

Another World Mall #Chapter 6 New Items - Read Another World Mall Chapter 6 New Items

Clovis closed his eyes for a second as the scenery changed. When he reached the mall, he hurriedly checked the amount of money he had.

[Name: Clovis Hacfield.]

[Membership: None]

[Money: 260 Otherworldly Coins.]

[Item Limit: 1/Visit]

[Visit: 0(1)/Day]

"Hmm?" Clovis couldn't help but furrow his eyebrows. He previously had 107 otherworldly coins, and the number increased to 260 otherworldly coins.

"This number... I've got 200 union dollars today and used 40 of them for the room. Then, another 7 dollars for food. However, the food money comes from the remaining money I have previously, not the ones I received today. That's how it reaches this number, I guess."

Clovis thought that he miscalculated the number, but no, it was correct.

Before heading to the grocery store, Clovis tapped 'Membership,' opening the panel for the membership upgrade.

Membership: None

Upgrade Membership: 100 Otherworld Coins/Month.

Benefit: +1 Item Limit, +1 Shelf

As planned, Clovis pressed the upgrade button, and he could see golden particles dispersing in the direction of an aisle behind the three items.

Without hesitation, Clovis rushed to this aisle, wondering what new items he could purchase.

The aisle wasn't long and only the right shelf seemed to be open. The items on the left shelf were still hidden from him.

At first glance, it looked like he didn't win that much. A part of the shelf actually contained water bottles. He thought it was useless since he could get his own water if he wanted, but Clovis suddenly fell silent the moment he got the information about the water.

Name: Water Spirit Fountain Water (Tier 0)

Description: Water blessed by the spirits.

Effect: Fatigue Recovery +50% and Thirst Rate -50% for 1 hour.

Price: 15 Otherworldly Coins

"Seriously? The effect is extremely strong and it even lasts for an hour. If I buy this water, I might not feel tired at all. However, even after hunting a lot of tigers, I still don't feel too tired. Maybe I don't need this water for now," Clovis muttered while imagining his previous condition.

After that, he moved on to the next item, which turned out to be snacks. They were wrapped in the modern packaging that he often saw in a normal grocery store. It seemed to have the same brand and name. The only difference was their color, which reflected their flavor.

Name: Bee Toss — High Human Potato Chips (Tier 0)

Description: Processed by advanced technology. (100 Chips/Package)

Effect: +0.01% Heart and +0.01% Muscle per chip.

Price: 15 Otherworldly Coins

Clovis underestimated it at first since this was a snack, but he couldn't help but drop his jaw when he saw the effect.

"100 chips per package? I can buy two of these every day? Every package can give me 1% Heart and Muscle attributes. Double that number every single day and I can max out my progress in fifty days. It's not like I can get bored with all these flavors."

At the same time, Clovis noticed something. "But why would fresh vegetables have a weaker effect? Is it because this chip is processed by advanced technology? No, wait. Is it because the vegetables can be mixed with other ingredients to make a complete dish? That way, you can progress in all five attributes."

Clovis began to understand the concept of the grocery store. He could take advantage of it depending on his needs.

When more and more things came out, like meat, fruit, or useful stuff, he could mix them together. After all, the more he progressed, the more items he could buy.

"This is getting interesting." Clovis smirked. Although he wanted to grab the chips right away, he had to look at the remaining items. The last section seemed to be separated into two sections.

Name: Fish Snack (Tier 0)

Description: Merman Fish Snack. (20 Fish/Package)

Effect: Brain +0.1% per fish.

Price: 15 Otherworldly Coin

Name: Moo Milk

Description: Milk coming from the Minotaur Race.

Effect: Bones +2% per bottle.

Price: 15 Otherworldly Coin

Clovis widened his eyes in shock. "These items are amazing. There are various combinations I can try. Depending on the amount of progress I have in each attribute due to the essence, I can buy different things. No, wait. Can I just sell all the essences I have in order to raise as much money as possible to upgrade membership and buy items from here?"

Clovis couldn't answer this question just yet. After all, he hadn't tried absorbing the essence he got earlier.

"My focus hasn't changed right now. I need Muscle to increase my physical strength to make it easier to kill those beasts, so..." Clovis hurriedly grabbed two bags of potato chips and headed straight to the cashier.

As soon as he paid for the stuff, he got the option to leave the mall once again. However, there was one more thing he wanted to confirm.

The moment he pressed 'Membership,' the panel showed him the next upgrade requirement.

Membership: Level 1 (Newbie)

Upgrade Membership: 500 Otherworld Coins/Month.

Benefit: +2 Item Limit, +3 Shelves.

"This..." Clovis gasped. The spike in the price was quite high for him. But it also allowed him to get two more items and an additional three shelves. If he thought about it, the variety of items meant another way to arrange his progress. There was also a doubling of the purchase limit.

"Still, do I need to pay a whole 500 coins or do I only need to upgrade it with 400 coins? It seems that I have to experiment with it again. And I need at least 700 or 800 coins before purchasing the membership. Who knows if the item prices will spike too?"

The more he explored this place, the more he was amazed by its potential. Since this place was called a mall, he could think of several must-have stores in a mall like a clothing store. He wondered if those clothes would have a good effect or even rival that of armor.

