

BloodLine 341

Chapter 341 Insect Forest : Attacking On The Bandit Team

Hansen Campus-Red Stone City,

Cabin,

Elder Thornton is having a conversation with Arthur. He didn't expect Zack to react like this. He didn't answer anyone's call from Hansen Campus. At that time, he really felt Zack was requesting too many resources from them.

So he was a little harsh on Zack. Thinking about it, Elder Thornton sighed internally.

He asked, "Is there any news from James? We don't know. What is Zack doing out there? "

Last time, Elder Thornton went to Star Tower with Zack as a guardian. This time Zack went all alone to Iron Post City.

"Factions were busy preparing for the Crimson Hall competition. On the surface, it might seem like no one cares about weaker organisations. But actually, that's not the case," Elder Thornton thought to himself.

On the other hand, Mr. Arthur was also concerned about Zack. He replied, "Elder, Zack is doing fine. He hadn't joined any teams yet. Currently, he is cultivating in seclusion. "

Elder Thornton nodded, a slight glint flashing in his eyes. Zack is the current winner of the Star Tower Competition. It's been a few days since Zack left. But still, there are a lot of eyes peeping at Hansen Campus.

It won't remain the same for long. When these people find out that Zack is truly not here, Then they will look for him using their sources.

When Elder Thornton touched his forehead, he commented, "It would have been good if Zack stayed here."

Mr. Arthur smiled. He had heard a few things from James. Zack is not going there for a mission. He intends to practise his skills in the insect forest.

Then, suddenly, Mr. Arthur received an emergency message from Ms. Key. He immediately opened it to view it.

Mr. Arthur's expression changed drastically.

"Elder, Take a look at this news " After saying that Mr. Arthur forwarded the news to him,

Elder Thornton retracted his thoughts and looked at the news. He uttered, "Elder Brody Roth's high-level visit to Crimson Hall"

Elder Thornton's expression condensed a little bit. He continued to read the message. His expression was still unbelievable when he finally got it. He asked, "Arthur, Tell our connections to stay vigilant. "

Elder Thornton added further, "I don't know whether that person from May Ford Academy was able to collect information or not."

"But I believe there will be some skirmishes before the competition. So tell our people to stay away from them. "

"Don't worry, elder. I'll take care of this matter." Mr. Arthur assured him with his words.

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(From MC's Perspective)

Insect Forest,

"Pfff"

Another one is gone. After killing a few bugs, I continued my journey. After killing Benny Sutton, I didn't find his lackeys chasing me from behind.

Then, a few hours later, I was hit with these annoying bugs. I have just covered one safe zone since this morning. But it took several hours for me to do this. It's hard to even walk through this forest.

I looked at the sky. Before dawn, I needed to reach another safe zone to spend the night there.

Then, in my perception, there is no living thing beside me. I recalled the City Lord's Mansion. From my current position, the nearest safe zone is located in the west part of the forest. Unlike the previous one, it's located in the inner part of the forest.

After figuring it out, I walked towards the destination. Various thoughts run in my mind. I intend to improve my flaws, such as charging and discharging lightning power with my sword.

The discharge speed should be too fast for the opponent. Using the Sword Divide move, if I spent too much time on locking the target, it would be detrimental to me in the future.

If it's a one on one fight, then it's okay. But facing a group, it's hard to use sword divide efficiently.

"RED"

Suddenly, a few red dots appeared in my mind. Seeing that, I halted my footsteps and began to observe the speed of the red dots. By looking at their slow movements, I'm pretty much convinced that this time it's not bugs but rather humans.

"Last time it was the Black Fist team. Who could it be this time?" While looking at the red dots, I muttered to myself.

Next, I slowly moved towards the red dots.

The red dots are moving ahead. They are certainly not coming in my direction.

After figuring it out, I increased my speed.

10 minutes later,

I hid behind the tree and continued to watch the situation in front of me. There

were ten black dressed people. They are slowly moving forward while talking to each other. In order not to alert them, I stopped following.

From previous experience, I have learnt a lot of things. Like, Victor Brown was selected for the 5th team. Benny Sutton's master order to capture Victor. There is too much going on between the teams.

If I can learn one or two things from these groups, It will be helpful for my information collection. While talking about information, the image of Remington Talley flashes before my eyes.

I wonder, what is he up to? Remington wouldn't have guessed that I was soloing in the forest.

Dispelling my thoughts, I continue to follow them secretly.

Suddenly, I heard something from these people.

Among those ten people walking forward, one of them raised a question: "Leader, is this path safe? I heard this path is mostly used by the warriors for logistics. "

The leader of the group was a burly figure; his face was covered with a black mask. Not only him, but the entire group had their faces masked to conceal their identities.

The leader of this bandit team was not surprised by the question. It's not their style to walk boldly and search for their prey. They usually set up an ambush and wait for them.

"Don't worry," the leader said with a smile. "The warriors don't dare touch us. We just simply need to look for those weak ones to loot. "

Hearing that the one who raised a question suddenly replied without thinking, "Ha... ha... ha... You are the right leader; even their strongest team never touched one of us"

When he said that, the expression of the leader changed drastically. He charged up to the person and kicked him in the stomach.

"Bast**d, do you want to die?" The leader shouted at him. Remember what the boss told us before leaving? "Walls have ears, so does this forest," the leader said.

The person spurts out blood immediately. He immediately begged for forgiveness.

Seeing that the leader snorted and stopped stomping him, "Harrumph,"

He then waved his hand. Next, two people went forward to pick him up.

Next, the bandit team continues to walk forward after this small episode.

Alternatively,

At this point, what? I was quite taken back inside. It took me some minutes to digest the information.

What did they mean by the strongest team? Did the Fire Sword Team never touch them in the first place?

Several questions popped into my mind.

I don't know whether to believe it or not. But upon seeing the strong reaction from the bandit leader, I believe the information spilled by his subordinate is true.

An image of Uncle James flashes before my eyes. He warned me not to get involved in this bandit hunting mission. I sighed; the water here is really too deep.

I thought bandits and the Fire Sword team were on the same page. No wonder the city is currently in chaos. Maybe the City Lord might know something.

Then again, a question rose in my heart. If I start to act against them, there is a possibility that it will reach bandit hunting teams. What will they do then?

Their reaction will be worth seeing then.

Next, I already gauged the strength of these people. The leader is a Peak Special Trainee. His subordinates are divided between Mid and Initial levels.

As I watched them fade away, I began to move. I plan to use a sword divide on them. It's a good move to catch them off guard.

After reaching a little bit closer to them, I held the Black Sword in my hands.

The bandit team, unaware of the surroundings, continues to walk forward.

Next, "Sword Divide," I activated the lightning move.

I began to pour the lightning essence into the sword. The black blade was charged with lightning power within seconds.

Then, without further ado, I released the lightning power to the group.

"Thudrrr"

A thunderous sound resonated in the area with the discharge of the lightning power.

At breakneck speed, the purple lightning dashed towards the bandit team.

The bandits were alarmed by the sounds. When the leader turned to his right to look backward, he got dumbstruck.

"Boom" "Rumble"

The lightning power blasted the bandit team in different directions. The initial trainee warrior was directly injured by the blast. But, including the bandit leader, four other bandits managed to hold on.

The aftermath swept away the nearby rocks and trees.

I dashed towards them using this opportunity.

"Enemy!" "Watch out," the bandit leader shouted.

"Pfff" "Pfff" "Pfff"

I managed to slice the necks of three initial trainee warriors. Then I dashed towards the other two.

Chapter 342 Fire Sword Team's Action

(From MC's Perspective)

Insect Forest -City of Iron Post,

When the after math was settled, the bandit leader dashed towards me.

Seeing that, I turned my attention towards the other four warriors. It would be foolish to head on directly. I made up my mind to eliminate the other Warriors.

I slowly recited the blood method in my heart. Next, changes began to take place in my body. while feeling that I evaded the wind attack of the leader.

"Whizzz!"

The wind blade went past the empty air. Using that opportunity, I dashed towards the nearby warrior. The lightning phantom technique was too fast for the opponent to notice.

Seeing my sudden appearance, the opponent was caught off guard.

It all happened in the blink of an eye.

I covered my fist with purple lightning power. Then I punched at my opponent's abdomen with great force.

"Pfff, " the opponent coughed up blood.

The bandit warrior flung backwards like a cannon ball and his body smashed on to the ground. I used my full strength in this attack. So there is no chance for the opponent to get back on his feet.

After finishing one, I glanced at the other three bandits beside the leader.

At this point in time, the lead bandit understood my motive. He signalled others to act together. The next second, everyone is ready to bombard me with their elements.

