

World Mall 731

Chapter 731: Second Unique Ability Awakening?

"As for Ragna... Aren't you possessing a similar constitution to Uncle Ezekiel?"

"Yes." Ragna nodded. "Sir Ezekiel confirmed it when he visited."

"All right. If that's the case, I think I will give you a technique to strengthen your body instead. It will also boost your regeneration.

"If you're able to keep coming back up before this, with this technique, you should be hard to take down because your body will become more robust. It's different from the technique he used to strengthen his body.

"However, this technique will give you more speed. Since this group has Christina, it's better if you increase your speed to patch up the hole."

"I understand. Thank you very much." Ragna nodded calmly.

"Good." Gerald nodded. "Next should be you. Aileen Risevan. I have seen your pseudo unique ability. This stealthy unique ability is extremely useful, but you need to put some effort into erasing your own presence instead of solely relying on your unique ability.

"This way, you can push your pseudo unique ability to the limit like the guy you fought during the day. Instead of letting his talent do all the work while he searched for other abilities to complement the pseudo unique ability, he actually trained that pseudo unique ability, which makes him impenetrable.

"The second technique will be regarding the dagger. Sorry, you are using short swords. I'm not sure if you're going to do it or not, but I will add a throwing technique into the mix. As for the short sword technique, I have this one after I help a certain family in the south."

"Thank you very much." She was a bit overwhelmed, but after recalling how they were unable to break the enemy's defense, she understood why Gerald told her to focus on honing her unique ability instead of strengthening herself by complementing that talent.

"Now that it's done... I think it's only fair if I give some more. For example, Melody. This is an echolocation technique, which will train your ears to be sharp enough to locate your enemy.

"Sometimes, an enemy won't appear on the radar, which I'm sure you have experienced clearly. Besides, there are things where it's better for you to listen instead of looking."

"Thank you very much." Melody received the technique he sent through the Skylink.

"I believe it's all done..." Gerald looked around. He had given everyone something.

"Since it's done, do you mind if you leave us? There's something we'd like to discuss with him." Aisha smiled, taking back the flow of the conversation.

They all looked at Clovis first, as he nodded his head.

"Look at you. You are so respected that they want your confirmation first." Aisha closed her eyes with a proud smile on her face. "Good job."

"Mhmm..." Clovis nodded. "Once again, I'd like to introduce both of you to Reolf. Reolf, say hi to my parents."

"Waaf!" Reolf raised his paw.

"Hehe. What a clever wolf." Aisha smiled. "You will be in trouble if this is shown to the public."

Gerald nodded in agreement. "People fear the unknown. This is unprecedented, so they don't know what's going to happen to this wolf."

"That's why I spread the rumor through those people. Besides, the attackers this time will know about him and report it to the higher-ups. Although I'm pretty sure they won't release this kind of information, they will definitely take some actions."

"In the worst-case scenario, they will want to catch Reolf and dissect him to see why he would follow you." Aisha smiled playfully while glancing at Reolf.

"Waaf?!" Reolf instinctively backed off, staring at Aisha in disbelief.

"I'm joking. I'm not going to do it. However, it doesn't mean everyone will accept it like that. There are people who definitely want to steal him, whether it's for personal amusement or to show people.

"There are also people who would like to tame their own beasts without realizing it's due to your unique ability.

"Though there's one thing I need to confirm. Can you have more than one?"

"Currently? No. But it's possible." Clovis nodded.

Aisha pondered for a moment. "I see. Gerald..."

Gerald nodded. "If you want Reolf to be accepted by the society, you probably have to send him a few times to this city during your training. Then your teammates will gradually introduce him to the workers and eventually help with their work.

"Because this is unprecedented, Reolf has no choice but to work even harder than he's supposed to.

"Once he's been accepted, there's nothing you need to worry about. By the time this matter is spread and people are trying to catch their own beasts, Reolf will have some reputation already. They will realize Reolf is different, which makes him the only one accepted. And in the future, as long as it's connected to you, nothing matters anymore.

"However, you should, by no means, explain your unique ability to the masses. They can name it however they want, but that's all."

"Yes. I understand that." Clovis nodded.

"You should introduce him to that girl who is manipulating the information right now. This way, she can also help spread the rumor to build public opinion in Reolf's favor."

"Yeah. I'll take care of everything first before going to Mara." Clovis assured them.

"Since you've understood all that, then I can only say good luck. Training with Mara won't be easy, which you should know without me telling you already. The reason for her interest should be in your unique ability.

"I don't personally understand it, but your second unique ability seems to be similar to hers, or even the same.

"Her unique ability is called Abyss Time. You will be able to awaken a human's potential as if you are breaking the human limit.

"However, this ability originated from the beast's gene in your body. I don't know how much you remember, but when you awaken your abilities, the beasts come out. It's probably from the will of the beast in the essence of our bodies."

"Awaken? Beast?" Clovis furrowed his eyebrows. "Dad, Mom. Can you tell me everything that happened back then?"

Chapter 732: Way Out of the Simulation World?

"Dad, Mom. Can you tell me everything that happened back then?"

Aisha and Gerald exchanged looks. Aisha looked at the sky before saying, "I'm sure you don't remember this, but you awakened your unique ability at the age of 4.

"However, you must remember that your grandfather told you once about you suddenly killing animals."

"!!!" Clovis raised his eyebrows. He definitely remembered about it. That was the reason everything began. It was because of his condition that his parents looked at him differently back then.

Although there wasn't much memory of that time, he still remembered the sensation.

"That was the time you awakened your second unique ability." Aisha raised one finger. "A unique ability is something you're born with. It has always been active in your body, but you can only utilize it when a certain requirement is fulfilled.

"For example, your grandfather was born with his unique ability, but he can only manifest that power when he's 18 years old, which is the exact time he becomes an explorer.

"In other words, the certain requirement is to become an explorer and awaken your evolutionary path."

"!!!" Clovis was surprised. Now that he thought about it, Another World Mall only appeared after he became an explorer. Although it wasn't immediate, he certainly awakened it not long after.

That was why the fact that he could awaken his second unique ability at the age of four meant something special happened.

