

World Mall 761

Chapter 761: Ending the Hunt

Now that there weren't a lot of beasts anymore, Clovis and Reolf confronted them head-on.

Clovis swung his blade, unleashing his Beast Manifestation Art and cutting down more than ten beasts.

Still, the high-tier beasts were quick enough to jump, one of them going in his direction.

Clovis waved the other blade as the beast struck it with his claws. Now that the recoil from the Beast Manifestation Art had disappeared, Clovis swung the long blade, forcing the Tier 5 beast to throw itself back just to avoid his attack.

When Clovis was about to continue, two other Tier 5 beasts surrounded him from both sides, forcing him to raise both swords just to stop them.

Then, the Tier 6 beast hit him from behind.

Clovis managed to slightly twist his body and kick him, but the Tier 6 beast was still stronger in this situation. His kick pushed the Tier 6 beast back for several meters, but the beast knocked him to the ground.

Then, the Tier 6 beast leaped into the air, planning to use its entire weight to crush Clovis. The latter rolled his body to avoid it, but other Tier 5 beasts aimed at him.

Clovis had no other choice but to unleash his Beast Manifestation Art on them. With the combination of their strength, he failed to hurt them.

In addition, two lower-level beasts came from the opposite directions.

Clovis stabbed the first one while the second one headbutted his arm.

"Tsk." While clicking his tongue, Clovis pulled out the blade and spun his body, kicking the beast.

Right after he cleared his surroundings, the rest of the beasts had caught up. In addition, the four high-level beasts were waiting for an opportunity.

Clovis took a deep breath. Instead of attacking any of them, Clovis slowed down his vision even further, finding a small gap in their charge.

He first tilted his body and skillfully moved between them and let them pass.

Once he gathered enough strength, Clovis swung his blade as wide as possible, using the Beast Manifestation Art again.

This time, he killed over thirty beasts. Obviously, the high-level beasts pounced on him, not letting him have another chance.

Clovis smiled. He had tried this with Reolf in the past. Since it was normally impossible to use it in front of other people, Clovis actually used his Another World Mall, not to extract an item from the inventory, but to disappear.

Yes, Clovis vanished into thin air.

The beasts were confused as they couldn't find him.

Mara didn't have any change of expression. She would have been surprised if this had been three months ago, but she had noticed Clovis had been vanishing from time to time.

He thought she wouldn't notice it, but with her sharp senses, finding his disappearance was easy.

Clovis actually hid inside Another World Mall. In addition, he had instructed Blue earlier regarding the item limit. If he returned from Another World Mall right away, he would be wasting the purchase limit.

That was why Clovis instructed Blue to gather all the items but didn't complete the transaction yet. Instead, he would complete the transaction right after he entered.

In other words, as long as Blue bought things from a single store, it could just press a single button to confirm the transaction.

Then, one second later, Clovis reappeared in the world.

"!!!" The beasts widened their eyes in shock. How could Clovis vanish without a trace all of a sudden?

Then, the next thing they realized, Clovis was already there. In fact, during his time inside the mall, he actually raised his swords and gathered his momentum.

"Beast Manifestation Art, Severing Wings."

Clovis waved both blades as if he were flapping his wings.

Roar!

Two Tier 5 beasts got hit severely. In fact, the one who received the strike from the long blade died on the spot. The short blade only managed to cut an arm and left a deep wound on its body. The residual power from his ranged attack traveled to the Tier 6 beast in front of him, leaving a 5-centimeter-deep wound on both its sides.

This trick wouldn't work again since the enemies would be wary of him, but that was enough. He had taken down one beast and the other one wouldn't have enough strength to continue the fight. The Tier 6 beast would gradually weaken due to the blood loss.

Clovis wanted to hit the Tier 6 beast one more time, but the latter rushed forth even if it meant crashing into the last Tier 5 beast.

Although Clovis wanted to chase after them, he was stopped by the crowd of lower-level beasts.

He had no choice but to speed up and cut them one by one.

It looked like the Tier 6 beast had noticed what was going on. Due to its berserk state, it didn't have any thought of retreating.

Instead, it charged angrily at Clovis.

That charge was met by Clovis' blade, but due to the lower-level beasts, he didn't have enough momentum and power to unleash another Beast Manifestation Art.

Fortunately, he had one thing that could finish them. Clovis jumped into the air, letting the Tier 6 beast crash into other beasts.

Meanwhile, he spun midair. It looked like Clovis wanted to fall on top of the Tier 6 beast with all that momentum. He even pointed his blade down.

Several beasts, including the last Tier 5 beast, leaped into his path, trying to drag him to the side.

But this was a trap. Clovis swung the short blade to stop the lower-level beasts while focusing all his power on his long blade.

With a swift swing, he cut down the Tier 5 beast that was too focused on the Tier 6 beast.

Now that all the Tier 5 beasts around him had been defeated, Clovis could fully focus on the Tier 6 beast. Then again, the battle itself was no longer hard for Clovis.

Despite the relentless attacks of lower-level beasts, the Tier 6 beast had become slower and weaker as time passed. There was no stopping him anymore.

Just a few minutes after that injury, Clovis killed the Tier 6 beast.

Chapter 762: To the City

Roar! The Tier 6 beast let out its last roar as Clovis' sword sliced its neck.

After a total of 70 minutes, Clovis finally took down the Tier 6 beast. If not for him taking the pills, he would probably struggle even more. There was a chance he had to retreat after lowering their number and engaged in another fight after he recovered.

But the pill was enough to give him the last push to take down the Tier 6 beast. Clovis used the remaining time to slaughter all the remaining beasts.

With Clovis' strength, no beasts could stop him even if they worked together.

It took him another thirty minutes to cut down all the beasts around him. By the time he finished, Reolf seemed to have taken down his side as well, including the few Tier 5 beasts that tried to catch him.

His condition looked worse than Clovis's, but that was solely due to him not having a unique ability like Clovis.

If they had the same thing, Reolf would probably be able to achieve the same feat.

"Good work, Reolf." Clovis waved his hand.

"Aooo!" Reolf let out a howl as a sign that their battle was over.

"Hah... I'm beat." Clovis dropped to his butt.

Mara suddenly landed next to him while asking, "How is your condition?"

Clovis was slightly startled, but he understood what Mara wanted to know. "My current limit is 90 minutes right now. During those 90 minutes, I am able to suppress the killing intent easily.

