

## World Mall 661

### Chapter 661: Conclusion

Clovis, who had been keeping his poker face this whole time, suddenly grinned.

His movement became sharper and quicker.

"!!!" Tesron widened his eyes in shock and hurriedly switched his stance to the defensive.

However, Clovis continued onward, pressuring Tesron even more.

Christina squinted her eyes. She realized Clovis had entered that state. "He's planning to end this in a minute, huh?"

She couldn't help but recall after Clovis went berserk during their visit to the neighboring country.

"Christina. Do you mind if I keep using my unique ability to get a bit of control over it?"

"Do you want me to stop you every time?"

"Yes." Clovis nodded with a sad expression. "During my last berserk, I noticed something. Even though my mind started getting taken over, I definitely felt the abrupt increase in my physical abilities. In other words, I was still conscious at that time.

"It only lasted for a few seconds, though. Still, I wonder if I can replicate that state a bit longer?

"I want to let the madness take over my mind, but I will still retain a bit of my consciousness. If I can harness that state just for a bit, I might be able to turn around the situation if necessary."

Christina was a bit skeptical, but if Clovis could actually harness the full potential of his Perfect State without getting taken over at all, Clovis would become a terrifying monster. Of course, Christina desired that result too.

That was why he agreed to the training. To ensure that Clovis wasn't strong enough to fight her, he deliberately took off all the items he got from Another World Mall. With this, the brutal training ensued.

Clovis kept falling and falling into the berserk state, but gradually he could control it.

Still, they only had a limited amount of time to practice. That was why he could only harness that power for one minute.

In this one minute, Clovis' physical strength was doubled.

Clink!

Clink!

Tesron gritted his teeth. It took him everything just to fend off Clovis' attack. He didn't know what was going on. Clovis' strength just increased out of nowhere.

At this rate, Clovis might defeat him. It was something he couldn't afford to do.

Tesron was trying to find a way to break through Clovis' defense, but even his future sight was useless. He could see the path, but Clovis kept reacting and overpowering him, stopping him from achieving that result.

'No. No. I can't lose. It's going to be over if I lose!' Tesron gritted his teeth. 'What should I do? What if I can't win? Should I just accept my defeat? No. There's one more outcome...'

Tesron started to fall into despair. There was one outcome that was better than losing to Clovis. However, to pull it off, he might have to sacrifice his dignity.

But this might be better than losing.

Both Clovis and Tesron knew that this was just a match, not a life-and-death battle. In other words, there were things they could do here, but not in a life-and-death battle. However, what he planned to do was a bit controversial.

Still, he had no choice. He didn't know that Clovis could only manage this state for one minute before going berserk.

That was why Tesron made his resolve.

While fending off Clovis' relentless attack, Tesron was seeking one opportunity.

And that opportunity came when Clovis swung both blades from the right.

"!!!" Finding that opportunity, Tesron immediately took a step forward. Normally, he would have to block this attack, only to get pushed back by Clovis' overwhelming strength.

Yet this time, Tesron raised his blade and swung it down.

"!!!" Clovis was dumbfounded. He didn't know why Tesron suddenly attacked him, considering this was a foolish decision.

He hurriedly sped up his short sword and put it on the blade's trajectory, trying to slow it down.

However, Tesron used his full strength in this swing. His beast soul, his momentum, and even the way he shifted his body gave him all the strength he required to overpower Clovis, who wasn't prepared for this swing.

The moment his blade clashed with Clovis' short sword, Clovis' short sword was pushed back close to his body. In fact, the blade had hit his shoulder and if it continued, he could slice Clovis in two.

At the same time, Tesron had nothing to defend against the incoming long sword from the side.

Both sides gritted their teeth, trying to take down their opponent quicker than the others. If this was a life-and-death battle, doing this would be foolish. Even if Clovis managed to strike him down, Tesron would cut him quite deep to the point it would reach his heart. Still, Clovis couldn't back down. He didn't have time to lose this exchange because he would fall to his berserk state before he could find another opportunity to take Tesron down.

That was why Clovis didn't back down. At the same time, Tesron didn't know Clovis' flaw and desperately tried to ensure he didn't get the worst result.

As a result, the three referees immediately appeared around them. Alan grabbed Tesron's blade while the other referee stopped Clovis' long sword. The general pushed both of them away, stopping the match.

"The match ends!"

"!!!" The people dropped their jaws to the ground. They couldn't help but wonder what had just happened. Now that the referee forcefully ended the match, who actually won?

It looked like Clovis was about to split him in two, but the experts could see that Clovis was on the verge of dying as well.

Principal Vhalor smiled wryly. "I guess it can't be helped. Your opponent is that Tesron, who is one tier higher than you. And he has a full mastery of his unique ability."

Ezekiel sighed. "Such a shame. But this is enough, I guess... You should be proud, old friend. Your grandson... is truly your grandson."

The general raised his hand. "I believe both referees would agree with me. I will now announce the result. It's..."

Chapter 662: Draw

"It's..." The general paused for a moment before announcing it out loud. "... a draw!"

The people couldn't help but widen their eyes. It was clear that Clovis should have won since he blocked Tesron's attack, while Tesron had nothing to block Clovis' attack.

Yet the general declared it as a draw?

"Don't joke with us!"

"A draw?"

"It's clearly Clovis' victory!"

"Are you getting bribed by the other side?!"

"Boo!"

The people were furious. In the eyes of normal people, the match should end in Clovis' victory. That was why they couldn't take it when the general robbed the victory from Clovis. It was supposed to be the Libation Fiesta's complete victory after all.

"Ah... Please stop, everyone!" Utaha panicked, trying to calm down the people.

"Heh?" Hana crossed her arms.

Principal Vhalor suddenly made the microphone produce a ringing sound at the maximum, which startled everyone in the room.

"Everyone. This is Principal Vhalor." The principal's expression turned solemn. "In your eyes, it might look like Clovis' victory, but it's not really the case.

"It's true that Tesron has nothing to protect himself. However, before Clovis' blade is able to cleave him in two, Tesron's blade should have reached Clovis' heart.

"In other words, even if Clovis defeated him, he would succumb to his own injury. That was why the three referees made a unanimous decision to declare a draw.

