

World Mall 466

Chapter 466 Arrival

The location where they got off turned out to be the mansion that Hana had prepared specifically for them.

The two buses easily entered the mansion. To their surprise, Hana was actually standing right at the front door.

"Young miss? How do you have time to be here?" Cain asked in panic, wondering if they had done something bad to the point where Hana had no choice but to come personally.

However, there was one more possibility, which he refused to believe. It was the fact that Clovis' group was much more important than what he had in mind.

"What? I can't be here?" Hana casually asked.

Cain's face turned pale as he shook his head furiously. "That's not what I mean."

Even the others were speechless. Liza thought, 'She is usually extremely busy, which makes even other companies having a hard time to visit her. Yet she is actually spending all that precious time to meet us... no, to meet them? What is their real identity?'

"So this is our new home?" Kanaria yawned while glancing around.

"It is quite big. I guess we can train in the garden." Jay nodded, satisfied. "I can beat up a certain someone more openly."

"Hoh? Are you going to fight me? I'll show you that you won't be able to defeat me no matter what." Erwin cracked his fingers. "The trip is making my body stiff. It seems that I'll have some warm-up."

"I'm not specifically mentioning you. Your ego is so high that you think you're the center of the world." Jay shrugged.

"You..." Erwin glared at Jay. Of course, Jay wasn't scared of him.

However, before they started a fight, Reolf came out of the bus and placed his paws on Jay and Erwin's chest as if trying to stop them from fighting. "Woof!"

"..." Both Erwin and Jay wanted to say something, but the sight of Reolf had just melted their hearts.

"You're lucky that your pride won't be destroyed right now." Jay snorted.

"You're lucky that your confidence and seat will be taken by me." Erwin rolled his eyes.

While Reolf's appearance created peace between these two, it wasn't the same for Hana.

She instinctively reached out for the gun on her right, albeit she forgot she wasn't bringing any gun. "A dire wolf?"

Cain and the others looked away, thinking they had the same reaction at first.

"Meet Reolf." Clovis' voice echoed from inside the bus as he casually introduced Reolf.

"Woof!" Reolf raised his paw like a human waving their hand on the first greeting.

Hana blinked a few times in disbelief. She had never thought that the cargo that Clovis was talking about was a beast. And it seemed Reolf had been tamed by them.

There were a lot of possibilities and scenarios that would happen in the future if this information was released. Just thinking about it made her pinch the bridge of her nose, not expecting that Clovis would once again surprise her.

"I see. Is he the reason for all this secrecy?"

"Yep. Meet the seventh member of the Libation Fiesta, Reolf!" Clovis nodded with a smile.

Hana scratched the back of her head, wondering what she should say. Should she greet the wolf? But Reolf looked intelligent.

"How am I supposed to greet him?" Hana's eyebrows twitched.

"He is very intelligent. Just greet him as you usually do, but he loves fist bumps."

Hana gulped down and approached Reolf carefully. Her careful action was similar to what Reolf did when he first followed Clovis.

"Good evening, Reolf. I'm Hana... Clovis... What am I to you again? Well, business partner for the time being." Hana extended her fist.

"Woof!" Reolf pumped her fist gently like he was a human.

Hana didn't know why, but she became more excited than she originally thought. This was the first time she could have a fist bump with a beast. No, other than the people here, no one had ever done that before.

Hana was speechless for a moment and said, "As much as I want to talk about this, I think there is one more important thing that we should take care of."

"Indeed." Clovis nodded.

Hana turned to Melody. "I'll be calling the ambulance for your brother. Cain and the others, as well as another group of experts, will be escorting the ambulance to the hospital. It must be a hard decision for you to suddenly bring your brother so far away. How about putting down your luggage in your room first before going to the hospital?

There will be someone who will take care of everything for him."

Clovis added, "Just come in first. I don't mind taking any room. The rest of you can also choose your room first. I'll be talking with Hana."

"Alright." Jay and the others nodded their heads, while Kanaria whispered, "Should we sleep together then?"