"However, in the last ten minutes or so, the killing intent begins to corrupt my mind. Suppressing them is not as easy, but it's still manageable.

"If the battle took another 20 minutes, I wouldn't be able to control it anymore," explained Clovis.

"That's good enough." Mara nodded. "The more you're able to assimilate with the killing intent, the longer you're able to use it. But once you assimilate with the Abyss Time fully, to the point where your new normal state is your original Abyss Time state, you will be able to use it all the time.

"It won't influence your mind, but it's draining your energy. Right now, you are only utilizing 5% of the Abyss Time's potential.

"How do you feel about the combination of your affinities?"

Clovis looked down before raising his finger. "It's good enough for now, but I think I can push it a bit more. For now, I can only use the Blood and Muscle combination and the Blood and Brain combination.

"However, I'll be working on other affinities as well, especially Heart and Bones. Right now, I'm only capable of utilizing the very basics, such as defense and recovery.

"Still, I don't think I will be using all ten different combinations. Instead, I'm thinking about utilizing only five of those combinations."

"Hmm? Why?" Mara asked.

"Because mastering all combinations won't suit my fighting style. It will also take the time I can use to hunt more beasts as well.

"Instead, I want to focus on 'Blood-Muscle' for strength, 'Blood-Heart' for recovery, 'Blood-Brain' for perception, 'Blood-Bones' for additional defense, and 'Muscle-Bones' for toughness.

"Even though I have Abyss Time, my original affinity is Blood. Hence, it's better for me to focus on all Blood combinations and an additional 'Muscle-Bones' combination."

Mara didn't expect Clovis to see through the combination. She, too, mastered only these five combinations because she wanted to master combat. Thanks to the 'Blood-Muscle' and 'Bones-Muscle' combinations, she had the strongest firepower in the world. The rest of the combinations allowed her to become one of the strongest.

She thought about teaching this important combination to him, but it didn't seem necessary anymore. "I see. It looks like there's no need to teach you about it anymore. That's right.

"It's better for you to focus on several combinations rather than mastering everything. And there's one more thing I should add.

"You should have one type of essence that suits each combination. Right now, you want this beast's essence because of its momentum, right? This aligns with the 'Blood-Muscle' combination.

"In that case, you need four other types of essences: recovery, perception, defense, and toughness, as you have said."

Clovis nodded. "I understand. I can fill up the rest with the food from my unique ability. In case I return with my team and share the food, I can take a bigger portion to maintain my speed as well. They already understand the nature of my unique ability anyway."

"I won't say anything regarding your team. As long as you get stronger, that's enough." Mara nodded. "Anyway, since we have killed all these beasts, it's better to get the essence of only high-level beasts."

"Yeah. That's what I'm planning to do. Besides, the storage that I brought was about to be filled up." Clovis agreed. Reolf was usually the one carrying that bag containing all the essence storage. If it were filled up completely, they would have to drain a lot of it to make some space for higher-tier essence.

Mara thought for a moment before saying, "In that case, we should go to the city."

"The city?" Clovis was dumbfounded. "But Reolf... Well, I do have a plan to introduce him to the world, but suddenly bringing him to the city will cause a lot of trouble."

"Do I look like I care?" Mara's expression remained unchanged. "I will guarantee his safety inside the city. If they dare to kidnap him, I will level the entire city. Is that enough?"

"!!!" Clovis didn't expect such a promise from Mara. Reolf would probably be the safest dire wolf in the world because of that promise.

Clovis considered the pros and cons. As long as Reolf was safe whenever he entered the city, his presence would be known to the world. Once he returned from this trip, Reolf could come out and live as usual instead of being wary of getting kidnapped.

Besides, the rumor about Reolf's existence had been spread carefully on the Skynet by Hana and Vina. He would probably shock the entire world by suddenly appearing with Reolf, but he thought about something more interesting. In the future, he would be able to tame another pet, so why not use this opportunity to prepare for what was about to come?

Clovis smiled. "I understand. Let's go to the city."

Chapter 763: Approaching the City

"What is that?"

"A beast?"

"A beast is coming!"

The city guards panicked as they hurriedly informed the rest of the guards that a beast was coming. They had to go to their station and get ready for a beast wave.

It was rare for a single beast to approach the city. If there was indeed a beast, it meant there was a high chance for a beast wave to occur.

After all, a beast wandering around here could only mean that the surrounding area had gathered enough beasts that one or two beasts ended up wandering around.

The alarm had been rung as the soldiers rushed to the city wall.

However, the shock came right after they observed the movement of the beast.

Normally, a beast would charge to their wall to attack them. After all, beasts are aggressive. This knowledge had been instilled in them since they were young.

Yet, for some reason, the beast advanced forth without increasing its speed despite finding a human civilization.

"What's going on?" A soldier muttered.

"Look!" another soldier gasped while looking at the beast through the binoculars. "There are two people riding the beast!"

"What?"

The soldiers were bewildered. Two humans riding the beasts? How could it be possible? There were no humans collaborating with the beasts. They had tried but to no avail.

No matter how intelligent the beast was, they would naturally be aggressive toward the human.

Yet, that wasn't happening in front of them.

In fact, one of the humans actually waved his hand toward them as if greeting them.

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Inside the wall, a guard slammed open the door, startling his officer with a loud collision sound.

"What are you doing?" His officer frowned.

"Sir. We need your presence on the wall. We have just seen something unprecedented.

"A man and a woman are currently riding a dire wolf approaching the city."

"Riding a dire wolf?" His officer widened his eyes in shock. "Are you kidding me right now?"

"No, sir. That's really what happened. If you go to the wall, you will find the same thing."

His officer closed his book and hurried outside as the two took the elevator to the top of the wall.

The soldiers were gathering on the edge of the wall, watching what was happening with great interest.

The officer pushed away some soldiers while shouting, "What happened? Where are those two people?"

"Sir!" One soldier recognized him. He handed over his binoculars while saying, "Please take a look at them with this, sir."

The officer took the binoculars to see what was going on, only to be surprised like other soldiers.

"What the fuck?" The officer took a step back. "They are riding a beast? And the beast looks tame. Do you know who they are?"

"We are unsure about the woman, but the guy must be the one who became famous not long ago." The soldier took out his Skyphone and showed the photo of Clovis.

