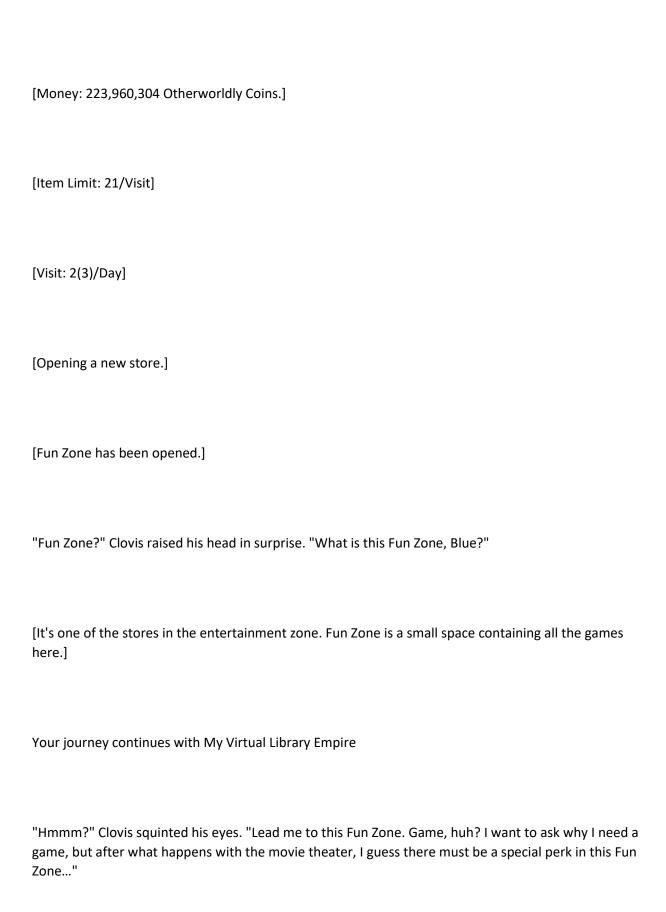
World Mall 621

Chapter 621 Fun Zone
[Processing.]
[Upgrading user's membership to 26.]
[-150,000,000 Otherworldly Coins]
[Upgrading user's membership to 27.]
[-250,000,000 Otherworldly Coins]
[Upgrading user's membership to 28.]
[-500,000,000 Otherworldly Coins]
[Name: Clovis Hacfield.]
[Membership: Level 22 (Special Member)]



The Fun Zone was located not far from the movie theater.
And as Blue said, it was a space filled with games.
"Isn't this like Arcade Game Center?" Clovis raised his eyebrows.
[Yes.]
"What can you do in here?" Clovis asked while entering this Fun Zone. The first one he came into was a small game with a drum on it. "Huh? Drum?"
Blue immediately showed the information about the game.
[Drum Breathing Game.]
[Description: A drum that will improve your breathing technique.]
[3,000,000 Otherworldly Coins for 10 Games.]

"What the hell?" Clovis widened his eyes in shock. "What do you mean by improving my breathing technique?"
[This game will scan your body, especially your lungs. By using that data, the game will translate and create a melody that can improve your breathing technique. It can be said to be training your breathing technique, but it is also able to improve it if there is any flaw in the technique.]
"Are you serious?" Clovis gasped. "Breathing technique is indeed following a certain rhythm, but I have never thought it could be improved so easily.
"Then again, if it can really do that, 3 million coins for ten tries is cheap."
Clovis took another look at the game. This time, it was a crane game with several dolls inside.
"Huh?" Clovis widened his eyes in shock when he saw the descriptions of the doll inside.
[Comfort Rabbit.]
[Description: Increase the user's stamina recovery as long as it's put within a two-meter radius.]
"Blue I feel like I've seen something absurd just now" Clovis pointed at the rabbit doll.

[Please don't be surprised yet, Master. As you increase your strength, the item will be upgraded. In fact, please take a look at it.]
Blue was showing another crane game, but this time, the doll had a different effect, which was even more shocking.
[Shark Doll.]
[Description: Allow breathing under water for every person within a 1-meter radius.]
"Breathing underwater? Seriously?" Clovis blinked his eyes a few times. "If the rabbit doll earlier is perfect to be put in the bedroom or our bus, this shark doll is useful around the sea."
[And there is one more doll you might want to keep an eye on. Then again, this is for a final prize.]
Blue pointed at the game in the center of the Fun Zone.
It was a crane game, but the condition to get this final prize was to get all the dolls within that game. And there were at least a hundred dolls inside. He didn't even know how to play, so he might not be able to get it anytime soon.

However, that doll was much more terrifying than he could imagine.
[Life Heart Doll.]
[Description: Replacing the designated target's life if it's expired. (Unusable for sickness or natural death.)]
Clovis blinked his eyes a few times before rubbing his eyes. "An extra life?"
[Yes.]
"" Clovis' back was drenched in sweat. "Do you know what an extra life means?"
[Of course.]
"And this designated target Doesn't this mean someone else can be chosen as a target?"
[Definitely.]

"How about changing the designated person? If someone gets shot, we change it to that person. Is it possible? After all, the person won't die immediately after getting shot unless the entire body is obliterated because of it. In fact, can I tank a single nuke without any problem? Is there anything that can make me immune to radiation or something?"
[Yes, yes, yes, probably.]
"Probably? So it might have one in the future. Then again, a doll like this is the final prize, so I guess it's understandable."
Nathan's expression turned grim. It was a doll he wanted. In fact, trying to get that doll might not be a bad idea, considering he would get a hundred dolls with their respective abilities. Although it looked like there were only three types of dolls, he could just sell them or give them to others.
Clovis asked, "By the way, Blue. Is there a game that can develop my ability to the point where I can fight against someone who can see a few seconds into the future?"
[Processing the request.]
[Searching for a suitable game.]
[Possible Option (1): Dance Game.]



[Description: A zombie survival game that can increase the user's stamina and mental state.]
[Target Lock-On.]
[Description: A dodging game that will improve the user's reflexes.]
"!!!" Clovis covered his mouth. "Footwork, stamina, and reflex. If he can see the future, I'll fight him by reacting to his clairvoyance It would be hard to fight that person, but if I add my unique ability into the mix, I will have the chance to defeat that person. Still, it means I will expose my unique ability to a Tier 9 human."
Chapter 622: Challenge
"Is there no one who can challenge me in this academy?" A guy asked out loud while spreading his arm. Underneath him was the student council president, who had been defeated just a moment ago.
The people couldn't help but grit their teeth. They wanted to shut his mouth, but even the student council couldn't do anything to this guy and his team.
"This is frustrating. How can this be"
"We can't allow such a thing to continue."