"I don't mind, but at least get a room of your own. There is Reolf and it's more convenient as well." Clovis chuckled.

Kanaria was humming happily as if she were satisfied with the answer. She didn't realize that instead of Clovis, who was suggesting it, she followed what her mother and grandfather were telling her.

After they entered, Clovis asked, "How is that project?"

"Everything is prepared. Since it's late right now, if you don't plan sightseeing tomorrow, we can visit the lab."

"Sounds good. We have a lot of free time anyway." Clovis thought for a moment before glancing at Cain and the others.

"They will be a part of the project. Of course, it'll be voluntary." Hana assured Clovis.

"What project are you talking about?" Cain asked. Even the others furrowed their eyebrows, realizing that this might be the reason why Clovis was so important to Hana.

Hana waved her hand toward Cain's neck. However, the distance between them was two meters. Hana wasn't supposed to reach him, but all of a sudden, a scythe emerged from the back of Hana's hand and circled around Cain's neck.

"!!!" Cain shuddered in fear, his instinct was telling him that if Hana wanted, she could instantly kill him without him understanding anything.

Chapter 467 New Application of Beast Souls

"What is this?" Cain sucked a cold breath. The others gasped while covering their mouths.

Liza frowned. She examined the mysterious thing that emerged from Hana's hand. It was long and robust like a sickle. "Isn't that... a mantis' front leg? No. That's Santanmantis Axelrodi's front leg.

The oldest mantis that has been discovered."

Hana retracted the scythe casually and said, "This is the project all about. A new application of beast souls."

"!!!"

Liza said, "A new application of beast souls? If it's what we're talking about, doesn't this mean a human can grow a part of a beast?"

"Depending on the type of beast soul, yes." Hana nodded with a serious expression. "If you have the beast soul related to wings, you can even summon a wing and fly in the air."

Liza's expression turned solemn. "Young miss. Isn't this project too bizarre? If what you say is true, the beast souls will find its new meaning. Currently, the beast souls are just a boosting type of ability that can raise one's physical ability.

"However, if we can actually get the beast's body, it also means that we can get hard scales, which will bolster our defense, or the wings that allow us to fly. It'll become a new way of fighting."

Hana nodded. "We have been working on this project for a few months and conducted several tests. I have even made sure that all the bad claims will be resolved."

Clovis interjected. "Can a human be called a human anymore after integrating with the beast?"

"Yep." Hana shrugged. "We have tested it and it's actually simple to remove the beast soul because, thanks to this new application, that beast soul is concentrated into a part of their body instead of the entire body like the usual beast soul.

"It's actually removable, which will also allow you to actually change the beast soul to a better one once you get stronger.

"And even if you don't remove it, your children won't be affected by the beast soul since this new application doesn't alter your genetics like radiation. It's contained completely.

"I have no way to fix the appearance though. There will definitely be some beast souls that make you uglier, so..." Hana rolled her eyes.

"Haha." Clovis chuckled.

"Why are you laughing? The first thing you are going to do will be promote this thing. I have prepared something so that people will know about this new application and get the business going." Hana sighed.

"I know, I know. Tell me about it later."

Hana turned to Cain and the others. "That's why this is just voluntary. If you want to get stronger by using this new type, I'll welcome you. If you don't, I won't say anything. However, all I can say is that this new application will definitely take the world by storm... it can be said this is the future."

Cain smiled wryly. "I can't really lose my handsomeness. Other than my face, I don't think I'd mind if it can make me grow stronger."

Hana nodded. "Anyway, just escort Melody's younger brother for tonight and don't disclose this secret. Tomorrow morning, we'll go to the lab. Even if you don't plan to get one, you are free to observe since it'll definitely affect your performance."

"Yes, miss."

"In that case, let's go. There are a lot of things you need to explain to me." Hana grabbed Clovis' arm and dragged him inside. She had a hard time containing herself to know about Reolf.

Cain and the others exchanged looks.

"Who is he? To think that the young miss will act like this? Even we have a hard time meeting her, but the miss actually makes time for him."

"I don't know. Isn't it because of this new project? From the looks of it, that man is the one giving the project."