"Who is he?" The officer frowned.

"His name is Clovis Hacfield. He has been acknowledged as a special powerhouse of Absalom. It's confirmed that his potential goes all the way to Tier 9. He once defeated Tesron Khalika Melesviet in combat, and he was only a Tier 4 human at that time, while the latter was a Tier 5 human."

"!!!" The officer gasped. "Clovis Hacfield... A special powerhouse... Is this the rumored unique ability? He's able to tame a beast with his unique ability?"

"Then again, why would such a person come to this country, specifically this city?"

"We are not entirely sure. His whereabouts were unknown after that battle."

"..." The officer took out his Skyphone and called the commander in charge of this city.

"It's me."

"We have a situation over here. Clovis Hacfield, a special envoy recognized by Absalom, has entered the country and is currently approaching our city."

"If there's indeed a special envoy, then just treat it accordingly. There's no need to call me. Right now, he's not at the level where I should come out to greet him right away."

"Yes, sir. The problem is... he seems to have tamed a beast."

"A beast? You mean animal?"

"No, sir. It's a beast, a dire wolf. He is currently riding a dire wolf with a woman we have yet to recognize."

"..." The commander fell silent, carefully considering the situation. He ultimately said, "Hold them back for a few minutes. I will be there immediately."

"Understood." The officer nodded while putting back his phone. Then, he headed straight down to meet them.

Little did he know, Clovis and Mara were precisely talking about their identities.

Mara said, "They're talking about you right now. It looks like they recognize you."

"Recognize me? Well, that's good. But they will probably get scared of you." Clovis shrugged.

"No. They don't recognize me."

"They don't... They what?" Clovis widened his eyes in shock. How could those people not recognize one of the Tier 9 humans in the world?

"Unlike you, I don't really want to become famous. No, rather, I don't really show my face around."

"Ah!" Clovis almost forgot that Mara was wandering around the world. There were not many pictures of her because she rarely interacted with others.

Now that he thought about it, their first meeting was the same. Normally, Mara would have been recognized by the city, but they could even enjoy a burger without anyone recognizing them.

Unlike other Tier 9 humans who basked in their own glory, Mara just followed the wind and occasionally bought burgers to eat instead of proving her own worth in front of the camera.

"Sorry, but it looks like they're going to recognize you sooner or later. And the whole world will probably be the same because of me. A person who rides Reolf together with Clovis Hacfield is Mara Leverstrike. I'm pretty sure there will be news like that soon."

"It doesn't matter whether they recognize me or not. As long as they don't stop me, I will be peaceful." Mara shook her head. "Though, it looks like someone important is finally coming down."

Clovis tilted his head first and saw Mara pointing forward. He then turned around, finding someone leading several guards to the gate. Finally, they could enter the city.

Chapter 764: Shocked Commander

"This is..."

The people couldn't help but gasp, staring at Reolf. On the one hand, they were afraid because Reolf could kill them suddenly. On the other hand, they couldn't help but be mesmerized by the sight of a dire wolf.

As a Tier 5 dire wolf, known for its size, Reolf was close to four meters tall. His beast soul made him look more terrifying and majestic.

They wondered what they would have to do if they had such a pet.

Clovis, on the other hand, jumped off Reolf's body and landed in front of the officer.

The officer gulped down. Even he didn't have enough strength to fight against a Tier 5 beast like Reolf, yet the person in front of him could tame one.

With a smile on his face, Clovis took out his Skyphone and projected several documents as though this wasn't the first time he was doing it. "Hello. I'm Clovis Hacfield. These are probably the documents you need."

Before going to the city, Clovis had requested Rena to get a few documents. The first one was the fact that he was affiliated with Absalom. It had granted him the right to travel to other countries with a special pass to all sorts of locations.

The second one was the ownership of Reolf. At the very least, the country acknowledged Reolf as Clovis' possession. Any damage done by the wolf would be Clovis' responsibility, but at the same time, if anyone tried to harm Reolf, Clovis wouldn't hesitate to fight back as well.

Last but not least, it was a special letter regarding his stay in this country. Of course, he and Mara would probably go to another country soon, but for now, he required this document to enter the city.

Seeing Clovis' reaction, the officer realized that this wasn't the first time. In other words, this had been done according to what Clovis had shown him.

Hence, he calmed down and received the documents. "Please allow me to check your documents first. It will take some time because this is our first time seeing a dire wolf in this situation, so please forgive us. Is he..."

"Don't worry. He's intelligent. You can ask him directly." Clovis nodded.

Giving him the right to ask him would make them feel more at ease. Although a bit hesitant, the officer turned to Reolf and asked, "Are you going to attack people?"

Reolf shook his head.

"!!!" The officer widened his eyes. "Can you understand me?"

Reolf nodded this time.

The more he asked, the more intelligent he would look, so it would work out just fine.

"Then, is your name Reolf?"

Reolf nodded again.

"The wolf is so smart. Can he really understand us?"

"Amazing."

The soldiers whispered in amusement.

"Can you wait for a bit?" The officer asked again.

Reolf nodded without hesitation.

Seeing such a reaction from Reolf, the officer's face brightened. It didn't seem the situation was as bad as he originally thought.

When he took a look at the documents, they had the guarantee from both Clovis and Absalom.

"These are our explorer cards." Clovis took out two cards—one was his, while the other was Mara's.

As the officer received cards, a middle-aged man suddenly descended from the sky.

"I have come!" The middle-aged man looked at Clovis and Reolf carefully. His face was slightly distorted, not knowing Clovis' reason for coming here.

"Sir!" The officer looked happy, thinking that the pressure was gone now that his superior had come in.

However, the middle-aged man had his jaw drop the moment his gaze reached Mara.

"!!!" It felt like his heart just dropped to the ground. His body was trembling in fear because he recognized this person.

He took one step back, his lips having a hard time calling that name.

"Sir?" The officer and other soldiers were confused, not expecting such a reaction from their highest superior. On the one hand, Reolf was indeed shocking. On the other hand, they shouldn't fear two Tier 5s too much.

To their surprise, their superior shouted, directing his anger at his subordinates. "What are you doing? Let them in right away!"

"What?" The officer and the soldiers became even more confused. This wasn't an official visit from Clovis, so they couldn't do it.

But the middle-aged man simply walked toward the wolf and politely bowed while asking carefully, "May I know if your excellency is Mara Leverstrike?"

