

## Apocalypse 723

### Chapter 723 Providing Help

"Someone, get him to safety!" Dracon shouted, his eyes scanning the chaos as he continued firing at the mutated snake he had just blinded. The snake, now enraged and thrashing wildly, posed a lethal threat.

Its erratic movements could easily crush anyone who ventured too close, making the situation even more perilous.

The group hesitated, unwilling to risk their lives, but then, a small figure moved with surprising speed. It was the girl who had always been by Dracon's side.

Without hesitation, she darted toward the paralyzed man, her movements fluid and determined. Despite his size—twice her own—she gritted her teeth and began dragging him away with a strength that seemed almost impossible for her small frame.

"Ah!" she screamed, ducking just in time as the blinded mutated snake slammed its head down vertically in her direction.

Though she narrowly avoided the strike, the man she was dragging didn't have the same luck—his body, stiff from paralysis, couldn't react in time.

The spiked head of the mutated snake collided with him with terrifying force, ripping through his body and sending a spray of blood across the ground. The girl was drenched in blood, her body shaking as the gruesome sight overwhelmed her.

Fear gripped her, and she froze, her heart pounding in her chest as her limbs stiffened in terror.

"Move! Get out of there!" Dracon yelled, his voice frantic as he fought to hold off the mutated snake. When he saw the girl sitting motionless on the ground, covered in blood, his heart skipped a beat.

His eyes widened in horror as the snake reared back, preparing to strike again. "Move!!!" he shouted, desperate to get her out of the way.

The girl, her body betraying her as fear gripped her, realized she wouldn't make it out in time. In a last, desperate attempt, she raised her hand in front of her face and closed her eyes, bracing for the impact. But the pain she expected never came.

Slowly, she opened her eyes, and everything around her seemed to freeze. The world fell eerily silent. As she lowered her hands, she saw the mutated snake's tail had stopped just inches from her, and she was encased in a shimmering, rainbow-colored cube, as though the world had been cut off from her.

She couldn't hear anything from within the cube and stared, confused, not understanding where this barrier had come from or how it had appeared.

Looking around, she noticed that Dracon, too, seemed stunned by the strange occurrence. But he quickly regained his focus and continued coordinating the fight with his combatants.

They fired at the mutated snake, but its thick, armored skin repelled their bullets. The only vulnerable spots were its eyes and mouth. Yet, with the snake thrashing wildly, even the sharpshooters had difficulty landing a shot.

Kisha and her group moved quietly, their steps slow and deliberate as they made their way from the trucks to the battlefield. "Assist the survivors!" Kisha commanded, her voice firm and clear. She focused on controlling the rainbow cube, guiding the girl safely toward her group.

As the girl floated above the ground, she instinctively placed her hands on the surface of the shimmering cube, her eyes wide with nervous curiosity.

She glanced around, trying to make sense of the situation, as she was carried back to safety.

When she neared Kisha's group, the rainbow cube popped like a fragile bubble, vanishing into thin air. The girl, unprepared for the sudden disappearance of the cube—and the ground beneath her feet—fell backward, landing with a thud on her rear.

"Ouch! T-That hurts..." she murmured, rubbing her sore bottom. As she looked up, the people around her helped her to her feet. Distracted, she turned her gaze to the newcomers. It wasn't long before she recognized Sparrow among them—the same one who had spoken with their captain, Dracon.

"Look, he's back!" one of them shouted with excitement, pointing at Sparrow. The man was swiftly darting through the air, his 'Shakan Poison Dagger' gleaming as he slashed at the mutated snake's thick hide.

Sparrow knew that even the smallest wound from his dagger could be lethal to any living creature.

To maximize his speed and precision, he used his windblade to support his movements, riding the gusts of wind as he nimbly leaped around the beast, aiming for the perfect strike.

"Vulture! Restrain the snakes!" Sparrow shouted as he soared high into the air, his feet pointed skyward while his head was angled downward. His dagger was poised in front of him, ready for the strike.

At Sparrow's command, Vulture immediately summoned 'Earth Spikes,' thrusting them up from the ground to impale the mutated snakes. However, the tough skin of the creatures only allowed the spikes to leave a few shallow scratches, and their writhing bodies slipped past the jagged tips.

