

World Mall 521

Chapter 521 Reinforcements

The beasts were chasing after Clovis and Reolf, but with the help of Another World Mall's food and equipment, Reolf outran them.

The moment there was a building in their way, Reolf immediately turned around, using the building as a cover.

The beasts followed Reolf, but the latter had actually looped around the building and hit their flank.

Clovis and Reolf broke through their ranks, killing more than twenty beasts in the process.

The rest of the beasts turned around to attack him, but the beasts from behind ended up crashing into them.

Reolf stopped the moment the majority of the beasts fell down. Even Reolf was surprised that the strategy worked. He couldn't help but wonder if he was that foolish in the past.

Nevertheless, there were only a few beasts left that came to attack them. Without hesitation, both of them charged at them and killed as many beasts as possible.

Once the beasts recovered, they started running away again, continuously kiting the beasts as far as possible.

There was one thing that made Clovis concerned about these beasts. There were simply no high tier beasts among them. Even a single Tier 5 was not spotted despite this forest being known to be a high level danger zone.

...

Former Base 059.

"Come here! We have to close the gate. Anyone know how to operate it?" Kanaria asked out loud.

Unfortunately, not a single one of them found anything. As a result, Kanaria immediately pointed to the side. "Get into that building. It'll be better if everyone can enter that building so that we know which building needs to be protected."

The people didn't know what to do. They were not from the military, so they didn't trust them that much.

However, the moment they heard a series of roars coming from a distance, they panicked and hurriedly rushed to the building, not wanting to die.

On the other hand, Kanaria asked, "Is that you, Erwin, Melody?"

"Yep. We've got company. It's only two hundred beasts. The rest are following Clovis," Melody reported.

"Where is he?"

"He is with Reolf, bringing the majority of the beasts away. His order is to set up a camp here and bring as many people as possible. Once the situation has stabilized, we should get out and seek out more people. I don't know if they will be alive by then."

Kanaria thought for a moment, while Jay simply said, "Got it. We'll bring down the beasts. We can discuss the rest after we take them down. As Clovis said earlier, we'll use this time to reach Tier 3. Before that, let's not do anything reckless. How is communication with Clovis?"

"He is turning off his communication."

Jay frowned. "In that case, I will take over the command. Kanaria and Melody will stay on the wall and kill as many beasts as possible. Ragna, protect Luci and become our last line of defense. Erwin and I will stop them in front of the gate."

"Roger."

Everyone was moving toward their position, but little did they know, the enemies this time were a bit trickier than they originally expected.

While they were fending off against the enemies, the main wave of beasts were on Base 059.

Tens of thousands of beasts were swarming the beasts, bulldozing all the trees before them.

However, the commander couldn't help but furrow his eyebrows the moment a silhouette appeared behind all these beasts.

It was the figure of a giant beast. Its height reached more than ten meters, and more importantly, its head was elongated, allowing it to look down on everything.

The commander furrowed his eyebrows. The situation over the wall was also not good. Due to their number, they had a hard time stopping all these beasts.

"Where's our reinforcement?" The commander asked.

"ETA: 1 minute, 28 seconds."

The commander clicked his tongue. The moment that beast reached this wall, it would be over. Even if he tried to stop it, the other beasts would gradually gain the upper hand.

That was why the commander chose to jump off the wall.

Seeing the beasts underneath him, the commander thrust his spear downward. The two beasts that were beneath him felt the sharp thrust even though they were still five meters away.

To their surprise, one of them had their heads blown apart while the other had the head and the right arm destroyed.

The beasts fell down, acting as a cushion for the commander.

The other beasts tried to surround him, but the commander thrust his spear, blowing apart everything he thrust.

Not a single beast could last more than a single thrust against him, causing the corpses to pile up around him.

The Tier 7 beast in the distance seemed to have no indication of making its move.

Meanwhile, his subordinate had actually said, "Commander. You have to go now. They're about to arrive."

The commander frowned. On the one hand, he wanted to bait the Tier 7 beast to be a bit closer so that the reinforcement would hit it as well.

Unfortunately, it didn't seem to be going according to his plan. He had no choice but to jump back to the wall.

The pilots were approaching the base fast.

"Targets in sight."

"Arrival in 10 seconds."

The soldiers couldn't help but turn around. The beasts were disturbed by the loud sound produced by the engines, but the jets flew so fast that they couldn't catch up.

They dropped several bombs in rapid succession.

Boom!

Boom!

Boom!

The explosions were much more massive compared to any explosives they had in the base. Each explosion killed tens of beasts and impacted a lot more.

The beasts were blown away due to the impact.

The commander muttered, "They've finally come."

The bombardment was still not over. There should be more coming. In addition, the earlier two planes would definitely return.

In fact, the commander was correct. More and more were coming. And it wasn't just an air bombardment. There were a series of helicopters coming, each had been equipped with their own weapons.

Unknown to them, these reinforcements would actually cause a much bigger problem for Clovis and the others.

Chapter 522 Flying Beasts

Over the next minute, another two pairs of fighters were dropping their bombs on the enemy's rank, completely wrecking the enemies apart.

"Uoohh!"

The soldiers cheered out loud. This was their power. They could definitely stand a chance against these beasts as long as the support continued coming in.

The commander couldn't help but smile. Now that the morale had been restored, it was time for a counterattack.

He immediately sent messengers to his subordinates, focusing on the counterattack. Even he, the commander, planned to kill a lot of beasts this time. While it was true the Tier 7 beast was hard to beat, it didn't change the fact that the reinforcements were enough to keep it at bay.

In the meantime, he could kill the beasts on other walls, which would lessen their burdens.

To his surprise, the Tier 7 beast suddenly let out a roar.

"!!!" The commander halted his step and looked at the Tier 7 beast. It didn't seem that this beast was coming, so he thought this was just a false alarm. Even the rest of the beasts weren't responding.

The moment he was about to go to another wall, another pair of planes were coming straight at them.

The two pilots were ready to drop their loads, but all of a sudden, several figures flew into the sky. They didn't fly as fast as the fighter jets, but they were actually flying toward their path.

"What? Pull up!" The two pilots panicked and tried to pull up, but it was too late.

Both of them actually hit the flying beasts. The noses of the planes were destroyed, followed by an explosion.