"Mara... Leverstrike..."

The officer, who had just taken the explorer cards, couldn't help but look at the name on her card. Mara Leverstrike. While the picture couldn't be recognized, the name had shocked the entire world.

In addition, his superior was a Tier 7 human. For such a strong human to bow respectfully to another person, there was only one Mara Leverstrike who could achieve such a thing. The Tier 9 human known as the Wandering Disaster, Mara Leverstrike.

The officer dropped both cards in shock, his body shaking uncontrollably. "Mara Leverstrike... That Mara Leverstrike?"

Mara nodded. "Yes. Is there a problem? I just want to enter the city, buy some food, and take my leave."

Her answer made it feel like she had gotten used to such a reaction.

"Of course, there's no problem." Even if there was a problem, he didn't dare to say it. After all, Mara might destroy the entire city if she weren't allowed to enter.

As long as Mara wanted to pass quietly, they should accommodate her as much as they could. But what was more shocking was the fact that Mara was traveling with Clovis.

"Then, this wolf..." The commander gulped.

"Reolf is his, not mine. It's all connected to his unique ability, so there should be no worry about him going berserk. Unless provoked, the three of us will not do anything. But if there is any harm..." Mara didn't complete her sentence, but the meaning was clear.

The commander's body tensed up. This was like a direct request. 'Accommodate me and warn all the potential people who might become greedy for Reolf. As long as nothing happens, they will leave the city.'

The commander looked at Mara, his back drenched in sweat. One wrong move on his part would cause a disaster.

Chapter 765: Shocking News

"Miss." Hana's assistant entered the room while showing her the news.

It was a picture of Clovis riding Reolf. Mara was also with him. More importantly, they were being carefully escorted to a Vampire Burger, a famous chain known for its quality burgers.

This was probably the first time someone had seen a human riding a beast. They had to be escorted even.

"Hahahahaha!" Hana laughed out loud, tears forming at the corners of her eyes. "I see... So, he has finally revealed Reolf."

"Eh? You already knew this the whole time, Miss?"

"Why do you think I haven't?" Hana shook her head helplessly. "Well, what's the reaction?"

"I have found a video. The people are mostly shocked because this is the first time they have seen such a sight.

"They are panicking at first, but because they're being escorted by a convoy of that city's government, they don't really garner any instinctual attack.

"All the explorers still grab their weapons though. But it's fortunate that the government is acting fast. If not, they would have been in trouble.

"Mara Leverstrike is with him, so there's a high chance the Wandering Disaster will show why she received that nickname in the first place.

"There's even an interview with him. Mr. Clovis has explicitly stated that the dire wolf originated from his unique ability, so there was no need to worry about harming people, unless they were the ones trying to harm them first.

"At the same time, our country seems to be preparing a press conference. I'm not sure about the details yet, but it should be related to this.

"As for the comments, people are worried and excited at the same time. This is the first time they have seen a tamed beast.

"But I'm afraid that people will be trying to take that tamed beast, whether it's for study or other things."

Hana nodded in understanding. "As expected. Well, that unique ability makes it impossible for others to replicate what he has done. By revealing it, he cleverly showed everyone that it's impossible to achieve the same feat without his unique ability.

"Hence, if people make such attempts, Clovis doesn't have to take the blame." Hana nodded while adding inwardly, 'Well, I don't care about Reolf. The most important thing is Clovis' items.

'If they know about the equipment that can boost their abilities, people will go crazy... The reaction will be much bigger than Reolf's existence.

'After all, Tier 8... no, even Tier 9 humans will be interested in such a thing. In fact, if Sir Michael or Sir Ezekiel has his treasures, they might be able to overpower another Tier 9 human easily.

'That's why he can't reveal it yet. But once the time is right, the world will be stunned one more time.

'In that case, I just have to focus on releasing my products first before revealing those artifacts.

'I don't know how far he's planning to go, but the painting is also interesting.'

Hana paused for a moment before asking, "Has anyone tried to reach us?"

"Not yet, but I believe our phones will be filled with calls soon."

"Considering our relationship, it's no wonder they want to know from us." Hana nodded. "Just ignore them for the time being. You don't have to worry about the government. They will be siding with Clovis and will receive the information directly from him.

"So, you can ignore all the calls. Instead, I want you to work with the government on another operation."

"An operation? Do you mean a mission?"

"Yes. How are Kanaria's family and other families?"

"The Renvolt family has shared its wish to come to this country. Miss Kanaria has personally convinced her family to take root here, using this city to grow their strength even more.

"The Havenson family doesn't plan to move entirely. However, they're willing to move here and set up their main family here while leaving the one in Axolonia as a branch family.

"With Mr. Jay's persuasion, they're moving together with the Renvolt family.

"Mr. Ragna doesn't have any other family left in Axolonia, so there's nothing to report about him.

"However, the Risevan family is extremely deep in Axolonia. Although they might not be one of the top families in the country, they're still the number one family in their own city, with a Tier 7 expert leading the family.

"Last but not least, Mr. Erwin's adopted father arrived in their city a few days ago. Because of the new city, he is more excited than anyone else."

"Well, Erwin's father is a professor, so he definitely loves to get his hands on rocks, especially since he can mine them as much as he wants here." Hana nodded. "As for the Risevan family, I want you to personally go to Axolonia and discuss the potential of one of their family members being in charge of our beast soul facility there."

"Are you worried about them, Miss?"

"Yeah. With the others leaving and their daughter staying here, they might be branded as traitors. By giving them the position, they won't receive such a backlash.

"Also, while you're there, go to the Havenson family and the Renvolt family to pick them up.

"Since the Havenson family plans to let their family there as a branch family, find another person to take a position in our facility. This should be enough to protect them.

"However, make sure to find someone capable, not just any random person. Although their relationship with Clovis is good, they're not the in-law of the Hacfield family.

"Hence, I don't want anyone to get it only to mess it up. To maintain this stability, they have to handle it appropriately."

"I understand." Her assistant nodded.

Hana smiled, satisfied. The government would be protecting them in Absalom, while her company would be protecting those who remained. This should be enough to help Clovis. At the very least, she wanted Clovis to get stronger soon.

While Clovis had become a pillar, he was still too weak to stop a Tier 9 human. During that time, she should be protecting everyone. Of course, she would definitely receive her 'payment' later, which was Another World Mall.