"But he is an explorer, a very young one at that. He won't be able to make all this concept."

"Does that mean someone is behind him, or maybe he discovers a fortune that contains this project?"

"Or maybe he is someone extremely important? Not that I'm judging, but it's rare for someone to not have a family name."

"True. More importantly, I saw one of a viral video about him getting accused of having a 15% evolution rate and proving himself to have 40%. It doesn't make sense he is able to reach Tier 2 this fast with that evolution rate."

"..."

There was an awkward silence between them. Looking at how Hana dragged Clovis so casually, it didn't seem their relationship was bad either.

"The young miss even visited him a few months ago, right?"

"Maybe he has a big background that can actually alter his own information."

"Nevertheless, it looks like it's the young miss that is trying to curry favor instead of the other way around."

"True. She never gives a fuck whenever someone is trying to grab her attention. Don't tell me, she is in love with him?"

"The money-oriented brain actually thinks about getting someone in her life? She will probably lose half of everything if she does that, and someone like her will definitely not do it."

"Hey, that's rude."

"Sorry. I'm not trying to say that she won't have a partner in her life. With her wealth, people will be lining up if she wants to."

"No! I mean the money oriented brain part. Don't think of her so low. If she can suck your money dry, she will definitely do that."

"..."

Everyone was speechless by that last remark.

Meanwhile, that wasn't far from the truth.

As soon as Clovis and Hana entered the mansion, Hana immediately cornered Clovis by slapping the wall with both hands as if she wasn't planning to let him go.

"What's that? What's that? How are you able to get a dire wolf? What do you feed him? How strong is he? How smart is Reolf?"

Is it possible if we can somehow reproduce such a thing? Is beast taming real? You sure don't mind sharing a bit of a secret with me, right?"

Chapter 468 New Research?

"You sure don't mind sharing a bit of a secret with me, right?"

Clovis smiled wryly before pushing her back. "Of course, I'd mind."

"What?" Hana was taken aback by such a response, considering they had been partners for a while. In addition, she had helped him a lot.

Clovis sighed. "That's because it's related to my blood."

"Should I find a few ancient bat beast souls and concentrate their beast soul into the face before gathering a bunch of beautiful women for you? They will have longer fangs like a vampire and suck you dry. Much better than getting your blood drained from your body through any other means."

"Are you serious you're going to do that?" Clovis shook his head helplessly.

"If I do that, you're going to get angry." Hana looked disappointed.

"Either way, I don't understand it completely myself, nor do I intend to share it right now."

"Right now?" Hana changed her expression instantly. He said 'right now' so there might be a chance in the future.

"I can't help but wonder if you have been restraining yourself since you visited us back then." Even Clovis was a bit overwhelmed by her pursuit of money.

"Ahem." As if she had gotten what she wanted, she immediately behaved. Then again, Clovis didn't really mind since she was being honest. It would be much more troublesome if she ended up tricking him secretly.

He perfectly knew how smart Hana was after all. Even with the help of her grandfather, the fact that she was able to make a company of this size showed her competence.

Clovis raised one finger. "Anyway, I can share one piece of information about the beast itself. I think this will make interesting research."

"What is that?"

"What do you think if a beast has a talent similar to our evolution rate?"

"A talent?" Hana looked down, falling into deep thought. "What is the talent's purpose? Something like getting into a higher tier like a human? But the beast has a beast soul as well. Or does that talent signify those two?"

As expected of her, she could figure out the topic he wanted to present without him telling her straight away.

Clovis nodded. "What if I told you that the beast has a talent that... not only would it affect its ability to reach a higher rank, but also their chance to get a beast soul?"

"!!!" Hana looked shocked for a second before rubbing her chin. "Is this the reason why the beast soul sometimes appears on lower tier beasts as well? But they are quite rare because if their talents were higher, they would reach a higher tier.

"If that's the case, scientists all around the world should have figured this out. However, the fact that this knowledge is not public yet is due to either their failure to figure out the beast's talent or it's because they're lacking information.