"But Mom. If it's the first one to awaken, doesn't that mean it's the first unique ability instead of the second one?"

"Nope." Aisha shook her head. "Although it's the first one to awaken, something like this shouldn't happen unless something extraordinary occurred.

"In this scenario, I have checked everything related to the unique ability. Even without your grandfather, I'm certain that something changed when you were 4 years old."

"What do you mean?" Clovis frowned.

Aisha closed her eyes with a pained expression. "You know I'm a doctor, right?"

"Yes."

"When all this began, I examined your body, blood, and everything else. That was when I found out something special.

"In your body, there was a gene different from what you were supposed to have. I wasn't aware of whose gene or what gene it was, but it was clear that the data was different from the ones at your birth.

"Hence, I believed this gene was the real cause of your sudden awakening, the reason you're able to have a second unique ability.

"The exact details are still unknown even for me... No matter how hard I try to find the reason, I simply couldn't get it.

"Originally, this is how a unique ability appeared in people, but the fact you were 4 years old at that time made me doubt myself.

"During that time, I found out the exact gene that formed the unique ability. This particular mutation is still unknown, like how they're formed and other things. Everything I have done can't be close to replicating that gene.

"And this is the reason I know you have a unique ability in your body prior to the second one."

Clovis looked down, falling into deep thought. "Whose gene, huh... If that's the case, doesn't this mean I have received Mara's gene?"

"Huh? What do you mean?" She frowned. Even Gerald turned solemn.

"No. I feel like I understand it a bit more than you do. I'm afraid if I tell you the reason, you will think of me as crazy..."

"No. Tell me about it, no matter how unscientific it is." Aisha shook her head.

Clovis took a deep breath and pointed up. "I'm not sure if you know about it, but it looks like several people can actually see the system notification.

"Do you remember that our world is said to be a simulation world? I can see the system notification, though mostly about the error.

"Not long ago, I received a notification about 'two users with the same unique ability in the same world,' which is not supposed to happen.

"After listening to your theory about the gene mutation that allows one to have a unique ability, I come to a realization that this gene is Mara's gene. I have the same unique ability as Mara Leverstrike's."

"!!!" Both of them didn't expect they would reach such a conclusion.

Gerald rubbed his chin. "It's not unscientific. In fact, your father has told me about this ability. He personally couldn't see those notifications, but he has seen people with that power. Even the Prophet, your grandfather's archenemy, has that ability."

"If this is true, that means there's a way to transfer one's unique ability to another... As for the method, I don't know yet. And there's a chance it will destroy one's body..."

"Destroy one's body, huh? Now that I think about it, my unique ability is kinda weird." Clovis tilted his head.

"Elaborate."

"Whenever I look at everyone's unique ability, I realize that it's some sort of mutation to the body. Even Christina's Provoke is the mutation of one's instinct, right?"

"Yes. It is true."

"However, my unique ability is different." Clovis waved his hand and took out a cupcake from the inventory.

"Huh? Where did it come from?" Gerald squinted his eyes.

"From my unique ability. My unique ability allows me to bring out things that aren't supposed to exist. After learning from your theory, it doesn't make sense for this to be a unique ability..."

"No. That's certainly your unique ability, but this... is a strange mutation... Something that no one has ever seen before. It might be because of this mutation that your body can somehow receive another mutation. However, I have no way to prove this theory, no matter how plausible it is..." Aisha assured him.

"I see..." Clovis pinched the bridge of his nose. "This is a problem."

"Now, I get the gist of your unique ability." Aisha let out a long sigh. "It looks like there are too many questions that can't be answered."

"Indeed. There are only two ways to figure out the questions. The first one is to find out the answer through science, while the second method is to break free from this world.

"If this is a simulation world, there must be a way out there. Mara's gene is the reason I believe that method exists. In other words, Grandfather is not wrong. The closer we're to the truth, the higher our chance to escape from this simulation world," stated Clovis in disbelief.

Chapter 733: Reason

"!!!" Both Aisha and Gerald looked at Clovis in shock. This theory might be correct. Although it was just a clue, this was enough to show that there was a way to go out.

Essentially, it proved what his grandfather was searching for existed the whole time.

Clovis thought for a moment. "Well, there's no way to prove it right now. In the end, this is just a gene. Even if I ask Mara right now, there's no telling if she knows about it or not. Even if she knows it, do you think she will tell me about it?"

"Fair enough." Aisha nodded in understanding.

Clovis raised one finger. "Still, it doesn't add up. This is only about my unique abilities, so why would it require all of you to leave me alone?"

Aisha let out a long sigh. "Previously, we were considering whether I should be with you or not. After all, I could take care of you to a certain extent. However, due to my reputation, it was best if I left as well.

"The reason was fairly simple. If we were with you, our enemies could track our location and find how far we were from you. This would allow them to make a move depending on the distance between us.

"On the other hand, if we remained hidden..." Aisha stopped, letting Clovis continue.

"Ah!" Clovis nodded in understanding. "It would create an illusion you were with me. In this way, anyone that wanted to harm me should just send lower-level grunts to somehow kill me.

"If they sent someone with powerful strength, you might suddenly appear and kill that person, which was basically a huge loss for them.

"The same applied to Grandfather. If a Tier 9 human came, Grandfather would suddenly appear and launch an attack, which would definitely result in a catastrophe.

"To avoid this kind of attack, you remained hidden and forced the enemies to send people who were too low for your intervention. After all, they could also send this force to distract you and launch another ambush with their high-ranking people."

"Correct." Aisha smiled. "If it was too high, we could assume they were the main attack. If it was the same level, we had no choice but to assume they were bait.

"Of course, I'm sure you have figured out why meeting us would need to wait until you were a Tier 5 human... Albeit, this time, the situation went out of control and we had no choice but to meet prematurely."

Clovis nodded in understanding. "Yes. If it's just Tier 0 to Tier 4 humans, they were so weak that both of you could kill them in one shot no matter how many of them came.

"However, if they sent dozens of Tier 5 or even higher, both of you would need some preparations to handle it.