Chapter 766 766: Shocking the World

Lutvia.

"Sir, we've just received the information regarding Clovis Hacfield."

Khain couldn't help but furrow his eyebrows, staring at the news. "This doesn't look good. To think he would be revealing that card already..."

"What should we do, sir?"

"If he reveals the fact that he has tamed a beast, the situation will become different. From this point on, he and his beast will be counted as one. After all, he tames the beast through his unique ability.

"Besides, a lot of people will definitely love to get their hands on him. In fact, he might have had this wolf from the beginning... even before the fight against Tesron.

"This just shows that he was able to defeat Tesron without his full power. If this wolf had helped him back then, Tesron would be overwhelmed.

"And unlike other humans, the beast wouldn't switch sides. Your pets will be all over you as long as you treat them well, so, unlike all his teammates, we can't bribe them or threaten them.

"If this beast becomes Tier 8 or even Tier 9, it will change everything. Just imagine a country having not only a Tier 9 human but also a Tier 9 beast. It is equal to having two Tier 9s, with one having absolute loyalty."

Khain rubbed his cheek, having a headache. "Obviously, we can't do anything right now. As long as Clovis Hacfield remains with Mara Leverstrike, we can't even be near him.

"However, there are a lot of people who definitely love to get the method or see any difference from this wolf, so he will definitely face a lot of trouble." Khain paused for a moment. "Since we are going to change our method, might as well help him through this trouble.

"This way, we can mend the relationship between us. If they truly grow to Tier 9, this is the same as having two Tier 9 as our allies." Khain raised two fingers. "First, I want you to watch over the movements of other countries, especially the neighboring countries.

"Second, protect the families of his teammates. Since we can't go straight to him, it's best to soften up his people."

"Understood."

...

Berserker Island.

"Hahahaha. As expected of my grandson!" Kayne laughed wholeheartedly.

"He's not your grandson..." His agent's eyebrows twitched.

Kayne paused for a moment but chose to ignore the comment. "He's definitely doing this correctly. He must have gotten his good brain from me."

"You don't necessarily possess the brightest mind."

"Back me up, will you?" Kayne glared at him. "He's not as reckless as I am."

"That's indeed true."

"..." Kayne clenched his hand into a fist. "It looks like you want to eat my fist."

"I will shut up now." His agent looked away.

Kayne clicked his tongue before saying, "Still, the beast has been revealed. At this rate, people will be focused on him. In the younger generation, there are five people who are said to have the potential to become the new generation of Tier 9 humans.

"Tesron Khalika Melesviet, Christina Elseingarde, Clovis Hacfield, Grace Eleintel, and Max Navinethe.

"Three of them have gone face-to-face, but the other two don't have the same influence as those three. After all, they are the only people with a unique ability without a Tier 9 human in their family tree.

"Still, they're pretty much sheltered by their respective countries. I feel like they're going to meet again, and at that time, we can see who is at the top." Kayne grinned.

"Does it really matter? It looks like Clovis Hacfield is building his own reputation. It will take a while before the people accept this wolf as a part of him. So, he might only leave Mara Leverstrike after that.

"We've made some calculations. At this rate, he will probably leave her side at least one year from now."

Kayne smirked. "Well, it doesn't matter. I have my fun here. Besides, it won't be me they should worry about.

"If we're talking about the Tier 9 humans, they should be wary of the Spear Saint and the Prophet. Unlike the Spear Saint, the Prophet loves to mobilize people to work in his stead. This is the biggest reason why that fucker is even hiding in the first place."

"..." His agent couldn't deny it. Kayne mentioned the younger generation, but it was limited to Clovis' generation.

There was still one more generation above them. There were also potential Tier 9 humans among them. The people expected the world to have about 20 to 25 Tier 9 humans at one time in the future. And the number might grow further. After all, this was just 50 years after the simulation even started.

...

Melesviet family.

As Kayne expected, Carrick was someone Clovis had to be wary of.

Carrick's face darkened the moment he saw the news. He thought Tesron was at the top of his peers with that overpowered ability, but it looked like he was wrong.

"Having all that connection without the help of his grandparents, a hidden beast, and that overwhelming strength..." Carrick squinted his eyes before glancing to the side. "Have you figured out his unique ability?"

"Thanks to this news, we've reached one conclusion. His unique ability is something no one has ever seen before, because it can directly affect the others around him.

"Although his teammates are quite talented, they wouldn't have the foundation or path to become what they're now if not for Clovis.

"And this unique ability can also affect beasts. In other words, his unique ability is something he can share, but at the same time, he can utilize it to get even stronger. Like giving and receiving."

Carrick frowned. "What do you mean? There's no record of a unique ability being shared."

"Yes, sir. That's why we believe this is a mutation that no one has ever seen before."

Carrick fell silent. If it was indeed a mutation, the situation would be much more messed up. "Spread that information anonymously. Let those greedy people become more interested in him."

"There's one more thing, sir."

"Hmm?"

"This sharing unique ability is not limited to humans. Since he has a beast, that means he can share it with living beings, so we might have to include plants. Maybe... this ability can even be shared to objects... We might have been underestimating him this whole time..."

Carrick's face turned grim. "Make sure you spread it."

Chapter 767: Conflict Between Hacfields and Melesviets

The moment Carrick spread the analysis about Clovis' ability, the world was in complete shock.

Sharing his unique ability with others? It was something that wasn't possible before, but if this was a mutation, then the value of Clovis skyrocketed.

At first, they didn't do much because they thought Clovis had become a part of Absalom.

However, after knowing Clovis' true worth, they thought, 'Screw Absalom. Clovis can only be ours.'

That was right. They were planning to steal Clovis from Absalom. For Carrick, stealing Clovis was the same as weakening him.

It was true that someone who could steal Clovis from Absalom must be a strong nation, but there would be a small transition from Absalom to that country. If he played it right, he could end Clovis at that time.

Besides, even if he failed, the fact that the people were fighting to get a piece of Clovis would make Clovis' life more miserable. If he didn't have enough time to grow stronger, Tesron could use that time to focus on his training.

By slowing down the pace of his growth, Carrick cleverly bought some time to come up with more ways to screw Clovis over.

...

Absalom's presidential office.

