

Werewolf 281

Chapter 281 - No Escape!

If the strange men working at the warehouse were doing something strange, then Kevin had to find out what it was before he could tell anyone about it. The young teenager understood that the police wouldn't exactly act just because an orphan told them that he was scared in his new surroundings. The police in a Tier-3 town like Slough was usually busy, so they couldn't just answer any call, especially a kid's.

The good news was, that at least they were seemingly taking out a few orphans at a time, for whatever purposes they had. This made Kevin believe that time was on his side. Time to figure out what was going on... or if all of it was just his imagination running wild.

Thinking about this, Kevin went ahead with the rest of the kids from his orphanage. There were twenty-three children in total who came from the Black Rock Orphanage.

Leaving the warehouse, they found themselves in what looked like a large white tent which was split off into different sections. Following the instructions, the orphans lined up, patiently waiting in one section, until they would be called forward into the next tent.

"Next!" One of the men called out.

Once the group went in, One of the kids went into the other section of the tent. Kevin managed to briefly make out a photographer with the standard equipment used in a photo shoot. However, none of them returned after taking their photo, at least not into the line with the others.

Noticing the unrest of the waiting orphans, one of the men explained that after taking the photo they would be asked some questions. That way, they could match up the kids' personalities and wishes to their future foster parents.

'Since when did orphans like us get the luxury to be picky and choose who we want to be with?' Kevin didn't trust that explanation one bit.

"Next!" The same man called out after a few minutes.

Finally, it was Kevin's turn. He went ahead, sat down on the chair and the camera went off as normal. Still, the orphan was looking around to see if there was anything strange he could spot. Perhaps a hint at what they might be doing.

After the photo was done, it was time for Kevin to walk into the next tent. As he did, he noticed that there was a large table in front of him, but there was nothing on it. No papers or anything, just a man sitting down on the other side of the tent.

'Maybe it's like an interview rather than a questionnaire?'

Hearing footsteps and sensing someone behind him, the first thing Kevin did was turn around, where he could see a man behind him holding onto what looked like a needle. His instinct kicked in, and he immediately kicked the man as hard as he could in the family jewels.

The man knelt over from the pain, letting the needle fall on the ground, as he covered his nether regions. Hearing the soul-crushing scream that turned into a whimper, the other man was about to get up from the table, but the boy was faster. Kevin kicked the side of the table, causing it to bang into the man before he could get up.

'I knew something like this was too good to be true. If I wasn't so suspicious of something going on, that guy would have pricked me with that needle!' Kevin thought as he rushed out of the tent to find himself outside, yet he wasn't safe yet.

Just as he made it outside, he could see several men standing next to large trucks that were mostly blocking the way for him to run anywhere else. What was the most shocking thing, though, wasn't the number of people, but in their arms was one of the kids from Black Rock Orphanage. The one that had gone just before Kevin.

His body was shaking, but they were able to hold onto it strongly with their grip and the next second, they threw the kid into the back of the large truck, treating him no better than a sack of potatoes.

'What the f*ck is going on, what are they doing... are they kidnapping them... did they do all of this to sell our organs!?' Kevin thought.

All he knew was that these men were clearly up to no good, and he assumed it had something to do with whatever they had intended to inject him with.

“Hey, what's that kid doing?!” One of the men shouted as he spotted Kevin. There seemed to be more people outside than inside, and because the young teenager knew that he had better chances heading back from where he came from.

Entering the tent again, he could see that the second man had gotten up, while his partner was still recovering. Rushing forward, Kevin quickly went to grab the dropped syringe and put it into his pocket, and as he got back up, he could see the man's face in the perfect position, allowing him to throw his leg forward and kick him with the heel of his foot perfectly, making him lie flat on the ground once more.

Not slowing down, Kevin ran into the photography room he was in just seconds ago, and could see the photographer taking a photo of what would have been the next victim.

“It's a trap! All of it! They're trying to kidnap us! We need to get out of here, quickly! Let's head to the police station!” Kevin was clearly panicked and frazzled and although the kids didn't understand what was going on, coming from the same orphanage they trusted him, especially since they saw his tears running down his face as he informed them.

The kids got into action as they began to scream and run right back into the warehouse. The adults and workers themselves took a moment to understand the situation. Kevin quickly ran inside with the others as well, and the panic from those in the Black Rock Orphanage spread to the others.

“Kevin!” Birdie called out, as she ran up to him. “What's going on? Is everything alright?”

“No, these guys... I don't know what they're doing, but they were trying to inject us with some shit! I saw them throwing one of my friends into a van! We have to get out of here!”

Just as he said those words, the workers had blocked off the exit of the warehouse and had closed the doors firmly shut. One of the kids tried to push the adult, but the next second a fist hit the kid right in the face, knocking him on the back and blood poured from his mouth.

It made the situation that they were all in very clear.

“You little brats, we tried to do this in a peaceful and most convenient way! You just had to mess things up, didn’t you?!” A man shouted from behind, and Kevin could see that one of the kids had been grabbed and was being held from the back of his shirt. More men were seen behind him as well.

“How... how do we get out of this situation?!” Birdie asked.

Looking at how the kids were being treated, Kevin wanted to go over there and fight. Attempt to knock the person out and free the kids. Innu had taught him a few things, but he didn’t feel confident in his ability to take out adults. Not to mention, a lot of them looked to be well-built. At the same time, there was only one of him and many of them.

‘I have to get out of here! I still have the syringe! The police will have to do something if I show it to them!’ Kevin clenched his fist, and ran to the side of the wall that he had seen from before. He bolted as fast as he could, and Birdie was following right behind him.

One of the men saw him running and attempted to grab him, but sliding across on the floor, Kevin slid down as if he was going for the home plate, and managed to just avoid the man's fingers. Unfortunately, Birdie wasn’t as lucky.

“KEVIN!!!” She screamed, as the man put her over his shoulder, and it looked like the adults were gathering all the children and tying them up.

“I’ll come back, I’ll get help, I promise!” Kevin shouted back, taking all his will to turn around. He hurried to the panel he had seen earlier. Lifting it up he quickly crawled and was out of the warehouse.

The orphan knew he couldn't stop there, so he continued to run further and further. Kevin didn't have any phone with him, so he needed to find someone who did before the men could get to him. Fortunately, it didn't look like there was anyone following him just yet. They were far too busy dealing with all the orphans inside the warehouse.

Eventually, Kevin reached the metal fence. Not seeing any easy way, he climbed it up, sticking his hands and legs in whatever gap there was. Reaching the top, he jumped down, and continued to run forward.

'How could this happen? ...we were all happy and then... and then I told Suzan... I told her to sell the place. Everything that's happening... it's all because of me!'

Running out of breath, he put his hands on his knees and was panting hard, wiping the tears away until.

"Kevin, is that you?"

Looking up, the young teenager couldn't help but break out in a sobbing mess as he recognised the voice.

"Suzan... "

Chapter 282 - Someone Help

Before Kevin had a chance to explain the full extent of what had happened to him and the other orphans, he decided to move away from the warehouse. Suzan seemed to understand that something was wrong, and noticing that he seemed exhausted from running, the woman took off her coat and handed it over to the young teenager. She led him to the main street and they hid between a few shops that were closed at this time.