What about other stores? Exploring this mall somehow excited him more than it should.

"Is this what my grandfather felt when exploring the subterranean world?" Clovis couldn't help but make a big smile.

There was also one thing that bothered him. There were actually a number of visits on the screen, making him wonder if he could somehow increase the number of his visits in the future. That would definitely help a lot in one way or another. In fact, he could use the second visit during the night, allowing him to feel safer by sleeping in this mall.

"If I want to have more items, I need more money. To make more money, I need to get stronger. And to get stronger, I need more items. This shall be the cycle of my growth."

He was satisfied with this visit, so after confirming his purchase, he left the mall.

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"Hu..." Clovis let out a sigh of excitement after getting what he wanted from the mall. The desire to get more money became stronger in his heart.

Even though he wanted to eat the chips right away, he had to test the essence he got from the Saber-toothed Tiger.

Looking at the two bottles of essence, Clovis muttered, "How much progress can I get from these two bottles? There are more than a hundred, so I should expect something, right?"

With this thought in mind, Clovis stabbed his left arm and started injecting the essence into his blood.

In that instant, his body began to warm up as though he had a fever. This was a normal symptom since his body was assimilating the essence.

It took Clovis an entire hour for his body to return to normal. After that, he opened the system to check on his progress.

Name: Clovis Hacfield

Tier: 0

Evolution Rate: 15%

Brain: 0%

Heart: 0.3%

Blood: 0.3%

Muscle: 1.4%

Bones: 0.6%

"Seriously?" Clovis exclaimed in shock. "100 ml is equal to 1.6% progress? But I need about 500% for each of them. So, I need more than three hundred times that. So, 30,000 union dollars to become a Tier 1? If it's a talented person, they only need 5,000–8,000 dollars to become Tier 1.

"It's said that after Tier 1, the progress will become even harder. A few hundred thousand might only be the start; what about the next tier? A few million? Then, a billion?"

Clovis let out a long sigh. The rich could definitely nurture a lot of people, but if they didn't make their money back, it would be useless. It was no wonder why people wanted talented people.

In exchange, Clovis looked at the Another World Mall in a new light. He could make more progress than the essence with far less cost.

He could focus on getting real money and use the otherworldly coin to nurture other people or pay for equipment.

It seemed that he had gotten on his own path.

"There's no helping. Let's just use these chips for breakfast, then hunt more tomorrow. I need to at least get 500 union dollars in tomorrow's hunt so that I can upgrade the membership the day after." Clovis smiled, finding his path.

...

The next day.

Clovis headed straight to the gate. This time, he changed his target from the tiger to another animal called Dire Wolf. According to the information, it was a large and powerful carnivorous mammal that lived during the Pleistocene epoch.

They had strong jaws and sharp teeth, making them formidable predators. They likely hunted in packs, collaborating to take down large prey.

This was quite ambitious for Clovis, but he still had his pistol if he got cornered by this beast. And in this place, their number should have been thinned out, meaning only a few of them would appear at a time.

Clovis rushed toward the southeast. According to the map, this area had a lot of dire wolves.

"Each beast has a different value for the attributes. According to the information, this beast will give a boost to Brain, Blood and Bones. Since I have the chips for Heart and Muscle, the beasts should be perfect to balance my progress."

Like previously, he would sell the majority of the essence and absorb the rest.

However, because they hunted in packs, they were more dangerous than saber-toothed tigers. If he wasn't careful, he might lose his life.

Clovis made sure that his pistol was working before entering the woods.

Unlike the previous day, he instantly found the dire wolves. There were only four dire wolves, which was the number he could take on with his current strength.

'Alright. The dire wolf has weaker strength than the tiger, but it has speed. So, I'm going to take down one of them with a sneak attack first.' Clovis thought while observing the group of wolves.

He couldn't approach them very close since they should have sharper ears than the tiger. So, Clovis carefully moved forward while clenching his short sword.

When there were only a few meters between them, Clovis jumped out of the bushes. He was still a bit short of reaching the wolves, so he took two more steps, which ended up alarming the wolves.

He hurriedly tossed the short sword right at the wolf's neck.

The other wolf seemed to find the trajectory and tried to bite the flying sword.

'I'm not gonna make it?' Clovis squinted his eyes, but it seemed that the wolf was just a split second too late. The short sword passed through his mouth, causing the wolf to only bite the chain. Meanwhile, the short sword had impaled the wolf's neck, or so he thought.

Right before the sword reached the wolf, a young guy jumped off the tree. Clovis's sword impaled at the neck at the same time as this young guy's saber sliced the wolf's head.

"Huh?!" Both of them widened their eyes in shock. It was the same person they had seen yesterday.

"Wh—" Clovis wanted to say something, but the wolf didn't let him. The one that managed to bite the chain pulled Clovis toward him while another wolf rushed from the side to flank Clovis.

The last wolf pounced on the other person as if avenging its friend.

"Tsk." Clovis clicked his tongue. It didn't seem that he was able to retract his short sword, so he spun his body so that his blade could meet the wolf coming from his left.

The strike was more powerful than the one that took down the saber-toothed tiger. When the sword hit the wolf's fangs, it actually crushed the teeth and sliced through the head without any restriction.

After that, Clovis rotated his body to pull the chain, using the momentum to overpower the wolf.