Of course, the flying beasts also ended up getting killed. All that kinetic energy simply destroyed the beasts' bodies, but the beasts didn't mind sacrificing themselves for the Tier 7 beasts.

"!!!" The commander widened his eyes in shock. Dropping these bombs would be more accurate if they did it at low altitude, but this also meant the beasts could easily reach them.

In fact, the Tier 7 beast seemed to have made that order. It knew the flying beasts couldn't go against the jets' speed, but that didn't mean they couldn't destroy it.

"Not good. Increase the altitude. They will be taken down if they don't!" The commander shouted, informing the reinforcements that would come next.

Meanwhile, those who had dropped their payload had turned around. They still had a few things to shoot.

However, they suddenly saw a group of flying beasts taking off to the sky as if they were about to catch them.

"Pull up!"

Both pilots immediately rose as high as possible. Fortunately, they managed to see it much earlier.

Still, the flying beasts chased after them, except for the fact that they didn't have enough speed to chase after these two planes.

The two planes immediately made a loop in the sky.

"Enemy is locked."

"It's time for the dog fight." The other pilot smirked.

Both of them launched laser-guided missiles and hit a beast, destroying them with the explosions.

After that, they maneuvered around and started releasing one missile after another, killing as many flying beasts as possible before bailing out. They couldn't afford to be shot down by the enemies after all.

Still, the biggest problem would be for the next pair that came after them. Unlike the previous two pilots, the beasts had spread out in the sky.

"Enemies in sight. Their numbers are above two hundred."

"They're coming toward us. Abort!" The other pilot shouted.

They really had no other choice. If they tried to fight them, the flying beasts would ultimately become their demise. The wall that the flying beasts had created was simply too big, and their velocity had made it hard to make a sharp maneuver like a beast.

But to their surprise, one of the pilots who was trying to get away suddenly saw a shadow underneath his airplane. Before he realized it, a huge pillar suddenly emerged from the bottom, and he flew straight into it.

Due to his reflexes, he managed to change his trajectory a bit, but his left wing still hit the pillar and caused a massive explosion.

The last thing the pilot saw was a huge shadow that took off into the sky.

"Alpha 6 is down! I repeat, Alpha 6 is down." The other pilot couldn't help but look at the enemy that appeared all of a sudden.

The bird had an enormous wingspan, reaching up to 30 meters. It had a long, toothless beak. On another look, the pilot realized it wasn't a bird.

He immediately reported, "Not good. Pteranodon is spotted. I repeat, Pteranodon is spotted. The enemy is suspected to be Tier 6 or Tier 7."

The pteranodon let out a loud cry, startling everything around the area.

Even the commander widened his eyes. "Not good! There is a Tier 6 Pteranodon."

It was clear that the flying beasts would be engaging their reinforcement in a dogfight. Even if they couldn't win against them in speed, the beasts were intelligent enough to make them unable to drop the bombs in the more populated area. It would ultimately render their reinforcement useless.

That was why the reinforcements were usually composed of both ground and air units. Still, the ground units would definitely take longer to reach this area.

The commander immediately ordered, "Releasing anti-air missiles. Clean up the sky right away and let our boys blast them!"

Without hesitation, a few anti-air turrets were rotating, facing the flying beasts. Multiple missiles flew into the sky, hitting several beasts.

However, some beasts were actually fast enough to tilt their bodies in a way that they actually avoided the missiles at the last moment.

The commander gritted his teeth. He looked around the area, desperate to regain their upper hand.

It was then he noticed one spot. Without hesitation, the commander immediately shouted, "We need to hit there!"

His assistant immediately shifted his device to point in the direction the commander wanted to hit. "Establishing the coordinate. It's completed!"

"Blast them!"

Chapter 523 Everything They Had

"Blast them!"

"There are still too many flying beasts. The headquarters are telling us to hold on until the helicopters arrive. With the additional firepower, it should be enough to clear up the enemies."

"Tsk." The commander gnashed his teeth. "Do they know what we're doing here?"

The commander couldn't really do anything about this, fully aware that this was just a whine. He truly had no other choice but to keep the beasts here, especially with more and more beasts coming.

The worst possible outcome would be the appearance of another Tier 7 beast. When that happened, the base would be overrun by those two Tier 7 beasts.

"Fine! We'll change our arrangement." The commander started giving his orders to all armies.

As expected, the Tier 7 beast also ordered his beasts, causing those low-intelligence beasts to fight in an orderly manner.

No matter how hard the commander tried to gain the upper hand, the Tier 7 beast would be prepared for it and send more beasts in that direction. In the end, this was a battle where the beasts outnumbered at least twenty times. Even with all the supplies here, it would be hard to win.

That was why the commander chose attrition warfare, which allowed him to preserve as many soldiers as possible.

Finally, after maintaining the balance for thirty minutes, flapping sounds echoed from the side.

The soldiers couldn't help but turn their heads to the side before raising their vision, finding a group of helicopters.

Unlike the fighter jet, the helicopters weren't fast, allowing them to engage in a close battle.

Of course, the ones that saw them were not just the humans. Even the flying beasts turned around, realizing that there was yet another wave of reinforcement.

"Ree!" The pteranodon let out a cry, ordering the rest of the flying beasts to turn around and engage with this wave of reinforcement.

The flying beasts hurriedly followed its instructions, creating a wall that would block the helicopters.

However, that was the last thing they wanted.

After all, those helicopters sent a wave of missiles toward them.

The flying beasts were trying to fly away before approaching them, but surprisingly, the helicopters immediately moved toward the base as if their intention was the base, not them.

The moment they reached the base, the ropes started to fall down as soldiers jumped off the helicopters.

"Go! Go! Go!"

To make sure the base survived, they had to do this first. Once the helicopters were empty, they started rising again and raining the beasts with all their missiles.

The flying beasts were trying to take them down, but they had to first pass over the wall. A series of turrets immediately shot them down, protecting the helicopters.

Meanwhile, the helicopters provided as much firepower as possible.

The commander had ordered them to remain on that spot because the beasts were much more dangerous than they expected.

Although it was a shame that they couldn't go around the wall and shoot them down from behind, the people complied and followed the direction of the base's commander, as he was the one with the highest rank.

Now that they had an easier time, the commander asked on the radio, "How many are you?"

"We only have 100 people, sir. All of us are elites, so please assign us as you see fit."