Seeing that, only one idea came to my mind. It's about the lightning wheel.

"LIGHTNING WHEEL"

I launched the lightning attack. While doing that, I dashed towards the group.

Within seconds, a purple lightning wheel formed in an instant. At this point in time, the bandits also executed their move.

I saw two fire balls, one boulder, and one wind pscythe coming towards me. Seeing that, I used the lightning phantom technique.

Using two different types of lightning techniques requires so much concentration. But I managed to pull it off in the end.

By the time their attack reached me, my lightning wheel also came into contact with their body.

The next second, four of the bandit warriors' faces were panic struck with horror.

"Boom," a defeaning sound, resonates in the area.

The lightning wheel directly explodes when it comes to contact with the bandit's body. The explosion swept away everyone's bodies in different directions.

"Cough" "Cough"

Those two fire balls triggered the lightning wheel, resulting in a big explosion.

It also caught me off guard and made me lose my balance. Fortunately, I managed to evade the boulder and the wind pscythe. The brunt of the two fireballs was taken by the lightning wheel.

Others than a few brushes by tripping. I didn't suffer any other injuries. Then quickly, I sorted out the situation by using my perception.

As expected, the 3 bandits with a special trainee base are rendered immobile. Only the bandit leader was somewhat conscious.

Seeing the situation, a small smile rose on my face. This went rather smoothly than expected.

Using this opportunity, I immediately ended everyone one by one. After looting everyone's valuables, I dragged their corpses behind the bush. I also used this opportunity to dispose of Benny Sutton's corpse together with it.

"I hope this will be enough to cover the trails." I grumbled to myself.

After taking one glance at the surroundings, I made my way to the safe zone.

Alternatively,

Everything that happened below didn't go unnoticed by Mr. Jonathan's eyes. He recalled those three lightning techniques used by Zack. All of those were given to Zack by his master.

Suddenly, Mr. Jonathan smacked his forehead.

He recalled that his master had given him a lightning technique for Zack. Mr. Jonathan forgot to tell Zack about it.

"Sigh," Mr. Jonathan sighed internally. Then he decided to hand it over to him later. because the new lightning technique is meant to be a new trump card for Zack.

It will be a huge help to him.

After gaining some clarity, Mr. Jonathan stared at the below. So far, he has only had one task: to erase everyone's traces. Seeing the piled up corpses, Mr. Jonathan completely took care of them.

Then he continues to follow Zack from above.

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Mateo Roth readied himself to enter the insect forest with his team. When he stepped out of the tent, he saw Carla Gill was already waiting for him.

Mateo asked, "What is it?" He couldn't help but furrow his eyebrows by looking at her worried face.

"The Black Fist Team was annihilated," Carla replied in a tense tone.

"What?" Mateo was taken aback by surprise. But in the next second, he burst out in anger. A red flame appears all over her body.

Carla stepped back, feeling the blazing heat.

"Leader?" She called out in worry.

Hearing that, Mateo calmed his boiling heart and retracted his blazing flame in his body.

If it were any other team, he wouldn't have minded. But the Black Fist team is different.

The leader, Benny Sutton, is one of his men. And to think someone eliminated him. He couldn't even digest the information. Then,

looking at Carla, he said, "Tell me everything from the beginning."

"A few minutes ago, someone spotted Black Fist Team members' corpses," Carla said.

Then she added further, "But we didn't find any trace of Benny Sutton's body."

Hearing that, a slight glint flashes in Mateo's eyes. He didn't know whether Benny was alive or not. But this situation is really bad for him.

Various thoughts came to his mind.

Who could it be? Everyone knows that the Black Fist Team joined under the flag of the Fire Sword Team. So no one dares to act against them.

But what is it with the current situation? Did any one of the other four teams act behind his back? Mateo couldn't be able to conclude.

Everything is going smoothly. Just as he decided to head out, this bad news came.

Mateo Roth looked at Carla and said, "Immediately stop everyone from doing their current task." Order them to look for the culprits. "

"Tell them if anyone finds out anything, they will be handsomely rewarded."

Carla nodded and left the place to inform everyone.

Mateo Roth returned back to his tent. He sat back in the chair and fell into contemplation. His family's task is of the utmost importance to him. now that someone is interfering in it.

Mateo decided to look into this matter. He dropped the thoughts about improving his strength.

Soon after his arrival, Carla told everyone about the new development. When the news was heard by other warriors, the news washed away like shock waves.

Especially the neutral warriors, shopkeepers, and other vendors. They couldn't even believe the news. Everyone was already concerned by the ongoing state of the iron post city.

Now everyone is worried about how this issue is going to impact everyone. Someone dares to touch the hornest nest. No one knows who the culprit is.

Soon, all the teams under the Fire Sword Team immediately went away to look for culprits.

Alternatively,

just as Mateo was completely down, he received a call from his father.

Seeing that he immediately attended the call, Mateo asked, "What is it, father?"

From the other side of the call, Hector answered, "Mateo, there is good news for you."

After saying that, Hector begins to explain what transpired in their meeting hall.

Hearing that, Mateo's dull face begins to brighten. This good news came at the right time. "Elder Brody Roth failed". This is the first time Mateo has heard something like this.

"So, it means there is no additional quota anymore," Mateo said with a smile. "Ha... ha..."

ha..., It's true. You can rest assured, "Hector said with a laugh. He is obviously happy about his son's life.

At the same time, Mateo was slightly disappointed. Somewhere in his heart, he expected to hear about Crimson Hall's event.

Because knowing one or two things about the events is obviously helpful to him. But it's a pity that Crimson Hall is really tightlipped about the event.

He doesn't know what Ford Academy will do about this next.

Hector asked, "I believe soon you will be asked to come back." Until then, be ready for the news. "

Hearing that, Mateo thought about the ongoing problem.

Dispelling his thoughts, both of them talked about a few other things before ending the call.

Mateo was in a good mood. One of his obstacles was solved automatically. He just needs to take care of this new problem.

Alternatively,

Carla Gill made her way to the East Wood Company to collect intel. She believes they might have known about this attack. She went together with other members of the fire sword team.

Everyone on the way was alarmed by seeing the Fire Sword Team members. Some people with discerning eyes have already thought about something.

They knew it had something to do with the Black Fist Team. So some people quickly left the place.

Carla didn't mind their reaction. Benny Sutton's image currently occupies her mind. She thought someone was targeting Mateo Roth particularly.

But she needs to speak with evidence. That's why she didn't tell Mateo about it. Then everyone from the fire sword team quickly walked towards the city's gate.

Chapter 343 Iron Post City: Turbulent Situation

The Iron Post City,

A few days passed in the blink of an eye.

The news about Black Fist's destruction eventually reached everyone's ears. From neutral warriors to citizens of the iron post city, everyone was rendered speechless by this development.

Everyone expected some notice from the City Lord Mansion. The days passed with no response from the City Lord Mansion. than issuing bandit hunting missions, they didn't care about anything related to the city.

Burke Trade Centre,

At this time, Remington Talley is conversing with traders. When the news reached his ears, he didn't believe it at first.

But right after noticing the aggressive action of the Fire Sword Team, he finally believed the rumour. An image of Iron Hammer team members flashes before his eyes.

"They really were met with retribution!" Remington said with a laugh.

The traders in front of him were bewildered by his behaviour. But soon their expressions condensed after hearing the news. Everyone is already

racking their brains to solve the current turmoil. Now there is another disturbance.

They fear the remaining citizens will leave the city because of the situation.

Insect Forest

The teams that pledged to the Fire Sword Team were already searching every nook and corner of the outer area of the forest.

Before getting orders from the Fire Sword Team, they didn't dare move to the inner area. which is said to be dangerous as there is no safe zone deep inside the inner area.

The inner area of the insect forest is home to different bugs. The premises of the insect forest were known to everyone. The Warriors' constant killing has reduced the activities of bugs in that area. If the teams were given orders, then they had no choice other than to enter the inner area with caution.

At the camping site,

Mateo Roth held a discussion with his team members.

At this time, Mateo felt a headache from the ongoing situation. It's been a few days but there has been no news about the culprit.

Even the Eastwood company was clueless about the situation. It's really unbelievable for him.

Then, looking at the team members in front of him, he nonchalantly asked, "I heard EastWood Company had never failed to collect information before." But I bet this time they too feel something strange. "

Anyone who provides first-hand information with solid evidence is usually considered credible. The Eastwood company rewarded them with affinity stones. "

"So they have never been in a situation like this." It must be the first setback for them. "

Hearing that, Mateo nodded and said, "True, affinity stones are not a simple reward."