The wolf got pulled toward Clovis, so it immediately let go of the chain and went straight at Clovis. The latter had been waiting for this and swung with all his strength, trying to cut the wolf like earlier.

But to his surprise, the figure of the young man appeared behind the wolf, striking the same spot as him.

As a result, both of them cut the wolf's head at the same time which resulted in their swords clashing with each other.

"!!!" Both of them were surprised that they actually went for the same spot and at the same speed. They couldn't help but shout at the same time. "Who the heck (fuck) are you?!"

"I should be the one asking that!" They said the same thing again.

"Kh!" The guy gritted his teeth, annoyed. Meanwhile, Clovis tried his best to remain calm. He shouldn't make someone an enemy for petty reasons.

When they calmed down, they finally noticed the identity of the person before them.

'Huh? Isn't this guy the one who I saw in Essence Bank?' He thought while recalling Clovis's movement. 'His swing is sharp, powerful and precise. He doesn't bat an eye of a sudden change and adapt easily.'

'This guy is that troubled guy from before. Did we hunt in the same area? Still... ' Clovis also recalled how he moved. 'His slash was extremely swift and accurate. He is hunting alone and doesn't seem like he has any companions. Broke up?'

Clovis took a deep breath before saying, "My name is Clovis. I've just arrived at this place, so I don't know if this is your hunting ground."

"I'd reached this place not long ago. My name is Jay."

"How about we split these four beasts evenly and go on our way?" Clovis suggested.

"That's not a bad idea." Jay seemed to have no objection.

But when they reached an agreement, both of them thought of the same thing.

'Wait a minute. This guy doesn't have a companion anymore. He seems to be talented and strong. Should I make him my companion? If his evolution rate is low, I can simply boost his progress with the items in my mall, right? Of course, only after I can completely trust him.' Clovis squinted his eyes, examining Jay.

'This guy should have been selling a lot of essence yesterday. His martial prowess doesn't seem to be lower than mine. Looking at how fearless he is by hunting alone, shouldn't it be good if he becomes my subordinate? If I return to the family with talented subordinates... ' Jay smirked, excited to see people's faces when they knew about his achievement.

Both of them suddenly looked into each other's eyes and asked, "Hey, you! Do you want to be my comrade (subordinate)?"

"Huh?!" Clovis and Jay's eyebrows twitched.

"If you're going to join me, then I should be the leader!" Jay argued while raising his tone.

"No way! I'm going to become the greatest explorer, so I am the leader!" Clovis gritted his teeth.

"Then, what is your evolution rate?! My evolution rate is 95%. If your evolution rate is higher than mine, I will follow you." Jay harrumphed.

"Is that even relevant? Why do you care about the evolution rate when it's just a number? What matters is strength, right?!"

"It seems that you don't have confidence in your evolution rate." Jay had a smug smile on his face.

"My evolution rate is 15%," Clovis stated with a determined expression.

"Hah?!" Jay thought that Clovis was lying. "You want to become the strongest explorer with only a 15% evolution rate?"

"It's because I only have a 15% evolution rate!" Clovis corrected his words.

"!!!" Jay's body shook. Just for an instant, he saw Clovis's future figure which somehow left him in awe. Clovis was serious about aiming to become the greatest explorer. "Do you even understand what that number even means?"

"I know it very well. All I have to do is kill seven times more beasts than you." Clovis harrumphed.

Clovis's seriousness somehow moved him, but it also made him look silly. There was no one as insane as Clovis, but it didn't seem that Clovis was bluffing.

When he glanced down, he noticed the swords on Clovis's hands.

'Wait a minute. What are those swords? What materials are used to create those swords? Now that I think about it, those swords can slice even the fox's fangs. Those swords should be better than my swords. He might not be an ordinary person.

If that person thinks that this man will become a great figure, then I...!' Jay's expression turned serious.

He pointed to the side. "How about we make a bet?"

"A bet?" Clovis frowned.

"Yes. It's just a little competition. How about we find a big pack of dire wolves and kill them? Whoever kills more will be the leader." Jay smirked.

"You are insane. That competition is simply throwing your life away! But..." Clovis fell silent before smiling excitedly. "...we both know that to make us drop the idea of becoming a leader, we have to put our lives on the line."

"That's right. If you don't dare to accept the bet, you don't even have the right to rule over me. At the same time, if I'm not brave and strong enough to challenge those beasts, I am not fit to make you put down your ambition. How's that?"

"That's a fair agreement. We both are insane to even agree to this kind of competition."

"True. But none of us are going to back down, right?"

"Alright. I agree to the bet. Let's have a competition. I'll definitely make you my subordinate. Having a 95% evolution rate subordinate sounds amazing, right?" Clovis grinned.

"You said it earlier. It's just a number. That insane mind of yours is what piques my interest. Get ready to call me, Sir Jay!"

"We'll see if you're capable of that or not!" Clovis harrumphed. "In that case, we have to find and decide which pack of wolves we're going to hunt."

"Let's go then."

Another World Mall #Chapter 8 A Big Wolf - Read Another World Mall Chapter 8 A Big Wolf

Clovis and Jay stood on top of a small hill a bit further away from their original location. They had found several packs and even killed more than ten wolves on the way, but because they were not big enough packs for the competition, they continued on their way.