"This also reflected on my strength. With my group getting this powerful, it would be hard for them to eliminate us. In other words, staying together wouldn't be much of a problem anymore because we weren't that hard to kill anymore."

"Indeed. As expected of my baby, you're so smart." Aisha hugged him while rubbing her cheek against his.

Clovis smiled wryly. "Does that mean we will be living together from now on?"

Gerald was the one replying this time. "That question should be answered by you."

"!!!" Clovis was surprised. Gerald meant if Clovis wanted them to stay together, they would respect his choice and stay here. However, it would cause a certain problem.

In the first place, he had reached this level without relying too much on them. So, it didn't matter if they were going to stay together or not.

However, if they didn't stay together, his parents could assume their roles again, protecting him from the shadow until he reached Tier 6 or even Tier 7.

Only after reaching Tier 7 would they be able to stay with him without fearing anything.

On the other hand, if they stayed together right away, the enemies would do everything they could to eliminate them.

And there was also one thing he had to put into the equation. It was the fact he would be training with Mara.

Even if he agreed, they wouldn't meet each other for quite a while.

Clovis paused for a moment. "Can I ask two questions before giving an answer?"

"Sure. Mommy will answer everything you ask." Aisha nodded happily.

"Who is our enemy? The one who forced us to live like this?"

"This..." Aisha hesitated and glanced at Gerald. Gerald was also not sure, but he ultimately nodded his head.

Aisha finally answered, "Prophet."

"Prophet? The third on the top list? Why would someone like him target us?"

"We don't know either. According to your grandfather, there wasn't supposed to be an enmity between them, but the prophet launched a sneak attack on him, which caused him to be injured. The time he was with us was the time he was lying low due to his injury."

"..." Clovis closed his eyes. It didn't look like he could get the reason today. So, he just took a note in his heart and continued, "In that case, my second question is... Are you lonely?"

"!!!" Gerald and Aisha instinctively understood what this question meant. Clovis was simply showing his care and wanted to know how they felt.

"Mommy is touched! Let me hug you a bit longer."

Gerald smiled, feeling moved. "We'll respect your decision. We have let you suffer all these years. Even if you hate us, we won't complain."

"How could I hate you?" Clovis shook his head. "I guess I'm too weak to have a complete family now. However, I promise that I won't be a burden soon. Even if you don't live with me, I will prepare a villa where we can live together from time to time."

"It's just... Right now, I have to leave my group for a while. I'm sorry for being a useless son and ask for your help again."

Gerald nodded in understanding. "Don't worry. We'll help your group to a certain extent and make sure they remain focused on increasing their strength."

Chapter 734: Paths

"Thank you." Clovis smiled, looking at the city. He wanted to make this city a place he could call home.

Although his parents might not be near him, there would always be a place where they could return to. There was no need for them to reinstate the Hacfield family here. As long as they could just gather once in a while, that was enough for him.

Besides, there was a matter about the simulation world as well. He didn't know why the people in the real world would have created this simulation world in the first place. And what would they find when they were able to break out of this world?

And he had to consider the Prophet, who attacked his grandfather randomly. This might be related to the system as well, but without concrete proof, he could only assume things.

It looked like he had to gather more information. And the only way to do it was to get stronger.

Clovis' expression gradually turned solemn. He had told them about everything related to the group. It looked like there was nothing important they should discuss anymore.

However, his mother shocked him by asking, "By the way, when are you going to marry those girls? Although I'm saddened by the fact that my dear son is going to be snatched away, I didn't raise you to be someone who is irresponsible.

"You are definitely not playing around with them and casting them away when you don't need them anymore, right?"

"Of course not. If I were going to cast them away, I wouldn't have been in a relationship at all. Grandfather has always told me that you need to make sure you keep a promise no matter what." Clovis shook his head before falling into deep thought. "Still, the matter of marriage is a bit too fast for me. I haven't even thought about it."

"Well, you are 17 years old right now. No, you will be 18 in two months. So, it can't be helped." She shook her head helplessly. "And because of this training, you might not be back for a while... I don't know. A few months? A year or two?"

"Yeah." Clovis looked down, thinking. "I don't know..."

"In that case, let those girls settle down in this country first. Have their families do the same."

"Once it's done, your father and I can discuss the matter with their guardians directly."

"Unlike us, you are in the most delicate age where you should prioritize growth over anything else."

"That's why we, adults, will take care of this matter. You should focus on getting stronger first. The stronger you are, the more you can protect them."

Clovis nodded solemnly. "I understand."

"That's good. There's no need to rush anyway." Aisha smiled. "I guess the topic is a bit too heavy for you. Let's switch to something simpler. How have you been the whole time?"

"Ah. You won't believe this..." Clovis' eyes lit up as he recounted every single thing he had once encountered.

He had survived numerous life-and-death battles and his mother couldn't help but worry whenever Clovis attempted something reckless. However, they were quite surprised to find out Clovis had managed to achieve all that.

In the end, he spent the entire night talking about everything in the past two years. There wasn't a single word about what happened before that. Even though he was poor, he still managed to get by from selling the furniture, so it wasn't as miserable as everyone would think.

While the others received something from Gerald and Aisha, there was one person who wasn't present. It was Hana.

She was pouting behind her office desk.

"This is annoying. Why am I not invited?" She bit her lips before showing a few pictures on her Skyphone. "Look at this. They're showing off everything they've got. Meanwhile, I'm here... stumped with work."

"There, there..." Her grandmother smiled while patting her head. "You've chosen this path yourself."

"Ugh." Hana buried her head on the desk.

"If you don't like it, you should become someone different from the others. Look at what they get. It's clear that Kanaria is pursuing the path of management, Lucifania is growing in the medical field, while Christina is pursuing absolute strength.

"Just like them, you have your own path. Do you know what your grandfather told me when he proposed to me?

"I have been fighting the whole time, whether it's with my fist or my money. I want to fight again, but this time with my heart."

"That's a bit cringe." Hana squinted her eyes.

"Hahaha. But at that time, your grandfather was so charming." She chuckled. "You are not the same as your grandfather. You have dropped the path of combat. However, you have a path that is much stronger than that.