The commander's expression turned serious. "Other reinforcements?"

"There will be drops, but we have to find the location. We are in the process of contacting a Tier 8 human. We should expect him to come in thirty minutes. The rest of the ground units still need one more hour."

The commander fell silent for a moment before saying, "Keep the flying beast number minimum. Let's call in the air support again. Are there any soldiers outside the base right now? There should be an empty spot on our left. No, use the previous base to bring the reinforcement. That place should be safe."

"Got it."

Once the order was given, the humans started releasing everything they had to regain their upper hand. It would only last for a while, but that was enough.

As soon as the number of flying beasts decreased, they sent forth the air strike, especially to the spot that the commander had instructed earlier.

Boom!

Boom!

Boom!

A series of bombs hit the target and blasted all the beasts on that one spot.

There was a reason the commander chose this spot. Behind this spot were numerous beasts, much more than any other spots.

That was why he wanted to break them apart by puncturing a hole.

As a result, the beasts had to turn around, causing the flow to be disrupted. This would buy the base a bit more time.

"Good." The commander's expression turned serious, looking at the Tier 7 beast. "In that case, there is only one thing left to do."

"Sir. This is too dangerous. There are still too many enemies around that beast. If you go right now, you will end up endangering your lives."

"If we don't attack the Tier 7 right now, the Tier 7 will act the same as mine, commanding the beasts as he pleases. You should be aware that high level beasts have high intelligence. This beast must have the same intelligence as us, no, its intelligence might surpass average humans." The commander squinted his eyes.

Looking at how well the beast was able to keep up with him, especially commanding the flying beasts to stop their reinforcement, made him realize that he had to keep the beast busy for any reinforcements to be effective.

"You are to arrange the positions of our reinforcement, specifically those helicopters. We truly need them if we want to win. Use them until the ground army arrives."

The soldier gulped down before nodding his head. "Understood, sir. I won't disappoint you."

The commander jumped off the wall with a smile, heading straight to the Tier 7 beast.

But because of his actions, there was one thing that changed. Instead of keeping every single beast in this place, those explosions actually scattered a portion of the beasts.

And due to their positions, the beasts ultimately headed west, which was none other than Libation Fiesta's location.

Chapter 524 Money

Clovis looked at the numerous corpses in front of him. After fifteen minutes and exhausting a lot of his stamina, he finally killed all those beasts.

It was fortunate that Reolf was here, allowing him to speed up.

"Ha... Ha..." Clovis' hands were shaking after using the ranged attacks multiple times. Each of them required all his momentum, so it put a lot of strain on his arms.

Fortunately, Clovis could drink some water and put on bandages from Another World Mall, allowing him to recover a lot of his stamina within a short period of time. Of course, there was no way he would forget about Reolf.

It was pretty lucky that he could feed Reolf with items from Another World Mall without any problems.

"Good boy. Are you still good to go?" Clovis asked with a serious expression.

"Waaf!" Reolf nodded furiously.

"Alright. Unfortunately, we can't go back to where they are right now since we don't want you to be found yet. However, we can kite more beasts that are coming this way." Clovis thought for a moment.

Meanwhile, Reolf was pumped up for more action. It was quite hard for his body, but it was much better because it felt so rewarding.

"Are you going to evolve to Tier 3 soon, Reolf?" Clovis asked.

Reolf tilted his head in confusion. Unfortunately, it didn't seem that he couldn't check Reolf's progression even with the items from Another World Mall. He could only keep feeding him until eventually he would evolve.

Still, it appeared that their resting time would have to be interrupted.

All of a sudden, they heard a lot of roars coming from a distance.

"!!!" Both Clovis and Reolf immediately turned around, staring at the distance as if they were calculating the number of beasts coming toward them.

"This doesn't look good." Clovis frowned. "If they're coming toward Kanaria and the others, it will be catastrophic. After all, both Kanaria and Jay must be in the middle of evolving to Tier 3."

Clovis wanted to gather the essence, but there was no time to waste. He hopped back to the top of Reolf and said, "I'm sorry, but I might have to push you a bit too hard, Reolf. We'll have to bring them away as far as possible."

"Waaf!" Reolf agreed without hesitation, despite being fully aware that the enemies this time would be much more compared to the previous one.

Clovis nodded. "Alright. Let's go! Keep listening to the sound in the air. Also, be extra careful when running on the plain field. There has been a lot of reinforcement coming from the headquarters.

We just have to hold on until they arrive without being spotted."

"Waaf!" Reolf immediately rushed to the incoming wave of beasts.

As Clovis said earlier, the number was actually much higher. In addition, both of them could see two Tier 5 beasts actually within the group.

"This looks much worse than I expected." Clovis' expression turned grim. He needed to come up with a plan if he wanted to defeat these beasts by himself.

Clovis looked around. There was one big problem if they wanted to fight all these beasts, it was the fact they had been exhausted after the first wave.

"Even the items from Another World Mall have their limit." Clovis squinted his eyes. There was one possible thing he could try.

However, it might cause Hana to be suspicious of him.

"There's no worse situation other than a complete wipeout." Clovis' expression turned grim as he called Hana.

"Clovis? What is your condition right now?" Hana sounded worried. Considering he was in the middle of the battlefield, it was a given.

Clovis hesitated for a moment before asking, "If I ask for my royalty right now, do you think it can be done?"

Hana blinked a few times before raising her voice. "Are you insane?"

"No, not really."

Hana wanted to get angry, but she soon noticed that Clovis wouldn't ask such a thing for no reason. In fact, he shouldn't have even bothered to ask for this because she would hand it to him at the end of the month.

However, what if Clovis actually needed it for one reason or another? When she thought about it, the only possible situation was Clovis getting robbed. He needed a ransom.

Of course, talking about Clovis, there was no way that was the only possibility. He must have had other reasons that she couldn't imagine.

And it had been shown by how much Clovis valued money but rarely spent it for real. In fact, most of their money was either stuck in his account or just spent by Kanaria.

Clovis could claim that he just saved the money so that Kanaria could use it in the future to fulfill her goal, but it didn't make sense, especially since he had a close relationship with a conglomerate like her.

It was clear that Clovis' obsession with money was due to something else. And this might be related to his secret.

That was why Hana asked, "Are you going to explain to me after this is done?"