The people wanted to volunteer themselves out of frustration, albeit the principal stepped up onto the stage.
"As expected of someone from a Tier 9 family, the one who is rumored to be the successor of the Great Melesviet."
"Kh." When they heard their principal praising their enemies, they felt ashamed. It was as if they acknowledged their inferiority.
"It seems there is no one who can actually challenge me in this academy. I guess I have put too much expectation on this academy." Tesron Khalika Melesviet snorted, giving the principal the condescending gaze.
"Principal. Don't do this."
"We can still fight!"
Even though he heard their pleas, the principal simply sighed and said, "There is someone who can challenge you."
"Hoh? Then, bring them out."
"They won't easily come out. After all, they're our ace." The principal smirked.

"Are you trying to hide them? I guess they're a coward." Tesron harrumphed.
"Of course not. If we are going to show them, of course, it's better to do it with a bang. How about it? We will hold a grand battle between your team and our ace team."
"" Tesron squinted his eyes. What the principal meant by a grand battle was a huge arena that would be broadcast to the entire country.
If he lost, this would become a huge blow to the entire Melesviet family. His grandfather, who was following him to this country, would be furious.
At the same time, if he didn't accept this condition, it was clear that the principal would use that as an excuse to brand him a coward.
This way, the first academy would be able to save some reputation.
He realized that the principal was actually using the students to lose to her to create this situation.
The principal wanted to gamble everything in a single battle. He was ready to become a laughingstock the moment he lost.

If they won, the first academy's reputation would soar with no one possibly challenging them anymore.
Tesron squinted his eyes before raising his head to the left, looking at his grandfather, who had been watching the entire thing from the stand.
His expression was cold. He must have realized everything was a plot, but at the same time, they really couldn't do anything. Even if they eliminated all of them, they would still be branded as cowards.
They had definitely fallen for the principal's scheme.
Still, there was no way they would lose. Considering it would be a 6 versus 6 battle, there was still an option to draw in the worst-case scenario.
Besides, he had no doubt that his grandson would win.
Hence, he nodded his head.
Tesron finally replied, "Fine by me."
"In that case, please give us 7 days to prepare the stage for you." The principal smirked.



"I died again" The wound on his body immediately disappeared as the guns around the area disappeared.
This was one of the three games Clovis chose to play: Target Lock-On. The game kept shooting Clovis from all directions randomly to increase the speed of his reflexes.
He had been training with the other two games as well. In Zombie for Dead, he had to fight against numerous zombies that came from all kinds of places. It was so absurd that the zombies could grab him from underneath the ground or even fall from the sky.
He had to keep cutting them down without a single rest, pushing his body to the limit many times and eventually increasing his stamina.
Last but not least, Dance Game. This game was similar to Dance Dance Revolution in a normal arcade game.
However, the song was tailored perfectly to match Clovis' footwork. In fact, it was improving his footwork even further.
Once perfected, the footwork complemented his reflex. The new, perfected footwork gave the foundation for his reflex.
However, the enemy could see the future. He had a much easier time compared to him, who had to react to every single attack.

That was why Clovis had to train his stamina to the limit. That was the only way for him to last much longer.
The problem was that he had to defeat his enemy in thirty minutes before the Perfect State took over his mind.
On top of these three games, Clovis had to eat everything he could to reach Tier 4. This was the basic requirement if he wanted to fight Tesron.
Fortunately, his Another World Mall gave all the necessary food items to increase his evolution traits to 100%.
And that was the time for him to evolve to Tier 4 human.
Of course, there was one more thing Clovis had prepared for the battle. Although it was not necessarily helping him individually, it would allow the team to defeat the enemies.
Chapter 623: Clash
"Thank you very much, sir."
"Mr. Tesron. They have arrived."

Several people came to Tesron, who came with his grandfather.
"So, this ace team has arrived? I have been wondering what kind of man manages to invite Christina Elseingarde." Tesron's grandfather, one of the Tier 9 humans in the world, Carrick Khalika Melesviet, smirked. "I have been thinking about making her my granddaughter-in-law, so it seems I have to crush them first. You understand that, right, Tesron?"
Tesron nodded carefully. They had prepared a few things. And it was obvious that his grandfather wanted him to eliminate Clovis. With the obstacle going away, there was nothing that could stop them anymore.
The people from other academies nodded their heads in agreement.
Bang!
The door was slammed open confidently by several Tier 8 humans.
"Huh?"
The people were confused, looking at the people entering the hall.
"Is that Alan? Why would the guardian of the north come here?"

"No. The one next to him is that old lady Via."
"Heh?" Carrick stepped forth while smirking. "You guys are bold. Isn't it just a meeting with this so-called ace team? Are you perhaps trying to challenge me?"
"My, my. We don't have that intention, Mr. Carrick. It's just I hope you don't make such a casual remark. People might misunderstand you." An aged voice echoed from behind the two of them.
"!!!" The people from other academies couldn't help but gasp.
"G-Grandmaster?!"
Even Carrick couldn't help but furrow his eyebrows. "Hoh? Even you come here?"
The grandmaster in their mouth was none other than the country's first explorer—the man who was said to be the leader of the resistance as well as the reason that the country could still stand to this day.
He single-handedly led the restoration of the country and made it powerful, Grandmaster Radric.
Radric smiled and nodded politely. "I hope you don't bully the young too much."

"Heh. I have never thought you would actually side with them, Radric." Carrick opened his hand as if he was going to fight depending on his answer.
Radric simply smiled. "It's nothing. I'm just repaying the favor by bringing the kids here."
"Grandmaster."
"How can you do this?"
"You were supposed to be neutral."
Hearing the complaints, Radric couldn't help but raise his voice. "Shut up. You guys are the ones disappointing me. I have remained neutral this whole time because I want the competition to be healthy and help to raise the future generations. But look at you; you are even inviting a foreign party."
Their faces turned pale.
"Sharp words" Carrick pointed at Radric. "Are you ignoring my presence here? Do you think these twerps are capable of inviting me? I come here because I want to. If you're going to annoy me, then"

"Is that a threat?" Radric squinted his eyes. "If that's the threat, I hope you can retract it or you might regret it."
"Regret? Me?" Carrick grinned.
"That's right. You might regret it, Carrick." Another voice echoed from behind as another old man entered the room.
"That's"
"He really comes"
"Isn't he supposed to be injured?"
The people became afraid. Unlike them, who had to use all their resources to invite Carrick here, this person was close to a certain person, so they didn't need anything to invite him.
Carrick's expression turned solemn. "Ezekiel."
That was right. The person that they personally invited this time was none other than Christina's grandfather, Ezekiel.