"All you just need to do is become someone irreplaceable to him. His strongest ally. And he, too, will become your strongest ally."

"..." Hana fell silent. She definitely had a path in front of her. Her talent in business surpassed even her grandfather's. Her grandfather thought she would be able to become one of the top five richest people

in the world. Although she received a bit of help from her grandfather's reputation, she managed to build this empire from scratch.

She had the new beast's soul, the soul weapon, and the power suit. Although the power suit hadn't been developed yet, it was in her path. Besides, she also had other products to offer.

Clovis had a unique ability that could bring out magical items beyond what logic and science allowed. If that was the case, her path was clear. She would create the peak of items that science allowed.

She would create something so good that Clovis had no choice but to choose her item over the item from the mall. Painting, food, and the like wouldn't be possible, but weapons might be possible. Besides, Clovis might be able to earn a lot of money through hunting beasts, but business simply gave more money.

Hana took a deep breath before saying, "Don't worry, Grandma. I know what I'm supposed to do."

"Then do it. You are my granddaughter. You just have to persist until the other party is yours."

Chapter 735: Reactions

"What did you say?" The president stood up in shock, staring at Sigurd, Dan, Radric, and Rena in disbelief.

"Everything happened as we said, sir." Dan nodded.

"We witnessed the appearance of Mara Leverstrike with our own eyes. She stopped the Berserker and forced the people from Lutvia to leave." Sigurd nodded with a serious face.

"Although it's hard to believe, that definitely happened," confirmed Radric.

The president fell back to his seat, feeling exhausted. He thought he had seen through Clovis, but it looked like he had only been able to see what Clovis wanted him to see.

If they had never met each other before, Mara Leverstrike wouldn't be willing to teach him. Hence, if Clovis had brought this to the negotiation table, it would have brought him tremendous benefits.

At the same time, this showed Clovis' character. He didn't want to involve anyone else in his matter.

Even though they were negotiating in the past, he just negotiated his own values, not the matter of setting up the Hacfield family.

It was clear that Clovis made a clear distinction between people.

The president fell silent for a moment before asking, "So, is he going to leave?"

"From the looks of it, yes," replied Rena. The president looked like he had lost hope after losing Clovis. So as to avoid the president from misunderstanding everything, Rena continued, "However, please don't worry, sir."

"Although Clovis will be leaving right now, it doesn't mean the group is going to leave. From what I have heard, it looks like they're going to remain here.

"Once the city reconstruction begins, they might be moving their families here. At the very least, they want to make sure their families are alright.

"Although I haven't gotten all the details, it looks like they're going to let them stay there while not destroying the roots. In other words, they will have two places, as the main family will be staying in our country."

"Well, it's hard to forget one root, especially after living so long. They're not like Clovis, after all." The president nodded in understanding. "It's clear that they're going to stay here, so that's good. What else?"

"According to the current situation, it looks like they're going to disappear for the time being and use that time to get stronger.

"I don't know for how long, but once they re-emerge, they will definitely make a big impact. I believe we shouldn't ask them anything for one or two years to let them feel comfortable.

"In addition, if possible, please allow me to serve the Libation Fiesta as an agent like I am to Sir Clovis."

The president contemplated. It wasn't a bad idea. Normally, Clovis had the full right of Rena, but because he wouldn't be available, it would be good if Rena could take care of his group here. This way, the group wouldn't leave the country and Clovis had a reason to go back here.

And with how he treated the people around him, the chance of him getting swayed during his training was extremely low.

After some consideration, the president agreed. "All right. You have my permission. Still, who do you report to if not Clovis? Since he's the vice captain, it's Jay Havenson?"

"No, sir. Jay Havenson might be the vice captain, but he doesn't directly manage the group. If I have to name one person, it will be Kanaria."

"Hmm? Not someone like Christina? Her family background is much higher, and she is probably the strongest in the group."

Rena shook her head. "No, sir. Miss Christina might be strong and her background might be powerful. However, the ones managing the group are Miss Kanaria and Miss Melody.

"Still, Miss Melody is handling the operations of the group while Miss Kanaria is both the supervisor and the manager. So, I'll be reporting to Miss Kanaria."

"All right then." The president nodded. "If you need to report anything else, report it directly to me. After repelling the enemies this time, we should have some peaceful time. So, they have time to grow."

"Understood. I will let them know."

The president turned to Radric and the others. "He might be gone for a while, but it doesn't mean he's not going to return. In that case, we should accommodate him as much as we can."

"Those people from the academies are quite reckless. If not for them hindering this operation, we would have more men to stop those people."

"Radric. Make arrangements to suppress them a bit. This will be enough to give explanations to him."

"Yes, sir."

"There is one more thing, sir." Rena raised her hand. "He wanted me to relay this message to you. He said, 'You can change my name.'"

The people were surprised, but the message was clear. Clovis' name had been hidden, so if he gave him this permission, it meant Clovis had some trust in the president.

This honor meant a happy cooperation, as long as he didn't betray this trust. It might be his way of thanking him for helping with the evacuation even though they didn't succeed.

"All right. I will take care of that personally. If there's nothing else, you are dismissed." The president waved his hand. "Thank you for your hard work."

...

Lutvia.

"What did you say?"

"You didn't hear me incorrectly. Mara Leverstrike intervened. It looked like she was going to take him as her student."

"There are currently ten Tier 9 humans, but this is because it hasn't been that long since the beast era began. If you look closely, more and more potential Tier 9 humans have appeared with their own unique ability.

"Clovis Hacfield is indeed good, but we seize what we can seize. Since it's going to be hard to seize him, there might be other opportunities in the future. Anyway, there are still several people who have a unique ability.

"It's true that with Clovis Hacfield, Michael Hacfield, Christina Elseingarde, Ezekiel Elseingarde, and Mara Leverstrike, they will have five Tier 9 humans, but the world will soon have 20, 30, or even more Tier 9... in a few years. There are still at least seven people with unique abilities who have reached Tier 8.