"Mr. President. We've got a bad situation on hand. It looks like the Melesviet family is spreading analysis regarding Clovis' unique ability. They claim that Clovis can share his unique ability with others.

"They're cleverly using words that are hard to deny. Besides, Clovis' teammates are making it suspicious, and now the beast has just confirmed it.

"At this rate, other countries will be more proactive in stealing Clovis from us."

The president fell silent, his expression turning dark.

"Has there been a huge conflict between Clovis and Tesron before the sparring match? Or is he that petty?"

"If you're talking about conflicts, then yes. It's not between Clovis and Tesron, though."

"Not between them? Then..." The president frowned. "His family?"

"Yes. It happened 30 years ago. Michael Hacfield and Carrick Melesviet were rivals. Well, Michael Hacfield had a lot of enemies, such as Berserker Kayne Ghorn. They both were fighting for a woman back then, but their competition was much purer than the conflict with the Melesviet family.

"The Hacfield family and the Melesviet family might have looked tame in people's eyes, but their relationship is irreconcilable. The reason Sir Ezekiel Elseingarde chose to go all the way to this country to protect Clovis from Carrick.

"It all started with the Prophet. At that time, the Prophet suddenly attacked Michael Hacfield out of nowhere. No one believed the Prophet actually harbored any grudges because the two had never met before. Even Michael himself clarified his confusion from the sudden attack.

"I personally don't know much about the details of their conflict, but the Prophet loved to act using a borrowed knife, right?

"And that knife was none other than Carrick. At that time, the Hacfield family might not have been big, but they were certainly not this small. They still had several families and experts, but due to that conflict, the Hacfield family was crippled.

"80% of the people who followed the Hacfield family died at that time, including Madam Gloria, Michael Hacfield's wife. She was heavily injured back then, and nothing could save her.

"After three years battling that injury, she finally passed away. That was why Michael Hacfield changed his ways and turned the Hacfield family into a hidden family.

"The person who managed to extend her life that long was currently the wife of his son, Aisha.

"Due to her death, Michael Hacfield went berserk. He destroyed all sorts of facilities that the Carrick family had, resulting in the loss of a few thousand lives in the process.

"That was where his nickname came from, the Madman. Even with all the bounty in his head, he survived. All those people coming for him just added to the number of people who had died at his hand.

"This was the reason the Spear Saint was ranked higher than Michael Hacfield currently. And the one who controlled them, the Prophet, was ranked third in the world. No one knew where the Prophet was, so Michael Hacfield employed the same tactics.

"By staying away from the public eye, people had to think twice before attacking Clovis.

"It was no wonder Carrick employed this kind of tactic. He is probably trying to kill Clovis in the process.

"From the looks of it, Clovis himself is not aware of this story. Then again, not many know about this conflict, and his family doesn't look like a family that wants to place the weight of 'revenge' on their descendant's shoulder.

"And with Clovis beating the shit out of Tesron... Ahem, sorry, language. With Clovis defeating Tesron, it's clear who will come out on top in the future.

"Hence, Carrick will use this opportunity to kill Clovis. Fortunately, he is with Mara Leverstrike right now. We can rest assured for the time being. Instead, we should focus on preparing our countermeasures the moment Clovis returns to his team. That's when those people will make their moves."

The president sucked a cold breath. He had never heard this story before. It might be because he hadn't entered politics 30 years ago, while Radric, who explained this whole story, was the most senior explorer in this country.

"I see... Thank you for telling me this story, Radric." The president nodded with a serious expression. "Of course, we will do our best to protect the interests of our country. Clovis' value is much higher than anything we have seen so far. At this point, it feels like we are getting a bargain.

"Though, we will adjust the terms for Clovis later... I don't wish for him to leave the country because we're stingy.

"Regarding those countries, we will keep Clovis here no matter their demands." The president nodded. "If Clovis can indeed become a Tier 9 human and his beast also has the chance of becoming one, he will certainly become the strongest person in the world.

"Hence, our country will fight for that position openly. Get ready, Radric. The world will become chaotic soon."

"Yes, sir."

Chapter 768: War

"How come there's so much information about Clovis here?" Aisha stormed the room before projecting all the news about Clovis. "Clovis himself is fine, but there is information about his unique ability. At this rate, he won't have a peaceful time."

Gerald remained silent for a minute before sighing. "Right now, we don't have to worry about Clovis. As long as he is with Mara Leverstrike, Clovis will be safe. However, the leak of information is indeed a concern.

"I personally don't know whether this information is true or not. After all, the one who knows the real power of his unique ability is himself, so this information is just speculation."

Even as parents, they were aware of the importance of unique ability. Since Clovis didn't share it with them, they wouldn't ask about it.

At the same time, they could only work on their problem with the limited information. "Besides, why are you here? Shouldn't you be teaching that little girl?"

"Luci is studying something else currently. She herself is extremely talented and has a unique vision. Depending on her determination, she can become one of the leading doctors in her respective field." Aisha shook her head. "I come back here because I'm concerned about this information.

"Although this is just speculation, it gives several points that are similar to our own. If they use this information when fighting Clovis, they can gain the upper hand.

"You should know about it as well. The reason Clovis was able to defeat Tesron was the lack of information.

"Without any preparation, Tesron didn't expect Clovis to have that level of strength, which ultimately became the reason for his defeat."

"I know." Gerald scratched the back of his head before getting startled. There was an anonymous email entering his inbox. And the content was something he didn't expect.

"Carrick Melesviet spread the information regarding Clovis Hacfield's ability, sincerely Khain."

"..." Gerald widened his eyes in shock.

"What's wrong?" Aisha's expression turned dark, thinking another big thing had happened.

However, Gerald smiled awkwardly before pointing at the screen as if telling her to take a look at the email herself.

"Khain? Wasn't he one of the people who attacked Clovis? Why would he send this kind of information?"

Gerald sighed. "It looks like Lutvia is planning to take another path. Previously, they attacked Clovis, so it was clear for everyone to see that they were Clovis' enemy.

"This email confirmed it. If it's truly that old bastard spreading this information, he would spread it to the potential enemies of the Hacfield family.

"That included Khain and Lutvia. However, Khain chose to betray them and gave this information to us. From the looks of it, Khain wanted to make amends and chose to become a double agent for us.

"If we took this deal, we would be able to get information regarding the Melesviet family. In exchange, we would treat Lutvia as an ally.