"However, we have the research regarding the beast soul. Since the talent also increases the chance of obtaining a beast soul, can we figure something out by researching the beast soul?" Hana paused for a moment before asking, "Do you have any way to determine their talent?"

Clovis had that item, but there was no way he would give it to her. In fact, she didn't even know about the artifacts he had.

Clovis shook his head. "Unfortunately, I don't have one. Besides, I don't have any research to show you regarding the beast talent. The only thing I can confirm is that the talent exists and it influences the chance of reaching a higher tier and acquiring a beast soul."

Hana furrowed her eyebrows. Because he couldn't back up his claim, she was a bit skeptical.

But she couldn't find any reason for Clovis to lie to her. If he was honest and allowed her to grow even more, she would be more beneficial to him.

It seemed that she had to take this information with a grain of salt and pour some resources into the research.

Once the talent was confirmed, they could actually somehow make a beast acquire their beast soul through trials and errors. In other words, there was a chance they could actually harvest the beast soul more efficiently.

Hana understood the benefits of this information.

"Alright. I've taken note of that information. Is there anything else you'd like to add?"

"No at the moment."

"Alright. In that case, I'll be bringing you around the mansion to introduce you to its facilities." Hana smirked. She seemed to be excited for everything she had prepared in this mansion.

And she truly didn't disappoint. On the first floor alone, there was a full gym with all sorts of equipment.

She even prepared a simulation room for training their reaction speed by summoning a laser gun that they had to dodge from all over the room.

After that, they went to the back of the house, which turned out to be a swimming pool either to relieve stress or train.

The second floor was filled with bedrooms, each was quite spacious and comfortable.

Nevertheless, the biggest surprise she had prepared was the basement.

Yeah, she created a spacious basement, almost as big as the mansion itself. They had been reinforced by a high quality material, which would withstand all kinds of harsh training and sparring.

It was the perfect space for them. Even Reolf would be able to run around this place.

The mansion was beyond what Clovis hoped for.

After touring the mansion, Hana became excited again as she wanted to go back and review the possibility of research.

"Anyway, I'll be sending you the data for the bus. You can modify it however you want. Tomorrow, I'll send you a car that will take you to the lab. We'll meet there." She spoke so fast that Clovis had a hard time following her. She didn't even bother repeating it as she immediately took her leave.

Clovis smiled wryly, wondering what would happen if Hana knew about the artifacts, technique books, or even the foods. She would definitely do anything to have Another World Mall.

Then again, he didn't plan to reveal it for the time being.

Chapter 469 Laboratory

"This is the lab." Hana brought them to the basement of the research center. There were a lot of processes they took to be able to reach this place.

Even inside, there were only several people wearing a white coat around.

However, there were several people with bodies that weren't humans. They gained that part after getting their beast soul.

At the same time, it didn't seem like they were treated that badly after seeing their expressions.

There was an old researcher who was observing a human growing a pair of horns as he excitedly said, "Do it! Is it the limit? Can you grow it further?"

"I'm sorry, Doctor. It won't grow any further." The man shook his head before touching his horns. "This horn is quite hard. I think I can smash something with this... Even when I try to pull it out, it's not as painful as pulling my hair."

"Of course. It's a Tier 2 beast soul. You are only a Tier 1 human right now, but with this horn, you can actually fight a Tier 2 beast soul. You should try to get used to it. I get the data about you, and you can make a name for yourself once the time is up. Fair trade, right?"

The man chuckled before noticing the group of people coming to him.

The doctor noticed the man's expression and turned around. "Miss?!"

"Doctor Gen. How are you doing?"

"It's really been hard to calm down in the last few weeks." He glanced at the people she brought. "Now that I think about it, is it today?"

"Yep. I'll be counting on you today." Hana nodded before raising her head.

The guy was astonished by seeing this group of people. The women were as beautiful as the actresses he saw on the Skynet.

"Hello. How are you doing? I'm Hana Skylark. Do you have any complaints about your stay here?" Hana asked politely.

"Ah!" The guy froze for a moment before shaking his head furiously. "Not at all."