Clovis had a wry smile. As expected, Hana figured it out. Unfortunately, there was only one answer to this question. "No."

He didn't know whether he would give that information to Hana or not, especially since she wasn't a part of her group.

"Alright." Hana nodded. "Give me five minutes."

"Can you do it faster? We might not have five minutes here."

"In that case, I will just send you some money for now. I'll subtract the amount from the royalty I'm supposed to send you later."

"That works too."

"Alright." Hana immediately hung up and transferred the money.

Clovis didn't know how much he would get, but his aim remained the same. He had to get enough money to upgrade his mall to open a new store.

He just hoped that this new store would be able to help him against those beasts.

With a single dull *ding* sound, Clovis checked his phone, specifically the message regarding the transfer.

Chapter 525 New Store

[You've received 125,000,000 Union Dollars.]

Clovis was quite surprised by the amount, but he didn't bother with it and immediately went to Another World Mall. "Wait for me here, Reolf."

"Waaf!" Reolf responded as he saw Clovis disappearing into thin air. He looked shocked and tried to sniff him but to no avail. In the end, he just remained on that spot, waiting for Clovis.

Meanwhile, Clovis immediately shouted, "Blue!"

[I am here, Master.]

Blue had been waiting at the entrance as usual. Clovis said, "Upgrade my membership to level 22."

[Processing.]

[-15,000,000 Otherworldly Coins]

[Membership is upgraded to level 20.]

[-25,000,000 Otherworldly Coins]

[Membership is upgraded to level 21.]

[-50,000,000 Otherworldly Coins]

[Membership is upgraded to level 22.]

[Opening a New Store.]

"What is the new store?" Clovis asked hurriedly. He didn't have a lot of time, so he rushed toward the new store.

[It is an art store, Master.]

"Art Store?" Clovis looked confused, but the moment he reached the new store, every doubt was quickly answered. It was like an art exhibition.

The stores were simple. The walls were white so that the art displayed on the walls would show its true value.

As soon as Clovis entered the art store, he quickly noticed several paintings inside the stores.

Name: Dimensional Traveler Sand

Description: A painting made by the hero of the orcs.

Effect: Boost the viewer's understanding.

"!!!" Clovis frowned. The effect was rather vague. Normally, it would give a clear effect such as strength, agility, and other things, yet this time, the paintings only boosted their understanding.

In fact, the effects were actually the same as in other paintings. The only thing that could differentiate them was their price.

"What kind of understanding? I don't have time to admire art..." Clovis gritted his teeth. He thought he could get something instant, but he was wrong. If he had to stay here for hours, he would rather go back and find another method to kill the beasts.

The moment his eyes shifted to the painting itself was the time he fully understood what boosting an understanding meant.

"!!!" Clovis widened his eyes in shock, his eyes glued to the painting. All of a sudden, his entire scenery changed.

"What is this?" Clovis looked around as the intense heat was brushing his skin. The sunlight from above his head was so blinding that he had to cover it with his hand.

He was actually in the middle of the desert.

For some reason, he was walking under the intense heat, his tongue was out, and his throat was dry. His body had been swaying left and right for a while, but he kept going.

Hunger and thirst were haunting him as though he hadn't eaten or drunk anything in the last couple of days.

All of a sudden, he actually found an oasis in the middle of the desert.

"!!!" Clovis widened his eyes in shock. "Water, water, water, water, water!"

He kept repeating the same words as he picked up his pace. For the first time in his life, he finally understood what thirst—!

Before he fully formed his thoughts, he suddenly snapped back to reality.

"Aah?!" Clovis panted a few times and looked around, realizing he was back at Another World Mall.

The painting of a desert in front of him actually trapped him inside like an illusion, making him realize the meaning of thirst. That was a weird understanding to implant, but it was also the strongest image. For some reason, Clovis couldn't help but think about the importance of water and food.

He was blessed with those things that he never thought would happen if he didn't have any food or water.

"Don't tell me." Clovis shook his head. Although he wanted to admire the painting longer, he realized another thing. The information on the art had been updated. There was one more additional category that explained why he snapped back to reality.

Status: Pay first for the full experience.

"You serious?" Clovis was speechless. It seemed that he really needed to buy the painting if he wanted to fully understand it.

At the same time, he looked around, his eyes scanning all those paintings.

"Why don't I have a super discount for the new shop?" Clovis gritted his teeth. "No matter. Even if I have to go broke today, I need to buy everything. At least, I will have to find which one is suitable for Reolf and me."

In Clovis' mind, he wanted to buy these paintings so that he could decorate the mansion. This way, the others would also take a look at those paintings and understand something suitable for them.

Even if he couldn't buy any other items for the next one or two days, he had to buy as many paintings as possible. "Blue!"

[Understood.]

Blue immediately registered everything as Clovis made his payment. There were a lot of things he skipped because of the time constraint, but it didn't matter.

"Thank you!" Clovis said out loud as he returned to reality.

"Waaf?!" Reolf looked shocked when Clovis came back. It was as if he turned into a ghost for a moment.

"I don't have time. Take a look at these collections, Reolf!" Clovis just dropped the paintings he bought so that both of them could scan and observe whatever had a connection with their hearts.

Surprisingly, it wasn't that hard as well.

The painting that piqued Clovis' interest was called the Fearless Lightning Petrel. It was a painting of a bird moving through the lightning storm, but instead of the bravery of the bird, the painting actually highlighted the understanding of the lightning.

Meanwhile, Reolf was actually fixated on a painting of grassland. It was just a simple grassland with two hills in the distance. The wind was strong.

Inside that painting, Reolf was free. He could move anywhere he liked, but more importantly, he was actually riding the wind. The latter actually blew according to his will, boosting his speed.

Reolf was stunned for a few minutes before returning to reality. It was then he noticed that on his four feet, there were weird sensations.

He leaped out of curiosity, but he was stunned when his jump reached out twice its original distance. There was only one thing that could explain this phenomenon, and Reolf also knew it.

Did he just acquire a unique ability that would end up becoming a beast soul if he died?

Chapter 526 Testing New Strength

"Are you ready?" Clovis asked after opening his eyes. He felt refreshed after looking at the painting.

"Waaf!" It appeared Reolf was much faster than him. He had been waiting for Clovis to finish, and it was finally their time.