"What are you doing here?"
"I'm just like you. I come here because I want to. Though, I'm not narcissistic like you, who always declares your arrival boldly. Are you thirsty for attention?" Ezekiel chuckled.
"It seems the Old Bow has made a mistake. He should have shot you in the mouth."
"Really? I don't think he's capable of doing that." Ezekiel snorted.
"Well" Carrick stepped to the side. "Get up and greet your grandfather-in-law."
"Grandfather-in-law? Bold of you to assume that I find your idiot son suitable to become my grandson-in-law" Killing intent leaked out of Ezekiel's eyes, pressuring Carrick.
"In this world, the only person who is qualified to marry your granddaughter is my grandson, and vice versa. You shouldn't deny that." Carrick smirked.
"Heh? Do you think the world is centered around you? You should keep sleep talking when you're asleep." Ezekiel harrumphed.
"Your words are not light, you know?" Carrick's expression turned serious.

"No need to beat around the bush. I already have found an ideal partner for my granddaughter and it's not like my granddaughter is opposed to it." Ezekiel pointed at Tesron. "This little mutt can go back home for all I care."
"You're talking about Clovis? There's nothing special about him. And this competition will prove it. I don't know how he is capable of getting the Skylarks, but in the end, he is a nobody."
Ezekiel shrugged. "You can think of it that way, and I don't really care. All I know is today. Your grandson will lose to him."
Carrick's face turned cold. Even Tesron couldn't stand down after that declaration.
Carrick walked toward Ezekiel, glaring at him. "Are you sure you want to do this, Ezekiel?"
"I should be the one asking you that question." Ezekiel still felt relaxed.
"What if I win today's battle? Are you going to make an official apology and engage your granddaughter with my grandson?" Carrick grinned.
"There's no way I'm going to agree to such a bet."



"I've told you. Since the beginning, this has been a battle between the academy and my grandson's group. Your granddaughter is not affiliated with the academy, so it's not possible for her to join. Now that I think about it, there are only six people who can join.
"Clovis, Jay Havenson, Kanaria Renvolt, Melody, Ragna Book, and Erwin Tyska. Those six people." Carricl grinned. He thought even if Clovis, Jay, and Erwin were troublesome from what he had heard from the report regarding the academy, Ragna was mainly a guardian, Melody was their operator, and Kanaria was their sniper.
In terms of close combat, he had no doubt that their people could win against these three. And the only thing he needed to do was place his grandson against one of the strongest three, which would guarantee their victory.
Of course, he had some confidence in his team, but he had to consider the worst-case scenario.
After all, his grandson's team consisted of six Tier 5 humans, including his grandson himself. Meanwhile, Erwin was also a Tier 5, while Clovis and Jay were able to defeat a Tier 5 human when they were only Tier 3. With the Libation Fiesta's reputation of being able to fight someone above their rank, he realized their trump card was to reach Tier 4 and use that strength to overwhelm them.
If Christina and Lucifania joined the battle, even he didn't know what would happen. That was why he had to resort to such a dirty trick.
It was in his legal right to ban them from joining the battle.

"Hahahaha. You've grown senile, Ezekiel." Carrick laughed. "Without your granddaughter or that doctor, your team has no chance of winning. I'll gratefully take 10% of your revenue. Oh. If you want to get a loan, my door is open."
Ezekiel gritted his teeth as if he was frustrated by the dirty trick. However, his lips were trembling. It looked like he wanted to have an outburst, which would make Carrick overjoyed. To his surprise, a laugh escaped his mouth. "Hahahaha."
"!!!" Carrick raised his eyebrows. "Why are you laughing? Your team has no guarantee of victory. Those six people can't defeat mine!"
Instead of Ezekiel, it was Clovis who answered that question as his group finally made their entrance.
"That's not right, Mr. Carrick. Christina and Lucifania might not be able to participate in this battle, but the same applies to Melody." Clovis paused for a moment. "We have one more member that you're unaware of."
"!!!" Carrick turned to the people who had just entered the room.
Clovis stood in the front with Jay and Erwin accompanied him on both his right and left sides. Behind them were Christina, Lucifania, Melody, Ragna, and surprisingly, there was one more person he wasn't aware of. It was none other than their new member, Aileen Risevan.

Carrick noticed Aileen because she didn't erase her presence. If she did it, Carrick would have noticed it and changed his battle plan after all.
'A Tier 5 human as well? Who is she? I have never heard of her. There's no report about her. However, that racial feature' Carrick squinted his eyes. "You're joking, right? That girl doesn't seem to be from this country."
The principal finally stepped forth while showing the proof. "Aileen Risevan. She became a member of the Libation Fiesta a month ago and became a student of my academy two weeks ago. This is one week before the issue of the challenge. Hence, she has the right to participate in this battle."
"!!!" Carrick widened his eyes. He had been tricked. Ezekiel must have known this fact the whole time. That was why he was laughing. He was sure that Aileen was enough to change the tide of the battle.
Even though Ezekiel had entered the country sneakily, it was something he had expected. However, Aileen's existence was something beyond his imagination.
The most important thing was the person who orchestrated the whole thing. Who? Carrick wondered is it was the principal, Radric, or even Ezekiel.
But this kind of reckless strategy there was no way an old man could come up with it. And that was when his eyes shifted to Clovis.

For an unknown reason, there was this weird, repulsive feeling coming from Clovis. It felt distant but at

the same time quite strong.

It was as if he had met him in the past.
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"You are Clovis?" Carrick narrowed his eyes.
"It's an honor to meet the esteemed Tier 9 explorer, Mr. Carrick Khalika Melesviet. My name is Clovis." Clovis politely introduced himself.
Carrick's expression became a bit twisted. "You have we met before?"
"!!!" Radric and the others were startled. Only Alan could see the possibility of them meeting in the past. In the end, Clovis' family was that Hacfield. It wouldn't be weird if his family met another Tier 9 family in
the past.
Only the people who knew Clovis' true identity would have realized it.
Clovis shook his head. "I'm sorry. My humble self wasn't qualified to meet you in the past."
Tesron couldn't help but glance at his grandfather, wondering what had happened. He wanted to
remind his grandfather not to get overly familiar with their enemies, but there was no way he could do such a thing.