A slight glint flashes in his eyes.

Even in their Tier-7 city, Willow Peak. The affinity stones were sold at a sky-high price. If you want to try your luck, you can only do it at an auction. I

think they would use affinity stones to ignite warriors' greed. The EastWood Company deserved its name.

"What about the other four teams? Is there any movement from them?" Mateo asked, as he was strongly suspicious about the other four teams.

From the beginning, Mateo disliked them because they copied their Fire Sword Team strategy. Everything was going fine at that time, so he didn't confront them.

After the Black Fist team's destruction was known to the public, the other four teams kept silent. So far, except for their subsidiary teams, no one has stepped inside the insect forest.

Mateo furrowed his eyebrows. "What is it with these people?" he thought to himself.

Mateo thought it would do no good if they wasted too much time and manpower on this issue. In particular, he has another reason to worry about.

So far, he didn't know about bandit boss Siren's current situation. He has been following his family's orders. If his family is made aware of the new mess, things can go wrong for him.

Finally, Mateo comes to a conclusion. He decided to solve old doubts with new ones. He plans to meet the leaders of the other four teams.

"Carla, send the invitation to four team leaders." I want to meet them as soon as possible, "Mateo said in a solemn tone. He doesn't want to drag this out any longer.

Carla nodded and walked out of the tent.

East Wood Company,

Old man Tucker Nelson is arranging his men to collect information regarding the Black Fist team.

"Such an event happened in our city. But we couldn't find the reason for it, "old man Tucker said to himself."

He sat back in his seat, tired.

When he first heard the request from the Fire Sword Team, he thought they were joking with him.

Surprisingly, he received first-hand information from the Fire Sword Team themselves.

Tapping his finger on the table, old man Tucker fell into contemplation. "Who could be so daring?"
About the

Fire Sword Team, he knew the leader had a scary background. If it is possible, he can easily dig out information about them.

But by doing so, he will offend the other party. Even old man Tucker has a vague feeling that they have something to do with the bandit hunting mission.

But these are all just his own assumptions. It can't be trusted without evidence. Even if he gets something, he will think twice before acting against the other party.

Right now, their eastwood company has got a good opportunity to befriend the Fire Sword Team leader. They don't have any trouble, just proving them with information is enough. Old man Tucker believes they will remember their help.

Suddenly, old man Tucker stopped tapping the table. A good idea came to his mind. Other than the Fire Sword Team, the other four teams also have members with strong backgrounds.

It's different for strangers. He doesn't know whether any such Warriors have entered the city recently.

His men were staring at the top 5 teams. If there were any new developments, their captain would quickly inform him.

Old man Tucker decided to collect information about the strangers. He feels there is a possibility of a new powerful team entering their city.

Then he also thought about contacting the manager of the City Lord Mansion. If he gathers the information about the new bandit hunting team list, it will also be helpful for him.

But deep in his heart, old man Tucker didn't want to do this. Last time, his east wood company bled heavily in order to collect information from the City Lord Mansion.

This time, he is sure that they will suffer further. But in order to befriend the Fire Sword team, old man Tucker decided to visit the City Lord Mansion personally.

After gaining some clarity, Old Man Tucker told his grandson Lewis to take care of the office.

Ten minutes later,

Old Man Tucker's air car landed in front of the City Lord Mansion. He stepped out of the air car and walked towards the gate.

Seeing his appearance, the city guard immediately recognised him. They allowed him inside without making any fuss.

Soon, old man Tucker strides towards the manager's office. He came here without informing the other party. I don't know if the manager is available or not. With a frownful face, he walked up to the front desk.

The assistant working behind the desk immediately recognised Tucker Nelson.

Perceiving his glance, old man Tucker said, "I'm here to meet your manager." Go and inform him. "

Hearing that, the assistant nodded and quickly walked away to inform the manager.

Seeing that, a slight glint flashes in his eyes. He muttered, "Looks like the manager is here."

Dispelling the thoughts, he shifted his gaze towards the main building. A strange worry occupied his heart. He didn't know what the City Lord was doing.

"If the City Lord had executed half of his responsibility, the city wouldn't have suffered this much," Old Man Tucker muttered to himself.

"What are you babbling about?" The manager's voice sounded from behind.

Hearing that old man, Tucker's face turned ugly. He was stunned by his sudden arrival. "Ha... Ha...

Ha.. Manager Lawrence, I'm just thinking about our City Lord," Old Man Tucker said with a laugh.

The Manager frowns. No one dares to address him by his name except the City Lord.

Since he was aware of the identity of the old man Tucker, he didn't mind it.

The manager, Lawrence, greeted him inside his cabin. After taking their seats, both of them looked at each other.

The manager, Lawrence, has guessed something in his heart. He knew old man Tucker came here for the bandit hunting mission's name list.

"Mr. Nelson, I'm afraid I can't help you with information anymore," Mr. Lawrence declined in a polite tone, even before Old Man Tucker opened his mouth.

Hearing that old man, Tucker chuckled. He is familiar with the same old routine. He knows unless he offers something valuable, this guy won't even react.

"I'm ready to transfer 5 million credit points," Old Man Tucker said.

Hearing that the manager, Lawrence's expression moved a little. But still, he kept his face expressionless.

Seeing that old man, Tucker said, "Tck! Alright, 10 million credit points. If you aren't satisfied, I'm going to leave. "

"Deal!" The manager, Lawrence, said with a grin.

Heading that, old man Tucker said in his heart, "The entire City Lord Mansion is corrupted."

Chapter 344 Class 3 Plant Monster

(From MC's Perspective)

Insect Forest,

These days, I have been hiding in the basement of the cave. The cave structure provides a natural shelter from rain and sunlight.

Earlier, I thought about spending time in a safe zone. But surprisingly, the activities of warriors were unusually high in the outer area. Most of them occupied the safe zone to stay.

I already guessed their intention. It must be related to those escaped warriors from Iron Hammer. Their situation must have been noticed by someone.

But I'm confident that no one can find anything. Even if they did, by the time I'm long gone out of the city, My Lightning Pearl is enough to assist my cultivation for a few weeks.

So I'm not going to waste much time here. Next, I plan to scout the inner area of the forest.

At this point of time, the Fire Sword Team must have mobilised their entire teams under them to investigate. So it's not wise to stay here any longer.

It's still noon; I need to enter the inner area before dawn. After gaining some clarity about my next move, I walked towards the inner area of the forest.

I can already see the densely packed vegetation all over the place. I used my black sword to chop these overgrown bushes to clear the road.

Though these didn't cost much energy. However, it still takes a long time pause in between to clear the way.

I only hope to not come across any insects. But my wish became futile the next second. Instead of bugs, this time it's an army of ants. They occupied the entire path.

Immediately I observed through my perception, there were few insect colonies formed on the narrow road. If I want to walk further, I need to remove the obstacles before me.

Fortunately, I didn't disturb them. But it would be a waste of time if I returned back to find another route. "What to do next?" I muttered to myself.

Just as I'm pondering, I find new red dots coming in my direction. After seeing that, I immediately choose to hide little bit distance away from these place.

I have no other choice than to hide behind the bushes. Then I carefully moved around in order to not leave any traces behind.

Ten minutes later,

A group of warriors signed up for a bandit hunting mission came to the place.

Looking at their attire, I confirmed that they are not bandits but they are looking for the culprits.

I probe through my perception to see any other team coming behind them. Because I don't want to get exposed right now. This place is not suitable for any combat.

Then I suddenly noticed a faded little dot exactly right near the bandits. Looking at one extra dot confuses me. There are only ten warriors here, but my perception is picking up eleven signals.

I knew it was a monster, but my attention shifted to its state. Unlike the other red dots, this one is dim. Is that monster injured? A doubt rose in my heart.

Because it can't be insect bugs, only terrain monsters venture out solo.

I calmed down my nerves and plan to observe the next development.

At the same time, the leader of the group notices that ant colonies are obstructing the path. He didn't think about anything. He ordered his team members to clear out the way.

Next, immediately a few warriors from the group acted to remove these ant colonies. Everyone uses their elements to destroy them by throwing fireballs, rock bolders, water arrows, etc.

Seeing that, I frowned, because I never had a good experience with ant class monsters. As I recalled last time, it took me a great deal of effort to escape from the clutches of Any Queen.

Black Forest, uh? This time, if there is any opportunity, I will sweep those places.

Then my attention shifted towards those warriors. They are talking about something.

"Tck! I don't know which bast**d is responsible for the Black Fist team's destruction. All of us are suffering because of him. " One of the warriors who went to clear out ant colonies said in a dissatisfied tone.