Kevin found it very hard to confess to Suzan what had happened inside the warehouse. After all, he blamed himself. Nevertheless, under some sobs he retold everything that he had seen, and immediately Suzan fell on her knees, banging against the concrete, not caring about the pain.

"I'm sorry Suzan. I'm so, so sorry. This is all my fault!" Kevin cried out, as he knelt down next to her and started to pour his eyes out once again. Seeing the young boy in that condition, Suzan hugged him tightly, bringing his head close to her chest.

"Shhh, it's not your fault, Kevin. You're just a kid. I'm the adult who signed those papers after they were the ones who pressured me. They are the ones that are doing all those bad things... None of it is your fault." Suzan tried to calm him down. "I'm just happy that you are safe. I'm happy that you made it out. And all we can do now is try to help them."

The two of them understood the seriousness of the situation. Based on what they had heard and experienced, it was too dangerous for them to go in by themselves. There were multiple people

involved, and the group had money. It was easy for them to guess that these people were professional gangsters.

Suzan clicked on redial, and shared the news with the police. The person on the other end had some good news, telling her that they had already sent someone out. The woman was then asked where she was and what she was wearing. A bit confused, she did answer the question though.

A few minutes later, they saw a black SUV pull up next to them. Opening the door, they could see a young man in a police uniform had arrived.

“Both of you get in, and we can talk inside.” Roo instructed.

The two of them looked at each other and thought it was a bit strange for the police to be acting this way. When they had been told that someone was on the way, they had expected multiple cars, not a lone officer. Seeing their hesitation, Roo showed them his badge, proving he was a real officer.

“Look, this area is not safe. Please get inside first, and then we can talk.” Roo prompted them, looking around, as if he was wondering if someone followed him. Unable to trust him, Suzan called a third time, and they confirmed that the officer in front of her really was with the police.

After all, the last thing she wanted to do was head back with those dangerous people they were with before. Once inside, Roo immediately started to drive, and they could see that they were heading out of the area, and away from the warehouse.

“Wait, Officer!” Kevin shouted. “You’re driving the wrong way! We have to help the others! They are still in there!”

However, the boy’s pleas fell on deaf ears, as Roo continued to drive. Only once they were out of the area and on the road, did he pull over to the side and parked the car.

“You guys really don’t understand where you were.” Roo sighed, shaking his head. “I’m sorry, you guys must have been scared. We got your report, and they sent me to pick you guys up and get you out of there. I can take you to the police station, or back home, it’s up to you.”

The two sitting in the back seat of the police car couldn't believe it.

“Is that it? That’s the only thing the police will do? We told you that they are kidnapping children there! They're using them for something sinister and placing them in trucks. How can the police ignore such a matter?!” Suzan accused the young officer.

Looking at the ground for a second, it was hard for Roo to even meet the caretaker’s eyes.

“Look, I’ll give you an explanation, but you're not going to like it. This whole area is owned by the Grey Elephants gang. The police force aren't exactly heavy-handed with people. There isn't much we can do.

“If we want to send a full force in on them, and enter private property, we would need a warrant. Sure we can use what you said, but it would still take time for a judge to clear it and by then...well. The Grey Elephants gang are great at slowing us down whenever we have made requests in the past.

“I'm glad that you have managed to escape from the place, but by now they must be cleaning things up. Worst thing is, their victims this time are all orphans. There isn't really anyone that would report them missing either.”

Quickly going into his pocket, Kevin pulled out the syringe he had picked up, filled with the strange coloured liquid.

“What about this? They tried to inject me with this. I'm sure it's some type of illegal substance, can't you use this to go after them?” Kevin asked.

Roo looked at it for a while, he wasn't sure what it was.

“Alright, I can take it back to the station and have it inspected. I promise you, I'm just as worried about them as you are. However, there are rules we have to abide by. The best thing we can do now, is if you can give me a description of those trucks you saw earlier. Did you happen to see the licence plates or any other defining features?”

“We will have patrol cars on the lookout for them. Once they spot the trucks, we’ll attempt to pull them over. We’ll just make up some reason to search their vehicle, and if we find the kids you’re looking for, that’s when we can act... That’s all I can do for now.” Roo explained.

While Roo headed back to the police station, Kevin explained what the trucks looked like. The orphan told him everything he could remember, but he honestly wasn't sure how much help it would be. There was no telling if the trucks would move today, or if there might be others.

And honestly, the more he thought about it, the more Kevin believed that Roo was just saying things to him to get him off his back. Could the police force really afford to utilise so many vehicles to search for the trucks?

The honest truth was, perhaps they would just send out a memo to their current officers to see if they spotted any trucks, but that was it.

Leaving the SUV, Suzan and Kevin were just left there.

“ If the police don’t act, all of them might get hurt. What do we do now?” Kevin asked.

Suzan looked like her mind was about to collapse in on her. She had the same fears as Kevin. The way the police talked, it was clear that the Grey elephants were just too big of a problem, especially when they were in their territory, whatever that meant.

“I-I... I don't know.” Suzan mumbled, defeated.

Finding himself in a tough situation, Kevin did what he would always do, which often helped him come up with a solution... even though it would usually end up being the opposite.

“Why don't we contact Innu? You can call him, right? You have his number. Tell him what happened!” Kevin asked.

“Innu? Are you sure? He's just a kid. It might be better not to drag him into any of this.” Suzan was hesitant.

“He’s not a child any more!” Kevin shot back immediately. “He looks after us all just as much as you do, Suzan. I know... I know he might not be able to help, and it's a long shot...but I think we should tell him. “Who knows... what if he has an idea? Please... he looked after all of us at that orphanage every day, even after he left!”

Thinking about what Kevin was saying, Suzan started to think back to the last time she had seen Innu. He certainly did seem more dependable. In the end, in the desperate situation that she was in, she decided to give Innu a call. The woman didn't know what exactly she was expecting, but she decided to trust Kevin’s opinion.

“Hello, Suzan, I'm surprised you called me so late.” Innu's voice was heard on the other end of the phone. “I’m sorry, I was unable to make it lately. I’ll be sure to visit you soon.”

Suzan was finding it hard to tell him what had happened. Taking a long deep breath, she finally did, though.

“The kids at the Black Rock Orphanage, they're in trouble.”

Sitting in his bedroom, in the crummy apartment where his foster parents were, Innu had just finished getting off the phone. He placed it down slowly, and thought about what to do.

“The Grey Elephants...and trucks. I don't have a clue what they are up to, but it will be hard to find them. I need all the help I can get if I want to find them.” Innu said as he lifted his phone and looked again.

He was hesitant as he was about to make the call.

‘No, I have to ask, they are like family to me. They’re the only ones who might be able to help now!’

Eventually, after a few rings, the person on the other end had picked up.

“Gary, I need your help... I need the Howlers’ help.”

There was only a slight pause, before his friend answered.

“Of course, I’ll help!”

Chapter 283 - The Start Of It All

Honestly, when Innu had joined the Howlers, he had done so mostly on a whim. Kai’s approach to recruiting him had intrigued the teenager and unlike the other recruiters, the blond teenager had exuded a very confident aura. On top of that, they had made a deal, and Innu wasn’t one to break his own word.

