

Apocalypse 418

Chapter 418 Web Like Formation

Duke's personal forces have already fought alongside him and Kisha, becoming familiar with their strategies and patterns.

It's essential to ensure that everyone, not just a select few, is prepared for the challenges ahead.

Instead of allowing them to roam freely outside, Kisha decided to have Duke's subordinates integrate into the base, assigning them important tasks to bolster operations.

For instance, Tristan took on significant responsibilities that contributed to the overall efficiency of the base.

With the demonic insects embedded in their hearts, both Kisha and Duke felt secure knowing that sensitive information and crucial tasks were in capable hands.

There was no one they trusted more; the risk of betrayal was virtually nonexistent, allowing them to focus on the greater challenges ahead.

Though this requires more effort, it proved to be the most effective long-term strategy.

It could also help Kisha complete her A-Class mission, 'Commander of a Thousand,' ensuring that her forces are well-trained and battle-ready when the time comes.

Now, all these warriors are either with Sparrow, Vulture, or Duke, or patrolling the walls on all sides.

With this rotation and experience, they are steadily growing stronger each day.

Beyond their training, this hands-on experience is yielding even better results.

Of course, they continue their daily training, especially focusing on consuming the Scarlet Honey to prepare for leveling up soon.

With such a strong defense force, Kisha can truly feel the base becoming unified and self-sufficient. Soon, the base won't need her constant support to thrive.

She realized that this must be the true purpose of her main S-Class mission, 'Taking Nest for 30 Days.'

She always knew her missions had deeper meanings, and although this one was incredibly difficult, the rewards she was gaining were monumental.

Yet, like the other missions that had killed her in her past lives, it seemed almost impossible to complete.

She was certain the system had made this mission nearly unachievable—if not for her territory pack, which luckily was there to assist her along the way.

Kisha was convinced the system wasn't just pushing her to become a better version of herself or teaching her with an iron fist.

In the past, she had faced similarly impossible missions, but they had come one at a time—still extremely difficult though, like saving thousands of lives and providing for them over a set period.

How was she supposed to accomplish that when food and other essentials had become so scarce? Even with her inventory then, it was still impossible.

Her current situation felt even more overwhelming, confirming her belief that the system was working against her at some point.

Not only that, she had faced similar missions where she had to build her own base and lead everyone, only for the system to turn it into a charity-like situation.

It forced her into the role of a benevolent leader, enabling everything to happen.

But when she could no longer give, even after exhausting herself, the people revolted and killed her in the end.

t felt as if all the missions from her past lives had been thrown at her at once.

If she hadn't managed to buy her territory pack at the very beginning, she might have met the same fate as before.

She also recalled what 008 had told her upon 100th rebirth—this was her final chance.

It means that if she failed and died again, there would be no more chances; this time, death would be permanent.

Even though the people at the base now worship Kisha and seem trustworthy, she didn't want to take any risks.

Everyone who had ingested the Heart Gu Pill was placed in critical positions that required careful oversight, such as the supply center, where they assisted Mr. Winters to prevent him from being overwhelmed by his workload.

Additionally, someone was stationed alongside Aston to ensure that, in case of an emergency, there would always be someone Aston could fully trust.

Kisha couldn't simply make everyone at the base take the Heart Gu Pill, as that would make it feel more like a cult than a community. She didn't want to bind everyone to her in that way.

While Kisha was doing everything she could for the base and its people, her motives weren't entirely selfless.

She was no longer the naïve leader who once believed that doing good would prevent betrayal.

She had learned the hard way that people could still turn on the hand that feeds them. Now, she approached everything with a clear, objective mindset and acted decisively.

After the warriors finished distributing supplies among themselves and resting to fully replenish their stamina, they began moving deeper into the city.

While they had the stamina boosters that Kisha had prepared, Duke advised them not to use them unless absolutely necessary—not because the supply was limited (Kisha had stocked more in his Space Ring), but because, like Kisha, Duke wanted his subordinates to avoid becoming overly reliant on these items.

As soon as they regained their stamina, Duke pushed them to keep moving, urging them to run farther into the city.

He quickly scouted for a strategic vantage point among the buildings and led the group to the top floor of a tall structure.

Clearing their way of any zombies they encountered, the team fought their way up.

Once they reached the top, Duke assigned eight warriors to operate the drones, using the elevated position to survey the city and detect potential threats.

Meanwhile, the rest of the group was divided into pairs, each guarding a different section of the perimeter, including the exits, ensuring they had full coverage and no blind spots in their defense.

They deployed eight drones, each sent in one of the eight directions: North, South, East, and West—the four cardinal directions—and the intercardinal directions: Northeast, Southeast, Southwest, and Northwest.

This strategy allowed the drones to cover narrower, more focused paths, ensuring they could thoroughly scan each sector without missing any potential threats or key details.

By dividing the search in this way, the team maximized their ability to gather critical information about the surrounding area while maintaining precision in their surveillance.

Duke had set up a strategic net-like formation at key locations, particularly at the intersections in the sewer system.

He was carefully inspecting these areas to identify any possible openings because if zombies were appearing in the sewers, there had to be an entrance.

It wasn't as if the zombies could open manholes like humans, so Duke and his team needed to locate the points of entry and determine how the undead were getting in.

Once they found these openings, their priority would be to seal them completely.

Only after securing all the entry points could Duke focus on eradicating the zombies underground.

Without first sealing the sewers, any battle below would be endless, with new waves constantly emerging.

Duke knew that if the situation became too dire, Kisha would intervene herself, something he was determined to avoid.

He didn't want her risking herself or stepping in because it would mean he had failed. His goal was to ensure that the situation remained under control, so Kisha wouldn't need to get involved.

"Vice City Lord, this area is clear. We can move to the next," one of the drone operators called out after he and the others retrieved their drones and confirmed that there were no problem in the vicinity.