The other warriors beside him also spit some hateful words in support of him.

The leader also didn't bother to refute him.

Because all of them were already dead-beaten. They spent several hours trying to find Benny Sutton's body in the outer area. But there is no clue whatsoever in the end.

They thought about returning back to the camping site. But the Fire Sword Team strictly orders them to not retreat unless they find something.

Upon seeing their mood, I realised that this Benny Sutton guy was not a nobody. He is obviously someone important to the Fire Sword Team leader. Here I was of the belief that he must've been a third wheel.

Next, I continue to watch their activities. Also, I put my half attention on an extra red spot. So far, there has been no movement from the nearby monsters.

The warriors acted swiftly to remove the ant colonies. The Ant Queen was only at the strength of Class 2-Initial level. It didn't pose much of a threat to these warriors. Under their leader's lead, the warriors started to move.

Seeing their disappearing back, I hesitated for a moment. Because the ten-man team was actually quite close to the extra red dot.

Instead of moving out, I stayed behind and continued to observe them. These guys are reducing my work time for clearing out the overgrown bushes. A small smile rose on my face by looking at their hard work.

Getting into the inner area is harder than I thought. But I feel like soon everyone will come across more bandits. The outer area of the insect forest is just like a small trial.

But here I came across ant colonies and ten warriors in a span of a few minutes. If I continue to follow this route, then there will be more battles ahead.

Suddenly, the extra red dot immediately brightens up. My eyes lit up with surprise, then I shifted my attention toward those Warriors.

"Aaahhhh", the sound of an agonising scream resonated throughout the area.

"What's happening?" I uttered it in surprise.

Then, without thinking further, I jumped out of the bushes and hurried to see what was happening out there.

But in the next second, my pupils constrict upon seeing something unimaginable.

"This?" I was stunned by looking at the carnivore plant monster.

Using its tentacle like roots, the plant monster directly swallowed two special trainee Warriors just like that.

It's all happened in the blink of an eye. Next, I immediately realised something and quickly retreated back to my previous position.

After coming back to my previous position, I observed the situation through perception. I instinctively walked out to assess the situation before checking my perception. This was a really bad move by me.

That plant monster is not an ordinary one. By looking at the plant monster's effortless killing, I guess this is Class 3.

Definitely a Class 3 monster. To think it fooled the perception of the Trainee Warrior with ease, it sent shivers down my spine. Even I would've been fooled, if not for my perception ability.

"Aaahhhh"

Another round of screaming resonates in the area.

"Damn, it's not even the premise of the inner area. Yet there is already a Class 3 Monster hiding here, "I said to myself.

After calming my nerves, I got my head straight. I used my perception to see what they are up to now. I saw there were one to five people left behind, including the leader.

The plant monster stands ten feet tall. The leader of the team is taking the lead in cutting out the tentacles like roots. Others are supporting them from behind.

I feel something bad. It would be best if they found out its weakness spot and targeted it instead of wasting time on cutting roots.

They are my enemies, so I would not have helped them openly. Next, something strange caught my attention, including the leader. The skin of the warriors started to change.

"Is it poison?" I mumbled under my breath.

Then suddenly, something struck my mind like lightning. I uttered in shock, "Pollens." These guys must have inhaled toxic pollen released by this plant monster.

"Tck! This plant monster clearly views them as prey rather than an enemy." I muttered to myself.

From the very beginning, everyone of their team members fell into Monster's traps.

No wonder, my perception showed a dimmed red spot. The plant monster was already waiting for them. I believe it must have released its toxic pollen then.

Class 3 Monster is comparable to Trainee Warrior. But the monsters were inherently stronger than humans. Especially in the same base, it's hard to defeat.

Given that this one is more difficult than most Class 3 monsters,

Images of Class 3 Fox monsters flash before my eyes. Last time, I was lucky.

The fox monster is much more dangerous than the plant monster.

Because it has tricks no less than those of the plant type, and at the same time, unlike plant monsters, the fox monster has mobility. It can move around with extreme speed.

Chapter 345 Lewis' Confusion

(From MC's Perspective)

Insect Forest,

The warriors begin to lose their strength gradually due to poison. They weren't able to exert their maximum strength. In desperation, some even decided to flee.

But it was quickly noticed by their group leader. So having no choice everyone continued their fight.

Seeing their desperation, I sighed internally. Everyone knows the inner area of the insect forest is no joke. You may come across a do or die situation very frequently.

Having known all of this, the Fire Sword Team decided to send them here. "Tck, these guys didn't realise they were nothing but cannon fodders." I mumbled under my breath.

Then I patiently waited for this terrible scene to end. I have not changed my mind about getting into the inner area. Before that, I need to clear out this hurdle.

10 minutes later,

The warriors lost all of their strength. Their last bit of struggle was crushed by the plant monster. It immediately swallowed those who fell first. Within a few minutes, there was no trace of them left on the ground.

My expression is a little bit tense. I'm still unclear about the plant monster's strength. It's surely class-3, but I couldn't tell whether it's a mid-one or a peak one.

Then I thought about an idea. Why do I need to fight this monster? My goal is to enter the inner area. As long as I went past the monster, everything would be fine.

In other ways, it's also helpful for me if another group doesn't follow the path because of the monster. This Class 3 monster is a strong deterrent to others.

This idea seems really feasible to me. Then, without further thinking, I decided to use the lightning phantom technique to move ahead at extreme speed.

A purple mist covered my legs. Then I disappeared from my spot and dashed towards the destination.

When I enter the area of plant monsters, It got alerted quickly. Numerous vines came towards me, but my speed is fast enough to dodge all of these attacks.

My lightning technique helped me greatly in this situation to escape easily from the monster. After getting past it, I continued to move forward.

Only after reaching a further distance did I halt my movements. "Hmph, the narrow road path came to an end. Hereafter, I can only rely on myself, "I said to myself."

Fortunately, I didn't get delayed by any monsters. Then I looked around to see if there was anywhere I could rest.

While looking around, I also kept my perception in check. There is no sign of any red dots in my surroundings.

Alternatively,

Mr. Jonathan was standing at the top of a nearby tree. He watched the entire situation that happened before.

In the past few days, he has come to know about many situations. especially the identity of the person behind the Fire Sword Team.

Mr. Jonathan already took care of those corpses. He knows a large number of warriors looking for their trails. But he didn't care about it.

His interest was piqued after knowing the name of the Fire Sword Team leader. Mr. Jonathan said in his heart, "Mateo Roth."

He knew something was fishy about bandit hunting teams. But he didn't expect someone from Tier-7 City to come here.

"What is the person from the Roth family doing here?" A doubt rose in his heart.

Mr. Jonathan knew the history of Bandit Boss Soren and the City Lord. Roth's child is the leader of the bandit hunting team, but his actions are not in line with the trend.

Their actions are more favourable to bandit Boss Soren. From time to time, if he had any new information, Mr. Jonathan directly sent it to his master.

Somewhere in his heart, he really wants to dive into this matter. But since he took up the responsibility as a guardian, He needs to do it earnestly.

A look of appreciation flashes in his eyes after witnessing Zack's quick decision. Mr. Jonathan can easily see through the monster's strength. He knew that the plant monster was a Class 3-Peak one.

Mr. Jonathan knew that if Zack were to fight that monster, he would have been slowed down by the toxic pollen. When it happens, it's impossible to get treated here.

So it was a wise decision made by Zack to not fight the monster. Now, looking at him searching for a safe spot, Mr. Jonathan smiled.

EastWood Company,

Old man Tucker Nelson bought the bandit hunting mission details after paying a hefty sum of money.

This time he paid more than last time. Dispelling the thoughts, he sat back leisurely in his seat.

Opposite to him, his grandson, Lewis, is looking at him with eagerness.

"Grandfather, give me the list. I will find those warriors in no time," Lewis Nelson said with a smile.

From the beginning, his grandfather warned him not to get too involved in bandit hunting missions. Yet he went with his team ahead.

But after learning about the actions of top teams, he backed away from the mission immediately. Like his grandfather told him, the people behind those teams are not simple.

Right now, the situation is different. Some people disrupted the trend of the strongest team in this city. When he came to know about that, he asked his grandfather.

Unfortunately, at that time, he didn't have any clue. But he has a chance right now to find those warriors.

Old Man Tucker twitched. He warned him not to think about it. But right now, he has decided to befriend the Fire Sword Team.

As a result, his grandson may become the spokesperson for their EastWood Company.

So he gave him the file. Lewis immediately went to his cabin to look at the file alone.

The old man, Tucker, recalled his conversation with Manager Lawrence.