Still, he could leave at any point he wished if need be. It wasn’t like they were forcing him to stay, nor did he owe any of them a debt. However, for some reason, he had chosen to stay.

His partner, Green Fang’s performance, had also done its job to intrigue him. As long as he could make money, then he would have been happy. Originally he had planned to join one of the other smaller gangs to earn some money while using his fists, legs, knees, and elbows. It was the only thing he was good at.

At the same time, he wasn’t really old enough to earn money legally, yet he required the money to help those he cared about now. Perhaps the reason was due to the amount of money he could earn compared to others that he stayed, but when he thought about it more, that wasn’t the reason.

What he had never expected, was to feel so closely connected to his fellow gang members. Gary had come to his old school and fought off Billy, which was the point in time he had really earned his respect. From that day onwards, events had kept happening around the gang leader that had only elevated his position in Innu's head.

He didn’t know what had happened, but Innu had decided that not only was Gary the right leader for him to follow, but he was truly part of the gang and loyal. This was also the reason he had called him first, over Kai.

Gary was a person who he could trust, and who would return him the same level of trust.

When in trouble, the first person he thought about was not only Gary as his leader, but more so his friend. However, he was in for another surprise, the green haired teenager didn't even need to hear what exactly he needed help with, already agreeing.

'I knew... Gary, and this whole gang was the right gang to follow.' Innu thought.

He quickly gave him a brief summary over the phone, everything that Innu himself had been told from Kevin. Gary hung up the call, even more determined than before to help his friend out.

It was also the first time Innu had told Gary that he used to be an orphan. Innu felt like he needed to give a reason why he wanted to help them so much, so he couldn't be shy about his background or past. Now it made sense why he and Blake had seen him in front of the orphanage that day.

Fortunately for him, the duo had been there and defeated the Omega Werewolf, otherwise... Gary didn't even want to finish that thought.

'Those Grey Elephant gang members are scum...they were the ones that were part of that colour gang attack that put Mum in the hospital. They kidnapped Amy, and won't stop harassing her, and now they are even doing things like this... hurting those that are close to Innu.

'Maybe this is a sign... that they need to be dealt with.' Gary thought.

Heading into his wardrobe, Gary grabbed a bag and started unpacking. It was the new uniform he had received from Kai. It looked similar to his old one, nearly identical, but there was one drastic change.

Where the sleeves of the blazer would be, they were stretched more and had a slit going down to one's elbows. It wasn't the best for keeping one warm because of this design, but Gary figured out why Kai had done this.

'Probably doesn't want me breaking any more of the gang's clothes.' Gary chuckled to himself.

Getting on his phone, Gary had asked everyone to meet at the Wolf's Pool Club and to do so quickly. Meanwhile, Innu would update everyone on the way there of what was going on. The message was also sent out to Olivia as well.

The main aim was to get the kids back from Innu's orphanage, but doing so would mean they were going up against the Grey Elephants. If this was an important operation for the gang, then they would do anything to stop others from intervening, meaning they needed all the help they could get.

"Amy!" Gary shouted as he was about to open the door. "I'm going out, one of my friends...they require some help. Can you do me a favour? ... make sure to stay inside today, no matter what."

Gary didn't stay to listen to Amy's answer and had closed the door, before she could ask any more questions. His sister hardly ever went out on her own at night, especially after what had happened to her so far.

She hadn't talked about the mysterious man who had been following her, for some reason she had kept that a secret from Gary, even though he knew who it was. Perhaps she thought it was all in her head, but Gary knew that it wasn't. For now, though, he would keep it to himself; there was no need for him to worry his sister.

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A short while later and the car had picked up Gary with Tyler inside, it had made a round trip and also picked up a few of the others while the rest had made their way to the pool club, but in the end, currently all main members of the Howlers, Olivia, along with Suzan and Kevin were in the Wolf's Pool Club that now had a closed for business sign. What Gary also noticed was that White was also present. From what he had heard, Marie and her mother had somewhat taken her in and were looking after her for the time being.

"Innu, who are all these people?" Kevin whispered. Who was sitting next to Suzan, but they were close to Innu who was standing.

Looking at the others talking with concerned looks on their faces, taking the issue seriously, Innu couldn't help but smile. He was so happy that he had people that he could rely on and would go this far for him.

“They're my friends, and people who are going to help us in all of this.” Innu replied.

“What could the Grey Elephants want with a bunch of orphans?” Marie asked, as she couldn't quite believe that even a gang would go that low.

“There are plenty of reasons. Harvesting them for organs, trafficking, making certain types of videos. The world isn't as sweet as you think it is. As long as their people need and want certain things, there will be those that deliver.” Olivia casually answered, which just reminded all of them that while they had just dipped their toes into the underworld. She was one who was fully in it.

“Alright, at the moment, we have Austin and his followers on their motorbikes searching around town looking to see if they can spot any of those trucks.” Kai started to explain. “Olivia, you have your people also searching around the place, seeing if they can spot any of the vehicles anywhere. Once we get information, we will move out and try to stop them.”

“Stop them?!” Suzan exclaimed, jumping out of her seat. “Don't you mean to call the police? How will you stop them? Kevin said there were multiple large men, who weren't scared to use their fists, and not even the police sounded like they wanted to deal with them!”

“Exactly.” Kai scoffed. “The police don't want to get involved in any of this, so what would calling them accomplish? We just have to take matters into our own hands.”

Suzan and Kevin didn't understand. Where was the group's confidence coming from? Neither one of them had heard Innu mention anything about them, so why were they so willing to help him? Looking at Innu as well, it looked like he was doing up the wraps that would cover his hands, he also looked like he was ready to personally get involved.

While waiting, Austin was the first to get a call from his side. It sounded like one of his follower's spotted one of the trucks and was following it.

“How many trucks are there?” Austin asked.

“We spotted two, but they split up, and now we're following both of them!” The boy shouted on the other side, since the sound of his motorbike was heard through the phone.

“Ask him what area they are heading to?” Kai asked, as he had a bad feeling about this.

At the same time, it looked like Olivia got a call as well, stating that they too had found two trucks that had matched the description, yet they were both going in different areas, yet the same area.

“Gary, did you hear?” Kai asked.

Gary nodded, he had heard the names of the four areas but was wondering why Kai looked so panicked, but then it hit him.

“All the areas...are owned by the Underdogs.” Gary gulped down hard.

It was then that a smile appeared on Olivia's face.

“I don't know what they're going to use those orphans for, but whatever it is, this has to be their way of declaring the start of the war...”

Chapter 284 - Everyone Involved

The Pincers gang members, as well as Austin's schoolmates, were told to follow the trucks for now. They had spotted four of them in total so far. However, since all four of the trucks were heading to different locations, the Howlers had to make a decision on what to do as well.

In the first place, they were unsure what happened to the rest of the children, perhaps they were even still some at the warehouse but it was unlikely.