"So, we will stop for now. Wait until he re-emerges and finds another way. Or we might be able to create that opportunity ourselves."

Chapter 736: Meeting Mara

"Not fair. I'm here alone, you know? And the next thing I find, I can't meet you anymore." Hana pouted, staring at Clovis behind the screen.

"Ahahaha..." Clovis scratched the back of his head while looking away. "Well, it just happens to be that way."

Hana was unconvinced. She sobbed playfully while saying, "You're so heartless."

"Alright. Alright. Enough acting. I will make it up later." Clovis sighed.

"No taking back?" Hana took a peek at him before hiding her eyes again behind her hands.

Clovis could only shake his head helplessly at her acting this way. She was usually acting high and mighty to all her business partners, but she had always acted like this with him.

Clovis nodded. "Yeah. No taking back. Well, once I come back, I might be able to show it to you."

"Show it to me?" Hana raised her head.

"Yeah. Not the ones you've seen as of now, but the true form of my unique ability."

"Really?" Hana was surprised. A person's unique ability was a secret that they should safeguard the most. Among all the Tier 9 humans in the world, only several of them explained everything to another person, yet Clovis was willing to show it to her.

This showed how much he trusted her.

Clovis nodded in confirmation. "Yeah. I promise. After reaching a certain threshold, I should be able to show its true form to other people. You will be one of them."

Hana's eyes lit up. She nodded furiously, acting as if the sobbing had never happened. "In that case, I will send the money as usual. For now, it will be the money for the income for the new beast soul.

"Although it's not as big, it should be enough for the construction of the new city.

"I have surveyed several places where I can build a branch. It's all in the neighboring countries. So, the revenue will become greater as time passes. Of course, I'm planning to expand it to the entire world so that the gain can become greater.

"I will first send the money to your account. Then, you can send it to Kanaria for the construction. Is that enough?"

Clovis thought for a moment before nodding his head. "Yes. That's enough. Thank you."

"I prefer using action to words, you know?"

Clovis smiled helplessly. He was truly going to be sucked dry by this gree—lovely lady. "What do you want me to do?"

"You have confirmed your relationship with Kanaria, Luci, and Christina, right? I want it too."

Clovis fell silent for a moment before saying apologetically, "Can it wait until I come back?"

"..." Hana was worried. It would be a long time before Clovis returned. It could be a few months or even years. So, this meant it would take a long time for that promise to be fulfilled.

"I just don't want to do it behind the screen." Clovis rubbed his cheek, feeling embarrassed to explain his reason directly.

"Ah!" Hana might be a bit too anxious that she forgot about it. She sighed before saying, "Don't take anyone else before you fulfill that promise."

"Yeah. I promise."

Hana waved her hand, feeling a bit empty that she had to end this call. "In that case, I won't bother you anymore. Please be careful out there and do your best. Come back soon."

"Nhnn... Please take care of yourself and the others." Clovis waved back before hanging up the call.

Clovis let out a long breath, feeling a bit exhausted. He kept the Skyphone close as Reolf let out a small groan, as though he was letting him know he sensed a presence ahead.

"Have we arrived?"

"Waaf!" Reolf nodded, confirming the smell.

"I see." Clovis took another deep breath as Mara entered his vision.

Mara looked at Clovis, holding a glaive in one hand and a burger in the other. "Hmmm..."

Reolf halted his steps a few meters before Mara, since he was a bit scared of her power. Clovis, on the other hand, jumped off Reolf and approached Mara calmly to show that he trusted her.

Mara glanced at Reolf and asked, "He's with you?"

"The reason he became my family is due to my unique ability. So, yes." Clovis nodded.

Considering he would be going in and out of Another World Mall when he was training under Mara, he thought it would be fine for Clovis to show his Another World Mall right away.

After all, Mara would have found out about it sooner or later, and it was his sincerity to the person who would be teaching him about her own unique ability.

Clovis took out a burger and a cola out of nowhere while saying, "Since you like hamburgers and cola so much, I have brought this special kind for you. If you don't mind, would you be willing to taste it?"

"There's no need to talk to me politely. It takes more brain power to think of the polite word. Just say whatever word comes into your mind first, whether it's the polite one or the casual one," said Mara as she didn't grab Clovis' food yet.

Instead, she continued eating the one in her hand while continuing, "I will be teaching you my unique ability. When the world recognized your unique ability, I received a notification saying that your unique ability is the same as mine.

"This is the first time I see such a strong reaction from the world's system. It even made me hear my own voice saying words I have never spoken."

"Huh? There was such a thing?" Clovis raised his eyebrows while awkwardly seeing Mara finishing her burger before reaching for the one he offered, as if telling him she wasn't trying to reject the burger but she just didn't want to waste any food.

"Yeah." Mara nodded. "I said I gave you my unique ability. For some reason that I don't know, it should be the case."

"!!!" Clovis widened his eyes in shock, recalling what her mother said about him awakening this second unique ability when he was four years old. "This..."

Chapter 737: Abyss Time

"This..." Clovis couldn't help but furrow his eyebrows. After carefully considering everything, Clovis revealed the information. "Actually, according to my mother, I awakened this unique ability when I was four."

Mara fell silent for a minute before saying, "Unique abilities are supposed to be born with. You have to wait until you are awakened before you're able to utilize them. But four years old, huh?"

"I don't know the entire truth. However, if the whisper I heard back then was correct, there is a possibility that I transferred my unique ability to you at that time."

"It's just... it's not me. Well, technically, it's me, but it's the one in that world, not me in this world. More information about this might have to wait until another notification or clue appears, I believe. The rest will just be speculation based on how wild our imagination is."

"Fair enough." Clovis nodded in agreement. Just knowing this information alone was enough to confirm that there was a world beyond this simulation. Although they didn't know what kind of world was out there, it was clear that they also existed in that world.

In that case, they better figure out the exit instead of speculating.

Mara just paused for a while to reset the conversation so that she could move on to the new topic. "Either way, if you want to find that exit, you need to get stronger. I'm sure you are already aware of this, but your strength is nothing compared to the real expert.

"You have been growing your strength so fast that you have forgotten that you need to hone your battle skills to match with your tier.