While conversing, he tried to collect information about the City Lord. But Manager Lawrence refused to talk about anything related to the City Lord Mansion.

At that time, he even asked what they were going to do about the economic condition of their city. But he didn't see any sort of emotion in his eyes.

Old Man Tucker felt very bad about his silence. The manager, Lawrence, is reacting as if everything is under their control. And whatever was happening inside the city was not at all surprising to them.

Dispelling the thoughts, he glanced at Lewis's cabin's directions. He plans to shut his eyes for a while. In the meantime, he hopes Lewis will find an answer.

Alternatively,

Lewis comfortably sat in his chair to analyse the file. In front of him were two files. One of them was an old file about the bandit hunting mission.

He didn't take a look at the old file. Because that information already registered in his mind. So Lewis opened the new file to look at the new teams that recently joined the bandit hunting missions.

Because there is currently no independent bandit hunting team in their city. So he wants to see whether any new names are left out.

15 minutes later,

After skimming through the details, he didn't come across any unknown teams. He even checked the list of those destroyed teams. Because Lewis believed, if not the new team, then the survivors from the old teams must have retaliated.

Because everyone is aware of the Fire Sword Team's activities. More than hunting bandits, they were involved in more killings and looting of the other teams.

So it's not surprising to find someone has a grudge against them. But still, even after looking at the old details, He couldn't come across any concrete points. Most of the old teams were either completely destroyed or disbanded later.

Even the survivors were either crippled or retired from their adventurer careers. So there are no suitable available warriors to form a team.

Lewis fell into contemplation. Earlier, he thought it was easy to find the culprits. But there is no new team that joined recently, and not even an old team is responsible for this. Then how could it be possible to destroy the black fist team?

Not even the body of the black fist team's leader has been recovered. Then suddenly, a slight glint flashes in his eyes. Apart from the Fire Sword Team, there are the other four teams.

"Could it be those teams?" Lewis said to himself.

Because other than that, he couldn't think of any other possibility. Only the members of the other four teams were strong and daring enough to challenge the Fire Sword Team.

If his assumption is true, then it's bad for their iron post city. If there is infighting among bandit hunting teams, then who will kill those bandits?

The number of bandits was already astounding. If things go on like this, it would be difficult to handle this bandit group.

Lewis also knows about the current state of their city. Due to the worsening economic situation, some broke warriors secretly joined the bandit groups.

This story was kept confidential; it is not allowed to circulate in the media. He strongly feels if this goes on, even reputed organisations may choose to relocate to other stable cities.

Chapter 346 Dean Jefferson

Tier 7—Willow Peak City,

Elder Brody Roth went to May Ford Academy. A total mess has happened. Now the aftermath should be handled by the academy. The May Ford Academy is located quite close to all the main families. The academy is run by the rich and wealthy. Since it's a subsidiary force under Crimson Hall, no other forces in the nearby region trouble them much.

When the air car landed in front of the gates, Elder Brody stepped out in a hurry. He is impatient, like he has been summoned by his higher-ups. He walked past several white buildings after stepping inside the campus. If you don't look at the sign board, you will get confused. because every white building looked like a similar structure.

Students dressed in white academic uniforms can be seen all over the place. Various facilities were built for warriors with different elemental abilities. When a student comes across Elder Brody, they give him a slight bow in respect. Even the faculties were not different.

Seeing their attitude, he can confirm that the news has not reached everyone's ears. Soon he reached the faculty building. It's a five-floor white marble building. Elder used an elevator to reach the top floor.

May Ford Academy's dean's cabin is on the 5th floor.

"Creak," the door opens.

Elder Brody walked in slowly. He saw Dean was already waiting for him. Then he walked up to the opposite chair and sat in it.

Jefferson Small, a peak trainee warrior of the water element. He was a bald-headed old man in his sixties and was dressed in a white tuxedo. Upon seeing Brody, his dull mood worsens further. The incident that happened at Crimson Hall had already reached his ears.

"I'm tired of hearing various versions of that incident. I waited for you to tell me the actual truth. So now tell me what really happened." Dean Jefferson inquired in a calm tone.

Elder Brody nodded at him and began to explain the conversation that transpired between him and Mr. Casey. Then he told us about the interference of hostile forces. Without Grand Elder Chris's timely deterrence, it's impossible for him to walk out of that place peacefully.

Dean Jefferson touched his forehead. He looked quite depressed. "We were really bold this time," Dean said.

Hearing that Elder Brody remains silent, if not for these people, he wouldn't have gotten into this mess.

On the other hand, Dean fell into contemplation. He was hoping for Crimson Hall to give them some face. But from Elder Brody's words, he can see that Crimson Hall was decidedly tight-lipped about this matter. Not only that, every other force tried to get some pieces of information.

They were the first to confront Crimson Hall about this matter. Yet they met with failure. He should have held Elder Brody accountable for this failure. But he can't do that because the council elders forced him to take the task. And Elder Brody also made things clear before walking out of the place.

Looking at Elder Brody, Dean asked, "Have you already expected this result?"

The elderly body smiled helplessly and replied, "I knew about Mr. Casey's character. He was not short of resources or anything. As a subsidiary force, it's difficult to get into his eyes. In particular, we are asking him to reveal details about this high-profile competition. As a host, he will think twice before saying anything about the event."

Dean lets out a deep sigh.

He now understands that the council elders really underestimated Mr. Casey. Everyone thought that after their misadventure at the Star Tower competition, Crimson Hall would seek outside help to manage their reputation. But nothing like that sort of happened. Crimson Hall stayed low-key in preparation for the competition.

But now he realized that Crimson Hall didn't care about their failure in the first place. They want to regain their reputation by successfully hosting the competition.

At this time, Elder Brody asked, "Dean, what are your orders? Our Roth family is also going to be harassed by the other forces soon."

Then Dean retracted his thoughts and commented, "It's up to the council elders. I will quickly call for a meeting. Let's see what happens then."

Elder Brody nodded and then both of them talked about a few other topics. Later, Elder Brody went back to his cabin.

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Iron Post City, EastWood Company

After long contemplation, Lewis Nelson couldn't come up with suitable answers. He stood up from the seat and decided to inform his grandfather. He thinks his grandfather knew something that he wasn't aware of.

The old man, Tucker Nelson, opened his eyes after sensing his grandson's presence. He is surprised by looking at Lewis' dull face. So he asked, "Did you find something?"

Lewis shakes his head in denial and places both files on his table. He begins to explain his conclusion. After hearing everything, Tucker Nelson was dumbfounded. He asked, "How is it possible?"

He couldn't believe there was no new team that was responsible for the black fist team's destruction. Mr. Tucker begins to read the files. Even though he has the utmost trust in his grandson. He decided to read it for himself.

On the other hand, Lewis doesn't know whether to laugh or cry. He expected his grandfather to say something, but in the end, he was also clueless. Then he waited for him.

10 minutes later,

Mr. Tucker's face turned ugly. He wanted to throw these files into the dustbin. Yet he doesn't want to lose his cool in front of his grandson.

"Coughed"

After coughing, he said with a helpless smile, "I wasted millions on these garbage files."

Lewis asked bluntly, "Grandfather, what are you planning?"

Lewis never thought the price of those two files would be millions. He knew the Black Fist team's issue was the current hot topic in this city. But he feels it's a waste to spend too much money on these files. In order not to hurt his feelings, he didn't say it openly.

When Tucker Nelson decided to reveal, he commented, "I wanted to befriend the Fire Sword Team."

Lewis was completely taken back, "What?"

"Grandfather, what happened to you? Our city was in chaos thanks to them. On top of that, who knows how many killings they were involved in? "

"If these matters come to light, then they will be punished very severely," Lewis voiced out the opinion in his heart.

He didn't think of the Fire Sword Team as good in any way. It's better not to get involved with them.

Tucker Nelson sighed, knowing his grandson had a strong opinion about the top teams. Because of them, he had to leave and disband his bandit hunting team.

Tucker Nelson said, "The City Lord Mansion's people were unusually silent on this matter. Do you really believe that they don't know about the top teams? "

A slight glint flashes in Lewis's eyes.

He asked, "What do you mean?"

"The Fire Sword Team has a strong background. They are strong enough to make the city lord silent. "

"Using the current situation, if we provide some intelligence, it would be helpful for our company and we can expand our branches to other cities quickly," Tucker Nelson explained the reasoning behind all of his actions.

Still, Lewis wasn't able to accept this. Numerous warriors died because of them. It's fine not to get involved with them but to befriend them. Lewis immediately said, "No way!"