During the whole trip, both of them assessed each other's abilities. Clovis was quite impressed by Jay's blade. It focused on slicing the beast's neck and he swiftly killed one beast after another.

The same applied to Jay. He never thought that Clovis would be able to keep up with him. Despite the fact that his evolution rate was only 15%, it was hard for him to believe that Clovis was able to come here, let alone compete with him.

However, Clovis had shown a high level of martial prowess. As Clovis said, the evolution rate was just a number. With that kind of terrifying prowess, he could easily kill a lot of beasts.

And his biggest concern was the backer behind Clovis. The weapons he had were beyond what a normal person could have.

Even if they ended up recalling the bet later, he didn't mind becoming his friend.

"What do you think of those wolves?!" Clovis pointed at the pack to the northwest of their location.

"I'm not sure how many of them are there. But I don't think it's more than twenty, right?"

"But it's going to be hard to find more than that, unless we merge one group with another." Clovis sighed, wondering if there were any other packs that could be led to that big group. This way, they would have enough wolves for their competition.

"Hmm?!" Suddenly, Jay squinted his eyes as though he were finding something.

"!!!" Clovis raised his eyebrows and turned to the right, hearing a gunshot.

"Gunshot?" Both of them exchanged looks. They knew what the gunshot sound meant. The beasts around the area would either come to take a look or become protective of their area.

Looking at the bigger group they spotted earlier, it seemed to be the former.

"They are going to lure those wolves away?" Jay gritted his teeth, annoyed. But soon, the gunshot continued; this time, it didn't sound like a pistol. "A machine gun?"

"Who is so rich to waste all those bullets?"

"Probably not the special bullets."

"Only suppressing guns, huh? If that's the case, why would they use it here when they haven't secured the perimeter?"

Both Clovis and Jay fell silent. There was only one possible reason. They were running away from something.

"Should we save them?" Clovis looked annoyed.

"Let's not. Saving unknown people might lead us into another trouble. We should just focus on our competition." Jay abruptly stopped. Since they were on top of a small hill, he could clearly see the people who were being chased by a lot of dire wolves.

It was a group of four. Two of them were bringing automatic rifles, while the other two had a shield and a long sword.

"What's wrong?" Clovis asked.

Jay's gaze was fixated on the woman who used the rifle. "That's..."

"You know them?"

"I only know one of them. Kanaria Renvolt."

"Renvolt? That famous family in the city? The one with a high ranking explorer?"

"Yeah. That one. I don't know how she is in this situation, but I think I have to postpone our competition."

"So, are you going to save her?"

"Yeah. Our houses are quite close, so I can't just let her die like that."

"As expected, you are a son of a good family."

"My name is Jay Havenson."

"No wonder." Clovis sighed, understanding where that 95% evolution rate came from.

"How about you? You are not an ordinary guy either, right? Your equipment is far too good for someone at your level."

"I will tell you after our competition."

"Huh?!"

Clovis pointed toward the distress group. "They are going to be flanked in two directions. It's going to be over for them. So, why don't we change the competition a bit? We'll see who kills more, but the targets are those wolves around them."

Clovis actually offered to continue with their competition while saving those people even though they were not related to Clovis. Jay smiled and said, "I'm extremely grateful, but I'm not going to hold back."

"Of course. We can't keep track of each other's kills, so don't lie."

"Do you think lying can win our trust?"

"Hehe! Let's go!" Clovis pulled out his swords. Jay nodded as both of them rushed toward the distress group.

...

In the distance, there was a beautiful woman in white. She was shooting the dire wolves approaching from behind to stop them.

The dire wolves' hides were able to take on a bullet, but if they were rained on by bullets, they would still die. Hence, they were using the trees and their speed to make an unpredictable movement to approach them.

"Sup! How is the situation over there?" She asked the other guy who had a rifle.

"Not good. They are closing in."

"Xavier, Susan! Open up the path for us!" She shouted.

"I don't think it's possible anymore!" Xavier frowned, looking at the shadow of the wolves coming toward them from the front and their left.

Kanaria clicked her tongue. She took a glance for a split second to understand what was going on and was stunned to know the number of dire wolves coming toward them. "Disengage. We'll break through to the left."

"But we'll end up going deeper."

"We have no choice." Kanaria felt pressured, but she still did her best to maintain her calm. She ordered her subordinates to move toward the left, the only direction where there were no wolves.

However, the wolves they had been suppressing the whole time finally reached their position. Two of them broke through and leaped toward the other guy.

"Sup!" Kanaria shouted while shooting the two wolves, ultimately killing them. However, it also meant that Kanaria ended up defenseless. Three wolves approached her, making Kanaria click her tongue. She grabbed the pistol from the holster, but Xavier suddenly came and smashed the wolves with his shield, pushing them away.

But due to him leaving his position, it only left Susan holding off the beasts from two directions.

Susan panicked. She had taken down one of the wolves before her, but she still had to stop the other three. While doing so, two more wolves came from Xavier's side. She thought this was the end of her life.

"Susan!" Kanaria shouted while turning around, trying to suppress the wolves.

But all of a sudden, a sword impaled one of the wolves. Kanaria was stunned, but this meant there was only one target. She hurriedly suppressed the wolf with a few shots, causing its body to sway to the side and miss Susan.