"Of course, everything could happen if Clovis chose to stop the swing and focus on his defense or Tesron blocked Clovis' attack, but both parties chose to go with that decision, resulting in a draw.

"That's why, from my objective point of view, this is a draw. I also support the referees' decision.

"This battle is a draw. And the match between Team Libation Fiesta and Melesviet has now officially ended with a score of 6-1. Everyone has shown their respective strengths that reflect their extraordinary abilities.

"I just wish for the best for all the fighters who have entertained us with a good match, the people who are inspired by these fighters, and the rest of the people who have supported the fighters."

When they listened to Principal Vhalor's explanation, the people couldn't help but fall silent. If that was indeed true, the battle was indeed a draw.



However, there was one more scenario that appeared in their mind. Clovis challenged Tesron when he was one tier lower than him and ended in a draw. What if Clovis was a Tier 5? Would Clovis win against Tesron?

That was right. In the end, even Tesron wasn't defeated, the people thought he had lost because Clovis was just a Tier 4 human.

In addition, there were Christina and Lucifania, who were also a part of the Libation Fiesta. If they fought together with them, the Libation Fiesta might overpower the enemy's team.

This was a result of a battle where the team with the disadvantage managed to win overwhelmingly against one of the top teams in the world. There was no greater glory that the Libation Fiesta needed.

Some people were still furious because they couldn't accept the result, but people started to clap. The Libation Fiesta had truly fought well. From this point on, the Libation Fiesta might be known as the top team of the younger generation in this country.

Hana smiled before glancing at the principal. "This is a problem."

"What do you mean?" The principal frowned.

"We have a bet, right? Now that it's a draw, what should we do? Do we both win or lose?" Hana smirked. However, the answer was already clear.

"..." The principal smiled wryly. "You want to embarrass me further? Of course, both of us won. I have even given one point to each team after that draw."

"And there you have it." Hana smiled, announcing it clearly. "With the agreement between me and Principal Vhalor, my OpenSky Company will open a small branch inside the first academy's grounds."

"It will be a branch exclusive to the students of the first academy. The students will be able to enjoy a 10% discount if you want to buy a new beast soul from this branch. Of course, the soul weapon, or even the exoskeleton that is still in development, will be added once they're officially out."

Principal Vhalor added, "The academy will be working with the OpenSky Company to create a system where the school can subsidize the cost of the new beast soul."

"!!!" The announcement was like a raging storm sweeping the entire country.

With such a facility, the first academy's reputation would soar even further. The people who were poor enough to get the new beast soul could finally get one in the academy. Meanwhile, those who were rich should get even better service in the academy.

In addition to Clovis' reputation as one of their students, the first academy would definitely become the most favorite academy for a long time. Meanwhile, the people would be skeptical about other academies, considering they were bringing an outsider to this country to humiliate their own people.

Still, the ones that benefited the most were not them. It was the people outside this country.

...

The superpower in the west, Ekeshia.

A middle-aged man squinted his eyes while muttering, "So, there's someone who can defeat Tesron, huh? Clovis? There's almost no information about him. We have to get him."

...

The superpower in the east, Linaria.

"The Elseingarde family planning to monopolize that kind of talent? Someone who loses to a person one tier lower than him aside... We can't really let the Ezekiel family monopolize him, right?" The old man raised his head, looking at his beautiful granddaughter.

She remained expressionless and just politely nodded. "I understand, Grandfather."

...

In another country called Brukosh.

"Find out this person's identity. The balance has shifted. Another Tier 9 might be born. Recruit him and protect him. I'm sure that those people from the Melesviet won't let these people go."

...

"Hahahahahahaha!" Michael Hacfield laughed out loud, staring at the screen. He stood on top of a mountain while spreading his arms. "My grandson is extraordinary. I won't interfere with his choice, but if any of you dare to threaten him just to follow you, I will show myself to the world once again."

Chapter 663: Winner

"Congratulations." Kanaria and the others cheered when Clovis returned to the room.

Clovis could only smile wryly, saying, "Sorry. I couldn't bring back a victory."

"What are you talking about? He has a unique ability and is practically invincible to people of the same tier. Being able to force him to take a draw is already amazing." Christina smirked. "Even if I fight there, I don't think I can win against him."

"Even though it's a draw, it feels like he has lost. After all, you are one tier lower and our team has crushed him." Jay nodded.

"Hehehehe. It's time for me to show off." Erwin grinned.

"It's a bit disappointing that you are not able to win, but this is better, considering the political point of view." Ezekiel came from behind, patting Clovis' head. "Had you won against him, people would recognize you to be stronger than Tesron, which would make them focus on you.

"There's a high chance they will find out about your identity and try to get you for themselves. That's still manageable, but a lot more people will probably try to kill you.

"After all, you are already beyond Tesron when you're one tier lower. In other words, if you reach Tier 9 in the future, there's a chance that you will have the ability to easily suppress another Tier 9.

"However, with this result, people will think that you are still within their expectations. They might consider Tesron to be a bit careless and underestimate you. It only puts you in the same place as Tesron and Christina.

"Even then, all eyes are practically on you. Fortunately, you don't bring that wolf of yours. If you add him into the mix, the situation will completely change." Ezekiel smirked.

"That's right. If Clovis had brought Reolf with him, he would have definitely won. Besides, they couldn't say anything if you introduced yourself to be a beast tamer." Kanaria nodded in agreement.

"Still, can I ask something?" Ezekiel's expression turned solemn.

"Yes?" Clovis tilted his head in confusion.

"What exactly are you? I mean, do you realize that your unique ability is the same as Mara Leverstrike's?"

"!!!" Clovis looked surprised at first, but he recalled the system panel that appeared in the middle of the match. That was the source of his distraction at the beginning of the match.

"It seems you're aware of it..." Ezekiel squinted his eyes.

"To a certain extent, but even if you ask me, I can't really answer it. Not that I want to keep it a secret, but because I don't understand it either." Clovis shook his head helplessly.

"..." Ezekiel closed his eyes before sighing, "Fortunately, there's only one person who can recognize that unique ability here, which is me. If that Carrick hadn't left, the situation would have been more serious.

