

Apocalypse 827

Chapter 827 Kickstarting The Trade 14

Hearing Kisha's offer, both Adam and Jason were visibly thrilled. She had already done so much for them—preventing them from tearing each other apart in a fit of anger, bringing them back to her base to open a trade opportunity, and now, even offering to personally ensure their safe departure from the city with the supplies they had worked so hard to gather. At this point, they were looking at Kisha like she was a savior—a goddess descending to their aid.

If Duke could see the way they were looking at her now, he would no doubt be fuming with jealousy, ready to assert his claim on her without hesitation.

Kisha, on the other hand, didn't think much of it. Without hesitation, she radioed and called for Fred, Clyde, Reeve, Rose, Evelyn, Rakan, and his followers. She assigned them to assist Adam and Jason's team in locating a suitable truck to transport the supplies they had purchased from HOPE Base. Their task also included escorting them safely out of the city and helping retrieve the truckload of supplies the group had left behind earlier.

Each of them was now a captain leading their own platoon, having proven their capabilities during the last zombie wave. Their strength and leadership had earned them the respect of many warriors, who now followed them as role models.

Assigning them to this mission was the right call—not only to ensure Adam and Jason's group made it out alive, but also to guarantee that Kisha's people would return safely as well.

Kisha had wanted to personally escort the two groups out of the city, but unfortunately, her awakened ability was currently sealed, and she wasn't in peak condition. If she pushed herself too hard, she might end up becoming a burden to her team instead of helping them.

Since it was already late and the sky had begun to darken, it would be dangerous for them to set out now. Kisha suggested they stay the night at the base. However, with no crystal cores left to rent a building for the night, she made alternate arrangements.

She assigned Tristan to lead Jason and Adam's group to the outer edge of the base, where survivors used to live in tents. Those tents were now repurposed as resting quarters for soldiers and warriors who needed a place to sleep during breaks and didn't want to return home. Since the tents were available for communal use, Kisha offered them freely to the two groups so they could rest without spending anything.

The only downside was the occasional noise—soldiers and warriors on night patrol walking past, chatting, or checking in. But this wasn't a real concern. After all, everyone here had survived more than a month in the apocalypse. They were long used to the unsettling sounds of zombie growls and howls outside their camps, not to mention the usual noise of humans on watch.

In fact, Jason and his brother found comfort in the sound of people talking nearby. It made them feel safe, as if they were being gently lulled to sleep by the presence of human life—proof they weren't alone and surrounded by allies, not monsters.

After a long and exhausting day, the group settled quietly inside the tent, nibbling on biscuits to stave off their hunger. Soon, they discovered that there was free hot water available outside. This was thanks to the cooperation between water-type and fire-type awakened ability users—one would fill large containers with clean water, and the other would heat it until it reached a boil. This service was offered nightly to ensure everyone could fill their thermoses with hot water, especially since the nights had grown increasingly cold.

Noticing that there were outsiders staying in the communal tents, a few soldiers came over and offered them hot water. Grateful, Jason and Adam's teams filled several thermoses and used the hot water to

prepare cup noodles for dinner. The simple gesture lifted their spirits. They no longer felt helpless or like they had to strictly ration their food. Instead, they began thinking about eating well and gaining strength, determined to kill more zombies and gather more crystal cores for future trades.

Earlier that day, they had passed by the base's medical facility and were surprised to see that it was fully operational, staffed with real doctors and nurses. Kisha had entrusted the facility with handling the distribution of medicine, ensuring that each patient was examined before receiving any medication to avoid misdiagnosis.

When Adam's group inquired about the woman's sick son, the staff provided a few essential medicines. The woman was so overwhelmed with gratitude that she cried while thanking the doctor, Eric Gilberts—the head physician. He even suggested that she bring her son to the base for a full check-up the next time they returned.

This entire experience gave Adam's group more than just supplies—they now had hope. They had a place to return to, not only to trade but also to seek proper medical help for those in need.

Now that they had seen a light at the end of the tunnel, both Jason and Adam's teams felt more hopeful than ever. What started as a desperate search for supplies in City B had unexpectedly led them to a better path toward survival. Their spirits, once weighed down by fear and uncertainty, were now lifted by the opportunities, safety, and support they had found at HOPE Base.

Moved by this sense of relief and renewed purpose, the emotional resonance triggered Kisha's passive skills—People's Heart and Likeability Boost—resulting in a surge of compatibility and favorability from those around her.

[People's Heart – Activated]

[Likeability Boost – Activated]

[Passive Skills in Resonance]

[Authority Increases by 1]

[Authority Increases by 1]

[Authority Increases by 1]

The genuine gratitude of those she helped had strengthened her presence and influence within the base. Kisha wasn't just a leader—they were beginning to see her as the symbol of hope itself.

Back inside the territory space, Kisha sat in quiet meditation, focusing on cultivating her three energy sources. Just as her breathing steadied and her mind reached deeper concentration, the sudden ding of the system notification echoed in her mind.

Her eyes slowly opened, surprise flickering across her face.

She hadn't expected that the small acts of kindness she extended to Adam and Jason's groups, simply to fulfill a mission, would trigger a chain of events that resulted in her gaining three full points of 'Authority'.

While she still didn't fully understand the extent of its use, she recalled what 008 had once told her: 'Authority' was the source of power wielded by Gods and Goddesses—an energy close to divine in nature. If that was the case... what exactly could she do now that she had 3 points of it?

Her heart quickened with a mix of curiosity and anticipation. Whatever it was, she had a feeling this was only the beginning.

[The Goddess of Wisdom sees you and is intrigued by your small, growing life.]

[The God of Thunder has had his eyes on you for some time now.]

[The One Who Guides the Souls of the Dead thirsts for your soul, waiting patiently.]

The sudden appearance of these cryptic messages sent a chill down Kisha's spine.