He further added, "The Fire Sword Team's actions reduced our city to such a state. It's good to provide them with intelligence because it's our job. But I don't feel it's good to engage with them. "

Tucker Nelson remained silent for a moment. Then he said, "Okay, we can talk about this later. Coming back to the Black Fist team's destruction As you said earlier, I didn't find any teams responsible for this. "

"What about the other four teams? They are strong enough to pose a threat to the Fire Sword Team. " Lewis said.

Tucker Nelson fell into contemplation. He had never thought about it before. Sometime ago, he thought the top five teams were all hand in glove with each other.

That's why they had never seen any severe clashes between them except a few skirmishes. But right now, after hearing things about insect forests, he furrowed his eyebrows.

The Fire Sword Team was staying at a camping site. They have so far not stepped inside the insect forests. Strangely, the other four teams also didn't enter the insect forest after learning about the Black Fist team.

Tucker knew there was a huge search operation going on inside the insect forest. No one is really giving thought to hunting bandits.

He also couldn't see through the other four teams' actions.

This is really bad.

He looked at his grandson and said, "We can't speculate without evidence. Especially for intelligence companies like us. We need more evidence before words come out of our mouth. "

"If anyone hears about the top four teams from us, then it would be bad for us. Like the Fire Sword Team, the other four teams are also not easy. "

Lewis nodded. He thought his grandfather was right on this. He was too hasty to jump to the conclusion. Like his grandfather said, they needed to find some evidence quickly.

Chapter 347 Part 1: Meeting

Iron Post City,

Carla Gill swiftly acted after getting orders from the team leader. Soon the news reached the other four teams' leaders.

The top five teams,

1. Fire Sword Team: Leader Mateo Roth,
2. Breezing Wind Team: Leader Regina Hicks,
3. Team Drizzling Rainwater: Bethany Marsh,
4. Igneous Earth Team: Leader Morgan Buck.
5. Silver Shield Team: Leader Caleb Green.

Surprisingly, the top 5 strongest teams of bandit hunting missions are divided based on natural elements.

Inside the room of one of the reputed hotels in this city,

The team leader, Morgan Buck, received the news from his Vice Captain, Morris.

Earlier, Carla thought it was inappropriate to contact their leader directly. So she sent the message to the other four Vice Captains.

A quick glint flashes in Morgan's eyes.

He muttered to himself, "As expected, he can't help but suspect us." Then, looking at his vice captain, he said, "You can leave now."

Hearing that, Morris hesitated a little bit. But he still nodded in the end and walked out.

Morgan was all alone in the room. He began to contemplate about the meeting. Earlier, when the news about the Black Fist team's destruction swept away the city.

Including him, the other three leaders decided to stay low for a while. Because everyone knows how scary the background of the Fire Sword Team is?

He quickly made a call to Caleb Green.

When the call was connected, a solemn voice sounded in his ears, "Did you receive the message?"

"Caleb!" Morgan said.

Then Morgan added further, "Yes, I received the message from Morris just now."

Caleb replied, "Well, this wasn't surprising." We already predicted this would happen."

Hearing that, Morgan sighed and replied, "I told you before we shouldn't follow their methods blindly. Now he will suspect us more. "

Morgan's face was not good when he said that.

The atmosphere becomes solemn for a moment. None of them said anything. Caleb also remained silent for a moment.

"Okay, before going to see him. We will have our own meeting together," Caleb said.

Morgan said, "Alright." After that, both of them ended their calls. Morgan is quite close to Caleb. On the other hand, the other two leaders are quite close to each other.

Since everyone belonged to one camp, they didn't act against each other in this iron post city.

A few weeks ago, everyone decided to copy Fire Sword Team tactics. Morgan was one who strongly opposed it.

At that time, none of them inquired about Mateo Roth's background from their family. So they didn't mind Morgan's objection. They openly subdued other teams.

It was only after some time that everyone came to know about Mateo Roth's background. Everyone strongly regretted it, but it was too late to change anything.

Isn't it like Morgan and others are scared of the Roth family? But four of them belong to the opposite camp. Four of their families were subsidiary to a force called White Snow Academy, which is a hostile force to Crimson Hall.

Now the Crimson Hall is under the limelight because of the competition. Their own families strongly advised them to not get involved in any trouble.

That's why Morgan is slightly worried. If their family came to know about this, then it would be unnecessary trouble for them.

Because all four of them were seed candidates for their family. They will participate in Crimson Hall's competition.

Morgan doesn't want any mishap to happen in the middle.

After letting out a deep sigh, he decided to stop thinking about it. Everyone at the meeting will soon know the result. Morgan thinks Mateo was not stupid enough to offend hostile forces.

He is betting on one thing. Before the crimson hall competition, no one will act stupidly, especially the seed candidates.

Alternatively, at the camping site,

Mateo saw Carla was coming towards him.

Mateo asked, "What did they say?"

Hearing that, Carla told them about the response given by the other four Vice Captains.

A slight glint flashes in Mateo's eyes.

"It's good that they have accepted my request. Otherwise, something is wrong with their attitude," Mateo muttered to himself.

Then both of them talked about a few other things before Carla exited his tent.

Mateo knows the names of the other four leaders.

For the first time since he came here, a curiosity about the other four teams rose in his heart.

A couple of weeks ago, everything was fine. But later, the other four teams started to follow his method.

At that time, he didn't mind it. He was hoping that his family would call him back. But everything has changed in the past few days.

May Ford Academy's unexpected offer of additional quota to his family, it troubled him greatly. Later, that trouble was solved in the end.

Mateo let out a deep sigh. He wanted to put an end to the Black Fist team's issue. Many reports were placed on his table in front of him. The other teams under his command have already searched the outer areas of the insect forest.

Aside from bandits, they didn't see any new faces. Even weaker teams belong to other four teams fled once they came across our warriors.

"These reports really didn't say anything," Mateo said to himself.

He ponders, "If not the outer area, what could it be?" He couldn't believe there was no clue found from the outer area.

Then he decided to call his father. He wanted to know what happened in the family. He was quite sure Elder Brody must have left for the May Ford Academy.

When the call was connected, "What is it, Mateo?" His voice sounded through his sci-fi watch.

Mateo asked, "Father, Remember sometime ago, I talked to you about other strong teams beside us? "

Hearing that, Hector wasn't surprised. He asked back, "Yes, I remember clearly." Did they annoy you or what?"

Sometime ago, the Roth family collected intel about forces residing in the iron post city. They also collected information about bandit hunting mission teams.

Hector withheld some information from his son because of the family's orders. He knew the other four teams' families were subsidiary forces under White Snow Academy.

Another strong force, he can even say it's currently stronger than Crimson Hall. Later, the Roth family found out that their presence was not intentional.

Four families decided to train their descendants unanimously. So it was no surprise to see them in Iron Post City. Hector only hopes for no clash between them.

At the same time, Mateo replied, "No, everything is fine here. But I'm going to meet them tomorrow. Before talking to them, I thought about knowing their background first. "

Hearing that, Hector hesitated a little bit. He didn't know what the meeting was all about.

Yet, Hector decided to tell him. It's better to avoid unnecessary trouble. If Mateo knows about them, he will show some restraint.

Then Hector told his son everything about the other four teams.

Mateo's eyes lit up with surprise. He was quite shocked internally, but he wasn't scared of them. In his opinion, people from hostile forces think twice before offending him.

But now that he knows about them, his suspicion has increased greatly. He hasn't offended them so far in this city. But the same can't be said about them.

"Perhaps they didn't want someone from the opposing camp to be ranked number one in this city," Mateo reasoned in his heart.

Then images of Elder Brody flash before his eyes. Mateo immediately asked, "Father, what happened after the meeting?"

"What is Old doing right now?" He asked back to-back questions.

Because this incident was not known to his friends back at the academy, Otherwise, he would have asked them what's happening out there.

Hector didn't hide anything; he told Elder Brody he had already gone to meet the dean of the academy. "Only after knowing May Ford Academy's decision, the Roth family will do something," Hector said.

Then they talked about other topics before ending their call.

Next morning,

The meeting was scheduled for this morning at 10 a.m. But the other four teams decided to meet each other at 8 in the morning before going to the camping site.

At 8 A.M. in the morning,

One of the private rooms of the luxurious restaurant.

Four team leaders gathered together.

Caleb muttered, "All the other well-known shops have died down." "Only a few of them were remaining. After saying that, he sighed.

Hearing that, Morgan commented, "We are here to discuss the Fire Sword Team. Not the economic condition of Iron Post City. "

Caleb didn't say anything, but he looked at the other two leaders in front of them and said, "You two don't seem to care about anything."