"We were talking about two unique abilities, which were supposed to be unique in this world. They might even think of a potential to share a unique ability because of you." Ezekiel sighed. "You should be careful when revealing that unique ability from now on."

"Yes. I will take it to heart." Clovis nodded.

"All right. That's good enough for me. If you need anything else, just call me. I will remain here for a bit, but I think you should enjoy the celebration and prepare for other things."

"Fair enough." Clovis glanced to the side as someone opened the door.

"Hello, everyone!" The one who entered the room was none other than Radric, the one helping them to host the match. "Congratulations on your victory. How about coming to the arena to celebrate your victory? I'm sure that everyone would like to see all of you."

Christina pushed Nathan from behind with a smile, telling him to accept the victory.

Clovis smiled wryly. He wanted everyone to celebrate, but Christina, Melody, and Lucifania didn't participate, so he couldn't bring them to the arena. Still, just the fact they had these two alone was enough to make people think that the Libation Fiesta could achieve bigger things if these two were allowed to participate.

That was why it was fine for Christina, Melody, and Luci to stay here just for this celebration. They would make a bigger impact in the future.

Clovis nodded to her and walked outside. "Let's go then."

Erwin was definitely the first one going, as he was the most eager to flex. Aileen embarrassedly followed him.

Jay and Ragna soon followed, while Kanaria accompanied Clovis.

When Clovis was about to exit, Radric whispered, "The president would like to meet you tomorrow. I hope that you can free up your time tomorrow."

"..." Clovis only glanced back at him without giving any reply. As Ezekiel predicted, Clovis had truly become an indispensable asset to the country.

The talk was probably the president doing his best to retain him. If he offered an underground management right, Clovis didn't really have any reasons to reject it, considering this would allow Kanaria to fulfill her dream.

In the arena, Utaha excitedly got the signal about the team and shifted the topic to the celebration. "After a long battle that lasted for 1 hour and 21 minutes, the battle between two teams has finally been concluded.

"Now, let us welcome the winner of today's match, Team Libation Fiesta!"

Once they got called, the cheers erupted as Clovis and the others entered the arena again.

Obviously, the principal had gone directly to the stage to show his appreciation. Meanwhile, Team Melesviet was running as far as they could with their heads hanging low. The longer they stayed here, the more embarrassment they would receive.

Tesron was furious and embarrassed at the same time. He never expected that his team would lose like this. At the same time, he couldn't help but wonder where his grandfather was.



He was supposed to accompany him the whole time, but he ended up running away before the battle ended. He involuntarily created a misunderstanding that he was able to see his team's defeat beforehand and escaped.

However, Tesron was afraid of what he would do the moment he knew about the result.

Nevertheless, with this victory, the world would know the abnormal team called the Libation Fiesta.

Chapter 664: Recruit

The next day.

Clovis ended up going to Hana's office to avoid them focusing on this place instead of their mansion. After all, he didn't want Reolf to be seen by them yet.

As expected, Radric came to the OpenSky Company. Due to Clovis' sensitive identity as well as the fact the former match was just a battle between two teams instead of representing the country, the meeting couldn't be official. In fact, this meeting only happened due to Clovis' unique ability.

Hence, Radric came only with his assistant and driver. The car was much smaller to avoid public eyes.

To avoid the country taking advantage of Clovis, Hana chose to come together with Clovis. Although Hana wasn't officially a part of Clovis' team, she had been involved with a lot of things regarding Clovis. There were even rumors that they were engaged.

With Clovis confirming Hana's participation, they had no choice but to allow Hana to come together.

On the way, Clovis couldn't help but see multiple billboards with the news of him winning against Tesron. From normal people to experts, they gave opinions to glorify the result.

The Libation Fiesta was already popular because of the new beast soul, but after this battle, the entire country definitely knew their names. After all, this country might end up having a Tier 9 human in the future.

As soon as they reached the 'Palace,' they were guided strictly inside until eventually they reached the president's office.

The president was an old man in his mid fifties. He looked energetic, but it couldn't contain his aged features. He seemed to have dyed his white hair black, as Clovis noticed the small white tip that had just grown.

Next to the president stood two people, one was the general who became the referee of the match and the other was a middle-aged man in a white suit.

Clovis' expression remained calm despite knowing that these two people were Tier 8 humans. They could pressure him, but Clovis knew full well that even if they threatened him, it was useless. After all, even if he died here, his grandfather would definitely decimate this country. And it wasn't like he was afraid of dying.

"Congratulations on your victory and welcome to the country, Clovis... Hacfield," the president spread his arms to show a warm welcome.

At the same time, announcing his full name meant he invited him, fully aware of his family line.

Clovis politely nodded. "Thank you, Mr. President. It's an honor to be invited here."

The two Tier 8 humans examined Clovis while Radric remained silent behind him.

The president smiled and turned to Hana. "And this must be Hana Skylark."

"I'm grateful for you accepting our request to have me here." Hana gracefully bowed with one hand on her chest.

"No need to be so formal. I have known your grandfather for a long time." The president then turned back to Clovis. "Besides, I have never thought that Mr. Clovis would come to this humble country. Please take a seat."

Clovis and Hana exchanged nods and took their side next to each other.

The president sat on the opposite side with a gentle smile. Clovis didn't talk a lot, which made it a bit awkward. So, the president moved on to the main topic. "The country is proud to have an awesome fighter like you. In addition, your team is extraordinary as well. Thanks to you defeating the opposite

team, our reputation skyrockets. I would like to show my appreciation to such a young talent and his awesome team."

"There is no need to do so, Mr. President. We're thankful for the thought alone. In the end, this battle derives from the competition between academies. The Libation Fiesta didn't represent the country, and the opposite team only represented the Melesviet family." Clovis shook his head.

"..." All people fell silent after hearing such a reply. The meaning was clear. The Libation Fiesta was a free team. They could go wherever they wanted without anyone binding them.

At the same time, it was also Clovis' way of saying that he should just reveal what he wanted.

The three Tier 8 humans were definitely impressed by his boldness. He was fully aware that there were three Tier 8 humans before him and that they could kill him here, but he also knew they couldn't harm him.