Ezekiel came to his side and whispered something.
After nodding to him, Clovis stated, "The participants coming from the academy will be me, Jay Havenson, Erwin Tyska, Kanaria Renvolt, Ragna Book, and Aileen Risevan."
Ezekiel pointed at Carrick with a smug. "How's that? There's no chance for you to win, Carrick. I should be the one thanking you for giving me 10% of your family's revenue."
"" Carrick remained silent for a moment, as he still couldn't recall ever meeting Clovis. It might just be his feeling, so he finally dropped it. He shouted, "Don't think you have won, Ezekiel. Don't forget that four of them are only Tier 4. There's no way I will lose."
"In that case, we can only find it out in the arena."
Chapter 625: Coming
Carrick couldn't help but grit his teeth. He thought he could get an easy victory, but he had been tricked. There must be something going on for Ezekiel to propose such a bet.
"This is weird."
"They actually forced that helper to enter the academy?"

"Who is that helper?"
The people around him panicked, not understanding what was going on. Considering their current situation, Tesron was still most likely to win.
It was just Carrick who couldn't help but say, "Investigate that new member right away. Check if she or other members have any special ability or unique status.
"Y-Yes." The people nodded their heads.
Then, he turned to Tesron. "Remember. You have to win. I don't care if you can't get a complete victory, but you have to win, Tesron You alone can't afford to lose."
Tesron nodded with a solemn face. "Don't worry, Grandfather. My team and I will definitely win. Even though they can fight someone one rank higher, we are the elites of our generation as well. The only reason we're unable to defeat someone one rank higher is simply because the gap between Tier 5 and Tier 6 is much higher than Tier 4 and Tier 5. If we are still Tier 4, we have the ability to take down a Tier 5 human."
···
Meanwhile, Ezekiel simply patted Clovis' shoulders while asking, "Are you going to be alright? We have managed to bluff our way here, but I choose to bet on you, kid."

"I'm grateful for your trust and will not disappoint you. Although I have no assurance that I can win against him, I believe the team will not lose."
"Well" Ezekiel smiled helplessly. He couldn't help but recall what happened when she first met Ezekiel.
A few days ago.
"It's not as hot here." Ezekiel yawned while sneaking into Clovis' mansion. "The security doesn't seem to be high. I wonder if my granddaughter will be targeted here"
As he said those words, a familiar voice echoed in his ears. "Grandfather."
"!!!" Ezekiel turned around, finding Christina and Clovis coming out of the mansion as though they had sensed him.
"My dear little princess. How are you?! I've finally come to visit you after so long." Ezekiel waved his hand cheerfully before spreading his arms.

"Hehehehe." Christina hugged him while smiling from ear to ear. "Don't worry. I've been living pretty well here."
Clovis stood two meters from them, not wanting to disrupt their reunion.
However, Ezekiel glanced at him. "So, you're Michael's grandson, Clovis Hacfield?"
"It's an honor to meet you, Sir Ezekiel." Clovis nodded.
"I guess I have to thank you first for taking care of my granddaughter." Ezekiel smiled. "Though, I was supposed to sneak in here. Were the two of you about to greet a guest or something?"
"Well, that's true, but it's not like we don't know you're around." Clovis shook his head.
"Oh! You sensed me?" Ezekiel turned to Christina. "You've done well, eh?"
"My skill is nowhere near enough to do that, Grandpa." Christina shook her head while pointing at Clovis.
"So, you were the one who sensed me? Not bad."

"Not at all."
"Huh?" Ezekiel furrowed his eyebrows. "Are you two trying to play tricks on me?"
"No. I'm not the one who senses you, but there's also a reason for Christina to point at me." Clovis turned around and called a name out loud. "Reolf."
"!!!" Ezekiel widened his eyes in shock when he saw a big wolf opening the door with his paws before coming out like that of a human. "A beast? That's a dire wolf."
Obviously, Ezekiel raised his arm and clenched his right fist as though he was holding a shield, but he noticed there was no sense of hostility coming from Reolf, so he loosened his grip.
"W-What is going on? A beast? And a human?"
Christina chuckled and properly introduced Reolf. "This is Reolf, Grandpa. He is how do I say this our family? I can't say he's a pet. He's a fighter, so maybe a partner would be more appropriate?"
Ezekiel blinked his eyes in disbelief. Even though she introduced Reolf as a partner, the beast must have been tamed first. And the reason she pointed at Clovis must be because it was Clovis who did it.
In that instant, he realized Clovis had done something that wasn't possible before. And the beast was so smart that he could understand humans. Continue your adventure at My Virtual Library Empire

Reolf raised his right paw before letting out a small bark instead of a howl so as to not disturb their neighbors or reveal his existence.
"" Ezekiel's mind couldn't keep up. If Clovis could tame one, he might be able to tame more beasts. Even if he couldn't tame a lot of beasts, he might be able to cultivate a few to a very high level. Just having a group of Tier 8 beasts would be terrifying.
And unlike humans, animals tended to be more loyal. They didn't play tricks or consume with greed.
Just from Reolf's alone, he understood the worth of Clovis. But there was no way this was the only thing.
He sneaked into this mansion because he wanted to observe how they usually went about their daily lives to know what kind of group the Libation Fiesta was. But that didn't matter anymore.
Ezekiel nodded his head to Reolf, as if returning Reolf's greeting.
"Grandpa. You shouldn't do that. Reolf is also one of us." Christina pouted. "You've been complaining about my etiquette, but what about you now?"
"Hahahaha. Alright, alright." Ezekiel smiled wryly. If there was a video about him, people would definitely call him crazy. But he ended up introducing himself to a wolf and even did it politely. "Hello, Reolf. I'm Ezekiel, Christina's grandfather. Please take care of my daughter."

Reolf wanted to nod his head but suddenly turned to the right.
Ezekiel was startled, since he thought Reolf would accept the greeting. However, Christina couldn't help but ask, "What's wrong, Reolf?"
Reolf pointed at the gate.
"Oh. It seems our guest has arrived" Chapter 626: Bet
"Oh. It seems our guest has arrived"
"!!!" Ezekiel widened his eyes in shock. When Clovis mentioned it, he had just sensed this person.
As someone at his level, he should have sensed this presence at least a few seconds ago.
Yet he didn't.
When he turned around, he saw a woman. Her appearance could be considered extremely beautiful, but more importantly, her figure looked blurry as though his eyes were playing a trick on him.