After saying that, Caleb further added, "You also know that the guy is from the Roth family. Did your family say anything about it? "

Because last night, Caleb already had a discussion with his family. His family advised him not to cause any problems for the Caleb family.

Hearing that, he understands it's not wise to get involved with the Fire Sword Team. At that time, he also regretted it. Why did they have to copy the Fire Sword Team's strategy?

Thinking about it, he sighed again.

Seeing his continuous sighing, Morgan raised his eyebrows. "This guy, what's wrong with him?" He said in his heart.

Chapter 348 Part 2: Meeting

(From the MC's Point of View)

Night time-Insect Forest,

After scanning the surroundings for a while, I began to take a nap. It's impossible to get a good sleep in this forest.

In particular, I'm at the door of the inner area. Who knows when the next monster will pop up in front of me?

I slept on the branches of the tree.

Time went on.

The next morning, I woke up earlier to venture inside. It's fortunate that no monster came out last night to disturb me.

After finishing my morning routine, I scanned the surrounding area with my perception.

Images of plant monsters flash before my eyes.

I don't know whether anyone came by following the same route.

Then, dispelling the thoughts, I started to move. I used the black sword in my hands to clear out the vegetation.

I need to find a path that leads me deep inside the insect forest. It would be best if I came across paths used by bandits.

The maps that I had didn't have information about the inner area routes.

They only marked the dangerous areas on the map.

It shows that many warriors didn't enter the inner areas before.

Otherwise, the intelligence would have been recorded.

Time progresses, and slowly I begin to move deeper into the woods. Except for a few nasty bug monsters, I haven't encountered any dangerous monsters or bandits so far.

At the same time, I also had my attention on the surrounding areas.

If I find any secretive places, then I will spend some time perfecting my lightning technique.

Most of my time is wasted on navigating my way through the forest. I hardly came across any monsters.

When I was lamenting, several red dots popped up in my mind.

I had already thought of a feasible plan to deal with these bugs. I decided to use my blood method aura to stun them.

I remember the last time I used this invisible aura to put my senior into his place.

Combining the stun effect of invisible aura with lightning power, it's easy to remove these bugs in no time.

"Buzz!"

A swarm of bugs is coming towards me at a breakneck speed. I adjusted my posture before taking a look at my surroundings.

It's hard to get around this place.

I feel these bugs might have sensed my presence before. So their nest is somewhere around here.

Through my perception, I saw red dots moving fast. But I can't see the bugs in front of me. What's happening? I quickly used my brain to find an answer.

My senses have already been heightened as a result of the breakthrough. On top of that, I'm undergoing Inheritance's trial also.

So there is no way for these bugs to escape my eyes.

"Buzz!" "Buzz!" "Buzz!"

Even before I saw the monster, I heard a buzzing sound from these bugs.

Next, I recited the blood method in my mind.

A familiar sensation of blood boiling occurs in my body. The red inked part of my skeleton began to vibrate.

The next second, I felt an invisible aura take over me. It's just that I can't see through the colour of it. But if I concentrate enough, I can spot some blood.

Soon, the red dots reached me. The buzzing sound almost made my ears bleed.

Then I try to expand the aura.

As I expected, the swarm of bugs halted for a moment. My lips curved into an arc.

"SWORD DIVIDE"

I launched the lightning attack. After storing the lightning essence in my blade, I discharge the purple-colored lightning at them.

"Boom," a deafening sound, resonates in the area.

"Spike," I introduced myself.

Through perception, I saw almost 2/3 of the red dots dissipate into thin air. Then I used the same move to wipe out the remaining ones in no time.

For ordinary elemental warriors, these bugs were a nightmare for them. Because most of the bugs in this forest were deadly.

If someone gets bitten by one of these bugs, they will die due to poisoning. Even if they want to treat the person, they have to first get out of the forest safely.

My condition was way better than theirs. These bugs won't be able to break the defence of my lightning wheel.

Next, after erasing the traces, I continued my journey.

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Restaurant-Iron Post City,

Hearing Caleb's words, Regina Hicks and Bethany Marsh looked at each other.

At this time, the breezing wind team leader Regina Hicks opened her mouth to say, "Now that I think about it, we shouldn't have followed the Fire Sword Team's methods."

"Harumph!" Morgan Buck snorted in displeasure.

This girl was the one who proposed the method in the first place. Now she is regretting it. So what is the use of it now?

Morgan shakes his head in denial.

Seeing the attitude of Morgan, drizzling rain water team leader Bethany Marsh chuckled.

On the other hand, Caleb decided to talk about the main topic. Otherwise, three of them will fight with each other.

"Coughed," he coughed, breaking the silence.

"Have you guys received any clues about the Black Fist team?" Caleb asked. He is pretty sure that Mateo is going to talk about this in the meeting.

Morgan furrowed his eyebrows.

He asked Morris to look into this matter. But clearly they didn't find anything. It almost feels like Benny Sutton disappears into thin air.

He suddenly thought of something and asked, "Did Benny Sutton get killed by insect bugs?"

Hearing that, three of them looked at him like a fool.

Regina Hicks commented, "There are no deadly bugs in the outer area which can pose a threat to the trainee Warrior; besides, they haven't found his corpse yet."

A slight glint flashes in Caleb's eyes.

He said, "So someone must have murdered him."

At this moment, all of them remained silent.

Morgan also understands the seriousness of this issue.

Bethany Marsh added by saying, "I guess it must be done by his enemy. So who could be? "

A slight disdain flashes in Morgan's eyes.

He had heard some rumours before that the Fire Sword Team didn't even kill bandits. All their rewards and achievements are because of looted items from other teams.

Morgan looked at everyone and asked, "Have you guys heard about that rumor before?"

The word "rumour" struck everyone's mind.

Caleb sucked in a cold breath. He didn't want to believe such an outrageous claim, If it's true then it was clearly a felony.

Regina shakes her head in disbelief and says, "common, isn't it like we haven't looted anyone before? I guess it's the same with the Fire Sword Team."

This girl! Morgan is clearly displeased by her presence here.

Instead of looking at her, Morgan turned towards Caleb and asked, "Caleb, what do you think about that rumor?"

Hearing that, Caleb immediately refuted it by saying, "I don't know. But Morgan, I advise you not to think about those rumors anymore. It's not good to be involved with them."

"Tck! I'm just saying, think about it; if someone is seeking revenge because of their actions, then their current situation is nothing but retribution," Morgan said.

Caleb touched his forehead. He just advised him to not talk about it.

Then Caleb said, "Alright, I think we should help the Fire Sword Team to clear our name first. Before the Crimson Hall competition, it's not wise to offend him, and my family is very clear about this. "

Morgan twitched. He thought, no wonder this guy is passive. Morgan knew about him. Caleb is a strong-headed person. It's not his way of backing down.

Since it's a family decision, no one can say anything.

Bethany and Regina looked at each other. This was the same with their family. They too feel it's good to help Mateo Roth right now.

"Good idea. I agree with your words," Bethany said.

"Yes, we can do as Caleb says," Regina commented.

All three of them were on the same page, only Morgan hesitated a little bit.

But in the end, he too ended up agreeing.

camping site,

10 a.m.

Morgan, Caleb, Bethany, and Regina. All four of them arrived at the camping site together with their teams.

The atmosphere around the campsite turned very strange. The weaker teams left the way for the other four teams to move.

Right now, Mateo is sitting in a chair inside the tent. Four more chairs were placed beside him for the meeting.

And the Fire Sword Team members are standing outside of the tent.

Suddenly, Carla Gill walked inside the tent.

Seeing that, Mateo asked, "Did they arrive?" Carla nodded in response.

"Other than four of them, don't allow anyone inside," Mateo said.

Then Carla walked out of the tent.

At that moment, a small commotion broke out in the camping area. Fire Sword Team members immediately glanced at the entrance.

Four team leaders coming in their direction with their teams.

When four of them walked in closer, Carla told them that only leaders were allowed to enter.

When they heard that, four of them agreed without hesitation.

After the four team leaders stepped inside the camp, the vice captains and other members stood outside.

Inside the tent, Mateo greeted four of them and asked them to sit.

Other than Morgan, everyone responded with a smile on their faces.

Mateo's eyes lit up with surprise upon noticing Morgan's expression.

Then everyone sat down in their seats for discussion.

Chapter 349 Dispatch

Camping Site-Iron Post City,

The atmosphere becomes solemn for a moment.

Because Mateo hadn't started the discussion yet. He is simply observing everyone's reaction. In particular, he looked at Morgan.

Mateo's suspicions about the other four teams have grown since his last conversation with his father.