"For others, it won't be a problem because the rate of their evolution progress is quite slow, giving them plenty of time to hone their skills. However, you are different.

"I can see that for some reason, you're able to catch up in one way or another, but if you want to challenge the people who have reached the high tiers, which are Tier 7 or above, you need to hone your evolution trait to perfection.

"I'm pretty sure you have known this, but most of the Tier 7 people or above have gotten their own powerful abilities. Even someone like me, who isn't that interested in them, has learned about their existence.

"I have met someone with a Brain Affinity who focuses his senses into his eyes instead of spreading them to other senses, which makes those senses ordinary, but his eyes are able to see kilometers away.

"Some refine their muscles to the pinnacle so that they can release strength from every strand of their muscle.

"And some are like the one you fought, hardening their body to the point where you couldn't even cut them down anymore. Your grandfather belongs to this category.

"That's why I will be teaching you three things. The first one is how to utilize your blood to the maximum. Whether you want to fully focus on one thing or spread it around is up to you.

"The second lesson is about my unique ability, which has a rather long explanation, even for me.

"Last but not least, it's to hone your swordsmanship. Of course, this is the simplest one, since you just have to fight. As for your opponent, it will be either all the beasts we encounter along the way or me. Understood?"

Clovis nodded with a serious expression. "Still, I don't know how I can repay you. It feels like you are teaching me for free."

Mara shook her head. "This promise originated from your grandfather. If you still want to do it, then bring me all the best burgers in the world. The one you gave me was pretty unique earlier."

Clovis widened his eyes in surprise before chuckling. "Hahaha. I understand. I will definitely bring you all the burgers this world has to offer."

Mara nodded. "Actually, you are pretty lucky that you have the Blood Affinity. If not for the fact you possess this affinity, you won't be able to awaken my unique ability.

"Or this might be the requirement or the reason for me to get my unique ability."

"What do you mean?" Clovis frowned.

"I call my unique ability Abyss Time. Do you know why?"

Clovis shook his head.

"In that case, tell me everything you know about this unique ability first."

Clovis pondered. "I don't know much. All I know is that this unique ability allows me to have all five evolutionary traits, which is the reason for me to get stronger all of a sudden whenever I activate it.

"Still, the more I use it, the more rationality I lose. Eventually, I will lose my mind and move fully with instincts. It's kind of bloodthirsty in nature. That's all, I guess?"

Mara shook her head. "You understand it incorrectly. The reason I call this Abyss Time is that this unique ability awakens one's potential to the very limit.

"While this might look simple at first glance, it is not. After all, the origin of this awakening stemmed from the beast's gene in our blood.

"Because of the essence that our parents had taken before giving birth to us... all the essence we've taken into our bodies.

"This is the origin of our awakening. Have you noticed anything different whenever you inject your essence?"

Clovis shook his head. "No. Is it going to be any different? Now that I think about it, something was different when I got a super injection. My absorption speed was much higher compared to the people in my group.

"And during the entire process, it felt like I was fighting against the beasts. Is it relevant?"

Clovis finally got the answer to one of the mysteries of his body when Mara nodded her head.

"Yes. That's originally what you're supposed to feel whenever you inject yourself with essence. However, the fact that you don't experience such a thing... do you not have any beast soul at the moment?"

"!!!" Clovis was taken aback. His grandfather once asked him not to take any beast soul without giving him any answer. He couldn't help but wonder if this was the reason.

Chapter 738: 3 Byproducts

Clovis contemplated seriously before choosing to reveal the reason. "My grandfather told me not to get any beast soul. Is this the reason?"

If this was really the reason, he wondered how much his grandfather knew. His father was probably the closest person to the truth about this world because he actively sought it, but it made one wonder how much he hid.

Mara, on the other hand, couldn't really answer this question, not because she didn't want to, but because she truly didn't know.

"I don't know. There's also a chance that your grandfather saw your awakening that day.

"I still remember that during my unique ability awakening, a roar of a beast echoed from within my blood."

"..." Clovis squinted. He might misunderstand his grandfather as well.

"Nevertheless, it's good that you don't have any beast soul. The reason we're able to utilize the peak of human limits is due to the existence of the beast gene.

"Each beast has their own affinity, and when they're accumulated in one's body, they will add up and eventually reach the pinnacle."

"So..." Clovis crossed his arms. "This kind of thing can be removed?"

"To a certain extent, yes. But doing such a thing is close to impossible. The difficulty is simply too high. However, because of this very reason, I might be able to transfer the unique ability to your body."

"If I have to say this, thanks to the development of technology, this unique ability might become the first one to get downgraded to that of a pseudo unique ability..."

"Can something like that happen? In the end, they still need to know how the gene works and so on." Clovis frowned.

"Of course, it's not impossible right now. But a hundred years or a few hundred years in the future? Maybe it's not impossible anymore? Of course, there's a difference between using my genes as a basis and creating from scratch."

"In your case, it looks like using my gene as a basis to transfer it to you is already possible, at least in the world beyond ours."

"..." Clovis pinched the bridge of his nose. A unique ability was someone's identity. It was so powerful that it became the reason they could dominate the world.

However, if people knew that it was possible to transfer a unique ability or even create something from scratch, the world would go mad.

He and Mara would be the perfect specimens. And every person in the world might hunt them for their genes.

That was why this matter couldn't be revealed.

Besides, this topic wasn't the main discussion. It was just a possibility they could think of.

Clovis let out a long sigh. "If we worry about this too much, the conversation can't continue at this rate."

"That is indeed true. There's no end if we talk about possibilities. Where was I again?"

"Beast Gene." Clovis raised one finger. "Why would the beast soul affect the absorption?"

"The reason is pretty simple. They're still alive. I never got a super injection, so I couldn't really say for sure.

"However, from what you described, it should be pretty accurate. The super injection is an injection of essence that has been fused together into one to achieve the amount they're intended to, right?

"In other words, not only does it contain so many types of essence, but it is also very concentrated.

"That's why you can feel them alive. The beast soul, on the other hand, is a kind of core of a beast. Obviously, they are similar to this concentrated essence or even more.