"Who?!" Kanaria called whoever saved her teammates.

Soon, she saw the wolves in Xavier's direction turn around as if they had encountered a new enemy. Two voices resounded across the wood.

"Hahaha! That's three!"

"That short sword is unfair!"

"This is my weapon!"

While arguing, the two killed one wolf after another and made their way toward Kanaria. She couldn't help but be surprised to find out who actually helped her.

"Yo, Kanaria. It seems that you are in trouble!" Jay smirked.

"Jay?" Kanaria never thought that he would be the one to save her, but she also noticed Clovis, who was actually fighting at the same level as Jay.

"You can save your reunion for later. We'll take care of this side, so suppress the other two sides, will you?!" Clovis raised his voice, reminding them of their situation.

Kanaria was quite surprised that Clovis would dare say such a thing, but he was right. So, Kanaria moved on and ordered her subordinate. "Xavier and Sup will take care of our rear. I will help Susan stop the beasts on our front."

"Got it!" They hurriedly positioned themselves.

"Hoh?" Clovis was quite surprised that she understood her role and quickly adjusted her position.

"Sorry for failing your expectations as a spoiled brat of a rich family!" Jay grinned while striking another wolf on his right.

"I'm not thinking about that!" Clovis snorted while tossing the short sword to another wolf.

While suppressing the wolves, Kanaria was amused. Clovis was extremely strong, and his technique was profound. It didn't look like he was just a random guy.

The fact that he was with Jay made him think that he was also an heir of a famous family. And there was one more thing that caught her eye. It was his choice of weapon. This was the first time she saw someone with a long sword, a short sword, and a gun.

In the past, she had never seen someone as talented as Jay. In a huge battle, the guns might be able to overwhelm a lot of enemies, but that didn't change the fact that they would bring a lot more beasts in their direction.

Jay and Clovis gradually cleared up the beasts. Just from this side alone, they had killed a total of eight beasts. Fortunately, they reduced the number by ambushing them at the beginning, or their situation would be like that of Susan.

Susan had been moving from one place to another, barely parrying the dire wolves' attacks. The dire wolves even attacked her from three different directions and ended up biting her left arm. If not for Kanaria's cover fire, she might have died.

Once they were done with this side, Clovis and Jay exchanged looks. They had a tacit understanding of which side they should clear up first.

Without hesitation, they ran past Kanaria.

"Peel off the beasts on the sides," said Clovis while moving to the right.

Jay moved to the side and slashed the wolf while saying, "Miss. I know you're injured, but do you mind taking care of the middle?"

"Got it." Susan nodded with a serious expression, knowing her assignment.

The situation looked extremely good, and if this continued, they should be able to kill all the wolves within fifteen minutes.

Kanaria couldn't help but smile, ready to support these three. However, it seemed that the group that was coming to them brought another surprise.

There was a dire wolf, far bigger than the rest of the wolves. Its color was red, as though its fur had been dyed by the blood of its prey.

And this wolf appeared out of nowhere and charged at Jay.

"Oi. What the fuck is that?" Jay made a wry smile while kicking the wolf before him to intercept this big wolf.

"Jay!" Kanaria widened her eyes in shock as she hurriedly aimed at the wolf.

Unfortunately, it was too late. The wolf had reached Jay and swept its paw.

Jay struck the wolf's paw, but he finally felt the immense gap between their strength. In the end, the wolf launched him to the side until he crashed into a tree.

"Kh." Jay spat some acid from his stomach before coughing.

The wolf thought it would be better to kill them one by one, so this dire wolf moved toward Jay to finish him off.

When looking at the wolf, Jay couldn't help but smile while saying, "Took you long enough!"

Suddenly, Clovis landed on top of the wolf's back and impaled the wolf's neck. "Do you think you can get away after hurting my subordinate?"

"Since when did I become your subordinate? The competition is not over yet."

Another World Mall #Chapter 9 Synergy - Read Another World Mall Chapter 9 Synergy

"Since when did I become your subordinate? The competition is not over yet."

"Well..." Clovis clenched his sword tightly as the wolf began to shake its body, trying to throw him off.

Kanaria aimed at the wolf but hesitated to shoot because Clovis might get hit. On the other hand, Jay took this chance to stand up.

Clovis had a hard time staying on top of the wolf.

"This wolf..." Clovis muttered while observing the wolf.

"Yeah. There's no doubt about it." Jay nodded with a serious expression. There was only one explanation for a dire wolf of this size having this kind of speed.

"Tier 1 Dire Wolf..." Clovis's expression turned dark. He had read the information from the Gold Class Map. While most of the beasts in the area near the base were Tier 0 beasts, they might find Tier 1 beasts if they were lucky.

Considering their situation, however, no one would think they were lucky except for two people.

With a grin on his face, Clovis shouted, "How about we add this wolf to our competition? Who kills it, wins?!"

"Should we?" Jay smirked. Despite facing such an enormous creature, both of them didn't show any sign of fear.

Sadly, their communication was cut short. Since the wolf was unable to shake Clovis off its body, it let out a howl to the rest of the wolves.

Three wolves suddenly turned around and jumped toward Clovis.