"Oi, oi. How many women do you have?" Ezekiel asked.
"What are you talking about? She is the girlfriend of one of my members. Well, she has become a member of the Libation Fiesta as well." Clovis shrugged.
"Am I late here?" Aileen asked while walking inside the mansion. Looking at the old man she had never seen before, Aileen simply nodded her head, not knowing what to say.
However, her interest was glued to the Reolf. "Is this Reolf? The rumored dire wolf partner you have, Clovis?"
"Yeah. Reolf. This is Aileen. You should have seen her photo before." Clovis introduced Aileen casually before asking, "By the way, have you finished everything over there?"
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"Yep. My father has given me his permission as well. Besides, thanks to you wreaking havoc over there, my former master is hiding. For the time being, there should be no problem. However, I'm planning to become stronger quickly so that even if they are planning on revenge, I will have the strength to solve it."

"All right. That sounds good to me." Clovis pointed to the mansion. "You should go to Erwin first and have him explain everything about our operation here. Reolf, can you lead her to the mansion? I will stay here for the time being."
Reolf nodded and extended his paw to Aileen as if he was introducing himself.
"Ahahaha. You're really intelligent. To think that you really managed to find me." Aileen chuckled. After nodding to the elder one more time, Aileen walked together with Reolf.
"What the hell is she? Her presence her existence Is it a unique ability?" Ezekiel frowned. "Even I have a hard time sensing her. If she becomes even stronger than this, she might be able to completely fool the senses of a Tier 9 human like me."
Clovis nodded in agreement. "That's not a unique ability."
"That's right, Grandfather. I have told Father about it, but it doesn't seem you've heard about it. I had the pleasure of fighting alongside her for a while and confirmed that it's not a unique ability. It's completely a talent that might be able to rival a unique ability," explained Christina.
"Is that so?" Ezekiel frowned. "Still, you are going to fight against those six people, right? Have you chosen your members yet? I'm assuming it will be you, my granddaughter, your two vice captains, your doctor, and probably that person?"
Clovis shook his head. "No. Even if I want to fight that way, those academies are extremely clever. You should have heard about the challenge itself, right? What is it called?"

"!!!" Ezekiel widened his eyes in realization.
"There you have it. Lucifania and Christina can't participate in this battle. However, if we're going to do it, I'm planning to win." Clovis pointed at the mansion. "Hence, I bring out my trump card. This will be perfect as well to introduce my new member."
"But where does she come from? She doesn't seem to be coming from this country."
"She is from Axolonia. However, I have asked the dean to process the matter regarding the transfer student. In paper, she has transferred from the Eldeiswood Academy in Axolonia to the first academy. However, this matter hasn't become public yet." Clovis nodded.
"Is that so?" Ezekiel looked surprised. He never thought Clovis had thought that far ahead.
If the opponents didn't use the trick in order to stop Christina from joining the battle, he would, of course, choose Christina. However, even if the opponent stopped her, he had Aileen as his trump card.
Ezekiel crossed his arms. "Do you have confidence in winning?"
"I'm not sure. If it's going to be a draw I have a 90% chance of turning the battle into a draw, assuming I will lose.

"Meanwhile, I personally have 50-50 No, 40-60 chance of me beating him in his favor."
"!!!" Ezekiel looked surprised. Even though he asked whether Clovis had confidence to win or not before coming here, he didn't have high hopes. In the end, the gap between them was that big. After all, Clovis had been using his unique ability in order to bypass the gap between tiers.
However, with the opponent also having a unique ability, he didn't really have the chance to win. It was the same as him fighting his granddaughter.
It was just He didn't expect that Clovis had a 40% chance to win. He thought it would be 5% or 10% with his current strength.
"I know you have become Tier 4, but are you sure about this?" Ezekiel frowned.
Clovis smiled. "In that case, how about a bet, Sir Ezekiel?"
"A bet?"
"Yes. If I win I want you to help me just once no matter what I plan to do." Nathan raised one finger.

"Heh?" Ezekiel squinted his eyes, thinking, 'It's not really that bad of a bet. Besides, he is clever to realize his opponent's intention right away and solve it. Besides, his team is much more abnormal compared to that lecherous brat, Tesron. And this is the first time my granddaughter is willingly following and supporting someone. Last but not least, he is the Hacfield.'
Ezekiel grinned. "Fine by me. If you lose, you're going to call me grandfather from that point on."
"Grandfather?!" Christina dropped her jaw to the ground.
Ezekiel shrugged. "What? It's not like you hate him either, right? Much better than Tesron."
"That's" Christina scratched the back of her head.
"I will have to rephrase my words then." Clovis smiled. "My chance of winning has become 60%. It doesn't seem like I will lose this bet." Chapter 627: Grand Battle
"We're finally here! The battle between the first academy and the Melesviet family." A rather familiar woman stood up and energetically spoke in front of numerous people. "Hello, everyone. We are back with me again, your dear streamer, Utaha! I love music, games, and mystery.
"Today, we will be solving another mystery about one question. Will the first academy be able to fight against the Melesviet family?

"Allow me to explain to everyone about the story of this challenge. Mr. Tesron Khalika Melesviet, the man who is rumored to be the next Tier 9 human that will lead the Melesviet family, is having a friendly exchange with the first academy.
"After sending out five teams, including the student council president, the first academy has lost every single one of them.
"How do I say this? I believe I should say as one would expect from Mr. Tesron. As the future Tier 9 human, he is definitely one of the strongest Tier 5 humans in the world.
"He managed to lead his team to victory and even forced the principal to finally reveal the ace team of the academy.
"And to our surprise, I'm not unfamiliar with this team. I have covered them once in this video." Utaha pointed at the right side while continuing, "They are a team called Libation Fiesta, the original team that is said to be the source of the new beast soul.
"Led by Clovis, the team has done a lot of impossible things. And today, they're planning to take on the strongest Tier 5 team as the representatives of the first academy.
"Without further ado, allow me to introduce the hosts that will oversee the entire match here.
"Right next to me is the famous woman who is feared in the business world, Miss Hana Skylark. She is the biggest sponsor of the Libation Fiesta. Miss Hana. Would you like to say a word or two? I have heard that you have also become the biggest sponsor of this match. Are you confident that they'll win?"