"The beast soul might not really affect normal people, but it's different for people like us who can utilize that beast gene.

"As a result, we have to fight every time we want to absorb the essence due to the beast soul rejecting it. It's as simple as not having another gene in one's body.

"When I first absorbed the first beast soul, I was overwhelmed, but the second time I got it, I realized this truth.

"That's why from that point on, I never took another beast soul anymore. Fortunately, the two beast souls were weak compared to my current strength, so they didn't bother me anymore.

"However, if you had beast souls and got super injections, I couldn't imagine what would happen to your body. You... would probably die because of their clash. It was like you were being surrounded from the inside and outside."

"..." Clovis felt chills down his spine. He didn't realize he was on the verge of dying this whole time simply because of his ignorance.

What if he, just like any other adolescent kid, disobeyed his grandfather's word even just once? He would definitely regret it for the rest of his life.

Still, there was one more thing he noticed. If everything she said was true, wouldn't that mean Another World Mall provided him with an opportunity for them?

Another World Mall's ingredients didn't boost their evolution progress the way the essence did. In other words, no matter how much they improved, they wouldn't have to worry about the clash.

At the same time, if they took more beast souls because of this, it was basically the same as declaring their dependency on Another World Mall.

Clovis pondered for a moment. 'It looks like the situation doesn't change. There's no way I will get a beast soul.'

"Anyway, it's good that you have no beast souls. Let's see... I should maybe continue with the main topic. The first byproduct of this unique ability is... I think you know it already."

Clovis' expression turned solemn. The answer was clear. The byproduct was that insanity. But after seeing how Mara wielded her power, Nathan could see the identity of that insanity.

"Killing intent."

"Yes. All the killing intent that came from me originated from those beasts. I will teach you how to control that killing intent.

"The second byproduct is the power of the animal."

"Now that I think about it, your glaive roared like a beast..." Clovis squinted his eyes. "There's no way your glaive is alive, right?"

"Of course. By controlling the killing intent, not only could you fully control the Abyss Time, but you would also be able to harness the power of the animal. I created an entirely new technique to harness this power.

"Last but not least, the third byproduct of the Abyss Time is... also the most terrifying... It is..."

Chapter 739: Death

"It is..." Mara looked Clovis in the eye.

All of a sudden, he could feel chills down his spine. Even the smell of blood permeated the air, reminding Clovis of what had happened previously.

"This is..." Clovis widened his eyes and looked around. The ground cracked again, and the tree snapped. Blood was gushing out of the trunk, filling the soil. The sky turned red as though blood had dyed the sky.

"!!!" Clovis panicked. He didn't know why Mara suddenly activated this ability. "What are you—!"

Suddenly, Clovis felt a powerful presence in the sky as though death itself was hovering above him. He couldn't help but raise his head.

It was there he could see a massive eye.

This eye stripped him of everything: his emotion... his body... even his entire being.

'What is this...

'An eye...

'I can't feel my body anymore...

'No... Am I even breathing at this point?

'Scared? I don't know. Can this even be considered scary? My heart doesn't feel anything... It is as if I don't have a heart anymore...

'No. Do I even have anything left?'

Clovis was just staring at the sky. It felt like his entire body was gone, as though it had been crushed to oblivion. The only thing he had left was his consciousness, which gradually disappeared as well.

He was scared, but that fear was so powerful that it numbed his heart, making him wonder if this was even fear to begin with.

He couldn't do anything... moving, twitching, or even breathing... It was as if death had come for him.

Fortunately, he snapped back to reality after hearing Mara's voice. Her voice was like an icy cold wind seeping into his bones. "When you gaze at the abyss..."

For some reason, his instinct was just to continue that sentence, as it was also the reflection of what he was currently experiencing.

"... the abyss stares back at you..." Clovis muttered before the entire illusion vanished as though it didn't exist to begin with. The blood smell, the red sky, or even the eye in the sky... all of them disappeared without a trace.

"Haaaa. Ha...!" Clovis dropped to his knees as he gasped for air. "A... Ahh..."

He tried to speak, but his tongue was still paralyzed.

"The last one is also where the name also comes from. Abyss Time. This is the true identity of our unique ability.

"I'm going to have you learn these three things. Our unique ability is an ability that can harness killing intent.

"We incorporate that killing intent in our affinities, which is what you currently are capable of right now. But I want you to be able to activate only one affinity by the time we finish our training.

"Then, the second one is manifest that killing intent in the form of a beast, giving life to your own technique by infusing that killing intent.

"Last but not least, the domain-like killing intent. You have been accumulating the killing intent the whole time.

"The reason why you think you lose your rationality is simply because you are unaware of this fact and try to control the killing intent. That's what takes over your mind.

"Although I don't know if you can do the third one or not, I will train you to that point. As for your future achievement, it will entirely depend on your ability.

"Besides, it looks like you have another unique ability in your body. So, my path might not be perfectly suitable for you. You might be able to combine them in one way or another.

"That's why you should search for the answer yourself."

Clovis took a few deep breaths to calm himself down from gazing into the abyss earlier. He couldn't call this the Perfect State anymore. Instead, he should start calling it by its proper name, Abyss Time.

Clovis nodded with a serious expression. "I understand. I will do my best."

Mara nodded. "There might be a reason why the me outside this world let you experience that unique ability. At the very least, I know that she wants you to receive it and master this power.

"That's why I will do it. There is a chance another notification will appear once you're able to manifest that power."

Clovis nodded. "Yes. What am I supposed to do now?"

"It's as simple as training both your body and your mind. If you want to control that killing intent, you need a stronger vessel capable of withstanding the killing intent.

"In that case, I just have to make you strong enough to withstand the pressure from the killing intent. Once you're able to resist it, you will be able to activate and deactivate this power whenever you like.

"Well, we will also be moving around. You are going to fight the beasts."

"Yes. But do you mind if Reolf stays with us?" Clovis pointed at Reolf.

"He is a part of your ability. So, be it." Mara nodded before turning to Reolf. "As long as your training is not interrupted, do whatever you want. You can play with him or even call your friends during your free time... if you can afford to do something else aside from resting during that time of course."