Since she couldn't target the Tier 1 dire wolf due to Clovis, Kanaria didn't hesitate to shift her aim to the side, raining these three wolves with numerous bullets.

"Nice assist." Jay smirked. Even though he wasn't the one she saved, it didn't change the fact that Kanaria's aim and timing were perfect.

As soon as the Tier 1 wolf noticed that no one could push Clovis off, it immediately sat down to hit Clovis with its foot.

Jay took this opportunity to approach the dire wolf.

"You're too focused on him." Jay raised his sword as though he were about to cut the wolf's foot.

The dire wolf raised its paw and swept Jay from the right. Jay once again tried to strike this paw, the sight of him was like an ant trying to push the hand of a human. It was obvious that he would be blown away.

However, Jay surprised everyone by squatting. The moment the saber clashed with the paw, it was being pushed back, causing Jay's upper body to twist to the ground.

His strong lower body actually maintained a firm grip on the ground, allowing his upper body to twist almost ninety degrees and let the paw pass above him.

"!!!" Even the wolf didn't expect Jay to be able to do it. Now that its paw was no longer in its way, Jay leaped toward the wolf's body and cut it.

"Aoooo!" The wolf howled in pain.

Sadly, it was too shallow. The bleeding was quite big, but it was not enough for the wolf. At the same time, the wolf hurriedly swung back the paw to push him away.

'I won't make it.' Jay thought while throwing himself forward. He couldn't squad at that timing and the paw was even lower to make sure Jay couldn't replicate what he had just done.

Unfortunately for him, he almost got away if not for him retracting his legs a bit too late. As a result, the wolf's back paw hit his legs and knocked him to the side.

"Kh." Jay rolled a few times before standing back up, but his feet felt a bit numb. If not for his equipment, the right bone might have cracked.

At the same time, Clovis had pierced the wolf with his short sword to widen the injury.

"Aooo!" The wolf seemed to not like the pain that it suddenly leaped into the air and rotated its body so that Clovis would be crushed by its body.

"Are you serious?" Clovis clicked his tongue and hurriedly pulled out the short sword before throwing it at a nearby tree. He pulled himself away before his body was flattened.

Luckily, he slid on the ground and managed to maintain his balance.

The wolf appeared to have deemed Clovis to be far more dangerous than Jay. It hurriedly stood up and charged at Clovis.

Looking at this made Jay annoyed as he shouted, "Why the hell are you looking at him? I'm better than him!"

Kanaria, who had been observing them the whole time, couldn't help but make a wry smile. It wasn't the time to act like that. However, she soon heard Jay saying, "Kanaria. The Tier 1 Dire Wolf is for us. Your team should just focus on defeating the rest of the wolves."

"Are you sure?" Kanaria asked. She was worried because one mistake was all it took for them to die.

However, Jay's tone was filled with confidence as he said while rushing, "Of course. A mere dire wolf is not a challenge to me and my friend."

Jay rushed to help Clovis, who was being brutally attacked by the Tier 1 dire wolf.

The wolf once again swept its paw toward Clovis while making sure that he couldn't do the same thing as Jay. However, Clovis never planned to do the same. He didn't have the lower body's strength like Jay, so it would be foolish to replicate it.

Instead, Clovis took a step back, trying to avoid the paw. However, he wasn't running away.

The moment the paw passed him, Clovis struck the back of the paw as hard as he could.

"Haaa!" Clovis roared. What Jay said earlier gave him an idea. These weapons were gifts from his grandparents. While he didn't know what they were made of or how important it was, there was one thing for sure. His weapons were far stronger than ordinary weapons.

That was why he thrust his blade and slashed the back of the paw with all his strength.

The skin was cut perfectly. Clovis felt some restriction, but it was clear that his attack managed to pierce through this wolf's defense.

Unfortunately, he could only injure him a little bit because the paw was too swift to be taken advantage of.

But now that the paw was off the way, he closed in their distance. However, the wolf seemed to have learned what Jay did.

It actually used its other paw to crush Clovis. With this timing, Clovis wouldn't be able to avoid it. Even if he could, he would still at least flatten one or two limbs.

Unfortunately for the wolf, the man before him was none other than Clovis. This trick might work with Jay, but Clovis simply tossed his short sword at another tree and pulled himself away.

Bam!

The paw flattened the soil and left a paw mark. However, the wolf noticed that it had failed to kill Clovis.

So, it lowered its head to swallow both the chain and Clovis. Unfortunately for the wolf, Jay had taken care of his side and waited for this moment.

Jay jumped on top of the paw so that he could reach the wolf's head before slashing it.

His strike slashed the wolf's jaw upward, but because of his physical strength's limitations, he couldn't reach the wolf's eyes.

"Aooo!" The wolf screamed in pain and hurriedly moved its body to attack him, only to create another opportunity.

"Nice, Jay!" Clovis pulled out his short sword and threw it straight into the wolf's eye, blinding it.

"Aooo!" The wolf didn't expect to be bullied in this way.

Despite meeting not long ago, Clovis and Jay seemed to understand what each other was thinking. Whether it was due to their similar personality or talent other than the evolution rate, it felt like they were like a comrade who had fought for decades.

This was a competition to decide who would become the subordinate and who would become the leader. Yet they collaborated perfectly.

