beasts attack him multiple times as he was in a rush to kill the Tier 4 dog.

Despite this situation, the Tier 4 flying beast didn't seem to be coming back as if it were struggling against Melody.

The Tier 4 flying beast was the only one that could mess up with his positioning, so it was good to have it busy.

Even though there were a lot of scratches on his body, Clovis eventually delivered a killing blow to the dog.

"Wo—!" The dog wanted to say something but fell first. The Tier 4 dinosaur was still struggling on the ground, which killed a lot more beasts than he originally thought.

As a result, Clovis killed the rest of the beasts first while he let the dinosaur tire itself out.

Melody actually came to the edge of the cliff five minutes later. There were several wounds on her body, but the Tier 4 beasts had been eliminated.

She thought about helping Clovis right away, but when she checked the camera, there weren't a lot of beasts still standing.

When she looked at the battlefield from above, she was even more shocked. The ground had been soaked by blood. Some of it flowed to the river, dyeing it red.

She was struggling so much against one Tier 4 beast. Yet Clovis had taken down three Tier 4 beasts along with eight hundred beasts on his own.

"Seriously? How the hell is he able to do all that?" Melody panted a few times. She wanted to help him, but by the time she reached the valley, there might be no more beasts left to kill.

What Melody didn't realize was that Clovis didn't enter the perfect state this whole time. He managed to do all this with just his positioning as well as the food from Another World Mall.

Chapter 428 Mission Accomplished

"Seriously. How are you able to defeat all 800 beasts by yourself?" Melody smiled wryly. Previously, Clovis struggled against only two Tier 4 beasts.

Clovis simply replied, "It's the terrain advantage. In an open terrain like this, I can manipulate the beasts much easier than in a closed terrain. Each beast has their respective tier, and not all of them are fast. By taking advantage of their speed, you can easily take them down. It's the same as racing, where one crash will cause a few others."

"..." Melody couldn't deny it. Looking at how the corpses were scattered as well as their conditions, Clovis definitely caused massive crashes.

Clovis sighed. "By the way, can you handle all the collecting? There are a lot, so it must be tiring. But I'm too exhausted right now."

Melody checked his condition. "I'll treat your wounds first."

"Nah, it's fine. Collecting all their essence will take hours, so I'll take care of my wounds. I'll help in one or two hours."

"Got it." Melody nodded and started grabbing their equipment.

Clovis turned off the camera and started picking up some items from his inventory. All of this would give them a lot of money. It was true that they couldn't really add it to their competition, but it would definitely help him opening the new store.

"I just need about seven million or something before I have enough money for everything. If I have to guess, all of these beasts can give us three million. So, four million if I add what we currently have."

Clovis paused for a moment. "Still, it seems that we're unable to go back just yet."

That was right. They had to check the information they would get from Vina.

He didn't know whether Vina knew about his identity or not, but he believed that she could dig it up if she was truly an information merchant.

Of course, because of the preparation that took a long time, the others were worried because they thought Clovis and Melody were in danger.

"I guess this is done." Clovis muttered while typing a few things in the group chat. "Well, they have done well in the last couple of days. Jay and Erwin have gotten about 3.2 million. Surprisingly, Kanaria and Ragna aren't that far either, with 2.9 million. No, should I say they are catching up?"

If this continued, Kanaria and Ragna might actually pass even Jay and Erwin.

Nevertheless, he took his time to recover while checking the condition of the province. After he recovered a little bit, he started collecting the essence. There were a lot of beasts buried underneath the rubbles, so some of them had to be given up or it would be dangerous to gather them.

There was one thing that piqued Clovis' interest. When they extracted the dinosaur, they actually got a beast soul.

A beast soul was extremely rare. There was only one in ten thousand beasts. Even Clovis' team only got a few of them, with most weren't that suitable for the team.

Still, a Tier 4 beast soul, especially one that originated from a dinosaur, would definitely fetch a good price.

"To think that we have this much of a hard time because of this locket..." Clovis muttered while staring at the locket. It was an empty locket. There was no picture or any decorations. However, there was one intricate pattern embedded on the inside. It was the same crescent moon on the coin that Vina gave.