"We will go like our original plan. We'll do our best to bring a lot of them away from Kanaria and the others," said Clovis while putting back the paintings.

"Waaf!" Reolf looked excited, as if he wanted to test the new ability he got.

"Haha. Alright, alright." Clovis chuckled and immediately hopped on top of him while saying, "Chase after them, Reolf. Show me what you've got from the painting."

Reolf immediately ran at full speed, his change of pace was somehow increasing drastically.

"Is this what you get from the painting? The change of pace is not bad. Not bad at all." Clovis looked impressed. If he utilized this change of pace, Reolf could become a much more terrifying existence on a battlefield.

In fact, Clovis had been utilizing the change of pace to catch his enemy off guard. That was why he would probably tell Reolf how to utilize it properly after this was done.

However, Reolf shook his head. "Waaf!"

"What? That's not all?" Clovis' expression looked even more excited. "Alright. Show me, Reolf. Or do you need an enemy to take down?"

Reolf glanced at Clovis while running as if trying to say this was going to be dangerous.

Seeing the worry on his face, Clovis held him tightly. "Is this good enough?"

"Waaf!" Reolf smiled as his speed began to increase. No, his speed actually doubled the original speed.

Reolf was supposed to be slower than Clovis, but with the current speed, he is almost 1.5 times faster than him.

"This is..." Reolf gasped. It was as if he was riding in the wind.

"So fast, Reolf. This is good!" Clovis smirked. With this, they might be able to do much better than they originally expected. "Catch up to them."

"Waaf!" Reolf obeyed.

Even though Clovis wanted to obliterate the enemies, there was still one big question remaining on his mind. Why would the beasts actually go straight to the base? Why did it have to be the base? They could attack other infrastructures or other places.

It was true that their number was simply too enormous that they could destroy everything in all directions, but why would they go to the old military base and how did they actually find it?

Clovis still couldn't find the answer to this question. If he knew about the reason, he would probably tell the people to go elsewhere instead of the military base.

While they were crossing the field, they could hear military jets passing in the sky. The sound wave startled them, but they were not flying low enough for them to find a man riding a wolf.

That was why both of them continued without any problems. Finally, two kilometers away from the base, Clovis finally found them.

"Let's go, Reolf!" Clovis didn't hesitate even though there were thousands of beasts, including two Tier 5 beasts.

"Aooo!" Reolf let out a howl as if trying to make his presence known. That was the best method to grab their attention after all.

And he did.

A lot of beasts turned their heads around, trying to find the origin of that howl. The next thing they realized, Reolf was about to reach them.

"!!!" The beasts widened their eyes, but they couldn't react to such an attack.

Reolf pounced on a beast, using all that momentum to launch it toward other beasts.

The crash caused significant traffic in their rank, so the Tier 5 beasts hurriedly ordered the rest of the beasts to do something against Clovis and Reolf.

The beasts were coming from both sides, but that was for Clovis to take care of.

Clovis remembered the painting that piqued his interest.

He could still vividly recall the moment he entered the painting, he was standing in the middle of a field.

At that time, lightning flashed right before his eyes before the thunder shook the earth.

It was confusing at first, but he could somehow understand it.

Why would the flash of the lightning appear first before the thunder shook? It was a simple answer with science. The light simply traveled faster than the sound.

But for a fighter like him? The answer he found was lying inside of him.

He had been utilizing his ranged attack in a way that the ranged attack would travel right after he swung his sword.

It wasn't wrong, but his understanding was incomplete, which caused his ranged attack to be severely weakened.

The ranged attack should be like the lightning and the thunder. This was probably what Mara Leverstrike did.

She swung the glaive so fast that the cut was completed first before the ranged attack was launched.

This time, Clovis imagined himself like lightning. When the beasts approached him from the right, Clovis gathered his momentum on his right sword and swung his sword.

The swing was so fast that it cut through the air, creating a path for the air behind his sword to flow.

And the target was obvious.

Several Tier 1 beasts widened their eyes in shock. Their instincts were telling them to dodge, but it was too late.

The top parts of their bodies were sent flying. The force didn't stop at them. It traveled for more than five meters and hit the beasts behind them.

Clovis' ranged attack had just improved from only one meter to five meters. And that happened just by staring into a painting for a short period of time. What if he studied more about arts and looked at them for a long time?

He couldn't imagine the result.

But that was what made it even more interesting.

Reolf used his change of pace to leap from one beast to another while Clovis took down a lot of beasts in rapid succession.

Their impact was so big that one of the two Tier 5 beasts had to chase after them. That was when Clovis said, "Alright. We have done enough. Time to go."

Chapter 527 An Attack

Melody frowned. "Another wave is coming."

Kanaria and Jay were still trying to evolve to Tier 3 by filling up the rest of essence they needed.

However, they would still need some time to finish.

"It seems that we have to stop them with only four of us." Erwin stepped outside the base.

"I will also help since I'm done with the basic treatment." Luci nodded in agreement.

"In that case, Luci and Ragna can fight them head-on. I will support you from a distance. Erwin can set up a few traps. Even though the base has been abandoned, I think it won't be hard for them to find out the civilians' location. That's why the trap should be effective and straightforward."

"Got it." Erwin nodded and immediately returned inside.

"At least, it seems to be only two hundred or three hundred beasts with one Tier 5 in charge. If it's more than this, I'm afraid we won't be able to stop them."

"Clovis has probably gotten most of them. There's no way he will leave them alone."

"True."

Luci and Ragna nodded their heads as they went to their positions.

Luci couldn't help but ask, "Can we handle it like him? Like luring them away. The beasts usually will focus on us instead of others, right?"

"There is no telling. I can't help but be curious why the beasts are going to this base. Even if there is no reason, shouldn't there be a lot more beasts going around this base? It is as if there is something else in this base," replied Melody with a serious expression.

Luci thought for a moment. "In that case, I will try to lure them away. If they don't follow me, it's probably because of that something."

"Well, Clovis has done the same trick, so they might not fall for it again, especially with the Tier 5 beast at the helm."

"But it's worth the shot."

"You can do it, but not too far." Melody finally gave her permission.

"Alright." Luci immediately went straight toward the enemy's line.

The beasts obviously recognized her.

Luci picked up her knives and pounced on the first beast. Other beasts were doing the same, but Luci simply sliced their eyes with precision, blinding them.