"If we didn't take this deal, Lutvia might be the one leading the operation next time."

Aisha fell silent. On the one hand, Lutvia's information network was said to be in the top three in the world. On the other hand, she was a bit skeptical about whether to accept this peace agreement or not.

Different from her, Gerald was more concerned about the information.

'Melesviet...' Gerald pinched the bridge of his nose. A memory flashed in his mind.

"Mom! Mom!" Gerald was kneeling by the bedside, tears streaming down his cheek.

She simply smiled while stroking his head. "Gerald. I'm sorry. Mom won't be able to make you your favorite food anymore."

"Mom!"

"Please take care of Aisha. I can survive this long thanks to her. I don't know how to thank my daughter."

Aisha bit her lip, ashamed that she couldn't save her.

However, she simply turned to Michael. "Dear... Can I make a small request?"

"..." Michael tensed up. Both of them knew this would be their last moment. Her vital signs were gradually weakening.

"If I die here, I don't wish for you to go on a revenge. Living for revenge is a sad way to live. What you have done for me is enough. I just wish you could live freely as you'd always been.

"Just like how we used to travel around the world freely... I don't want our family to be engulfed with the desire for revenge. I just want us to have smiles on our faces.

"It's a shame that I can't meet my grandchildren. I guess this will be the second request... Make sure that these two are living well and give birth to children, but don't involve the child with the conflicts."

Michael clenched his hands into fists, his nails piercing his palms as blood dropped to the ground. "I promise. I will stop here. That's why... please..."

She smiled. "I have never regretted my choice. You are really the only person for me... Maybe I shouldn't be too selfish. If I hadn't monopolized you, you probably would not be in this much pain.

"There would be another person staying by your side... And even Gerald is the same.

"Maybe... My grandchildren in the future should live however they want. If they want a big family, then support them."

Michael bit his lip. "What are you saying? You didn't monopolize me. I..."

Seeing that smile on her face made Michael swallow his words back.

Her face became even paler, all color in her face gone. She said her last words while closing her eyes. "I'm going ahead. I will be waiting for all of you, and whoever dares to follow me without dying from old age, I'm going to whoop their asses. See ya!"

Everyone was crying. Even the tough Michael couldn't contain his tears.

When Gerald recalled that memory, he couldn't help but slam the table while gritting his teeth.

"We have been following Mother's wish by stopping the war. However, the Melesviet family has truly crossed the line. If they want war, we will give them one!"

Chapter 769: Grandpa

"That's what happened, Father..." informed Gerald with a serious expression.

"Is that so? Well, I have my own suspicions just from looking at this..." Michael sighed. "I have thought it's better to put everything behind. Our grandchildren probably don't know what happened back then.

"However, he has definitely crossed the line. I can tolerate the sparring, but since he wants to have a war. Then, he will have it even if it means going against her words."

"I understand..." Gerald looked down with a pained expression. "But if we do this, Clovis might end up finding the truth. What should we do?"

"I will tell Clovis myself. I am nearby."

Gerald sighed. "In that case, I will trust your decision, Father."

While having the video call with Gerald, Michael was looking to the side. There was a report regarding the news.

No one wanted to spread that kind of news unless their purpose was to annoy him. And there was only one person who wanted to annoy him.

After he hung up the call, Michael's killing intent soared as the beasts within three hundred meters of him suddenly let out a roar and left the area in panic.

"I'm sorry..." Michael muttered in a low voice. His apology wasn't directed at the beasts he had just disturbed but at someone who wasn't by his side.

...

Clovis and Mara had left the city with Reolf. As expected, there were a lot of people observing them, but after leaving the city, they didn't dare to follow them, in case they ended up provoking Mara.

Mara muttered, "Looks like they don't dare to come."

"If they come, won't you just cut them down? Even worse, you will go back to the city."

"Fair enough." Mara shrugged. "As long as they don't disturb me, I won't disturb them."

Clovis smiled. The operation was successful. With this, everyone in the world would know about Reolf. Hence, he could bring Reolf to another city without any worry.

Of course, if it were a random city, they might try to catch Reolf to study him. That was why he still needed to be careful.

Still, knowing Reolf alone was enough. Clovis had prepared two things as well. The first one was the red cloth Reolf had on his tail. He believed others would mimic it, but the collar on Reolf's neck was the same as an identification card.

He believed there would be people trying to imitate Reolf and put the blame on him. But it didn't matter. The more they imitated Reolf, the more Reolf would be seen as different.

Besides, with Mara beside him, there was no organization daring enough to catch him. They believed it would be better if they waited until Mara was gone. It might take some time, but it will happen eventually.

"So, what are we going to do now?" Clovis asked. "Are we going to train according to the normal schedule?"

"No. Since you have passed the first step, it's time to step up your training."

"Understood." Clovis smiled at the challenge. The stronger he became, the safer Reolf would be. That was why no matter how hard the training was, he would endure it. He had promised that he would make him a Tier 9 overlord beast and protect him along the way.

Hence, he would fulfill that promise no matter what it took.

As expected, the training had become even harder. Normally, Clovis would still have enough stamina to go one round or two with Reolf after all the training.

But this time, he hadn't even finished the training before passing out. Whenever he woke up, Mara only gave him a bit of time before restarting their training.

Even Reolf was scared of Mara's training.

However, there was one thing that happened, which startled Mara. While watching his training, Mara suddenly paused as she glanced into the distance.

They were already far enough from the city, so this might be an ambush. At the same time, she didn't expect someone this strong to come directly. They had at least several days to plan it out as well.

Since that person was going to come, Mara raised her glaive.

"Well, there's no need for a clash." A familiar voice echoed in their ears.

"!!!" Clovis' eyes lit up. "That voice... Grandfather?!"

Michael came out from behind the tree with a warm smile. He had two big bags while saying, "I'm here. How are you doing? I have brought some burgers."

Clovis widened his eyes. There was only one reason he brought those burgers. It was Mara.

"Oh... I didn't bring tea." Mara raised her eyebrows.

"It's fine, it's fine. I'm not supposed to be here anyway." Michael waved his hand.

"Grandpa!" Clovis rushed to Michael and hugged him.

"Hahahaha!" Michael laughed. Clovis was indeed the closest to his grandfather. "I'm sorry for stopping your training, girl."