Radric chose to smooth their conversation by saying, "Mr. President. I believe that such an individual should remain in this country."

The president smiled, rewording that sentence. "I'm aware of your unique ability. You have the potential to become a Tier 9 human in the future, and the country would like to bet on your future. Do you have any intention of officially becoming this country's citizen? Or maybe I shouldn't get ahead of myself and ask this question first. What do you think about this country?"

Clovis smiled. "I'm merely an explorer, carrying the bloodline of the Hacfield family. I can carry myself anywhere, but not my family. I just happened to flee to this country. All I could say is that this country has treated me better, at least compared to the previous country."

The president became serious. This was a direct message from Clovis. Even if they wanted him to stay, it would be useless if they aimed to bring his family here as well.

The president raised a finger. "Of course, I'm aware of your background. The reputation of the Hacfield family is like thunder reverberating in one's ears. They are powerful but mysterious. What I want is you, Clovis Hacfield.

"Maybe I should be more direct about this." The president paused for a few seconds. "Do you wish to stay in this country as its citizen, Clovis Hacfield?"

To recruit a Tier 9 would require a huge sum of money and they might not be able to control them. However, it was different if it was someone with the potential to become Tier 9.

Since there was a chance of them dying along the way, the investment was lower. Still, Clovis had the backing of the Hacfield family. Normally, someone like him should go to the country where his family was based, but the Hacfield family didn't have a base.

Basically, whether Clovis would stay or not depended on how much the president believed in his potential.

Chapter 665: Negotiation

Clovis remained silent for a while as though he was pondering about it deeply. "I haven't found a reason to stay in this country."

"!!!" The president and the other Tier 8 humans realized what Clovis was talking about. The discussion had finally reached the negotiation phase.

The president's expression turned solemn. "In that case, how about I give you a reason to stay in this country?"

"What do you mean?"

"If you become a citizen of our country, of course, our country will be protecting you from outside threats.

"In addition, you will be receiving the same treatment as the family with a Tier 9 human. In other words, our country will grant you a complete right to a single tower and the area within 50 x 50 km from that tower. Of course, that only applies to the underground world.

"On the surface, your jurisdiction is only the size of a single city. What do you think?"

Clovis couldn't help but recall what Ezekiel said. He was indeed true. The president would offer him a place that could be used as a base.

And obviously, Hana was already aware of the situation. She was the one replying to that offer. "I don't think that's an acceptable offer, Mr. President."

"..." The president and the other three couldn't help but furrow their eyebrows. Even though there were some sorts of rumors about them being a couple, Hana was still an outsider. This decision should have been made by Clovis. At the same time, they knew Hana's reputation.

There was a reason Hana was able to succeed. They really wanted Hana to not join the negotiation, since they might be at a disadvantage.

When they opened their mouth, Clovis immediately interjected, "Allow her to speak. She is acting on behalf of my well-being as my fiancée."

"!!!" The three Tier 8 humans looked shocked. This might be a lie that Clovis presented to stop them from pushing her away, but because of this statement, they really couldn't stop Hana.

After all, Clovis specifically mentioned 'fiancée' instead of 'woman' or 'girlfriend' to make her status even more important.

The president paused for a moment before asking, "Why do you think it's not appropriate?"

Hana raised two fingers. "There are two reasons. First of all, even though it's true that the Hacfield family won't be coming here, it doesn't mean Clovis is completely unrelated to the Hacfield family.

"In special circumstances, the Hacfield family might end up interfering, which means the country will receive more.

"The second reason is Clovis' connection is not limited to the Hacfield family. There is also the Elseingarde family.

"It's true that while Christina Elseingarde won't be bound by the contract, she is still a part of the Libation Fiesta.

"In other words, the relationship between the two is extremely close. And with this relationship, there are definitely a lot of benefits, especially during the negotiation with their country.

"While it's true that Clovis himself has yet to become Tier 9, he has all this potential. That's why I believe the offer is unacceptable," Hana explained.

This was the reason he didn't want Hana here, especially with the fact that the Skylark conglomerate would end up being a part of Clovis as well. With the new beast soul, soul weapon, and even the exoskeleton, the OpenSky Company was gradually becoming one of the biggest companies in the world.

Clovis was aware of this. That was why he brought Hana instead of anyone else in his group.

The president asked, "In that case, may I know what you want? I assume this is not the Skylark family trying to monopolize the future Tier 9 human, correct?"



Hana smiled. "Of course. We have three demands. First of all, the formal announcement will have to wait until Clovis reaches Tier 5. However, the benefit of the contract will be active the moment we've reached an agreement."

"What? You want to reap the benefits without giving anything back?" The youngest Tier 8 among them couldn't help but open his mouth.

Hana shook her head. "We understand your position. The process of him being a citizen here can be processed immediately as well. We're only asking for the official announcement to be delayed."

"May I know the reason why you want it to be delayed? Without the formal announcement, we can't openly protect the Libation Fiesta," asked the president.

Hana exchanged gazes with Clovis before saying, "There is something he needs to do before that. Hence, he can't afford to have it announced formally before that. In exchange, he will finish everything in less than two years."

"That's not too long." The president crossed his arms. "I need to confirm one thing. Is it going to harm the country?"

"No." Clovis was the one answering his question with a resolute face.

The president nodded. "Alright. I can agree to the first condition."

"The second condition is to allow the Libation Fiesta to choose their own tower."

"..." The president looked even more concerned. To choose their own tower meant they would be able to choose a strategic position. It would be troublesome if they gave full management rights so easily, especially in a developed city.

That was why the president couldn't really agree to this condition.

Hana had seen through him and immediately added, "However, you don't have to worry that we'll take a fully developed city. Instead, allow us to choose a fallen city. All the development of that city will come directly from us instead of the country."

"!!!" The president looked shocked. If it was just this condition, he was fine. It was hard to take back a fallen city. Even the rebuilding effort took so much effort and resources. If they were the ones taking care of it, it wouldn't put a strain on the country's budget.

At the same time, if the city was rebuilt, everything would be theirs. If they managed to succeed, the benefits would easily surpass the cost. But to do something like this, only a family with at least multiple Tier 8s and a financial backing like the Skylark family could do it. And with Clovis' potential, they might indeed be able to achieve it.