Jay wanted to take this opportunity to deliver a killing blow. However, the wolf suddenly swung its head sharply, hitting Jay with its nose.

"Kh!" Jay clicked his tongue.

At the same time, because of the sudden movement, Clovis was dragged toward the wolf. The wolf slammed down its paw to take down Clovis, but because the latter had destroyed its eye, it missed Clovis.

He hurriedly pulled out the short sword and stood up. Although the head would be a sure way to kill this creature, it would be hard to kill it right away. After all, this wolf was still a Tier 1 beast. Its physical strength was greater than that of any beast they had faced so far.

In addition, its wisdom was quite high as it was able to ambush Jay in the beginning and order the other wolves to help. So, he had to weaken it further if he wanted to kill this wolf.

The wolf was three meters high, so his sword was barely able to reach the wolf's body. He made a shallow stab before sliding his sword on the wolf's body, cutting it apart.

"Aooo!" The wolf looked like it was trying to crush Clovis by throwing its body to the side, but that was a feint.

Clovis, who was trying to avoid the body, ended up focusing on the body too much. The real attack was coming from the side.

"!!!" Clovis noticed it a bit too late as the tail had almost reached him. There was no way he had enough time to avoid it. His only choice was to put both swords in front of him to absorb most of the impact.

Still, the wolf was extremely powerful. A single sweep of its tail actually knocked him away. Clovis ended up rolling to the wolf's head, making him a perfect target for the wolf.

Clovis hurriedly tossed the short sword to escape, but the wolf actually stomped the chain, preventing him from leaving.

"Tsk." Clovis clicked his tongue. He slightly twisted his wrist and the chain suddenly detached from the armband. While rolling on the ground, he grabbed the pistol on his back.

But it didn't seem like the right time to use this pistol yet. Jay had been waiting for this chance.

Now that the wolf was too focused on Clovis, he had the opportunity to attack it.

He jumped as high as possible, trying to slice the wolf's head, specifically its brain area.

"Aoo!" A few smaller wolves howled while leaping toward Jay.

Jay only glanced back as he saw the wolves being shot down to the ground before they could reach him. Fortunately, he was a bit higher, so Kanaria didn't hesitate to shoot them down, or it would be more troublesome.

However, that howl warned the Tier 1 dire wolf about Jay's position. It turned its head and hurriedly lowered its body to avoid this attack. It even tripped itself so that Jay missed his swing.

'No. I can't miss!' Jay thought. In that split second, he was trying to find a new target he could slice.

Although it was a shame that he had to miss, he ended up cutting a part of the wolf's nose.

The wolf was wailing in pain, but it also learned how to roll from Jay and Clovis. It actually rolled its body and used that momentum to swing its paw.

Jay wouldn't be able to avoid this attack since he was in the air.

"!!!" Jay couldn't even rotate his body. The only thing he could do was place the saber on the way to lessen the impact.

Meanwhile, Clovis stood up, picked up his short sword, and re-attached the chain to his armband within two seconds.

The paw ended up hitting Jay and knocking him to the ground.

"Gah!" Jay spat a mouthful of blood after crashing to the ground.

As expected of a Tier 1 wolf, it was able to fight this much even with that kind of injury. The wolf glared at him, forgetting about Clovis.

'Ah, shit. Here we go again!' Jay realized that he would be heavily injured even if he could stop this next attack. He felt that one of his ribs had just cracked from the impact, so he didn't know to what extent the damage would be.

At the same time, the wolf had forgotten Clovis, which allowed him to deliver a killing blow from the wolf's blind spot.

'I guess I've lost.' Jay smiled, not because of his defeat but because he had acknowledged Clovis's strength and accepted the competition.

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'I guess I've lost.'

Jay had accepted that he had lost the competition. And a man like him wouldn't back down from the bet.

In the end, he still underestimated the wolf.

Yet, when that thought appeared, Clovis actually did the unthinkable. If he simply wanted to win the competition, he would do the same thing as what Jay had in mind. But this was not a mere competition.

Instead of taking this opportunity, Clovis actually grabbed him from the side and jumped.

The wolf ended up hitting the tree not far behind Jay, but both of them managed to survive without much injury.

"Hah? Why?" Jay was completely bewildered, not expecting Clovis to help him.

Clovis didn't even bother to answer him as he hurriedly stood back up and charged at the wolf, giving Jay some time to catch his breath and assess his injury.

The wolf increased its speed once again to surprise Clovis. But he had been watching his charge a couple of times from the side.

He already knew this pattern, but Jay was behind him. If he avoided this charge, Jay would become the next target.

Clovis tossed his short sword to the side, hitting the tree not far from Jay. After that, he took a step to the side and jumped as high as possible.

As Clovis expected, the wolf continued forward as he simply changed his target from him to Jay. Hence, Clovis rotated the blade and impaled the wolf's cheek. This way, Clovis's back would be the one touching the wolf's head. His feet made sure that the wolf wouldn't bite him after opening its mouth.

After that, Clovis pulled the chain as hard as he could. Because of the short sword's location, the chain ended up wrapping the wolf's neck. Clovis used his body as a nail to stop the wolf's momentum.

However, it felt like his left hand was being torn apart by the momentum.