Without hesitation, Vulture manipulated the spikes, reshaping them to bind the snakes to the earth, preventing their thrashing.

Just as Sparrow descended, he delivered a decisive blow, plunging his dagger deep into the mutated snake's body. Seeing the wound, he quickly broke his momentum, digging his feet into the ground as his soles angled upward to slow his descent. Landing beside Vulture, he grinned and raised his left fist.

"Nice support, partner," Sparrow said, bumping fists with Vulture.

"Hell yeah!" Vulture roared, his voice full of excitement. However, unlike the seamless teamwork between him and Sparrow, the others were struggling. The mutated snakes were proving difficult to deal with, their slippery bodies and 'Sonar Impact' attack making them a formidable challenge.

"Target their reverse scales, right below the back of their heads!" Kisha suddenly shouted, her voice cutting through the chaos. With a flick of her wrist, she summoned a few daggers from her inventory.

Focusing on one of her +3-enhanced daggers, she controlled it with precision, sending it spinning at incredible speed toward the nearest mutated snake.

In an instant, the dagger pierced through the back of the creature's head, slicing cleanly through to its mouth.

The attack happened so quickly that all that remained was a gaping hole where the snake's reverse scale had been.

Seeing Kisha take down the mutated snake effortlessly, the others felt a surge of determination to step up their game. They quickly formed into three groups, coordinating their efforts.

The Earth-type awakened ability users focused on restraining the mutated snakes, while the others, skilled in offensive abilities, concentrated on dealing the damage. They mirrored the tactics of Sparrow and Vulture, working in sync to bring down their targets.

Meanwhile, the mutated snake that Vulture had bound and Sparrow had been attacking thrashed in agony, desperately trying to break free from the restraints.

The effects of Sparrow's 'Shakan Poison Dagger' were taking hold—the 'Bleed' effect had begun to thin its blood, causing a relentless stream of blood that wouldn't stop.

After a few more desperate convulsions, the creature's movements slowed, and it finally collapsed, its body going limp on the ground. Its mouth hung open, its tongue lolling out, motionless.

On the other side, Duke moved toward the river with a smirk, his eyes narrowing in focus. With a wave of his hand, he froze the water, preventing any more mutated snakes from emerging and ambushing them from below.

The continuous stream of serpents from the river came to an abrupt halt, giving his team much-needed breathing room. Now, they could focus on dealing with the mutated snakes already on land, thrashing and writhing in a desperate struggle.

After freezing the river, Duke summoned 'Lightning Strikes,' one after another, his control over the storm seamless. Each bolt hit with precision, and the sheer power of the strikes instantly obliterated the mutated snakes.

The air grew thick with the acrid scent of burnt flesh as the creatures, struck down one by one, collapsed motionless to the ground.

The Winters' men, who had been fighting with intense fervor, coordinating their attacks with all their might, suddenly fell silent.

As they watched Duke effortlessly kill a mutated snake with a single strike, the realization hit them hard—while they struggled to take down even one, Duke's power seemed to make their efforts seem insignificant. A wave of helplessness washed over them, unlike anything they had ever felt before.

Seeing the confidence of his people begin to wane, Duke stopped his attacks and shifted his focus to supporting them. Even the Earth-type awakened ability users were struggling to maintain their binds on the mutated snakes, as the creatures kept thrashing violently, breaking free and forcing them to constantly reestablish control with their spiritual energy.

To relieve the pressure, Duke summoned an 'Ice Storm'. A chilling frost began to spread across the ground, slowly creeping up the bodies of the mutated snakes and freezing their movements.

As the snakes stiffened, the Winters' men saw their opening. They renewed their attacks with greater intensity, and the Earth-type users could now shift their focus to dealing damage instead of maintaining the bind.

With their newfound freedom, the team concentrated on striking the snakes' reverse scales, which were slightly more vulnerable than the rest of their bodies. The battle came to a swift and decisive end.

As the last mutated snake collapsed to the ground, the Winters' men dropped to their knees, breathless and exhausted, struggling to regain their composure. The ones most relieved were the Winters' members who had spent so long in the hidden base.

This was their first time facing such mutated creatures, and they had never imagined it would be this difficult to deal with them.

They had only heard stories from Winters' men who had come from City B, who spoke of their recent encounters with mutated animals while secretly gathering livestock from a farm north of the city.