In addition, if the family declined, the country could take back the city little by little.

After some thought, the president nodded. "All right. I will agree with that condition. What is the last condition?"

"The last condition..."

## Chapter 666: Concluding the Negotiation

"The last condition..." Hana paused for a moment. "We would like to have freedom."

"!!!" The president widened his eyes.

"Freedom..."

Hana nodded. "The freedom to go to other countries. Those kinds of things."

"Are you seriously asking that? Do you know that—"

The president hurriedly stopped him. Obviously, these two had already known about the restriction imposed to a Tier 9. After all, they could be the representatives of a country.

This condition was basically telling them that even though he would be a part of this country, he didn't plan to become the country's dog.

"You're asking a difficult thing, especially if we add the other two conditions..." The president squinted his eyes.

Hana nodded. "In fact, the third condition is the most important thing. If you can't agree to it, then the negotiation ends here."

"May I ask why you have to put in the third condition?"

Hana wanted to speak, but this time, Clovis stopped her. He said, "For my goal. If I have to abandon my goal just for this, it's better if I follow the same path as my grandfather."

"However, I believe that there's another path that I can take, which is slightly different from my grandfather. That's why I'm considering the offer positively."

"Still, if the country is making me give up on that goal, the deal is off."

"And your goal is..." The president's expression turned grim.

Clovis simply pointed up while stating only a single word. "Simulation."

"!!!" All four of them widened their eyes in shock. What Clovis meant was the Simulation World they were living in.

In that instant, he finally understood why the third condition was the most important.

The president took a deep breath before raising two fingers. "I can agree to the last condition, but I have to put two restrictions on it.

"First of all, I won't stop you from doing everything you want or going wherever you are. But don't forget that you are affiliated with this country, which means you have to behave in a befitting way as a representative.

"The second problem is that if you wish to visit somewhere else, alone or with your group, I will prepare an agent to handle all the administrative tasks.

"In addition to these two restrictions, I would like to ask you that you are acting on behalf of the country. For example, representing this country or protecting this country if a danger is coming in the future."

Clovis closed his eyes for a moment, pondering the conditions. Ultimately, he nodded his head. "We have a deal."

The president nodded. He never thought he would have to promise this much just for someone with a potential to become a Tier 9. However, this was worth it. Clovis' strength and even his connection were too terrifying to ignore. If they let Clovis go, they would definitely become a laughingstock in the future.

Both of them stood up and shook each other's hand.

"I will immediately handle the administrative process and I will give you the result tomorrow." The president smiled. "Once again, I welcome you to Absalom, Clovis Hacfield."

Clovis nodded. "Clovis."

"Right? Your family has erased the trace of their connection for the time being. Let me correct myself. Welcome, Mr. Clovis."

"Thank you very much, Mr. President."

The president turned to Hana and complained a bit, "This girl. You are more ferocious than your grandfather."

"I will take that as a compliment." Hana smiled politely.

The president chuckled as the two exited the room with Radric guiding them back.

"Sir... Are you sure it's alright to agree to all those conditions?" The two Tier 8s were confused by his decision.

"That is fine. Besides, it's not like we're the ones losing out." The president shook his head helplessly.  
"First of all, this is binding not just Clovis but also his group in this country.

"By giving him the territory, we have succeeded in it. However, it's actually even more amazing that he asked for a fallen city instead of a major one we currently have."

One of them nodded. "Well, that's true. If they manage to revive a fallen city, other cities around them will prosper as well. By the time that happens, Clovis has at least reached Tier 8 if not Tier 9."

"No, not that." The president shook his head. "The fallen city means it's an empty city. The right of its ownership will be given to the one salvaging that place. The former owners who have abandoned their homes can't reclaim their lands anymore.

"And the Libation Fiesta is in the rapid developing phase. In other words, if we give them a fallen city, they will be eager to clean them up for their growth.

"You should know that the Libation Fiesta is one of the fastest growing groups in the world, so giving them a fallen city is the same as giving a tiger a pair of wings.

"In addition, because it's a free city, that means there's a high chance that they will restore it and give it to their family members. If their family members settle down in that city, they will have more reasons to actually stay in this country. You can say that the agreement binds Clovis Hacfield while this city binds his group."

"!!!" The two gasped, finally understanding why the president agreed to such a harsh condition.

"This is..."

"We've never thought about that possibility."

The president smiled. "Process his ID right away. Also, who is the best agent we have right now?"

"For such a young man, I believe we should send Rena."

The president nodded. "All right. Tell her to be the agent for Clovis. One more thing, send out our spies and protect the family of the Libation Fiesta's members. If we want to bind them, we can't afford to have them dying in other countries. Once they establish their foothold in that fallen city, I'm sure they will bring in their families there."

"Understood." The two immediately left the room.

The president harrumphed as though he had won big. Little did he know, Clovis had one more trump card he wouldn't tell him. The fact that he was close to Mara and had the chance to recruit him.

Chapter 667: Kanaria's Options

Clovis and Hana finally returned to the mansion together.



"So... we'll create our base here," explained Clovis. He turned to Kanaria. "You will be the one choosing the fallen city. Find the tower that fits all of our criteria."

Kanaria nodded. "Yep. I'll make sure that the tower level itself is high enough for our group to level up. In addition, it should be strategic and allow us to create a small empire there."

"Yeah. Since this is related to your goal, keep in mind the rebuilding of that fallen city." Clovis pointed at Hana. "For the time being, I have some funds you can use, but if it's not enough, ask her."

"Heh." Hana smirked. Although she didn't know precisely about the Another World Mall, she had figured out how it worked. The reason Clovis wanted money without any apparent sign of buying a lot of things meant that secret just tried to circulate money around.

Hana nodded. "Just tell me. I will transfer the money to your group's account. If you need a connection within the country, leave it to me. I've plenty of connections, especially for materials to rebuild a city. Still, this is not going to be easy. Do you have a plan or something?"

Kanaria shook her head. "To rebuild a city, we have to kill the beasts inside it first, before taking control of the tower. Of course, this also means we have to set up another camp to take down the beasts in the underworld.