"I've been digging for information about this symbol. It seems that it's connected to one of the mercenary groups called Dark Moon Mercenary," Melody explained.

"Dark Moon Mercenary? What kind of business do they have?"

"They are mercenaries, but instead of the front lines, they are doing things in the shadows. It's rumored that this mercenary group has some dealings with the company that builds the Gold Class Map."

"Hoh?" Clovis' expression turned serious. "They're that powerful?"

"Yeah. I can't find out about their precise strength unfortunately, Some rumors are saying that their leader is a Tier 7 mercenary. Some are stating that the leader has reached Tier 8."

"So she is..."

"Yeah. I'm afraid that Melody is one of their agents. Maybe her teacher is quite respected and she is chosen to become one of their managers or something. I don't know. We need someone who can gather information like that."



"What if we use them?" Clovis asked.

"No. It's true that you can use them, but they might also use you for their own greed. Do you know what's the worst part about them? It's that they're so secretive that you don't know whether you're attacking their branches or their headquarters."

"Fair enough. I'll think about it. For the time being, our priority is actually a cook or a doctor."

"Fair enough."

Clovis and Melody drove back to the camp. While it was true that Jay and the others managed to get a good result, each group had only killed one Tier 4 beast respectively. Meanwhile, Clovis and Melody had eliminated seven of them.

This competition would still continue for another seven days, so they might still have the chance to reach the twenty Tier 4 beasts they had set in the beginning.

As soon as they returned, the staff that took care of him was shocked to see Clovis in such a messy state.

However, it all changed the moment Clovis said, "Can we have a talk? It's very important and I don't really want too much attention."

"Is it about another Tier 4?" she asked in a low tone.

Clovis projected the map on the table and pointed at the location. This location had been marked as extremely dangerous with multiple Tier 4 beasts. That was why her face turned grim the moment she knew what Clovis wanted to talk about.

If it was this important, she believed that she should make a special arrangement. At this point, Clovis' team had done much more than any team in this camp. And they did it in a week.

"Let me ask the manager."

Chapter 429 Reward

"Sir... I have checked. There are a total of five Tier 4 beast essences. Three of them are matching up with the information we have, including the Tier 4 ornithomimus."

As soon as the manager heard that report, his eyes brightened. He immediately politely lowered his head to Clovis. "We're extremely grateful for your help in handling those beasts. We have scouted that area and located three of them. We believe that there is one more Tier 4 beast, but we couldn't find it previously.

"It turned out there was another Tier 4 beast that we didn't suspect. If not for your group, we would have faced a lot of problems. As the manager and the representative of the city, I'd like to extend my gratitude to you and your team."

Clovis nodded his head. "It's fine. Just keep this a secret."

"If that is your wish." The manager nodded.

"If you have confirmed it, can you handle the selling procedures?" Clovis asked.

"Absolutely." The manager fell silent for a moment. "If I may know, how long are you planning to stay here, sir?"

"Am I not welcomed?"

"No, of course not. If you are going to stay here for a little longer, I can ask Miss Silvia to be your group's personal assistant. You don't have to come to the information center. Miss Silvia will be the one coming to you and handling all the processes."

"Hmm..." Clovis thought for a moment. "Well, it's true that our team here is to find as many Tier 4 beasts as possible. My group is planning to stay here for another week. I hope that we are not bothering you by hunting Tier 4 beasts, right? Maybe 20 Tier 4 beasts should be enough."

"!!!" The manager understood the subtle hint in Clovis' words. If this were true, it meant that the wasteland wouldn't have that many Tier 4 beasts anymore. And the remaining groups could thin out the number of low-tier beasts. So they could focus all their resources and manpower to handle the other front.

"That..." The manager was thinking about something. He said, "I can help you as the manager of this camp, I'll convince the city to give you ten percent more of what you should be receiving in addition to waiving all the costs."

Melody was slightly surprised. This must be Clovis' real goal.