"That's fine. I can just push him much harder for the time you take now." Mara shook her head, but she casually walked to Michael and took the two bags from him to help herself. "A lot of burgers. This one is cola. Alright, you're forgiven."

"Well, thank you." Michael was amused by Mara's reaction.

"In that case, it's break time. You only have time until I eat all these burgers. Every second beyond that means one slash from me." Mara walked away without waiting for the reply.

Michael just hugged Clovis first. "I'm glad you're doing fine. Does Grandpa need to beat someone up?"

"Ah!" Clovis was a bit too happy. He hurriedly took one step back, regaining his composure. "I'm glad I can meet you again, Grandpa."

"Me too." Michael smiled. "Though, I won't complain if you end up hating your grandpa."

"How can I?" Clovis took a step to the side and extended his hand to Reolf. "By the way, let me introduce you. This is Reolf, my partner. Reolf, this is my grandfather, Michael Hacfield."

"Woof." Reolf politely bowed his head.

"Oh my. He is so smart. Nice to meet you, Reolf. Please take care of my grandson."

"Woof!"

"That's right, Grandpa. What are you doing here? I thought I had to grow even stronger before being able to meet you."

Michael's expression turned serious after that question.

Chapter 770: Michael x Lily

Michael looked up, staring at the sky. Even though the sky was clear blue, it felt like a dark cloud was covering the entire sky.

Ever since that day, he had lost the ability to smile. Only after Clovis was born did his smile return to a certain extent. However, the darkness in his heart still clouded his eyes.

In addition, what he was about to do now might violate what his wife had asked him. It would have been good if Carrick hadn't even bothered with Clovis in the first place. But the other party must have been so worried about Clovis' progress that he chose to kill him before he could grow.

Even if Michael didn't tell Clovis anything, Clovis might find out about it sooner or later.

Rather than let someone else tell the truth, Michael chose to bear that sin. At the very least, Clovis would be much happier to know it directly from his grandfather.

Michael let out a long sigh. "You already know our Hacfield family is targeted by a lot of people, right?"

"Well, it's the same for other big families. They must have a reason to come for us, whether it's for fame, money, or revenge."

Michael smiled bitterly. He patted Clovis' shoulder while saying, "I guess I should tell you everything. This is the beginning of everything."

Clovis' eyes were wide open. Whenever he asked about his grandma, Michael had always dodged the topic. This was probably the first time he had chosen to speak up.

...

49 years ago.

"This is annoying. Get the hell out of here!" The 23-year-old Michael punched a beast and blasted the entire body. The flesh and blood splattered everything due to the sheer impact. "Hmph. Weakling!"

"Oi, Michael! Watch out." A man younger than him by five years shouted from the distance, noticing the incoming beast.

"Heh. I know that already." Michael smirked, readying his fist.

However, a knife suddenly flew into the eye of that beast. Then, a woman latched onto the beast and grabbed the handle before cutting the beast with the knife.

The beast fell down to the ground as the sudden deceleration pushed her forward. Still, she spun a few times in the air and landed smoothly on both feet.

"!!!" Michael raised his eyebrows. "What are you doing, Lily?! That's my prey! Besides, why the fuck are you here?"

Lily chuckled. "As expected, you are always overreacting. Your expression is very cute."

"What did you say? Me cute?" Michael gritted his teeth.

"Stop it, Michael!" Kayne, the man who was later known as Berserker, stopped him.

"Shut it. I'm going to beat you up if you stop me, Kayne."

"How can you call yourself a man?" Kayne glared at him.

"I'm treating everyone as equal, whether you are a man or a woman." Michael snorted.

"In that case, let me see whether you have improved or not." Kayne stood in front of Michael, blocking his path to Lily.

"Oh, Miss Lily. You are here! Are you done with that side?" The young man who had warned Michael earlier approached them.

"Matt!" Lily waved her hand. "Still taking care of him?"

"Hahaha. I should be the one asking you that question. Even though we are from different groups, you are still coming here. Thanks as always." Matt waved his hand.

"I don't need people to take care of me!" Michael gritted his teeth. "Matt, you bastard. Whose side are you on right now?"

"Eh? But Miss Lily has helped us a lot." Matt rolled his eyes.

"That's right, that's right. You should stop, Michael. Do you know that people who have anger issues are not popular?" Lily smirked, teasing Michael.

"Who cares? Whether I will become popular or not, it's up to me."

"Right? You don't need to be popular." Lily's smirk turned into a genuine smile as though she was fine with Michael staying that way.

'Ah, this...' Matt scratched the back of his head. 'That smile of hers... She's clearly interested in Michael. You don't need to be popular? That's just because you want him for yourself, isn't it?'

'Because of the beasts, humanity has lost 80% of its population, so the government doesn't have any policy regarding marriage anymore. They just want the people to give birth as much as possible, not only for the economy but also for the potential fighters in the future. More and more people are going to die because of the beasts after all.

'Though, I don't even know why this brute, Michael, is able to capture such a beautiful woman's heart...'
Matt shook his head helplessly.

Lily was the country's top beauty. With that beautiful face, coupled with that well-endowed body, she could become a model at any time.

However, Lily's charm came directly from that smile of hers. She always had that smile, no matter how rough it was, making people think that everything was not over yet.

And the one who was obviously charmed by that smile was Kayne.

'My head hurts. Did that brute save the world in his previous life? To think he could get such a woman's heart...

'Back then, it was said that the world turned out to be a simulation. Maybe this is a dating simulation instead of an apocalypse simulation...'

Matt could only facepalm while shaking his head helplessly.

As Matt thought, this wasn't the only instance. Lily kept appearing from time to time.

As expected, Michael had always been angry as Lily appeared in a way that would be teasing to Michael, such as killing his target or even doing other provocative things. It was annoying to Michael, but he was the only one who thought that way. Others clearly saw it was Lily trying to get Michael's attention.

2 years had passed since that time. Because of the existence of unique abilities, Lily's growth gradually slowed down. Lily had been working tirelessly just to make sure she kept up with Michael so that she could be there again and again. But it was clear that she was bound to be left behind sooner or later.

However, it looked like her presence had been etched on Michael's heart.

For the first time in two years, Michael finally invited her. "Do you want to drink?"

All the people, including Lily, were so shocked at that time they couldn't even process the invitation for several minutes. Of all people, it was Michael who initiated the invitation.