"That means it's probably better to set up the camp both on the surface and in the underworld.

"Then, it's to create the World Lift. The elevator is the most crucial. And I doubt that our group can do all that easily. It requires a lot of people not only to protect it but also to construct it.

"Once we're done with the World Lift, we can begin to rebuild the base underground. Once the underground base can function perfectly, there won't be any more threats of the beasts from within, which allows us to finally set up the city on the surface.

"This is basically the grand map to rebuild the city. However, it's easier said than done. The concrete plan itself, like where to gather the resources and how to develop the city to be able to sustain itself... is something I haven't thought about yet." Kanaria sighed.

"That's good enough for me." Hana nodded. "Besides, by establishing the city, we can get an unimaginable amount of money. It's just that the early investment will be quite insane. I don't think I can do it by myself. Should I pull in some investors? Or..."

Hana smiled coquettishly at Clovis.

"..." Clovis glanced at her, knowing that she wanted to have the items from Another World Mall.

Clovis let out a long sigh. "Maybe after I reach Tier 5. For now, the funds required to do the early development are not that high yet, right? Besides, you can still develop the Soul Weapon first."

"Hehehehe. Alright. Leave the money problem to me." Hana pumped her chest proudly.

Clovis asked, "Do you have any problems with the current course of our group?"

"Not really." Christina shook her head. "Besides, it's a good thing to have a base. It can speed up our progress. However, after listening to my grandfather, you probably need a lot of people to protect this place. What are you going to do with it? Our group is a small elite group, so we don't have enough numbers to protect the place."

"I know." Clovis thought for a moment. "There are ways, but... I'm not entirely sure about it."

Jay squinted his eyes as though he had figured it out. "Our families?"

"Oh? That's clever." Aileen nodded in agreement. "Our families are quite big and established in Absalom. On the one hand, if all are moving right away, it will hurt the foundation. And I don't think asking them to leave the country will be easy."

"Hence, they will probably send some explorers to us to help. I don't know if they will eventually come here or not."

Hana nodded. "If you need some additional force, I can use my OpenSky Company's people as well. I will just establish another headquarters in this new city. And since we will be sealing this fallen city, we will be able to monopolize the beasts for a while, which is something that people love. It's annoying to share your hunting ground with others after all."

"And all those beasts can be translated to money." Hana basically supported the idea, considering it would make money. "If it's not enough, I can still ask my grandfather to help as well."

"Well, that can wait. For now, we need to know the danger level of that city and the kind of beings we need to deal with." Clovis turned to Kanaria. "Have you found out which tower you would like to get?"

"Hmm..." Kanaria crossed her arms. "Actually, when you told us about the chance of setting up the base here, I started researching the tower in this country.

"There are 9 towers with dead cities. 4 out of 9 are quite strategic. One of them is near the border, the second is not far from the province with the highest level of trading, the third is quite close to everywhere, and the last one was used as a resort in the past."

"Oh. The first one is the closest to my home, huh?" Christina raised her eyebrows, feeling amused.

Clovis squinted his eyes. "That's only the strategic position. I can understand why they're strategic, but is there anything suitable for us?"

"That's the problem. I don't have enough information about it. Right now, I'm thinking about a fallen city with a danger level of six, which means there are Tier 6 beasts plaguing that city. With that danger level, there should be some Tier 8 beasts around in the underworld.

"However, considering our group's goal, I'm thinking about choosing a fallen city with a danger level of seven. It might not have Tier 9, but it should have more Tier 8 beasts around. Still, we're quite weak right now, so this place is going to be dangerous.

"In addition, it's quite hard to help the normal people as well, considering the average tier of this country is 4.81. It's higher than Axolonia, which is 4.11, but a danger level of 7 is still quite too high for the country. We're not like those superpower countries with an average tier of 5.5 or above. So... I'm not sure what to choose yet."

#### Chapter 668: Clovis' Choice

A woman was standing right in front of the mansion. She looked similar to Lucifania in terms of age. However, she was stronger even compared to most people in the Libation Fiesta. After all, she was a Tier 6 human.

She fixed her glasses while checking her hair. After ensuring that everything was alright, she finally stepped forward, searching for the bell.

However, before she was able to find them, Clovis, Christina, and Kanaria came out of the mansion.

"What are you doing here? Are you the one sent by the government?" Clovis' voice echoed.

"!!!" The woman looked surprised and hurriedly took a step back. She saluted. "I am Rena Walstain. I'm honored to be the formal agent for Mr. Clovis."

According to Christina, a Tier 9 usually had an agent that would take care of them. If they needed to do anything, they would contact this agent.

In fact, when Ezekiel visited this country to watch Clovis' match, he would have to contact the agent first, as the agent prepared everything he required in order to leave the country.

Depending on how nonchalant a Tier 9 human was, the agent could also be their friend or even known by their family.

This time, the country seemed to be giving him this Rena Walstain.

She looked pleasing to the eye. Despite being stiff and formal, she had enough experience and extensive knowledge to talk about a lot of things or accompany Clovis for a lot of hobbies.

At the same time, her strength was that of a Tier 6. She could be considered talented. In fact, she was one of the people who had the potential to become a Tier 8 human.

By sending her to Clovis, the country didn't plan to displease Clovis in any way. In fact, for a man, she should be more pleasing to his eyes.

On the other hand, Rena was a bit stiff. The country suddenly told her to serve a single person. More importantly, this person was a person with a unique ability. If Clovis truly grew into a Tier 9 human and she was able to assist him the whole time, it would probably be the highest honor for someone like her.

In fact, if Clovis recognized her, there was a chance that she would be included in his protection.

That was why she was a bit nervous despite facing Clovis, who was two tiers lower than her currently. After all, she had been told about the way he conducted himself when talking to the president. She knew how hard it was to deal with or take advantage of Clovis.

Clovis squinted his eyes. "So, you're the agent. That's perfect. We have chosen a tower that will be used as our base."

"Yes, sir. I will immediately relay your message." Rena nodded.

"There's no need to be too stiff." Clovis waved his hand. He turned to Kanaria.

Kanaria opened the map and showed the location to Rena. "We've chosen this tower and fallen city to be under our jurisdiction."