‘Chavley is my home area, while Ciper is the main area where the Underdogs' businesses are. If this is an attack, the largest attack force will be in that area.’ Gary concluded. ‘I don't know what to do... but I don't think splitting up will be our best choice. For one I can't protect everyone else if they're not close to me, and two I think this war is going to be tough on all of us.’

“Olivia, head out and check up on your two groups. We’ll trust your judgement, but please keep us updated on what you plan on doing.” Kai ordered. With that, the Lady Boss was ready to leave, but before she left, Gary had one more thing to say to her.

“Olivia... if it’s possible, prioritise saving... but if you have to engage the Grey Elephant members, don’t hold back. Do whatever you need to take them out.” Gary ordered as he clenched his fists. The Alpha Werewolf was beyond annoyed at the predicament that the Grey Elephants had put him in. These people would continue to act this way unless they were dead.

The colour gang war had already devastated a single area, but this attack could very well implicate the whole town. He could only place his trust in the Beta Werewolf and pray that she would keep the Bronton and Kidminstin area safe.

“Gary, it's your call about where we will go next. I think you know it's best if we stay together. The Grey Elephants are a big gang, after all, so chose one place.” Kai let him have the last say.

‘Amy should be safe, and I have a Mark on her to know how she is doing. The apartment is locked up, and she should stay in doors. Mum got hurt last time because she was working. They should have no interest in the residents of the area... right?’

“We need to finish this once and for all, we will finish it today. We’ll head to Cipen.” Gary decided.

The reason for his choice was because Cipen was also where the nightclub where Damion and the Underdogs base were to be. If things went well, then Gary could get rid of both threats of his back today.

The two groups continued to follow the large trucks. Knowing what territory they were headed in, one would think that they would stop outside some of the establishments they owned. However, this wasn't the case at all.

Instead, they had surprisingly stopped at the busiest places of each location, the end of the high streets where shops of food, drinks, bars, and others would be located. They stopped dead in the middle.

“Hey, report this to Austin.” One of the high schoolers Bo said.

The next second, they could see the driver leaving the vehicle, and strangely it looked as if he was fleeing. He didn't look left or right, instead he only looked at the parked truck, before he increased his speed.

“Hey... you don't think they planted a bomb in that thing, did they?” Felix suggested, judging by the way the man escaping the area. However, since they were on motorbikes, they believed themselves to be relatively safe.

Once the man was far enough away from the vehicle, he pressed a particular device and the back slowly started to open.

“Arghh! Arghh!”

“Can you hear that?” Alfie asked...

Carefully listening, they could make out growls and snarls. It also seemed to catch the attention of one of those on the main street. It looked like a drunken man who had a bit too much. He was wobbling over to the vehicle. Eventually, the door fully opened, and what looked like a small person had leapt out of it, pinning the drunkard to the ground.

“ARGH! Someone help me! It's a monster! A monster is trying to eat me!” The man began to shout in his panic.

The group of boys started to laugh at the sight. They didn't take him seriously, believing him to just be delusional, but eventually his cries for help stopped. Standing up, they could see that the small kid had let him go, and the man on the ground, wasn't moving at all.

One of the boys noticed that the kids nails looked similar to pencils. They were looking sharp and something was dripping off them. Too far for them to see. However, the next second, more kids left the vehicle, and they immediately started to run on the street. Jumping on whoever they could see clawing at them all.

The first one who had finally got out, turned around and looked at the teenagers, smiling at them with a face full of blood. What they were looking at now really was a monster.

The same scene was happening in all the different areas. Each truck would open, and about a dozen little monsters would file out, killing whoever happened to be unlucky enough to be out on the street. Each one looked slightly different, but all of them shared traits that no normal human would possess, teeth sharp enough to crush bones, melted mouths, elongated nails and so on.

The whole town fell into chaos. Panic quickly spread, with murders happening left and right.

A few minutes later, the reports were coming out to everyone in Slough. It was no longer just an issue for the Howlers, but for everyone.

“There have been reports of mass killings going on in at least four areas of Slough. The attackers seem to be modified in some way... looking similar to Altered. Yet it is clear that their minds are not there. When asked for comments, the police advised everyone to stay indoors.

“I repeat, everyone who might be out should head home, and stay indoors until the matter is resolved.”

Watching everything happening on Tv was Amy, who was now worried for her brother.

‘Wait, didn’t Gary tell me to stay in doors as well, don’t tell me he’s involved in this.’

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Underneath his house, Blake looked at the set of weapons on the wall. He quickly picked a blade from them, while packing his things and getting dressed.

'I don't know what's going on, but the report said it themselves. Those things aren't human, which means I have a job to do. It's what Dad would do.' The young Altered Hunter thought to himself.

Rushing out from their hotel room, wearing their grey uniforms, were a couple that didn't look pleased at all.

"Get in contact with Anton, tell him to update us on everything that is happening." Sadie ordered an assistant that was following them by their side. It was the communicator that would be used to talk to the police forces and the White Rose base for them.

"Get Anton to barricade the entirety of Slough! Not a single person is to leave this town. We can't let those crazed Altered out of here."

"This is unheard of! Do you not think we should make a personal report to White Rose HQ ourselves to call for more backup?" Frank asked.

"What's the point? We both know back up won't arrive in time. We're the only Altered here, so we have to act now! The only thing we can do is put some trust in this town's people."

'People are dying left and right? This world really has gone crazy. I'm happy that my little sis is going to be leaving this place, but if I have the power to help, I should.' Jayden thought to himself while he looked through his cupboard to see if there was any sort of disguise he could use to hide himself.

After all, a superstar like him getting involved like this would be big news, which he would rather avoid. Eventually, he pulled out a scarf and a wig that was inside for some of his photoshoots that he would take.

'Well, it's not as fancy as stalker boy's, but it will have to do.'

Chapter 285 - You Can't Die

Of course, the news spread around the area of Slough, and the public were quick to rush into their homes. Some took the news seriously, while others thought that perhaps the police were exaggerating or that this was just a made up story to have the people off the streets.

Whatever the case, the Grey Elephants didn't care because in the first place, their aim was to get another group's attention, and that they certainly did.

"Boss!" One of the men in suits came running into his office, only to see that Damion was already standing, surrounded by some of his most trusted men.

"Speak!" Damion shouted at the man who had just entered.

"We keep getting calls from all our businesses from each of the areas! It's definitely a targeted attack!" The man explained. Turning around, Damion picked something off the desk and the next second as he spun, he threw out a knife, hitting the man straight in the forehead and killing him on the spot.

"That's wasting my time with information I already know!" Damion scoffed. "We knew the Grey Elephants were going to attack us, but those weasels can't even bother to do it themselves. For now, forget about all the other areas. We will protect Ciper and get rid of all those that are here.

"After today businesses will have no other choice anyway. Once we're the only ones in town, they will come and go when this all blows over, and we will just take them back. You, tell me, have we heard any news from Kirk and the Cheetah Squad?" Damion asked.

One of the men gulped before answering.

"Yes, one of his men reported that he has almost annihilated the entirety of the Grey Elephant gang that was at their warehouse. However, none of their leaders were present when they arrived."

Hearing this news, the Underdog gang leader smiled.