"That's good then." Hana smiled. "Please take care of your body."

"Y-Yes!"

He was completely captivated by her. Meanwhile, the doctor immediately guided the group to the operation room.

"The process itself is simple. We'll be creating a bowl that will become the container for the beast soul into your body. After that, we'll inject the beast soul and cover the entire bowl.

"It's just two injections with a 10-minute interval. If you want to remove it, the process takes about thirty minutes since we'll be sucking it out and making sure that not a single trace will be left behind.

"In other words, for the ladies, you don't have to worry about scars since it won't leave anything, just like when you are receiving an injection. That's all."

Hana nodded. "How about bringing the catalog for them to choose? Or maybe do you have a recommendation, Doctor Gen?"

"I will need to know about their needs first."

Hana glanced at the group, wondering if anyone wanted to be the first.

"I will do it." Cain stepped forward. Since Hana had done it herself, it should be safe for him. Hence, there was no need to hesitate. "I would like to get something that can enhance my combat ability, like a tail... no, it's more like a stinger? I want to use it as a third hand so that I can overwhelm the enemy."

Doctor Gen thought for a moment. "How about Palaeophonus nuncius' stinger? The stinger is quite sturdy. We have a Tier 6 palaeophonus nuncius' stinger beast soul, so it should be perfect for your needs. Unfortunately, that beast soul is known for its fast sweep instead of poison. I'm afraid even if we inject it into your body, that stinger won't produce any toxin."

"That is perfectly fine. My affinity is heart, so my combat ability is quite weak. If I have this stinger, I'll be able to rival even those with muscle or blood affinity." Cain nodded.

"Alright." Doctor Gen nodded while registering it in his tab.

"Doctor. Is it possible to get an organ of a beast?" Ragna surprisingly stepped forward.

"!!!" Doctor Gen was surprised by the question. "It's a good question. Unfortunately, it's not possible... at least right now. After all, it'll end up pushing your own organ, which can cause a fatal injury if something goes wrong. All the mice we experimented on ended up dying because of that, so I couldn't suggest such a thing."

"In that case, is it possible to have a scale covering one skin?"

"Are you a guardian?"

"Yes."

Doctor Gen thought for a moment. "For a guardian, tough skin can actually stop a powerful slash. What is supposed to cut your hand will probably only leave behind a cut. If you also have bone affinity, it'll be a kind of wearing a high quality gauntlet."

"That sounds good." Ragna nodded.

The others seemed to be curious as they consulted the doctor about their needs.

Clovis leaned on the wall while watching the two groups.

"You're not going to get one?" Hana asked as she leaned on the spot next to him.

Clovis shook his head. "Nope. My grandfather has told me not to take one. I don't know why, maybe related to this or even the one we're talking about previously. Nevertheless, I think I'll stick to his advice."

"Mhmm..." Hana squinted her eyes. "Alright. Even though you don't have one, you need to make a performance, you know."

"I know, I know. This is just a part of the advertisement. Just like you, I also want it to succeed."

"Don't worry. Your share of revenue will definitely be juicy." Hana smirked. "You don't have to do anything after the introduction. Everything will be taken care of by me. You only need to count the money. Hehe."

"By the way, what's the performance all about?" When Clovis asked that question, there was a playful smirk appearing on her face. "What's with that face?"

"Don't worry. Don't worry. It's not going to be hard for you."

"You expect me to believe you with that kind of face?"

Chapter 470 Training

"Haaaa!" Cain shouted while crouching, but the stinger didn't come out of his back as if it had a will on its own, refusing his call.

The doctor said, "Don't be nervous. This is normal. You need to get used to it. Imagine having a tail on your back... Humans never have it, so you have to try it again and again until you can imagine it."

Next to him was his group. Out of the six people, five of them had decided to receive the beast soul.

However, the main concern was Clovis' group.

"Is this how you have it?" Ragna casually stood there, summoning the scale in his first try.

It was a snake scale. Ragna knocked it a few times, noticing that it was actually harder than metal. Since it was a Tier 5 snake, he should be able to use it to block a Tier 5 human wielding a Tier 5 weapon.