"!!!" Rena looked surprised. "This is... Entel."

"Yes. The fallen city Entel. It's known for its danger right now because this place has a danger level of six. With the right granted by the country, we would like to set this place as our base."

Kanaria couldn't help but recall how the conversation had flowed yesterday.

...

"We're not like those superpower countries with higher average tier, so... I don't know which one we should choose."

"If you don't really know which to choose, should I do it?" Clovis asked.

"Do you have something in mind?" Kanaria raised her eyebrows.

"Yeah. I will choose the danger level 6 fallen city."

"Oh? Can I know why?" Kanaria looked amused. There must be a reason for Clovis to go one tier lower.

Clovis raised four fingers. "I have a lot of reasons to be honest. First of all, we are granted the right to visit other places, not just this country. In other words, if we want to find anything more dangerous, we can simply access them outside this country.

"In addition, the country should be pleased because we will be helping their neighbor, which will increase their prestige.

"The second reason is the lower average tier of the people. Even this danger level 6 is already too much for the average explorers in this country. Hence, I'm planning to gradually develop this city to increase the average tier of the people. With this, the Libation Fiesta will be popular among the people. Of course, this is for the future, but I'm thinking about developing the city with that in mind.

"The third reason is location. The city is located not far from a mountain. In other words, it's a perfect place if we want to create a small resort just for our group or families. The better the condition of living, the more comfortable they are.



"Last but not least, the city itself might be quite far from the capital, but it's not that far from cities with abundant resources. The cost of developing the city will decrease significantly.

"I know everything can be solved with money, and we might be able to restore more cities in the future. However, let's do the easier one to make sure we can succeed at the first one, shall we?"

Clovis explained the four reasons, which were reasonable without overreaching his goal. Even Kanaria understood that this might be her dream, but she truly had no experience in restoring the city.

"Well, with a lower danger level, the average tier of the people coming to our city will be lower, which means if they're going to make a mess, we will have an easier time dealing with them as well." Christina nodded in agreement.

Clovis snapped his finger, agreeing with Christina.

"I understand." Kanaria smiled. "Let's choose this city."

...

Kanaria looked Rena in the eye and said, "We'll choose this city as our base. Do you need anything else to proceed? And when do you think the right is recognized?"

"I will immediately report it right away. I believe you can go there right away while I ask the people to process everything."

"Alright. Thank you." Kanaria nodded.

"Yes." Rena also took out a brown envelope. "And this is the report regarding Mr. Clovis' identity. The new ID is also included inside."

Chapter 669 669: A Base

"Hmmm..." The president crossed his arms. He glanced at the middle-aged man beside him. "What do you think? Choosing this city... Do you think it's a good idea?"

The man was none other than the country's minister of defense. He was examining Clovis' choice in choosing Entel as their base.

After a long pause, the middle-aged man explained, "It's insane. We have a lot of fallen cities with towers. I had expected them to grab one of the most strategic ones, but they ended up choosing Entel.

"I'm not sure whether it's luck or full of consideration, but if it's the latter, the one who chooses this city is a genius.

"While it's true that this city might not be the best, it is quite strategic for materials. As a result, the cost of building the city is not as high, which is probably perfect as this is their first time doing it.

"There are a few things that I can say, but the most important thing is that the city itself is quite far from our border."

"Away from our border?" The president furrowed his eyebrows.

"Yes, sir. We've received a report from our spies regarding people's intention to recruit him. There's no way they will leave such a guy alone. If they can't have him, they might ruin him."

"Have we stopped them from coming to our nation?" The president asked.

"We can block most of them, but not all. First of all, going that far with an airplane shouldn't be possible. Even with the one that made Hana Skylark famous, traveling such a distance will not be possible.

"As a result, there are only two ways for them to reach this place. It's by land or water. However, the nearest harbor is controlled by the Elseingarde family, which is also not in our country.

"Ezekiel Elseingarde has declared that he will protect the group that her granddaughter is in. As a result, those people will be screened directly by Mr. Ezekiel first.

"Hence, the most optimal way to reach our country is by land. The border is a lot easier to block, but we don't have the strength or manpower to block the underworld.

"As a result, I'm afraid that those who reach here will most likely come from the underworld.

"If he chooses the fallen city near the border, he will be easily found. On the other hand, the underworld is not that easy to cross.

"With this position, we will have some time as well. If I were acting as their adviser, I wouldn't tell them to go there due to how hard it was to brute force their way toward him."

"I see." The president squinted his eyes. "For now, inform those people that Clovis is ours. Although we can't make a public statement as well, I doubt we can hide this fact for long either. Make it in a way that we're protecting Clovis openly. Not only will we stop some of them, but it will also make it harder for Clovis to leave this country.

"In addition, tell those academies to behave properly. Although academies are important, the future of this guy is much more important for the prosperity of our country.

"Do everything as you see fit to protect the nation's interest."

"Understood." The middle-aged man nodded.

"By the way, since he's going to develop this place, has he contacted the military yet?"

The guy shook his head. "I doubt he will contact the military. The biggest reason is because he has the Skylark. They might be a business family, but their force is not something we should underestimate either."

"Fair point. For now, we'll wait and see how the situation progresses."

"Understood."

...

Meanwhile, Clovis and the others were discussing the same thing.

"Should I send my people there? To have a hunting ground like this is like a dream." Hana asked. "I'm sure everyone will be overjoyed."

"..." Clovis squinted his eyes.

"That's true. Realistically speaking, we might have the quality, but for this kind of job, quantity is preferred. Even if we can deal with their elites, it will be annoying if more beasts come without us having the means to block them all." Kanaria pinched the bridge of her nose, wondering if there were any methods she could use.

"For now, I don't want anyone to enter that place. Instead, how about making a small base for our Libation Fiesta there? Maybe we can use one of the best places that hasn't been ruined yet as our base. The problem will be the water and food. We can eat beasts, but we need to control everyone's diet." Clovis thought that Another World Mall could solve that issue easily, but the problem was whether he should reveal it completely right now or not.

"In that case, why don't we clean up the surface first?" Christina asked. "I have asked my grandfather. Although the Elseingarde family had been well-established before he moved into that city, he first cleaned up the city and checked the underworld.