Yes, because this result couldn't be published, they would have a hard time catching up with the others. If they got this ten percent bonus, they might be able to do it.

In addition, the manager didn't know that the group had split into three, meaning that this condition was only given to them.

"That sounds good. I thank the city for being so generous despite the current condition."

"No, no. We are the ones who should be thankful." The manager smiled.

"This is the receipt, sir." Silvia returned with a small piece of paper.

"Thank you." Clovis stood up, ready to leave. The manager gave a signal for Silvia to see them off personally.

Before leaving, Clovis added, "Miss Silvia. My teammates are rather unique. They will probably hunt down more Tier 4 beasts and submit them directly."

"How would you like me to handle it, sir?"

"Just giving them a normal price is fine. They are from wealthy families, so they won't really care about money. Even if I tell them about it, they most likely won't listen. No, I'm just hoping that they won't feel insulted when they are given more money." Clovis slapped his forehead, showing how hard it was to take care of his group.

Melody was chuckling inwardly.

"I understand." Silvia nodded. "I'll try to take care of them as normal as possible."

"Thank you."

Noel immediately walked to his next destination. As Vina said, there was a pink-clothed man waiting for them.

Without hesitation, Clovis and Melody approached him.

The man furrowed his eyebrows, glaring at Clovis as if he were picking a fight with him.

However, Clovis took out the coin and placed it on the table, the crackling sound startling him.

"!!!" The man looked at the coin for two seconds before glancing around as his hand slid down the table. He hid the coin in his pocket as he said, "Follow me."

They were taking one turn after another before ultimately reaching a small tent surrounded by a lot of other tents. There was nothing suspicious about this tent, but when they entered, they saw a curtain that actually blocked half of the tent.

The man didn't enter with them for some reason.

As if knowing who they were even without saying anything, Vina said, "Well, well. I thought that you would need your group to handle all five Tier 4 beasts. It's true that it will be much easier. However, I have never expected that both of you are enough to handle all of them.

"Even though you are only Tier 2 and Tier 3 humans..." Vina paused for a moment. "Do you bring the locket?"

"Yeah. It is here." Clovis nodded, showing the locket. "Don't forget about the reward."

"I know." Vina's hand stuck out of the curtain, asking for the locket.

Clovis hesitated for a moment, but Vina added, "Do you think I will be able to escape from here? I have trusted you enough to not even place any guards around here. Unfortunately, this is an official business. Even though we know each other, I have to follow this tradition."

Clovis sighed. He put the locket in her hand.

"It's really the locket." Vina confirmed it. "As per the agreement, I'll be giving you the information about the secret of the eighty thousand beasts that are currently threatening your city as well as the information regarding the south. And I hope that you don't record this."

It seemed that Vina was able to find out about everything from them completing this mission as a pair as well as Melody, who was secretly recording everything.

Clovis nodded to Melody.

After Melody turned off the recording, Vina opened her mouth. "The secret I'm talking about is the location of those eighty thousand beasts. They are currently in..."

Chapter 430 Clovis' Decision

"Are you seriously going to believe it?" Melody asked while furrowing her eyebrows. Clovis had been sitting on that chair for more than an hour, which made her a bit anxious.

Clovis remained silent for another minute before saying, "It's a perfect plan. At the same time, they are pretty flawed once they're known."

"So we're going to check it after we're done here?"

Clovis sighed. "We don't have a choice. If this information is true, we can crush their plans, allowing us to leave the city with ease."

Melody couldn't refute it. She never thought that they would receive such information and at such a time. She couldn't help but remember what happened earlier.

...

An hour earlier.

"They are in multiple locations."

That information made Clovis frown. "Are you playing with us?"

"No. What I'm saying is that all of them will come from multiple directions. And what do you think is the best place to hide those beasts? No, I should ask you, 'Why do they attack all those cities?'"

"..." Clovis fell silent for a moment before saying, "They are hiding in fallen cities?"

"!!!" Melody widened her eyes in shock. "Fallen cities?"