“Good, that means that their leaders are somewhere else, and will be personally coming over. The only question is who the f*ck is pulling their strings? ... Ah, it doesn’t matter, I’ll find out soon enough, once I skin all their members alive. Tell Kirk to head to the other areas to clear them out as he makes his way back here.”

Going up to the wall at the back of the room, he looked up to a pair of red coloured small axes. His men thought of them as nothing but simple decorations and were wondering why their boss would grab them now of all times. They didn't exactly look regular, as their handles were covered in scales and the head itself was white, as if it was made from a type of bone.

Damion's weapon of choice had always been a pair of small axes. Perhaps because whenever he ended up using them, there would always be a mess, instilling fear in those who followed him, making them think twice about ever crossing him. And this pair was certainly quite special.

“I was hoping to solve the damned package situation before this, but these Grey Elephants just couldn’t cherish their last days on Earth. Pulling this stunt could get us all killed. Well, I’ll at least make sure they’ll die before us!” Damion murmured, as he walked out the door.

The man kicked the door open from his office and entered the nightclub floor, which had been open for a couple of hours. The customers inside were frightened and shaking. It looked like they had run inside away from the monsters.

Walking through, he had his men behind him, using more conventional and regular weapons, while some of them had none. Walking up the stairs to the high street, Damion kicked the door open as well, seeing the chaos unfold.

There were people screaming and running all sorts of directions. However, there didn’t seem to be any gang members out and about on the streets, at least not yet.

“Send out the small timers to the end of the streets. Tell them to stay there and kill them, anything that isn’t a panicked civilian. I doubt this will be the full attack, so if I were them, I would be waiting for us to get tired.”

In doing so, the newbies along with some younger members started to run out either side. One of those 'lucky' enough to help protect Ciper was Gil. However, he and his group didn't get fair, until they encountered the beings the people were running from.

They looked like kids, only clearly deformed, their bodies resembling strange beasts more than human. The main thing, though, was how they were covered in blood and the street behind them had bodies as well.

One of the Underdog gang members pulled out his knife and one of the creatures ran towards him at a fast speed. The man slashed his knife cutting deep into the beast's hand, however, with its other hand, and its pencil-like nails that were similar to long mini drills, it repeatedly stabbed the adult in the side of the neck, making him drop dead on the ground.

Watching this, Gil panicked. He had been handed a baseball bat, so putting all his strength he swung from below, hitting the creature right in the rib, sending him off in the other direction. However, the gang member was clearly on his last legs and bleeding out.

The other gang members, despite having more than three times the number, were having trouble dealing with the creatures, and soon Gil heard growls near him. Looking up, he could see that the creature he had swatted away, was up again. The teenager was sure he had broken its ribs, yet the only sign of damage was black blood seeping out from its mouth as it was staring at him.

'Sh*t I'm going to die here!' Gil thought, as he placed his bat behind his head and was ready to swing it once again.

The small creature ran quickly, and the dropout swung the bat aiming for its head, yet it was prepared for him. At the last moment it stepped back, making him miss completely, leaving him open for its attack. The beast was ready to pierce both its claws right through the teenager's soft body.

Having over swung the bat, there was no getting out of this one for Gil...

When he closed his eyes, ready to feel pain, he heard a scream in front of him. Opening his eyes again, he saw a red axe having cut right through the beast's arms, chopping them off. The next second, Damion used the other axe, slicing the beast's head off, killing it on the spot.

“You... you're the one who claimed to know where Greeny was, right?” Damion asked. “I’ll have you accompany me. It’s too early for you to die.”

Chapter 286 - The Underdogs Strongest Squad

The Underdogs had known that the Grey Elephants gang had been planning something. In fact, they had been tipped off that it was to start today. However, Brandon had been smart enough to keep the plans of what exactly would happen to himself and Raven.

With both gangs being as big as they were, it was impossible to guarantee that there were no moles. In fact, Raven had gone one step further and had advised his old time friend to tell the different teams, only the area they would have to drive to. That way the Underdogs would be in for a surprise.

Nevertheless, armed with the knowledge that ‘something’ would go down, Damion had sent out Kirk along with the Cheetah Squad that consisted of five members to the Grey Elephant’s factory ahead of the attack. These were his number one squad force and his most trusted as well.

The factory wasn’t just any regular factory, it was the place where the Grey Elephants’ main income came from, and it was rumoured to be where the leaders would often be at as well.

The Cheetah Squad were considered the strongest group in the Underdogs. They had never failed a job before, and that was mainly due to the leader of the Cheetah Squad being an Altered. Today was no different.

Kirk stood there in the centre of the factory that manufactured particular parts for cars, but right now it was no longer operating. The machines had stopped, and it was a bloody mess. A worker's face had been shoved into the assembly line and was bleeding.

The group didn’t care if they were part of the Grey Elephants or not, all of them were to be punished and dealt with. It was the risk one took when deciding who they would be paying to protect them.

What looked like countless gang members had been defeated all around, and the clothes of the Cheetah Squad themselves were no longer black, but stained red. Placing his phone back in his pocket, Kirk took in a big breath.

“Alright, everyone, it looks like we had a busy day today. We were a little too late, and the Grey Elephants seem to have already started attacking all over the place.” Kirk sighed. “We need to get moving, but before we go, we have one more order. To make sure, this place won’t be in operating condition for a while. If we can’t beat them head on in this war, or they continue to run away from us, that’s fine. We’ll just hit them with their finances. Forcing them to come out eventually.”

A few minutes later the group were seen leaving the place with a few explosions going off and being heard in the background. The whole factory would have to be rebuilt, and as for the people inside, they probably would never be able to walk another day in their life.

Outside, there were two vehicles waiting for them, getting in. They were on their way to the area closest where the attacks were taking place. While in the car, though, Kirk leaned forward, resting his head against the seat in front of him.

“How many were in that factory?” Kirk asked.

“About twenty, Sir.” The man next to him answered.

“Add that to my list, make sure it’s updated.” Kirk ordered while clenching his fist. The others in the car stayed silent, not saying a thing.

‘How long will I have to keep doing this for, and... will all my bad sins be forgiven?’ Kirk started to wonder. ‘The only way I can stay sane, is to make up for all those I have hurt, and use my strength to save others.’

The car stayed silent until they reached the next area and the sound of screams could be heard.

“We are finally here, Sir, from the news we have received, they seem to be crazed Altered that have been taken over by their other side.” The man said as he got out of the car, opening the door for Kirk.

They group had stopped on the other side of a bridge that would lead to a small little local bar area that the Underdogs owned. It was quite the popular area for night drinking on the outside for people. Often there would be those that would go on what was known as a pub crawl. Hitting all the bars in the area

before they arrived at home. It was why the Underdogs had made it their place of business due to the nice profits they all owned.

Not only did they help deal with other gang members, but also the drunken customers that would like to cause trouble as well. It was one of the few places that actually welcomed the Underdogs and their business, as it allowed them to run more smoothly.

Today, though, there weren't any happy customers, instead there was fear in their eyes.

While running over the bridge, Kirk could see what looked like a couple that were at the very back. It was a young man along with a woman. However, the woman was struggling to run as she had high heels. In the end, one of her shoes eventually snapped.