"Only after that did he come with a lot of people to sweep in. After all, there's a chance that a Tier 7 is hiding inside the city. We might not be able to kill it, but running away from it should be possible. It's just... in case a Tier 7 beast truly appears, how are you going to deal with it? We are not strong enough to take care of them."

Clovis carefully thought about it and explained, "In that case, let's do it that way. We'll clean up the city and the tower. After that, we'll scout the underground city. Only after that can we move in some people from Hana's corporation. Besides, it will be good to have running water and other stuff and create a functioning base over there.

"In that case, we might need to split up our group into two. And those who can reach Tier 6 should do it as quickly as possible. That's the only way for us to win if there's indeed a Tier 7.

"We don't have a lot of time before problems pile up, so let's make it count. For now, let's make preparations to visit this city. We'll head there the day after tomorrow."

Chapter 670: Unexpected Visitor

"Well, it's time to go. Is everyone ready? We might not be able to go back for a while," Clovis asked with a big smile on his face.

The rest of the group seemed to be pumped up.

"Have you prepared everything?" Hana looked around.

"Yeah. Thank you for the help." Clovis nodded.

"It's not a big deal. I will send someone once a week to take care of a simple matter, such as exchanging the essence for you. If you need anything, you can purchase it here, and that person will deliver all the materials every week.

"After all, you need bullets and other materials to maintain your equipment. How about the energy?" Hana asked.

Clovis pointed at a small truck behind the bus. "We have stuffed everything in that truck. Generators, solar panels, and other things have been stored there."

"All right." Hana smiled. "Have a safe trip."

"Yeah." Clovis smiled.

When he was about to tell his people to enter their bus, they suddenly heard Reolf barking.

"Waaf! Waaf!"

"!!!" Clovis raised his eyebrows and hurriedly turned around. The others couldn't help but raise their weapons.

This was a signal from Reolf. Clovis had told him to bark once if he noticed someone familiar, twice if this was a person he had never seen before, and thrice if that person carried killing intent.

The moment he barked twice, Clovis and the others hurriedly raised their guards.

"Oh my. I guess I can't give you any surprise."

"Who?" Christina and a few members who were new to the group couldn't recognize her.

However, those who had been with Clovis for a long time couldn't help but furrow their eyebrows.

Jay stood in front of Clovis, looking at the female as well as the robe-covered person behind her.



"What are you trying to do here, Vina?" Jay asked coldly.

"Vina?" The people were confused, including Hana.

"This country is truly strict. I almost couldn't enter this place." Vina smiled wryly.

Jay's expression became colder, thinking that Vina had trespassed because she wanted to do something bad.

As if noticing that the conversation had gone in a bad direction, she hurriedly explained, "Please lower your weapons. I don't wish to fight here. I'm just trying... to negotiate."

"Negotiate? How bold. Are you trying to poach Clovis?" Hana stepped forth. "Especially by bringing that person? What are you planning to do with that Tier 7 human?"

"Of course not. I'm not here to poach Clovis. I just smell an opportunity. Well, I can only reach here because of a certain help." Vina took out a small letter while saying, "In exchange, I would like to deliver this letter on behalf of Miss Cleopatra."

"..." All of them were baffled. Only Kanaria and Jay reacted to that name. Clovis twitched his eyebrows and dropped his weapon.

"Huh?"

"What's going on?"

"Miss Cleopatra?"

"Do you know her?"

"Jay? Kanaria?"

Christina and the others were confused. They wanted to know who this person was.

"What do you want? Why do you have a letter from my mother?" Clovis asked while having a hard time regaining his composure.

"M-Mother?" They dropped their jaws while looking at Clovis.

"I won't take much of your time." Vina smiled. "Would you be willing to hear me out? It's fine if we say it here."

Clovis closed his eyes for a moment, falling into deep thought. "Fine."

"I come here as a part of Dark Moon Mercenary as well as the future heir of the Dark Emerald Group." Vina smiled. "It appears you have received a tower from this country. Hence, I would like to cooperate with you. Please allow us to set up a branch in your city."

"Dark Moon Mercenary, Dark Emerald Group?!" Hana gasped.

"Do you know them?" Luci asked, clueless about this organization.

"Dark Moon Mercenary is quite famous in the north. However, that's just the surface. Those who are able to see things in the shadow will understand why Dark Moon Mercenary is infamous.

"The Dark Moon Mercenary has three branches: the one that is considered one of the top groups in terms of information network, the Dark Emerald Group, the organization that is said to eliminate people depending on the commission, the Red Ruby Group, and lastly, the group that stays on the surface, capable of dealing with the most difficult missions, the Blue Diamond Group.

"And she claimed herself to be the heir of the Dark Emerald Group? This is even more ridiculous. The leader of the Dark Moon Mercenary is always determined by their contribution to the mercenary group. In other words, if she claims to be the heir of one of those groups, she has the right to claim the power of the Dark Moon Mercenary."

After hearing her explanation, this Dark Moon Mercenary had just become more terrifying.

On the other hand, Vina politely greeted them. "It's a pleasure to meet you, everyone. My name is Vina. I apologize for not being able to give you my family name. My grandmaster is the current leader of the Dark Emerald Group."

They looked shocked, but they were a bit concerned about what Vina actually wanted.

"Are you trying to become the leader of the Dark Moon Mercenary?" Clovis asked with a grim expression.

"!!!" Some of them instantly understood Vina's plan.

"As expected, I can't really hide anything from you." Vina smiled. "Yes. The Dark Moon Mercenary recycles their leader's seat every ten years. It has been five years since the last change.

"On behalf of my master, I would like to set up a base in your city."

"Although I don't really want to boast, the fact that you're able to get information directly from me is definitely something that's worth a lot. So, you're planning to use that information to get that seat?"

Vina remained smiling without answering his question.

Clovis knew from that reaction that he was understanding it correctly, but he was missing something. And that something was the letter she brought.

What she wanted was the cooperation of the Hacfield family. With that cooperation, it wouldn't be hard to seize the seat.

Clovis glanced at the letter in her hand. "Let me see that letter first."