Of course, he needed to test it just to be sure about it.

"What? You're done?" Both the doctor and Hana dropped their jaws. Even Hana took two days to summon the mantis' sickle, and the doctor praised her for being a genius.

Yet Ragna was able to achieve it on his first try. What kind of monstrous talent did he have?

Only Clovis noticed what was going on. He asked, "It seems that your experience plays a huge part in this."

"!!!" Ragna and Doctor Gen turned to Clovis in confusion.

"Yes." Ragna nodded casually as if it wasn't a big deal. Clovis wanted to share the information, but he didn't say anything to him since he respected Ragna's decision.

After some careful thoughts, Ragna explained, "I was bullied in the past. No, it was more like I sold myself to be a punching bag.

"I had a special body condition that would allow me to recover at high speed, but at the same time, the recovery would also affect my strength.

"As a result, even after I stop selling myself, I still get beaten up. Although I have gotten used to the pain, I wish for a stronger body sometime, including the skin.

"So, I recall all of it, and this happens." Ragna pointed at the scale.

"Isn't that..." Doctor Gen understood the meaning of this story.

"Yeah. What actually influenced the beast soul was not talent but experience and imagination. If you think about it, there are two paths for people who want to take the beast soul. People who want a certain beast soul from their experience like Ragna will have an easier time manifesting it. On the other hand, people who 'need' a certain beast soul will have a harder time."

Doctor Gen noticed that Clovis had realized it from the beginning. He asked, "If that's the case, does that mean we should stop people from picking a beast soul that doesn't suit them?"

"Not really. In the end, it's the same as the normal application of beast souls. You pick it because you want or need it. They still need to practice on both activating it and using it." Clovis crossed his arms. "There is no shortcut to success."

Doctor Gen nodded in understanding. He turned to Hana. "What do you think, Miss?"

"Yeah. We can use the one with the experience as a show so that everyone knows that it's possible. But we'll also give them a warning during the sale. I think it's fine to proceed as planned." Hana gave her permission.

"In that case..." Doctor Gen turned to the others, like Kanaria and Jay.

Kanaria squinted her eyes, trying to change her eyes. She recalled the sensation of using the technique Clovis gave.

She thought that if she managed to use an eagle eye coupled with an eye-related beast soul, she would be able to upgrade her sight even further.

Her choice couldn't help but pique Hana's interest. "Why did she choose to strengthen her eyes? She is a sniper. If she can fly, won't it be much better... I mean, shooting people from the sky sounds fun."

"Argghhhh!" Kanaria suddenly screamed as she covered her eyes with her hands.

"!!!" The people panicked. Hana thought it was her fault that she was distracted. "Wait. Sorry."

Kanaria waved her hand, telling them to stay calm. Her eyes remained close as she said, "I've succeeded. I'm able to see the world in a different color, similar to a night vision that animals have. With this, the night shouldn't be much of a problem for me.

"Because this place is bright, I was unprepared for the change of color, which ended up hurting my eyes. How do you deactivate this?" Kanaria asked.

"Just imagine your own vision returning to normal."

Kanaria covered the area in front of her so that it was dark enough for her to see. Once she noticed her vision had returned, she let out a breath of relief. "The reason I chose this one is because the wings flap. That flapping motion will make me sick when shooting people.

"In addition, I'm not foolish enough to expose myself in the air. While it's true that I can move from one place to another faster with wings, the benefits aren't really worth the risk."

"Oh!" Hana nodded. She wasn't a sniper who had to focus on the small scope, so she didn't know about such a risk.

On the other hand, Melody chose Prodryas Persephone's beast soul. It was an ancient butterfly in the Late Eocene era. Unlike Kanaria, having the ability to fly would be important for Melody since she could observe everything clearly from the sky.

Dropping radar here and there or even dropping some grenades from the sky would be fun.

Only flying beasts would be able to harm her when she supported the team after this.

While it was true Melody had a perfect beast soul for her current circumstances, Erwin actually picked up the thing that suited him the most, especially with all those threads he produced.