Hana smiled and stood up. "I have absolute confidence in the Libation Fiesta. As for the match, the stronger one wins. That's all there is to it."
Of course, Hana had brought a lot of people, especially the media. She wanted to cover the match and spread it to the whole country, or even other countries. This way, they would see the strength of the new beast soul.
It wouldn't be that hard to give Clovis the money he wanted in the future.
"Such confidence!" Utaha gasped. "Is this confidence coming from their ability, or is it because Clovis is your betrothed? I have heard some rumors about you being Mr. Clovis' fiancee."
"I wonder who spread the rumor." Hana chuckled. "Well, I have yet to see someone of the same age as him, as interesting as he is. That's all I can say."
"Is that so?" Utaha paused for a moment before glancing at the person next to Hana. "And the one who will be commenting with me and Miss Hana is obviously the principal of the first academy, Principal Vhalor. Principal Vhalor, may I know your thoughts about this battle?
"You have claimed that they are your ace team, but are you fully confident they have the ability to win?"

The principal waved his hand to the camera while saying with a calm expression. "There is a reason I consider them to be the ace team. And their strength right now is something that can't be underestimated, even for the opposite team.
"If I don't have a certain level of confidence, there's no way I would propose to have such a grand match.
"Although my heart will go to the Libation Fiesta, I will do my best to provide a commentary on their skills as objectively as possible. Thank you very much."
Utaha nodded in understanding. "Thank you, Principal Vhalor. However, there is one thing I'm curious about. Why would you choose the Libation Fiesta and even do it right now instead of a few days ago?"
"I don't think I need to hide it anymore. The Libation Fiesta was in the middle of an important mission from the academy, so they couldn't return right away.
"Why is this mission so important? Although I can't disclose the details of the mission, I can tell you the purpose of it.
"The result of this battle will reflect the kind of curriculum for the first academy starting from the next semester.
"The Libation Fiesta has been given a different mission to test this curriculum. In this match, you should be able to see the effectiveness of that new curriculum.

"Hence, all I can say is that please watch everything carefully and see the effectiveness of the curriculum. If you end up getting interested in it, don't forget to apply to the first academy. We will welcome you."
"Wow. Principal Vhalor is truly a principal among principals. In that case, shall we check it out? The new curriculum that might change the era of study?" Utaha raised his head. "In that case, let's not waste anyone's time and introduce the participants to this battle.
"The battle will be a one versus one battle with a total of 6 battles. In other words, there is a chance of a draw at the end.
"As everyone knows, six people are the best number in terms of a group. And with this, we will be able to see the individual strength of each person in the group.
"Let's begin with the challenger side. Let us welcome the challenger from a foreign country, Team Melesviet, led by Mr. Tesron."
"Oohh!"
The people gave a round of applause. This might be their only chance to meet a potential Tier 9 with their own eyes instead of through Skynet. Hence, they gave them a warm welcome.
Tesron led the rest of his team into the arena, showing their strength proudly.

Once everything calmed down, Utaha continued, "Today, they will challenge the ace team of the first academy. Let us welcome them with another round of applause. Team Libation Fiesta is led by Mr. Clovis!"
Chapter 628: Clovis' Choice
The people cheered the moment Clovis entered the arena. Although their team was less popular compared to practically the Tier 9 family, they still accumulated a lot of achievements in the country, with the biggest one being saving hundreds of people during the disaster, which ultimately caused the beast outbreak.
Unlike other teams who loved to flaunt their achievements, Clovis and the others rarely appeared on Skynet. Most of their articles came from Hana, which made them strong but mysterious.
That was why the cheers were much more hysterical compared to the other team. They all thought Clovis would bring them glory.
"The stadium is shaking!" Utaha grabbed the microphone excitedly. "Libation Fiesta has entered the arena."
Most of the cheers came from people who didn't have high strength or completely normal people.

However, those with higher-level strength were confused after seeing Clovis' team.

"This..."

"What's going on?"
"Are they really leaving it to this team?"
"Four of them are only Tier 4. Only two are able to put up a fight against the enemies."
"Are they trying to lose?"
That was right. In the eyes of an outsider, even though Clovis' team was extremely good, especially with their reputation of being able to take down someone above their rank, the enemies were also as talented as them.
If they were still Tier 4, they should be able to fight against Tier 5. Now that they are Tier 5 humans, no Tier 4 should be a challenge for them, considering they should have a certain level of ability to resist a Tier 6.
That was why people were confused. From the team composition alone, Clovis might at most win two times.
In addition, there was one problem. "Isn't their group able to invite that Christina?"

"Where is she?"
"She doesn't participate in this battle?"
"Are they planning to lose then?"
"Is this rigged?"
That was right. The people wondered where Clovis' strongest member, Christina, was. With Christina, Clovis at least had a much better chance to win.
However, Principal Vhalor wasn't foolish. There was no way he planned all this battle and staked his reputation and popularity just to lose everything in this battle.
That was why there might be something they didn't know.
Carrick couldn't help but furrow his eyebrows, wondering what they had hidden from him. He raised his head, his gaze meeting Ezekiel's on the opposite side of the arena.
'What is that sly fox hiding?' Carrick gritted his teeth. It felt like he had fallen into a trap, but he didn't know what it was.

Meanwhile, Utaha maintained the people's excitement and shouted, "Since the battle has ended, it's time for us to introduce the referees that will oversee the matches.
"And what is this? There will be three referees in this match, with all of them being Tier 8 humans."
"!!!"
"What?"
"Tier 8 humans?"
"They're going all out for this match."
The people became even more excited. The country didn't have a lot of Tier 8 humans, so normal people might not even meet them in their lifetime except on the Skynet.
That was why they got even more excited.
Little did they know, there was a reason for three judges to be added. Normally, a single Tier 8 human would be enough to oversee the battle between two Tier 5 humans.