Clovis smiled wryly. "I will do my best."

Clovis turned to Reolf while smiling, "Isn't that good, Reolf? We can be together. You, too, need to get stronger."

"Waaf!" Reolf replied with a happy face. This was also the reason he followed Clovis in the first place.

He wanted to become strong enough to fight those overlords. As long as he followed Clovis' footsteps, he had the chance to aim for the peak, which was Tier 9.

Of course, no one really knew whether the beast also required a unique ability or something to become a Tier 9 or not.

Nevertheless, this training would create that foundation.

Clovis closed his eyes for a moment, recalling everything that had happened so far. He had met so many wonderful teammates. Although it was going to be a while, he promised to reunite with them and once again lead them to the very top.

Chapter 740: Relieved

In the hospital, Melody was waiting outside the operation room, covering her face the whole time. This was the moment she had been waiting for, so she was waiting for the good news.

Besides her was Kanaria. Since they were waiting for Hana to send all the people for the construction work, she still had time to accompany Melody in her hardest time.

Meanwhile, inside the operation room, Lucifania couldn't help but drop her jaw to the ground.

Clovis' mother, Aisha, had asked her to become the first assistant, but she was completely flabbergasted by Aisha's skill.

She thought the operation itself would take several hours, but when she looked at the clock above the room, only an hour had passed.

Aisha operated on him at a speed that no one had ever seen before. One could argue that speed didn't mean accuracy, but she had never seen a surgery this perfect.

Aisha's fingers moved even more delicately than a pianist's. She completely controlled the entire thing, from bleeding to suture.

Normally, this kind of operation required a microscope, but Aisha didn't even bother to get one. It was as if she could see everything with her own eyes.

After she fixed the inside, all that was left was closing up the head.

She tilted her head left and right as if trying to loosen her neck before smiling. "What's wrong? Close your mouth first. I don't want to fix your jaw if it ends up falling off."

"Ah!" Lucifania hurriedly closed her mouth as her body tensed up.

"Have you seen it?"

Lucifania nodded furiously.

"Then what do you think?"

"I have never seen a surgery this fast and this perfect before. If someone tells me I have passed out and am dreaming right now, I will believe them."

Aisha chuckled. "Thank you. Unfortunately, I don't think you can do it."

"That's..." Lucifania obviously understood this for several reasons. Still, it was kind of hurt to hear it directly from Aisha.

"The reason is simple. You don't have Brain Affinity. When you train your Brain Affinity to the highest degree, you will be able to see what normally can't be seen. For me, I focus on my eyes.

"However, for people like Melody, she should hone all her senses. I can't teach her, but I have met a person who can actually sense an entire building like this. How many people are inside, how much furniture there is, how they're moving, and their current exact location...

"That person can see it. As your operator, she should strive for that kind of thing. On the other hand, Kanaria is different. She is a sniper. She can pursue a similar path to mine, which focuses only on eyes, or other things. After all, she is also going to be the manager of the city.

"Pass this message to them once we settle things down.

"As for you... You have Muscle Affinity. It's impossible for you to have such a sharp sense. However, what do you think you can do with your Muscle Affinity as a doctor?"

She thought for a moment before shaking her head. "I don't know."

"The answer is pretty simple. In fact, it has been right in front of you the whole time. Muscle Affinity focuses on the delicate control of your muscles.

"In other words, you should be able to fully master each of your own blades. Their lengths and their shapes are all different, right? And that's because they each have their own purposes.

"If you can incorporate their size and everything they can offer, you should be able to keep up with them with no problem.

"Of course, I believe you also now understand those unique ways of handling things in the medical field."

Lucifania nodded. "Yes. I can imagine it. I will also pass along your message."

"Good." Aisha smiled. "What's your major again?"

"I'm not specialized in surgery, so it didn't really hurt when you told me I can't do it."

"Ahaha." Aisha looked away. "Well, you will probably find the thing in that place more interesting than my surgery. He's already stable, but he needs a full rest today, so we'll transfer him to the ALA facility to stimulate his brain."

"Understood." Lucifania acknowledged the arrangement.

"All right. Take care of the rest here. I'm going to inform her brother." Aisha waved her hand while walking away.

"Thank you for your hard work." Luci politely bowed. She obviously had told her teacher about this matter.

Her teacher was one of the top doctors in this country, but compared to Aisha, he could only listen if Aisha wanted to talk. After all, this was the difference between the top of the country and the top of the world.

That was why he told her to learn well under Aisha. Besides, after listening to Aisha's suggestion about her development, she might not just develop as a doctor but as a combatant too.

Luci took a deep breath before shifting her focus back to Dante.

...

Outside the operation room, Aisha calmly walked through the sliding door.

"!!!" Melody and Kanaria hurriedly stood up, facing Aisha. They had a worried expression on their face, anxious for the answer.

Aisha gave them a gentle smile to reassure them. "The operation went well. There was no problem and everything was under control the whole time.

"Still, he needs to rest for a whole day, so I won't wake him up. However, you can still see him.

"All the data shows a promise, so I can bring him to the ALA facility for further treatment. I believe it won't take long for him to open his eyes.

"So, if there's no problem, I will bring him there tomorrow."

Melody felt relieved. "Thank you..."

"You can thank me later once he wakes up."

Melody clenched her fists. Aisha definitely would like to ask her whether Melody wanted to go with her brother or stay here, but as a doctor, she believed it would be better for her to hold that question for the time being.

However, Melody seemed to have made a decision. Even before she asked that question, Melody grabbed Aisha's hands, asking, "Please take care of my brother..."

"!!!" Aisha raised her eyebrows. "I wanted to ask you that, but are you sure?"

Melody nodded. "Yes. I have been prepared for this. I know I can help a lot more here, so I should remain here. I have once sworn to Clovis that I will follow him if he can help my brother. That's what I'm going to do."

"I will respect your decision. Still, I'm going to inform you when he wakes up. You should visit him once in a while." Aisha smiled.

"Yes. Thank you very much."