The man quickly turned around to help his partner, but could see that the creatures that had been chasing behind them weren't too far behind.

"I'm... I'm sorry!" The man shouted as he turned around and ran, abandoning her.

"You bastard!" The woman cursed as she threw her high heels away, and attempted to get up, but looking behind, she could see the creature was close to her. The next second though, she could feel the wind on her face, and when she looked up, instead of the creature there was a man with yellow coloured skin and spots over his body.

The creature was seen off in the distance, its face bloody. At the same time, the man that stood by her side had a bloody fist.

Chapter 287 - Clash Of The Beasts

"Hey folks, I'm here right in Kidminstin! Did you guys all see that just now?!" A young man who was wearing a puffy oversized coat and had chains all around his neck was currently filming the event on his phone.

He wasn't just any regular university student, though. Scotty was a popular live streamer who happened to be in the area, rating different bars and their best drinks. Ever since the attack had started, he had continued to film the whole thing, and the reason for that was simple.

The amount of his viewers had skyrocketed!

Rather than overwhelmed with fear like others, Scotty had seen this as an opportunity for himself. He had managed to gather over two hundred people after livestreaming for a couple months, but right now, his viewership was in the thousands! People not only from Slough were watching what was going on, but from other cities as well, as they had never seen such Altered before.

[Is this real, or are they promoting some type of movie?]

[Yeah, I've never even heard or seen this many crazy Altered in the same place before.]

[I heard some rumours, on the dark web. They say that there are large numbers of Altered in the lower tier towns that had gone crazy.]

[But that doesn't make any sense. I thought there weren't any Altered in the lower tier towns?]

[Which is why it doesn't make any sense and this person is just talking out of his arse.]

Don't believe everything you see on the internet.]

"Did you all see that just now!? The man suddenly transformed his arms and legs, and burst across to save that woman right now, yo!" Scotty commentated. "It's an Altered. I can't believe there is an Altered in Slough, here to help the people!"

Soon, though, one of his viewers recognised him as Kirk Summerfield.

[Hey, that's not just any Altered, that's Kirk Summerfield! The Rookie AFC guy, the Cheetah Altered.]

[Yeah, it is him! I guess he couldn't just stand back and watch what was happening in his town, so he had to get involved.]

[Whoa, does that mean this whole thing is real!]

[I dunno. Might just be some promo for the AFC. Maybe they will reveal this as some new type of match style?]

“It's not a set-up guys.” Scotty said after checking in with his livefeed. He wasn't happy that his viewers were doubting the seriousness of this situation. “I didn't get to get a good shot because I wasn't ready for what happened, but when I was leaving the place I saw real blood. I saw the look in the girl's eyes before she...s he died.”

[Have you ever heard of paid actors before, Scotty, or are you really that naive?]

[F in the chat for the poor woman, people.]

—

“Remember, to add her to the list.” Kirk shouted, as he continued to move forward. There was only one creature that had followed this group, but Kirk was sure that there would be more around the area.

While walking forward, though, Kirk noticed that he had merely injured the beast. It stood up from the ground. Opening its mouth, the skin stretched until it bled from the sides and let out a nasty sounding growl.

‘It's so small, is it really an Altered? ... guess it has to be. There's no way a normal human could have survived my hit when I didn't hold back.’ Kirk thought. ‘Does that mean, the Grey Elephants have turned kids into Altered? Just how did they get their hands on so much Altered DNA? There's something else going on here. That thing seems to have gone berserk with the rest of them. Damion could be in more trouble if I don't hurry up.’

This time, instead of using his fists, Kirk grew out his sharp nails, and dashed forward again. The creature was fast, but Kirk was simply just too fast for it, his nails piercing right through the kid's head.

"I'm sorry, once turning into a crazed Alter there is no way of coming back from it. I'm sorry for what they have done to you." Kirk apologised as he let go of the corpse.

Quickly, leaving the body on the ground, the Cheetah Altered continued to where he could hear the screams. He entered the main road where cars would normally be at this time of day. Some had been flipped and others destroyed.

While walking towards the area, he also saw countless dead bodies on the ground. Those of the Underdog members. He was a little proud that the gang members at least stayed to try to fight, rather than run away.

There were those inside their establishments with the doors locked, staring outside, but it was quite calm, because standing in the middle of the street was a lone man, who was facing all the creatures on his own.

Scotty had followed Kirk and the others, and zoomed in on the lone man fighting.

"Look at this, it looks like a regular person is taking on the monsters." Scotty commented.

On the camera, one could see a man, who had a scarf wrapped around his neck, and a cap on the top of his head. Wearing a standard sports shirt, even in the middle of the night. He dodged two of the creatures' attacks, and grabbed the back of their heads, slamming them into the ground.

'Damn...this is harder than I thought without transforming any of my body.' Jayden thought.

While he was catching his breath, another beast that he thought he had dealt with, had gotten back up, thrusting its hand forward. Still, Jayden was ready and was waiting for the right time to kick it in its head.

When he lifted his foot off the ground, though, he could sense that something else from the front came forward and had punched it in the side of its face instead.

"These guys are tougher than you think." Kirk said towards the apparent stranger.

Chapter 288 - Anti Hero

The police had been somewhat quick to respond, which was a little strange even for them. However, they had managed to go to most of the areas where the current troubles were occurring. Still, their tactics were questioned by many of the people who had been walking by.

For one of the areas, the police had surrounded the high street with cars, on all exits around in a circle. Simply put, they weren't letting these creatures get out from the areas. Hoping to minimise the damage to the outside, yet not a single one of them had entered the place themselves.

On the edge of the road, where the police cars had blocked the road, a large van had pulled up and on the side, it had the words channel five TV crew filmed. Immediately, coming out of the car quickly, was a cameraman, and a female presenter dressed in a suit. It was light blue in colour. She had short hair that was tied back, and a stunning earring made of diamonds.

Of course, like with most presenters for a TV channel, they were quite the looker. It always seemed to earn them more ratings, especially when Miss Kate Dar was on the scene. Immediately, she didn't shy away as the camera was seen rolling with the red dot, and got out her microphone, pointing it towards the officers.

“Officer, I’m Kate Dar from Channel Five News. I’ve come here hoping that you would be able to answer some of the public's questions.” Kate stated her reason for being here, and straight away the police officer looked nervous and the others standing around were wondering what to do.

The problem was they were already having trouble trying to stop the general public from entering. There were many still inside establishments and buildings held up, and their family members had appeared, hoping to get them out of such a dangerous place.

“Many videos of the strange creatures that are assumed to be crazed Altered have appeared online, but what the people want to know is what is your plan to get the civilians out of these areas.” The reporter pushed on. “As far as we know, none of the police have acted, and seeing what the situation is like it seems to be true. What do you have to say to that?”

As they were asking the questions, screams were still being heard from behind. Zooming in on the camera, they could see countless dead bodies, mainly men in suits who looked to have been protecting the people so far.

However, they were unable to put up much of a fight against the creatures, and now it looked like the crazed Altered were going for their next target. They were bashing against the door, trying to break the glass windows of the shops and more.

“HELP THEM PLEASE!” The group of people watching were shouting.