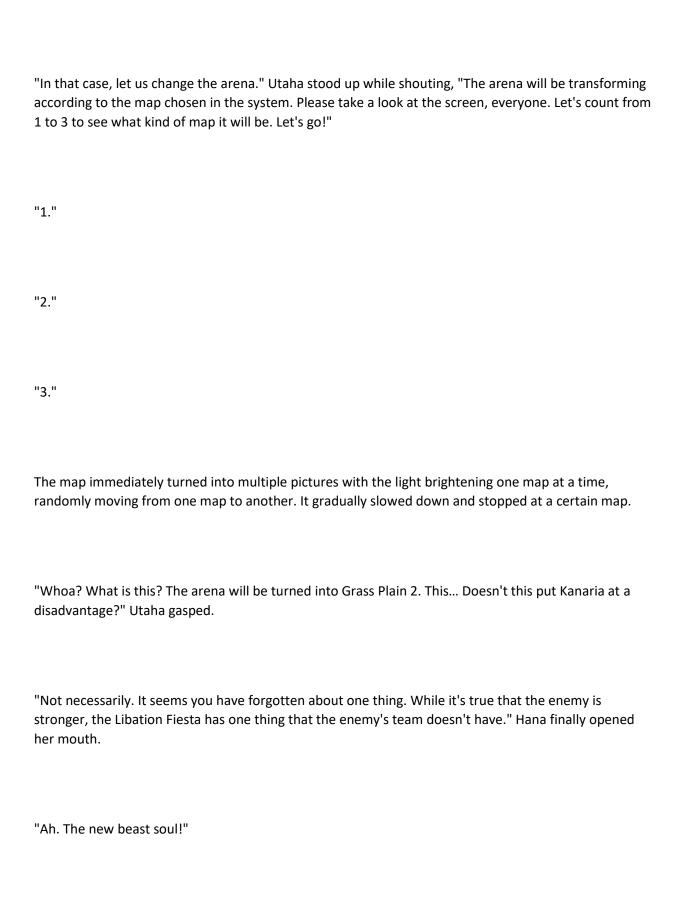
However, with Ezekiel and Carrick entering the entire picture, they had to add precautions.
It was agreed that three people would be overseeing the match. Each side could pick one Tier 8 human themselves to be the judge while the country provided one. This way, each side had a judge that could stop a fatal attack, leaving no chance for the opposite party to intentionally kill the other party.
Both sides agreed that this was their only role. If they did anything to make the opposite side in trouble, it would result in the opposite team's victory.
Meanwhile, the real referee was the one given from the country. He had to ensure fairness from both sides.
With two giants fighting, there was no way the country was foolish enough to choose a side.
That was why the battle would be fair, which was what Clovis wanted.
The three judges consisted of Alan as the representative from Clovis' side, a bad man as the representative from other schools, and a general as the representative of the country.
"We are grateful for the three Tier 8 humans to help us take care of the matches." Utaha politely nodded. "In that case, let us have the two teams shake hands for a good battle."

Clovis and Tesron led their groups into the middle of the arena, each of them extending their hands.
"I don't know what you're planning to do, but you're not going to win," Tesron warned him with a grim expression.
Clovis' expression remained calm as though he wasn't bothered with the threat. "There is no trick. We'll fight and win because we're stronger. That's all to it."
"Do you think you can beat me?"
"What makes you think I can't beat you?"
Clovis and Tesron glared at each other.
"Allow me to explain the roster of the match. Each team will nominate the member that will participate in the next match. With no written roster, it will allow each team to be able to flexibly send out their member," as she explained, there were two staff bringing microphones for them.
According to this arrangement, the one who said the name first would be at a disadvantage since the other party might have learned about them and prepared someone who could handle them.
That was why Utaha added, "To avoid the unfairness, I will be counting one to three and the captain will reveal the name of their participant."

Even though she said it, with Tesron's special ability, he could have foreseen who Clovis planned to send. In the end, it would still be unfair.
Because of that reason, the moment Utaha raised her fingers, "Without further ado, let's count it. 1," Clovis immediately opened his mouth with a confident smile. "Kanaria."
"!!!"
Chapter 629: Sniper vs Guardian
"Kanaria."
"!!!"
The people widened their eyes in surprise. They all looked at Clovis. He should have known that it would put him at a disadvantage. So, he should say the name at the same time.
The people thought Clovis was a bit too arrogant.
"What is this? Clovis has just said the name of the participant from his side? Mr. Clovis You do understand that you should say the name at the same time, right?" Utaha couldn't help but ask.

The people wanted the answer to that question. If Clovis was truly arrogant, they wondered if they should continue supporting him.
However, Clovis raised his index finger. "Only one reason. The rumor is about him having an ability to see the future. Even if we are saying the same thing, if he can really see the future, it doesn't matter whether I say it at the same time or not.
"He should have seen it and will pick someone who can counter it. Rather than doing it the normal way, I choose to pick my fighter right away and I won't change my mind. With this, there's no need for us to pick at the same time, right?"
Utaha blinked her eyes a few times. "Well, technically, that's true"
The people couldn't help but look at each other, finding no error in his logic. If Tesron could see the future, even when they were counting down, Tesron should have known the fighter Clovis chose. He would pick his own fighter that could counter Kanaria perfectly.
So, Clovis might look arrogant, but it was just a calculated move. For the first move, Clovis was examining Tesron's ability to read the future. How much future did he see?
And the first clue came in the form of expression.
Tesron's face darkened a bit as though he realized Clovis' intention. He was probably cursing Clovis in his heart.

However, Tesron took a deep breath to calm his heart down before saying, "In that case, I won't be polite then. From my side, I will pick Cyan."
Utaha looked at the principal first. After getting a nod from here, Utaha immediately got excited again. "And there we have it, everyone. Representing the academy is Kanaria Renvolt.
"I have seen a lot of her videos previously. She is extremely good at supporting her teammates with her firepower.
"However, she doesn't really have any history in a one-on-one battle, which might be a little disadvantageous for her in this battle.
"On the other side, Cyan Leinten is actually a guardian of the team. I have researched him. He is known as the mountain back in his country. That is because of his absolute defense that doesn't let anything slip past him.
"He has a massive body, which allows him to utilize the big shield and a massive warhammer.
"It appears Cyan Leinten will be charging straight ahead and fighting Kanaria in a battle of endurance. What do you think, Principal Vhalor?"
The principal nodded his head. "That's definitely what's going to happen. The only way for Kanaria to win is to crush his defense, while Cyan will do his best to defend. Whether they can win or not depends on each party's ability. I'm looking forward to what kind of battle they're planning to have.