As a result, they lost their balance and fell to the ground, causing other beasts to trip over them.

Meanwhile, the rest of the beasts that pounced on her surprisingly missed her. In fact, Luci actually moved before they even jumped as if she knew when and where they would jump.

Luci hadn't received a single item, so her speed and strength were still similar to a Tier 4.

As a result, she wasn't fast enough to avoid the beasts and had to block several beasts that rammed their bodies at her.

However, it didn't matter. She managed to escape before the beasts surrounded her and started running away.

"!!!" The beasts immediately chased after her, but all of a sudden, they could hear a loud roar coming from a distance.

The beasts raised their heads before turning back to the original path, not pursuing Luci.

"!!!" It was Luci's turn to be surprised. She had expected this, but not this fast. She thought she could lure them a little bit more, which would definitely bring a big change to the situation.

But the Tier 5 beast actually kept the line tight. Was it truly because of Clovis? Or was it because of something else?

Nevertheless, Melody shouted, "Luci! Get back here."

She knew Ragna wouldn't be able to handle all of them, so she ran on their side. Unfortunately, the beasts were faster than her, which caused them to pounce on Ragna before she arrived.

Bang!

Ragna blocked several beasts in rapid succession with his shield, but he was gradually being pushed back. Some beasts were also looping around him.

Melody hurriedly jumped off the wall and flew a few meters above them. She shot as many beasts as she could, while the beasts couldn't jump that high to reach her.

Still, twenty beasts had slipped past both of them before Luci reached the gate. She immediately cut the beasts' eyes and ears the moment she arrived if their hearts were too deep.

The beasts split into several groups as if they were searching for something. When he saw the situation, Erwin sprung into action.

He immediately killed several beasts going in his direction and ignored the rest of the beasts since they were going around the base. He only had to protect a single building after all.

On the other hand, the front gate was facing some problems. Due to the influx of the beasts, Ragna and the others were being pushed back. Normally, the beasts would be going around them and entering the base through other gates, but this time, the beasts just kept pushing forward.

Unfortunately, they couldn't close the gate, which should have been enough to stop a lot of beasts from climbing.

They thought it was because the gate was open that the beasts continued forward.

"Kh!" Luci started getting overwhelmed. Even though she was a Tier 4 human, she didn't have the items, a technique, or the Star Method. In addition, she was a doctor.

She could cut them and know their weakness, but that wasn't enough.

Ragna had been the one taking on most of the beasts, while Melody rained them down with bullets.

However, it all changed the moment the Tier 5 beast took action.

While Melody was shooting the beasts, a Tier 5 proconsul leaped into the air.

"!!!" Melody raised her head, surprised that the Tier 5 beast could jump this high.

She hurriedly flew away, but its giant finger still hit her legs.

"Kh." Melody lost her balance. Even its fingertip contained so much momentum that it pushed her several meters away.

In addition, the Tier 5 proconsul ended up landing next to Ragna.

Ragna wanted to retreat, but Luci would be in trouble if he did it.

"Tsk." Ragna activated his beast soul as the proconsul hit him with the back of his hand, launching him away.

Ragna's body was launched and bounced a few times on the ground, leaving Luci alone.

"Luci! Get away!" Melody shouted. Because the Tier 5 proconsul blasted them away, there was only Luci left on the front.

Luci raised her head and saw the Tier 5 proconsul staring down at her. It was at this moment they realized the target was her all along.

Chapter 528 Rejoining the Fight

"Luci! Get away!" Melody shouted.

Lucy looked at the beasts before her. Because Ragna was blown away, the beasts could start flocking the gate, which meant blocking her path to retreat.

This way, the beasts could definitely take Luci down, especially the Tier 5 proconsul.

With a roar coming from the proconsul, the beasts immediately changed their direction.

"!!!" Luci hurriedly turned around and ran as fast as she could, but as one would expect, the beasts caught up.

Roar!

The beasts pounced on her.

Luci turned around and struck their eyes, but there were simply too many of them. If she remained in her position for too long, she would be in danger.

"Tsk." Luci clicked her teeth and started running again. However, the beasts kept attacking her. They gradually slowed her down and surrounded her.

Melody flew toward Luci at her fastest speed, planning to rescue her from above.

However, the Tier 5 proconsul swung his arm, trying to hit Melody. Fortunately, Melody was able to react, but the arm stopped her for a moment.

Ragna also wanted to do it, but he was overwhelmed by the sheer number of beasts. In other words, there was no way to save Luci.

Luci had never given up on herself. Despite being surrounded by the beasts, she was still fighting and searching for any escape route.

Melody was the only one that could get her, but the proconsul kept stopping her, making her unable to save Luci. The latter could probably last for another two or three minutes, but no longer after that.

She wasn't Clovis or Jay after all.

Whether it was fortunate or unfortunate, a string suddenly wrapped her waist and pulled her into the sky.

"What?" Luci was startled and turned her head around, finding Erwin.

"I know this is going to happen." Erwin sighed. He hurriedly pulled Luci back down.

"Erwin!" Melody gasped.

"We don't have a lot of time. Hurry up and go to your position!" Erwin shouted. Because he had to save Luci, he abandoned his post.

It was obvious that the beasts took advantage of this moment to come toward the building they protected.

Erwin used the string to launch him back to the building, finding several beasts had entered.

He hurriedly struck the remaining beasts outside and killed them.

Meanwhile, Melody, Luci, and Ragna went back to their posts.

The Tier 5 proconsul was surprised that its plan didn't work.

Nevertheless, he just had to overwhelm these people with the sheer number alone. Unlike Clovis and Reolf, who had unlimited space to maneuver, they didn't.

That was why the Tier 5 proconsul changed their strategy back to the original.

...

Still, due to Erwin's absence, the beasts had finally entered the building.

Roar!

Roar!

The beasts' roars echoed into the deepest part of the building, where close to a hundred people were located.

"Hiii..."

"Are we going to die?"

"No. I don't want to die."

"Shut up. Don't let the beasts know your location."

The people were looking at the door with a serious expression.

In this room, there were explorers that helped the common people right after the earthquake.

Luci had treated their wounds, but they didn't know whether they were able to fight against these beasts or not, especially with all these people behind them.

Still, the most important people would be Jay and Kanaria.