Once again, Kate shoved the microphone up to the officer's face.

“Look, we are here to contain the area of damage.” The officer replied. “And stop people like you from getting inside. This is the best option, if we go in and end up losing our lives, then these creatures will kill all of you as well!”

Some officers shook her head at the comment. They had been trained how to deal with press in certain situations, but they understood. The pressure was getting to them. They had been watching the creatures fight against what they assumed were gangsters.

They had the same set of weapons as the police officers, but they actually had more members and were quite skillful using their tools, yet they were still killed. Furthermore, they could see that the creatures seemed to be attracted to whatever human was closest to them. If they went in, they would just be sacrificing themselves for no reason.

At least they could get in their cars and create a barrier of some sort until a solution came to them.

“Are you saying that the police are incompetent to solve this situation? If the police can't solve it, then who can?” Kate asked.

At that moment, a hooded figure was slowly pushing people out of the way as they walked through the crowd of people. His head was held down, and he was dressed in all black. Eventually, he had got to the front and was just a little away from where the reporter and police officer were.

“Step back, this is a restricted area, no one is allowed past this point!” The police officer shouted, but it didn't seem to slow down the stranger's pace.

Seeing what was going on right now, Kate pointed at her camera man towards the commotion, she had a feeling that something was about to happen.

“Let me through.” The voice said. It was slightly altered and when the hooded man lifted his head, the police officer could see who it was straight away. It looked like he was ready to yell, but before he could, his mouth was grabbed by a hand, and the next second he was kned in the stomach and thrown behind him.

Two more officers stood in the robbed man's way, pulling out their batons. A swing was made, but it was easily avoided, and the hooded man quickly kicked the back of his leg making him fall, before spinning and hitting the back of his head.

The other officer went to swing as well, but the man was able to grab the person's wrist before he could swing it and twisted it on the ground. Before kicking him hard in the stomach as well.

“Get out of my way, you guys aren't the ones that I'm here for.” The man stated, walking forward.

Quickly, seeing an opportunity due to the injured police officers, Kate, and her cameraman ran off through the gap, continuing to film the stranger. The rest of the police quickly regrouped, stopping the rest from charging in.

The next second, though, the hooded man pulled out two swords from his side as he was ready to charge in.

“It's an Altered Hunter.” Kate gasped.

Chapter 289 - Anti Hero (Part 2)

When Blake first heard the news of the crazed Altered attacking the people in Slough, his first instinct was to go out to help. After all, despite being shunned by the public, the reason Altered Hunters operated was to save people from a situation just like this one.

However, part of Blake knew that he didn't go out just to help the people. Part of him relished this situation, as it would justify him to do what he wanted to do ever since killing Billy. Right now, he was excited to be fighting Altered, however there was one thing that he noticed when appearing.

'These Altered are so small... and the clothes they are wearing look so shabby. Are they... homeless kids? Did someone turn kids into Altered?' Blake wondered.

It was impossible that someone would use the conventional way to turn so many kids. After all, those that were turned into Altered were meant to be humans in peak condition, usually people between sixteen and twenty-five years old to ensure the best effects.

Then again, that only applied for those who needed to get sponsored. With enough money, one could be as old as one wanted...

As Blake started to walk forward, the attention of some of the crazed Altered that had been stabbing holes through doors and windows just seconds ago, shifted towards him. Two in particular looked his way.

They screeched and growled, it was a strange sound as the noise they made was in between a growl and a scream, but that didn't matter, Blake had to make sure he had the resolve to kill these Altered.

Looking on the ground, he looked at the corpses. Not only were there those who looked like gang members, but there were also civilians among them as well. Regular people who seemed to have simply been at the wrong place at the wrong time.

'They seem to attack humans on sight. They seem no different from the beasts the books described. If these Altered are allowed to live, they will continue to cause more chaos.' Blake reasoned.

Both of the creatures leapt towards him at the same time, and seeing this, he moved his father's swords in a half arc motion, a clash was heard as the sword bashed against the hard pencil claws of both the Altered. The swords weren't light by any means, and with the armour Blake wore he could feel a boost in strength whenever he used it to attack.

Suddenly, there was a third one that came towards Blake, and as it thrust its hands forward, Blake rolled on the ground, narrowly avoiding the attack. When he lifted his head, though, he saw a fourth one and quickly raised his sword to hit the claw of that away as well. Getting up on the ground, he continued to swing his swords at the claws towards him.

Clashing and dodging the attacks from all over. Those watching felt like they were witnessing a scene out of an action movie being recorded. The people hiding inside the cars, were amazed at the skill the young Altered Hunter was displaying, rooting for him as he might be their only chance to get out of this alive.

The public knew how strong the Altered monsters were, when latched on no matter how much strength they used to throw them off it was impossible for them. How sharp their claws were and how fast their reflex were as well. Still, this lone person was able to block and avoid and match up to their strength.

However, they noticed that the beasts were starting to overwhelm him. The lone figure had quickly turned from a hero to someone who was barely surviving. Blake was able to block the attacks, yet he lacked the opportunity to deal any of the creatures a devastating blow.

‘This is why Altered Hunters are meant to go in pairs!’ Blake thought. ‘Since they were smaller than regular Altered, I thought I might fare better, but this is proving difficult. The moment I find the opening to attack one of them, the others come in at the right time.’

The young Altered Hunter felt his stamina disappearing. If he didn’t do something soon, there would be serious trouble. Finally, his movements were a little too slow as one of the creatures got behind him and stabbed multiple times one after another towards Blake’s back.

Those seeing this thought it was the end of the brave warrior that had come for their help, but just like with the sword, several clashes were heard. Turning around, spinning and using his full strength, Blake managed to slice right at the neck of the creature, cutting its head off and killing it.

Looking at his armour, he could see there were a few scratches on it, but it was able to withstand most of the attack.

'Looks like that answers my question of whether they can get through this armour or not. I guess they're not as scary as a Werewolf. Although I didn't want to test if they could pierce through my armour or not.' Blake thought, now a little more confident.

More help had arrived, as two figures landed right into the centre of the street. The duo flapped their large, powerful wings, which knocked some creatures away. Then with the ones closest, the female that had arrived latched her hand, digging her claw into the creature in front of them. One had grabbed the shoulder of the creature so deep its blood was seen soaking down its shoulder.

The next second, it was thrown strongly against the floor.

"It looks like we hit the jackpot." Sadie said with a smile. "Who would have thought that we would be getting all of these Altered and an Altered Hunter right here in front of us.

Everyone recognised the new arrivals as White Rose agents.

"Frank, take care of these little ones, I'll go after this one!" Sadie ordered, as she dashed forward and went to strike with her claw hand. Blake lifted his sword to counter the claw, but unlike when fighting the other creatures he was being pushed back, losing out in strength.

The next attack, he rolled to the side, instead of meeting it head on.

"What is White Rose doing?!" Some of those watching shouted. "Why are they attacking him when he was trying to kill the beasts?!"

"I heard them call him an Altered Hunter."

"Who cares about that? They were the ones that were too slow to respond! If it weren't for him, we might have been dead."