"That's right. This will be the battle of endurance, but I'm pretty sure that Mr. Cyan has something hidden in his sleeve for him to be the one fighting her." Hana nodded.
"Now, I'm curious how the battle will play out. I'm sure that everyone who comes here can't wait any longer. Then, let us call the participants into the arena."
As she said those words, the arena transformed. There were three pillars emerging from the ground and the projector changed the landscape from a normal arena to grassland.
Kanaria and Cyan entered the arena with a calm expression. Cyan brought a shield and a hammer as big as his body, with Cyan being a 2-meter-tall, muscular man.
Just standing in front of him alone made Kanaria look tiny and felt a bit intimidating.
On the other hand, Kanaria was holding her sniper rifle. There was something weird about her weapon. She brought a small bag attached to her waist.
At first glance, people would definitely think it was a bag of grenades, which wasn't surprising coming from her. However, the bag was just a camouflage. There was something even more terrifying inside that bag.
Cyan extended his hand while saying, "I'm Cyan. It's unfortunate that you have to fight me, but I'm not going to hold back, even if you are a woman."

Kanaria casually shook his hand while smiling. "And I hope you do that. We can't have you losing without a fight after all."
"If you think you can win against me, then prove it." Cyan snorted.
Kanaria and Cyan took a step back as the three referees entered the arena.
"Are both of you ready?"
"Yes." Kanaria and Cyan confirmed.
"All lethal blows will be stopped by us, which will result in your defeat. So, please fight to your heart's content. If there's no question, we will begin the moment this coin touches the ground. Please take five steps back before I toss the coin."
Kanaira and Cyan followed the instructions. After having enough distance, the general tossed the coin into the air.
Chapter 630 630: Fly
Clink!

The clicking sound echoed inside the arena. In that instant, their eyes flashed as Cyan charged forward while Kanaria leaped into the air.
Cyan waved his warhammer, trying to reach her, but Kanaria simply shot him first.
Cyan had no choice but to place his shield forward instead, blocking the overpowering bullet.
"!!!" Kanaria squinted her eyes. 'As expected, the shield is extremely sturdy. I guess it's made at least from a Tier 7 scale. This is the only way for him to stop my sniper with a Tier 5 bullet.
'It seems I have no choice but to go for that strategy from the start.'
She unbuttoned her vest, which startled everyone.
"What is this? She is stripping? Lady" Utaha panicked for a second. Some people covered their eyes while some were excited.
However, their excitement turned into confusion because underneath that vest was just a full t-shirt with nothing to show except for two holes in the back.
"!!!" Cyan recognized her strategy and sped up. "You aren't going anywhere."

He struck her with his hammer, albeit Kanaria was one step ahead. A pair of butterfly wings suddenly emerged from her body.
"That's"
"Butterfly wings!"
The wings flapped as Kanaria leaped into the air, using the initial momentum to fly into the sky.
"Ooohh! That's right. I have almost forgotten that Kanaria Renvolt has this trump card. She is flying!" Utaha screamed. "The new beast soul is able to utilize a part of the beast's body. Those are the wings from an ancient butterfly species, Protocoeliades kristenseni."
"!!!" The people were quite stunned. Although they had seen it on Skynet, this was probably the first time they saw people using it for real. After all, the supplies were still quite low compared to the demand.
And there was no better way to advertise its effectiveness than by fighting one of the top teams in the world, especially one that was led by a future Tier 9.
Kanaria was flying into the sky and immediately shot Cyan.

"Kh." Cyan gritted his teeth and blocked the attack carefully, looking as if he couldn't reach her from this distance.
"Is this actually okay?" Utaha couldn't help but ask.
Principal Vhalor nodded and explained, "We have taken into account the new beast soul since we're the first academy.
"Normally, in this kind of battle, we are only considering the horizontal area of the arena, right?
"However, when you think about it, people often jump quite high, especially with their Tier 4 or Tier 5 strength. The only difference is that they have no way of stopping their fall.
"So, we didn't really think about it previously. However, the new beast soul will definitely change the direction of battle in the future.
"This is one of the examples. As a sniper, you will have to be constantly on the move while searching for the best spot to snipe your enemy. However, this will make a sniper not really favorable in a one-on-one battle.
"It changes the moment you have wings. By flying into the sky, you will definitely gain an easier way to get the best position. Even outside the battle, you can still fly, maybe either staying still in the air or moving from one spot to another. The mobility of a sniper improves tremendously with just a single beast soul.

"Of course, we have put them in the rules as well. If you check the rule, the arena's size is decided in three dimensions instead of two. So, it's basically a cylinder with a height of 10 meters. We can really give 100 meters since it's impossible to chase someone like that.
"Bombardment, sniper, and other things This time, humans can do the same." Principal Vhalor smiled, not holding back in advertising the new beast soul as he promised to Clovis.
"I see." Utaha gasped.
"Still, there is one advantage that Principal Vhalor has yet to reveal." Hana raised a finger.
"And what is that, Miss Hana? I'd like to hear your opinion about the new beast soul as the one distributing it."
Hana nodded. "Even if Mr. Cyan is able to block the bullet and somehow reaches a standstill by remaining in the air, there is really no way for them to break the deadlock, ultimately reaching a draw in a battle.
"As Principal Vhalor said, the new beast soul has transformed the future of the battle. There are a lot of things I'm planning to add for the improvements, but I'll reveal them once they have been confirmed.
"So, everyone, if you wish to be a part of it, please don't hesitate to make your order from the OpenSky Company. I'll be waiting for you." Hana waved her hand around.

"Miss Hana. Can you please not throw your advertisement like that?" Utaha smiled wryly.
As expected, a lot of people got excited.
"I want the new beast soul."
"I want beautiful wings."
"Me too."
"Shut up and take my money."
They could see the effectiveness of the wings right away. Not just the snipers. Other people also wanted it for one reason or another.
Utaha had to calm them down, so she immediately shifted their focus back to the match. "Please look, everyone. As we have originally expected, even though Kanaria is able to remain in the sky, she is still having a hard time taking down her opponent.
"Cyan is enduring all the attacks she has sent so far and won't lose anytime soon. Is this going to be an inevitable draw?"

Obviously, the two teams had already expected the battle would progress this way. Once Kanaria used up her bullets, there was no way she could win against Cyan in close combat. At the same time, Cyan didn't expect Kanaria to go down.
That was why Cyan was chosen for this match.
'Since you're not going down, I don't need to hold back anymore. This is your fault for cowering in the sky.' Cyan thought while activating his beast soul. He gathered all his strength in his hammer before swinging it with all his strength.
Gigantic Impact.