"They destroy those beasts to create a container for the next beast wave. It continues to grow. And it's not like people are going to scout that area at this point, especially the deeper part of the area since it's extremely dangerous," explained Clovis with a grim expression.

"I only know seven cities where they hide those beasts. From the information I have, each city seems to contain ten thousand beasts. There's no way they will attack the city with only that number. They'll surely come with more than a hundred beasts," added Vina.

"Seven cities..." Clovis pinched the bridge of his nose. Even if they could somehow take all of them down, they would still face quite a lot of beasts. The city might be severely damaged, but after killing those beasts, they could still recover.

The problem would be how to crush those cities. Even if they got the help of the Renvolt family and the Havenson family, it wasn't enough since they would be focused on the defense.

"..." Clovis closed his eyes for a moment before asking, "Give me the names of those seven cities."

Vina slipped a piece of paper.

Clovis looked at those names before furrowing his eyebrows on one of the names. However, he chose to hide it and said, "Alright. How about the south? What do you know about the south?"

"They are creating a kind of program where the cities are holding the line. As a result, there is a buffer zone where a lot of beasts are residing. You can think of it as the wasteland being stretched for tens of kilometers. Even if you manage to somehow fight your way out, numerous people will die. No, even you might die since there are a lot of Tier 5 and Tier 6 in there."

"Buffer zone, huh?" Clovis let out a long sigh.

"They are basically cutting our path to escape." Melody clicked her tongue. "This is getting annoying."

"All you need to do is win. Isn't that right?" Vina smiled, knowing Clovis perfectly. "Besides, there is already too much blood spilled on this land..."

Clovis knew. All those deaths were caused indirectly by him and his family. However, his parents had defeated the high-tier beasts along with high-ranking enemies. At the same time, now that they were gone, they had to adhere to his grandfather's rule, which didn't bind his parents.

Clovis said, "Alright. I understand. Thank you for the information."

"Please take this." She handed over a similar coin to what she had given before. "If you need anything, please feel free to come to me. If there is a bar with two crescent moons on it, you can show this to the bartender to purchase information. Of course, next time we will require a fee instead of a favor."

Clovis hesitated. "Why do you give me something like this?"

"I'm merely showing goodwill. No one really wants to make an enemy of Clovis Hacfield."

As expected, she knew about it. Whether it was from the assassins or it was her own effort, it didn't change the fact that Vina did it because of his identity.

Nevertheless, one less enemy was always better. He took the coin while saying, "Well, good luck to you too. You will definitely need it."

Vina smiled. As she expected, Clovis had figured out her situation. "Hehe. I hope that we'll meet again."

...

Melody asked, "In that case, should we check it out? We should still have time to confirm it, but we won't be able to defeat them. Besides, it seems that you're concerned about one of the cities."

Clovis smiled wryly. He gave her the note containing those seven names. "Silver Moon City."

"Isn't that..." Melody remembered what she found after doing the background check on Clovis.

"Yeah. It was the city I used to live in before it was attacked by beasts."

"Sorry." Melody scratched the back of her head.

Clovis closed his eyes for a moment. "We'll be investigating only three cities. As long as we can confirm their existence, it should be enough. Instead of spending more time investigating other cities, it's better to use it for something else."

"Which city?"

"Silver Moon, Heyasha, Golden Horn. They are not too far from each other. Besides, there might be something that my parents left behind over there."

"Fair enough."

"Anyway, we'll leave as scheduled. No need to tell the others for the time being. I'll explain it after we regroup one week from now."

"Sure."

Clovis and Melody chose to continue the hunt without registering what they had hunted in the last few days. Their number increased significantly, trying to catch up with the others.

However, that six-day gap was simply too hard to close. In addition, the others were also refining their own teamwork as they progressed.

Even after hunting tirelessly for the next seven days, the result was as follows:

Kanaria and Ragna: 11,203,500 (3 Tier 4 beasts hunted). Jay and Erwin: 10,858,900 (5 Tier 4 beasts hunted). Clovis and Melody: 9,995,000 (9 Tier 4 beasts hunted + 5 unrecorded kills).