Those watching started to complain and physically boo the White Rose agents. Frank also wasn't having an easy time, facing off against nine crazed Altered, who proved to be quite resilient.

“Ah, Sadie, maybe we should have a truce or something for a second.” Frank suggested.

However, the look on Sadie's face was a clear no. She never cared about public opinion. They had PR teams for that sort of nonsense. Just as she was ready to charge forward again, though, the pain on the back of her foot started to throb. The next second something had wrapped around her arm, and she was pulled back.

Whatever had wrapped around her arm, quickly unwrapped and a loud bang was heard. The weapon had cut the White Rose agent's forearm. Looking at who it was, Sadie saw a woman dressed in black and gold, holding a whip in her hand.

“I really never liked your police in the first place.” Olivia stated.

Chapter 290 - A Truce?

The reporter Kate Dar was continuing to film the events of what was unfolding. In order to get in a safe spot, her and her cameraman quickly moved to one of the shops that were on the side. There were many held up watching what was going on.

However, they didn't go in the shops off to the side, instead they just continued to film from this position hoping to catch everything, and that they did.

‘The White Rose agents being here will be a huge scoop.’ Kate thought. ‘This might be one of the biggest events to happen this year. Who would have thought this small town to have an Altered Hunter as well.’

It was a question on a lot of people's minds, what was going on right now with Slough? Ever since the brutal death of some gangsters on the construction site around a month ago, this Tier-3 town had managed to make the news rather frequently.

Altered killings even managed to reach a nation wide broadcast level, and it was the same with Billy. His face was plastered all over the country. Yet this story right in front of them now, would be something that would be broadcasted for months.

The camera zoomed in on one of the crazed beasts. It looked like an Altered, but it was too small to be an adult. What's more, when had anyone ever seen so many of them in one place? A group of vicious

crazed Altered was sure to get the Anti Altered movement going. A group that seemed to be growing by the day as more cases like this popped up.

“Is a corporation secretly using Slough as a testing base?” Kate whispered as she continued to report, not wanting to catch the attention of any of the Altered.

It was then that the battle had started between the Altered Hunter and the White Rose agents. The people that had held them up in the shops were clearly frustrated at what White Rose were doing. As many of them saw them on the same side as the police force. Then finally, a new individual had entered the fray, using her whip.

It was a strange stand-off, as there were two White Rose agents, and now seemingly another.

“Is it another Altered Hunter? No, that makes no sense, she’s not bothering to cover up her face.” Kate spoke her mind for the sake of the viewers... “Just who is this stunning person?”

Sadie was looking at her now bleeding forearm. A whip was a fast weapon, but as an Altered she should have been able to avoid it. This whip was far faster than a regular one, and the pain in her arm was also greater than it should have been.

‘That weapon... I don’t think it’s an ordinary whip. Is it a Anti-Altered weapon?’ Sadie thought.

The Anti-Altered weapons or Anti weapons for short were something that had been discovered rather recently. Buried deep in mountains, under the sea, caves and more not only had there been fossils of ancient creatures found, which were used for the Alterification process, but every so often humanity would uncover some special weapons. Hardly having deteriorated.

They seemed to have been made from the ancient beasts themselves, which was why they were so special in the first place. It was something that the public wasn’t privy to, mostly because they were a rarity. Sometimes rich folk would buy them to use as a status symbol, believing that they were nothing but relics of the past, unaware of how much power they actually held.

However, there was another group of people besides the Altered hunters that seemed to be using more of these weapons of late, and that was powerful gangs. It was an alternative to increasing one's strength, which was quite a bit cheaper than becoming an Altered.

Because of this information, Sadie had an idea about what type of person this woman in front of her was.

'I don't know who this woman is, but as long as she's not trying to fight me and is keeping that crazy woman off my back, I should be good.' Blake thought, wondering if he should make a run for it. However, if he did, who would take care of the crazed Altered? 'She might keep up with one White Rose agent, but she will have no chance if I don't engage the guy. They're strong... perhaps too strong even for me to handle.'

Being the decision maker in tough situations like this was something that Blake wasn't used to, having relied on his father.

It was then that one of the little Altered creatures leapt towards Olivia. Quickly moving out of the way and spinning her body, she wrapped the whip around its arms, tying it up, and then lifted it in the air, slamming it into the ground.

Her reflexes and actions were fast, at the same time her strength was greater than before. Even Olivia herself was quite surprised at how well her body was reacting.

'That kid... has given me quite a gift.' Olivia smiled to herself.

"My Boss has given me permission to go all out. It was meant to be against the Grey Elephants, but I'm sure he won't mind if I include you in that list as well." Olivia spoke, as she swung her whip again, striking the ground, just a little away from another crazed Altered coming towards her.

The whip crashed into the ground and caused some of the stone flooring to break. It became clear that either the weapon she was using was quite the good one, or that she had abnormal strength. While Sadie was staring down the Lady Boss, she was wondering what to do.

Frank had leapt back with his wings coming in between the two groups. He had hit another of the Altered creatures, his arm bloody and his wings scratched up with a few puncture wounds in them. He had been dealing with most of the crazed Altered while his partner was having a field day.

“Ahh, I can't take it any more!” Frank shouted. “That's it, I'm calling a truce, I don't care what you say, Sadie. Hey, you, Altered Hunter guy, Whip Lady, how about it? You won't attack us, we won't attack you. Let's just get rid of these crazed Altered.”

Seeing how much trouble her partner was in, and how difficult these two people in front of her would be, the female White Rose agent had to bite her tongue and take it in.

“Fine.”

Immediately, turning towards the others, Sadie threw out one of her feathers, hitting one of the crazed Altered in the forehead, knocking its head back. It was bleeding, but the projectile hadn't quite managed to pierce through to kill it yet.

‘Damn it, either these little guys are tough or I'm still having problems.’ Saide thought as the back of her leg throbbed.

The fighting continued, and the people's hopes had now risen, seeing that all four of them had started to fight off the group of crazed Altered together.

Blake was more than happy to agree to this truce, as he could finally focus on taking on these creatures. Meanwhile, Olivia was testing the limits of her new body against some worthy foes. The Lady Boss felt as if she could also draw more power from the weapon now than when she had been a human.

In the first place, there were a little more than ten of those creatures, yet after a short while of ‘cooperating’ they managed to beat them all. Sadie had simply destroyed the arms and legs of the last one, rather than outright killing. She was sure White Rose would be interested in having a live sample to find out what exactly these guys were.

Perhaps it was because they had turned Altered into children or weak beings, but none of them were as strong as real Altered, even if the person turned had been inexperienced.

The people inside the shops waited for a while, unsure if everything was over. Nobody would risk going out, in case there might be more of those creatures around. However, while they didn't see or hear the sound of creatures, there was the sound of several footsteps heard.

When they saw who they were and what they looked like, they decided to remain indoors, because carrying weapons on them, and walking down the street, were a menacing group, or groups of people.

Around fifteen had come from each side of the street and had surrounded them.

"These aren't Altered." Blake stated he could tell straight away from the energy readings. Their temperatures were all normal.

"Nope, they're not." Olivia smiled. "They're gangsters, but they are scum nonetheless."