

Apocalypse 524

Chapter 524 The GeoStorm

"The Thunder Redirecting Talisman can attract lightning to a specific location," 008 explained calmly.

"It will prevent the lightning from striking random places and instead channel all of it to the pole. We can then open a small section of the city shield to create a gap where the lightning will come through, allowing it to bypass the shield entirely."

Kisha's thoughts whirled as 008 continued, almost as if taking responsibility for not mentioning the talisman sooner.

"I only just discovered the talisman while browsing my channel. I thought it would be a great solution. Plus, I can help with adjusting the city shield settings to make it work."

Just as soon as 008 mentioned this, another lightning strike hits the city shield.

[City Shield Protection: 900/1000]

"Shoot, go ahead. We'll go with your idea," Kisha said, her voice tight with panic.

Though the city shield displayed a total of 1000 protection points, indicating its strength, the 50-point deduction made her heart race.

'That's how powerful the strike was...' Kisha thought, anxiety rising. If this continued, the shield's protection would soon be depleted, leaving the base vulnerable.

She'd have to set up a new one quickly if this continues.

Luckily, 008 was fast.

In an instant, the Thunder Redirecting Talisman was in Kisha's hands.

Without hesitation, she bolted from the building, making Duke freeze in confusion.

He was surprised by her sudden urgency, but said nothing, instead following her outside.

Stopping in front of the Central Hall, Kisha glanced down at the yellowish paper in her hand.

The cinnabar writing on it was unfamiliar, but she didn't have time to dwell on it. The lightning could strike again at any moment.

With a quick, decisive motion, she tossed the talisman into the air.

Using her telekinesis, she guided it upward, watching as it soared toward the pole.

The moment it reached the top, she placed it carefully in the center of the pole, feeling the energy of the talisman hum through the air.

Now, all she could do was wait. Her eyes flicked to the sky, anxious for 008 to adjust the city shield and open a gap above the pole.

Kisha's gaze locked onto the transparent shield once more, its gleaming surface shimmering in the sky.

A series of interconnected hexagonal tiles surrounded the entire base, each one carefully positioned to form an impenetrable barrier.

Then, above the pole, one of the hexagonal tiles shifted, opening a gap just wide enough—a hole about one and a half meters across.

It was a small opening, but it was enough for the lightning to pass through.

Boom...

Another rumble of thunder echoed through the sky, shaking the air as the clouds parted, revealing a dragon-like streak of lightning racing across the heavens.

In an instant, a bolt as thick as two adults' waists slammed into the pole.

Kisha's heart jolted at the sight. 'No wonder,' she thought, her mind racing.

'No wonder it deducted 50 points from the city shield. That lightning was terrifying.'

As the bolt struck, she heard an excited shout from the building behind her.

Kisha turned around to find Duke standing there, arms crossed and an eyebrow raised, his gaze questioning.

She froze for a moment, unsure how to explain everything at once.

With an awkward shrug, she scratched her head, trying to divert his attention. "Shall we go in and see?" she said sheepishly, offering him a playful, cute smile to soften her evasiveness.

Duke didn't press for an explanation. Instead, he simply wrapped his arm around Kisha's waist and guided her back inside.

As they entered the small building, the atmosphere was charged with excitement. Doctor Shuveck, Engineer Steel, and their team were all huddled around the monitors, eagerly checking the data after the lightning struck the pole.

"It's working!" one of them cooed, a smile spreading across their face.

"It's really working!" another shouted. "The batteries are recharging at an incredible rate. The first dock is already 30% full!"

"30% already?!" someone else exclaimed in disbelief. "That lightning was insane!"

"Absolutely," another operator chimed in. "Each of these batteries can hold several hundred megawatts. And with one megawatt equaling one thousand kilowatts, that's enough to power an entire building, right?"

"With these batteries, we can power up the main buildings, which need electricity the most. Once we create larger, sturdier batteries, we'll be able to light up the entire base. But for now, this is more than enough. We can keep the Central Hall and Supply Center running for weeks without needing to use fuel for the generators."

Excitement buzzed through the air as everyone gathered around, chatting eagerly while monitoring the screens.

One after another, bolts of lightning struck the pole, charging the batteries at a rapid pace.

At the same time, the hailstorm intensified, and tornadoes began to form around the base.

Though they were still some distance away, their size was terrifying, and they ravaged the city with terrifying force.

Cars were ripped from the ground and tossed into the sky, spinning like leaves in a storm.

Zombies caught in the vortex were flung upward, their bodies torn apart by the intense pressure.

The tornadoes continued to wreak havoc, sending cars and trucks flying across the city.

Some were hurled into buildings with such force that they embedded deep into the structures.

[City Shield Protection: 898/1000]

[City Shield Protection: 895/1000]

[City Shield Protection: 890/1000]

The relentless pounding of the heavy hail and the debris slamming into the city shield caused its energy levels to drop at an alarming rate.

Kisha's heart raced, her breath catching as she watched the shield's energy steadily deplete.

Inside the base, however, everyone was blissfully unaware.

Doctor Shuveck, Engineer Steel, and their team were still engrossed in their work, oblivious to the shield's strain or what was happening outside of their base.

They were too focused on the data and the booming thunder that drowned out everything else outside.

But Duke noticed Kisha's expression changing with every passing second. He could sense something was off.

"What's wrong?" he asked, his voice laced with concern as he pinched Kisha's waist to get her attention. She was staring off into space, lost in thought.

He didn't know that her forehead was already slick with cold sweat, her mind bombarded by system notifications, each one more urgent than the last.

"H-Host, do you think we should buy more City Shields?" 008 asked anxiously.

Earlier, it had merely suggested purchasing additional shields, but now it was genuinely concerned that the two they had wouldn't last long enough for the Geostorm to pass.

Kisha's brow furrowed as she weighed the situation. "Can you activate a new City Shield on your own once the first one's energy runs out?" she asked, her tone serious.

She knew that letting the shield go down, even for a second, could be catastrophic.

If the shield's protection faltered while the tornadoes were bearing down on them, the base could be destroyed in an instant.

The idea of the shield disappearing with the tornadoes closing in was unthinkable.

If that happened, everyone inside would be at the mercy of the storm—and she couldn't allow that.

"I can do that, Host. You don't need to worry—I won't miss a single beat," 008 replied, its voice filled with resolve.

It understood the gravity of Kisha's concerns and was determined to do everything in its power to protect the base.