Both of them were sitting in the corner of the room, fully immersed in their evolution. They had absorbed enough essence to reach Tier 3, so they were waiting for their body to completely adjust itself to that power.

In the past few Tiers, it didn't take too long. However, they also didn't have a lot of time this time.

When they heard the beasts' voices coming closer and closer, the explorers hurriedly raised their weapons, pointing them at the door.

All of them were nervous, wondering what kind of beast was coming for them.

The beasts knocked on their door with so much force that it destroyed the wooden door in one go.

"Two beasts." The captain of the explorers shouted while pointing at the beasts. "They are... Tier 3 and Tier 4 beasts?"

The explorers couldn't believe it. Their captain was a Tier 4 human, so he immediately shouted, "I'll stop the Tier 4 beast. You guys stop the Tier 3 beast."

Without hesitation, the captain charged straight toward the Tier 4 beast. He struck the Tier 4 beast, but the latter simply blocked it with its arm. The skin was so tough that his weapon couldn't penetrate.

He almost forgot that there was no underground tunnel in this place. It was clear that the beast's strength would be much higher.

"!!!" The captain widened his eyes because the beast gradually overpowered him.

"Kh. I can't hold on." The guy gritted his teeth.

"That is enough. Thank you for buying me enough time." Jay's voice suddenly echoed in his ears as his shadow appeared in the corner of his vision.

Jay swung his blade toward the Tier 4 beast. The latter waved its paw—the same paw that the Tier 4 captain couldn't even scratch—toward Jay's blade.

When both of them clashed, the captain thought that Jay would end up getting blown away.

However, Jay's eyes turned bloodshot as his arms expanded.

"Get lost!" Jay shouted as he poured every ounce of his strength into this swing.

"!!!" The beast suddenly noticed something. He realized the sword actually pierced through the toughness of his skin. And it didn't stop there.

Jay actually cut his arm and hit his neck. In fact, the sword gained a lot of momentum right after it cut through the arm, resulting in the blade slicing the neck in an instant.

Everyone couldn't help but drop their jaws. The strong beast they thought would come for their lives was actually defeated in a single slash. 'What kind of strength does this person have?' was the question that appeared in everyone's mind.

The captain simply couldn't believe it. What thank you? He couldn't even stop a single attack from the Tier 4 beast.

Jay ignored their reactions as he found another beast still running rampant on the other side of the room.

With another slash, he killed the last threat in the room, as he couldn't help but find Erwin was just about to enter the room.

"Hmph. It seems I have to do everything myself." Jay snorted.

Chapter 529 Toward the Tier 5 Beast

"Hmph. It seems I have to do everything myself." Jay snorted.

Erwin clicked his tongue. It was definitely something out of his control, but he didn't say anything. There were simply too many beasts coming that his traps couldn't stop all of them.

In the end, both of them moved outside. Erwin had to maintain his position while Jay asked, "Melody. Give me the report of the situation."

"You're done with your evolution?"

"Yep. I need to know what's going on and my position."

Melody immediately replied, "Go to the front gate. Ragna and Luci are barely holding on."

"Alright. I will stop those beasts."

"No. We have to kill the Tier 5 beast. If we have Kanaria, it will be perfect. Is Kanaria with you?"

"She will need more time."

"Alright. Come to the front gate first." Melody looked more and more concerned as the Tier 5 proconsul seemed to be grabbing a smaller beast and throwing it toward her.

She managed to avoid it, but if just one hit, it would be disastrous. What if the proconsul threw those beasts to Luci and Ragna?

As she thought about it, the proconsul immediately changed its target. In fact, it looked like the proconsul had been throwing it so that Melody moved further away, unable to help her teammates.

"!!!" Melody gasped and shouted, "Ragna, Luci. Watch out!"

Ragna and Luci found the warning on their Skyglasses, which directed them to the proconsul.

Seeing the proconsul throwing a fairly large beast with both hands, they had no choice but to jump away, barely avoiding it.

However, the body simply got crushed by the sheer force. Its flesh splattered in all directions, and the momentum carried the rest of the body away.

But because Ragna and Luci avoided it, they ended up creating a big opening for the beasts.

"Not good!" Ragna hurriedly moved forward, trying to patch the hole.

Luci followed suit, but it was too late.

A lot more beasts swarmed into the base. If this continued, more than a hundred beasts would simply enter without any resistance.

Ragna was trying to stop them, only to get overwhelmed by their number. Some beasts even turned around to surround him. Melody kept shooting down, but the proconsul started attacking her again so as to stop her from doing anything.

"Tsk." Melody was visibly frustrated, but that was when she saw Jay coming.

Jay ran as fast as possible and leaped into the air. He landed on top of a beast and beheaded it in an instant.

Noticing his presence, two beasts leaped toward him, but Jay simply cut them down. The beasts tried to stop him, but Jay simply overpowered them. He cut through their paws and sliced their necks in a single swing.

After that, he leaped from one beast to another, striking them down while making his way out of the base.

The proconsul looked shocked. The original plan was to overwhelm the enemies with their number, especially because of what happened earlier. It didn't want another Clovis to appear on the battlefield.

However, Jay continued onward. If he was indifferent to his comrades, he wouldn't have killed several beasts as he passed.

Hence, the proconsul grabbed one of the beasts next to him and threw it toward them. This way, it could force Jay to retreat.

And he did. Jay leaped to the side to intercept the beast. However, there was no need to retreat.

Jay came from the side and used his beast soul. His right arm expanded as he punched the body, blowing it to the side.

"!!!" The proconsul looked shocked and wanted to grab another beast. However, Melody immediately rained the beast down with bullets, giving Jay the precious few seconds.

The proconsul blocked the bullets with its tough skin, but the moment Melody stopped, the proconsul found Jay passing most of the beasts.

There were only several beasts that separated him and Jay.

Those beasts intercepted Jay, but the latter simply struck them and sent them flying with his overwhelming strength.

Even Melody, who had been watching Jay the whole time, couldn't help but gasp. She thought, 'Jay's strength... is not normal anymore. It seems that the qualitative leap of Tier 3 has boosted his strength over two folds.

'Now that I think about it, I'm the same, especially for my trait. Then again, the Sensory Imaginary is a special trait that everyone with Brain Affinity will get. And that requirement is Tier 3.