"Arghhh!" Clovis gnashed his teeth, barely enduring the pain. Even his right hand, which attached him to the wolf, was bleeding due to how strongly he gripped it.

As a result, the wolf ended up getting choked by the chain and tripping to the ground.

Clovis felt like his hands were about to give up soon.

On the other hand, Jay was facing a dilemma. On the one hand, he was spared from all kinds of heavy injuries because of his competitor, Clovis. On the other hand, if he missed this chance, they might need to undergo a gruesome battle against the dire wolf before finding another chance.

Jay gnashed his teeth. There was no other choice.

He hurriedly rushed toward the wolf. The latter tried to stomp him down, but Jay swiftly avoided it and went to the left side of the wolf. Since its eyes had been destroyed earlier, the wolf couldn't tell where he was.

Jay raised his sword and slashed with all his strength, slicing the neck as deeply as possible.

"Ooohhhh!" Jay shouted at the top of his lungs, not only to boost his own morale but also to let out his frustration. He didn't want to win a competition like this.

The winner was decided because they had defeated the loser fair and square, not because the other party chose to lose.

However, he couldn't escape this fate and kill the wolf.

The wolf was completely stunned as it lost its strength due to the blood loss. The wound was so deep that it was bleeding profusely.

The wolf ended up falling to the ground as it could only wail until its last breath.

As soon as the wolf died, Clovis couldn't help but let go of his chain and fall to the ground. His arms were numb, and he couldn't even ascertain whether he had strained his muscles or not.

Although he could still grip his blade, he had a hard time putting in more strength.

Still, this was a Tier 1 beast. Although it was clear that he couldn't defeat it alone, it wasn't as scary as he thought.

The Tier 1 Beast had higher wisdom, physical strength, and instinct. But he still hadn't used his pistol during the whole fight.

While he could easily win by using his pistol, he wanted this competition to be as fair as possible. So, whoever won or lost would acknowledge the outcome of the battle.

Unfortunately, it seemed that he drew the shortest straw.

"Hahaha. It seems that I have lost." Clovis laughed out loud while leaning his back on the wolf. Although he had fought to the best of his ability, he still couldn't overcome the gap between them.

Jay looked at the other side. It seemed that after seeing their leader die, the wolves tried to take revenge, albeit they ended up exposing their backs to Kanaria.

Without hesitation, she took advantage of that opportunity and killed the wolves one by one. Looking at the situation, it seemed that they were able to somewhat hold on.

So, Jay walked to Clovis to help him.

"Well, I guess I will be your subordinate." Clovis smiled. Jay could feel the frustration in his voice, making him think about how strong Clovis was to be able to smile even after this defeat.

"Say, why did you help me earlier? If you want to win, you could simply let the wolf attack me and use that opportunity to kill the wolf." Jay frowned.

"Mhmm?" Clovis was confused by what he was talking about until he remembered his previous action. "For me, a leader is both the head and the tail. To lead the group is the role of the leader, but at the same time, I have to watch over the group from behind so that my people can look forward without worrying about anything. After all, you have me on your back."

Jay widened his eyes in amusement. There was no doubt in those words of his.

Even though Jay wanted to be the leader himself, it seemed that he lost to Clovis in terms of resolve. He realized that he wasn't ready to be a captain.

"Tsk." Jay clicked his tongue as he was disappointed in himself. Jay extended his hand and asked, "Can you stand up, Captain?"

"Huh?!" Clovis was baffled. He lost the competition, so why would Jay call him with that title?

"I'm telling you that I'm not ready to be a captain. You can be the leader for now, but if... in the future you are too weak and unfit as a captain due to your evolution rate, I will immediately take your spot." Jay smirked.

It wasn't that he had given up that position. He simply let the ones who befitted it take that position for the time being.

Clovis was quite surprised that Jay would be the one to drop his pride. Accepting this position might be the biggest respect he could give to Jay.

"Alright. I will be the captain. If you think you are better than me, feel free to fight for that position with me. But take care, Jay... It's going to be a long journey."

"Sure it will." Jay pulled Clovis up.

"Let me introduce myself again. I am Clovis Hacfield."

"Hacfield?!" Jay dropped his jaw. That name rang like thunder reverberating in his ears. "Hacfield... That Hacfield? You... What is your relationship with Michael Hacfield?"

"He is my grandfather. But he is missing right now, so you can say that the family is already ruined. So, it's nothing to be proud of." Clovis shook his head. "And don't forget to keep my name a secret."

Jay never thought that he would be able to see someone from the Hacfield family. It was no wonder why Clovis wanted to hide his family name. In fact, this name also explained why Clovis had this level of weapon.

"Hahahaha!" Jay chuckled. Losing to a Hacfield was not something to feel ashamed of. Even if Clovis only had a low evolution rate, he was still a Hacfield after all.

Unfortunately for them, their time seemed to be disturbed by Kanaria's distressed and annoyed voice.

"Oi, you boys. Sorry for disturbing you, but don't you think you should help us now?"

"Ah!" Clovis and Jay turned their heads around, finding Kanaria's group being suppressed by the wolves.

"Can you still fight?" Clovis asked.

"One of my ribs is cracked, but I should be able to finish them. Give the orders, Captain!"

Clovis smiled and grabbed his sword. "We'll peel off the enemies starting from the right."

"Got it."