'The Star Method has allowed us to learn it much earlier, so now that Jay has fully unlocked the potential of the Muscle Augmentation, it's clear that his strength is not normal anymore.'

Melody realized that Kanaria would probably receive the same thing once she was done with the evolution. The biggest difference would be Clovis.

In fact, he had been the one handling beasts with a much larger number. Even though the way they fought was different, it was clear that Clovis was a monster in his own league.

That was why, after confirming this one fact, Melody had to change her plan.

In the past, Jay might not have been able to go against a Tier 5 beast by himself. But the situation might be different, especially with the new beast soul.

"Jay. If I tell you to kill that proconsul, what will you do?" Melody asked with a serious expression.

"A dumb question." Jay smirked. "Of course. It will be dead soon."

Melody smiled. "In that case, kill that proconsul. I'll stall the rest of the beasts. Just make sure you kill it as quickly as possible. Leave the rest of the beasts to us."

"You got it!" Jay nodded and charged ahead.

The proconsul smashed Jay with his huge fist, but Jay didn't bother to avoid it. In fact, he was challenging the proconsul with his strength.

He used both traditional and new beast souls together, utilized the Muscle Augmentation, and swung his blade like a ranged attack, striking the proconsul fist.

Bam!

The ground underneath Jay's feet cracked, but Jay was actually able to hold the Tier 5 beast's attack. It could be said that their strength is now equal.

"Come. I'll kill you!" Jay grinned excitedly.

Amidst the situation, Kanaria's voice echoed on their radio.

"Melody. Need my help?"

Chapter 530 Kill

"Melody. Do you need some help?" Kanaria's voice echoed on the radio.

"Kanaria? Are you done with your evolution?"

"Yep. I'm coming out right now. It seems the situation out there is quite chaotic." Kanaria smiled while checking the situation with her sharpened senses.

"Yeah. If that's the case, I will give you a new position and let you start hunting down those beasts."

"Alright." Melody nodded and started running the moment she saw the path.

As she expected, the situation was chaotic. There were about 170 beasts inside the camp. Erwin was stopping them from reaching the building, but he alone couldn't stop them from all sides.

Ragna and Luci took care of the front, preventing the rest of the beasts from messing around, but they had to kill the beasts if they truly wanted to stop them.

They indeed lacked someone who could kill the beasts in rapid succession. And that role was for her.

Without hesitation, Kanaria rushed to a building that Melody pointed out. It was a two-story building, so she simply climbed it from the outside.

Now that her physical strength had increased, she had no problem jumping high even with such a heavy sniper rifle on her back.

As soon as she reached the rooftop, she scanned the entire battlefield, wondering who would be her next target.

"That should be my target," Kanaria muttered while aiming at the beast coming from the left.

The beast was trapped by the threads, unable to move. Hence, it was an easy kill for Kanaria.

With one dead, the second would follow. She shot another beast, killing it. The third, the fourth, the fifth... Her killing spree continued on.

This was the first time she fought as a Tier 3 human, but Kanaria was impressed. The senses were heightened to such a degree that she could clearly see everything around her in such detail.

In addition, Kanaria could somehow instinctively calculate the enemies' movements.

There was a beast that moved so fast even though it was leaping left and right as if it were drunk.

Kanaria subconsciously calculated their movement. When she fired at them, the beast didn't even realize they were hit.

The beasts got taken down one by one. There were two quite strong beasts to the point where they were able to sense Kanaria's location and danger, but even they were unable to do anything against her. It only took her one or two more bullets to kill them.

In such a battle with the beasts spreading in all directions, it was Kanaria who was able to kill more than anyone else. Even Clovis would have a problem keeping up with her.

Her power was so significant that tens of beasts died within ten minutes.

Obviously, the first thing they needed to do after clearing up the area was to save Jay. Melody immediately carried Kanaria to the wall so that she could assist everyone.

Meanwhile, she and Erwin regrouped with Luci and Ragna to kill the rest of the beasts.

Outside the base, a fierce fight between the Tier 5 beast and Jay was still ongoing. Tens of clashes occurred in the last few minutes as they unleashed every bit of their strength, trying to overpower the other party.

However, not a single of them could gain the advantage.

Jay might have gotten stronger, but he was still limited to his strength being only a Tier 3 human while the one in front of him was a Tier 5 beast. In addition, this Tier 5 beast wasn't suppressed by any tunnel nearby.

As a result, the strength of this proconsul was equal to the assassin they fought in the past, but this time, Jay had to fight it alone.

Jay used his beast soul continuously, trying to gain the upper hand. However, the Tier 5 proconsul seemed to have its own beast soul as it kept giving a different amount of power every time it punched him.

Obviously, Jay wanted to kill this beast as quickly as possible, but there were two problems. First of all, he didn't have a lot of time. The second problem was Clovis.

They still didn't know Clovis' fate, considering he was leaving to bring a lot of beasts away.

That was why Jay continued this fight for a bit longer. Even though his desire was to defeat the Tier 5 beast by himself, he knew it would be better to solve this problem as a team.

The Tier 5 proconsul hit Jay several times while Jay slashed his body the same amount of time. Both of them looked pretty exhausted, even though they had only fought for several minutes.

In the end, both of them used their beast souls again and again instead of utilizing it as a killer blow.

However, the situation soon changed when the Tier 5 beast sensed Kanaria. Unfortunately, it was too late. Kanaria had fired her sniper rifle.

The beast was able to calculate its trajectory and put his arm in front, but the bullet simply pierced through the arm with such force that it created a hole in its arm.

"!!!" The Tier 5 beast widened its eyes as Jay closed in and struck the proconsul in the chest.

Little did they know, while they were struggling against these beasts, Clovis was already standing on top of a mountain of corpses, looking at over one and a half thousand corpses before him.

He was pretty tired, and his body was covered in wounds. However, the Tier 5 beast had died. The beasts that followed him had died. Even the beasts from the first wave were nothing more than corpses.

Although he hadn't killed all of them, most of them were heavily injured, and Reolf was the one going around, making sure that every single one of them died.

When he was at the top of the mountain of corpses, his expression was much colder than anything that he had shown to his friends. It was as if something had broken inside of him.

However, his expression soon changed into normal when he heard a friendly bark coming from his side.

"Waaf!"

Reolf was there waiting for him, melting his expression. Clovis simply smiled. "Right?"