Suddenly, Mateo asked, "I'll come to the point. The Black Fist team got destroyed recently. None of the members were alive. We couldn't even find the leader's body. "

After saying that, he added further, "So, I suspect apart from four of you. None of them had any guys to fight against us. "

Hearing that, Morgan immediately fumed in anger.

Before he could say anything, Caleb replied with a small laugh, "Ha.. ha.. ha...,Mr. Mateo, there is clearly a misunderstanding between us."

Then Caleb added, "We are not stupid to offend the Roth family. In particular, nowadays, everyone is looking forward to the crimson hall's competition to participate in it."

Hearing that, a slight glint flashes in Mateo's eyes.

He thought, It's true that no one will do such a stupid action at this point of time. But this is not enough to convince him.

Mateo quickly thought of something and said, "Well, I can't simply trust your words without evidence."

At this moment, Morgan couldn't help but say, "Mateo Roth, what do you want? As Caleb said, we didn't have enmity against you. We simply came here to practise."

Caleb's eyes lit up with surprise. He thought Morgan would burst out in anger. But fortunately, he didn't utter any ugly words.

Mateo chuckled. He already sensed that Morgan Buck felt uncomfortable being here.

Then looking at four of them, Mateo asked, "If you guys are innocent, then tell me why did you follow my strategy?"

Morgan gnashed his teeth in anger. Because he truly couldn't refute his words. Next, he glanced at two stupid women beside him.

They are the source of this problem.

Caleb also didn't defend the girls this time.

Mateo observed the ugly reaction of Morgan Buck. It's easy to see that these two girls were the source of his anger.

Bethany Marsh and Regina Hicks looked at each other. They knew Morgan wouldn't support them right now.

"It's actually our idea to follow your strategy. At that time, we didn't inquire about your background from our family; when we knew about it, it was already too late to change anything," Bethany Marsh said in a solemn tone.

Regina nodded her head in support.

Mateo looked at their strength. Four of them were Initial Trainee Warriors.

They are weaker than him.

Mateo hesitated. If not them, then who is it? Bandits? Only the bandits working under bandit Boss Soren remained on his list.

Did Benny Sutton offend any of the bandit leaders before dying? Lots of questions popped up in his mind.

It's like a maze; there is no end to the current situation. Should I stop the current actions?

Deep in his heart, he actually wanted to drop this matter and spend his time on increasing his strength.

But the reason for doing all of this was his family. There are four factions in the Roth family. He fears that someone will use this situation to take away his qualification.

Thinking about it, a fierce glint flashes in his eyes.

Mateo made up his mind to get to the bottom of this matter. At least he needs to find some clues.

Seeing Mateo's silence, the four of them don't know what to say. Caleb's eyes signalled Morgan to have some patience.

Caleb thought their words must have convinced him. That's why Mateo is contemplating it right now.

2 minutes later,

Mateo said, "Well, I thought about a plan. I need four of you to help me with this. I can only get rid of my suspicions in this way."

Morgan was irritated by his words. Caleb smiled wryly. When he thought Mateo was convinced, suddenly he placed a request like this in front of them.

Then Caleb looked at the girls for an answer. Both of them nodded their heads in response. They simply don't have any choice but to agree to Mateo's request.

Caleb then looked at Morgan. Morgan didn't say anything, but he took his silence as an affirmation. Caleb looked at Mateo and replied, "We will help you. Just let us know your plan. "

Mateo's tense face finally eases down. He smiled and said, "The other teams under my command are looking for the culprits. I want your teams to join hands with my team."

Then he finally added, with a smile on his face, "I believe with our combined strength we can find the real culprit easily."

Hearing Mateo's plan, four of them sighed in relief. If it's about dispatching manpower, then there is nothing to be afraid of.

It's great that they can avoid Mateo's schemes now.

Mateo is happy that everyone agreed to his plan. Then suddenly, he thought about something.

He asked, "Have you guys had any information about Crimson Hall's competition?"

Hearing that, Morgan almost choked himself.

Then he looked at Mateo in disbelief. Good guy! Everyone knows about the recent incident that happened at the Crimson Hall.

But he is reacting as if he doesn't know anything. "Cough" "Cough" Morgan coughed twice to avoid the embarrassment.

Caleb didn't know whether to laugh or cry. He thought they were going to leave this place. But this guy started another topic to discuss.

He slightly touched his forehead.

Both Bethany and Regina chuckled. They are happy that Mateo let go of the previous topic.

At this time, Bethany opened her mouth to say, "Our family elders really tried to get in touch with Crimson Hall, but unfortunately they didn't give us any appointment to meet."

Regina said, "Same with our family. Since we belong to the opposite camp, They didn't think twice before rejecting us. "

Mateo wasn't surprised by their answer. If people from hostile forces know some information, then there's something wrong with the crimson hall.

Time went on.

They talked about a few other things before ending their discussion.

Next morning,

Another shock swept through the city. The Top 5 teams joined hands together to deal with bandits.

Yes, this careful change was made by Mateo. If people came to know that they were looking for culprits. It might cause an unfavourable situation for him.

Especially now, since they joined hands together, it's even more crucial to hide the fact.

He can't imagine the public sentiment if word gets out. So he deliberately told other teams to spread words in this way.

Common folks were obviously happy to hear the news. Only a retired and crippled warrior knew that these were all lies.

Some adventures speculate that the top 5 teams were hand in glove with each other from the beginning.

The Fire Sword Team started to subdue others. followed by the other four teams. Now they have joined hands together officially. What more to say?

Some veteran adventurers sneered at them. This, however, occurred during their private conversation. None of them dared voice their opinion publicly.

Like always, the City Lord Mansion chose to remain silent on this matter.

Common folks and traders have nothing more to say. Most of them have already migrated to other nearby cities.

Only a few choose to go fishing in muddy water.

A few hours after the news broke out, The Breezing wind team, the drizzling rain team, the igneous earth team, and the Silver Shield team.

Four of them dispatched the weaker teams under their command to search for the culprits.

More than 20 teams entered the insect forest. Already, ten teams from the Fire Sword Team had made their way into the inner area.

Such a large-scale operation shocked everyone. People with discerning eyes can see that they are not looking for bandits but culprits.

Some sighed. If they showed such unity to hunt bandits, then the bandit hunting mission would have been completed long ago.

East Wood Company,

Old Man Tucker was completely stupified. He wasn't expecting this bold move from the Roth family's kid.

As for him, he hadn't come across any valuable clues yet. He feels a slight pain due to the loss of money.

"Tck! How can I befriend the Roth family's kid like this? " Old Man Tucker muttered to himself.

Camping site,

Mateo asked, "What's the recent situation?"

Carla Gill replied, "Our warriors have already entered the inner area. Newly joined warriors are planning to search the outer areas again. "

Hearing that, Mateo nodded and recalled something.

He asked, "What about those bandit groups? Is there any clashes? "

Now that everyone has joined hands together, If he chooses to neglect the trouble caused by bandits, then the other four leaders will suspect him.

It's great that they don't know about confidential things. Mateo plans to keep it that way.

Carla Gill hesitated a little bit, then replied, "There were a few skirmishes reported by our Warriors. Now that they have entered the inner area, We can expect more clashes with bandits. "

A slight glint flashes in his eyes.

He sighed and said, "It can't be avoided." After saying that, he went back to his tent to stay.

Mateo also decided not to spend too much time on this. The inner area is no joke.

Even for him, he needs to make ample preparations before venturing into the inner areas.

So if there were more casualties, he would call them back without any hesitation.

Chapter 350 Inner Area: Safe Zone

(From MC's Perspective)

Inner area: Insect forest,

After spending so much time walking, I arrived a little bit deeper in the inner area. Because I keep picking up red dots in mind from my surroundings.

Unlike the outer area, now I need to move at snail's pace. Suddenly, I spot a few red dots coming towards my direction.

My senses got alarmed. I quickly crouched down to avoid getting spotted by them. At the same time, I concealed my breath.

These bugs usually don't have good eyesight.

But I can't say for sure, so it's best to hide for now.

The buzz! The buzz!

The swarm of bugs went past me in the blink of an eye. Seeing that they were gone, I breathed a relief.

"Phew!"

"Did I make the right decision to come here?" I muttered to myself.

Everything around me is like an explosive artifact. If I make a simple mistake, I might get exposed to danger.

On top of all of this, these overgrown bushes were tiring me out. Various thoughts come to mind.

Finally, I decided to look for some open land. There must be a place for these bandit groups to rest. A quick glint flashed in my eyes as I made my decision.

Time went by.

I continue to move deeper while avoiding the red dots.

"CLANGGG" "CLANGGG" "CLANGGG"

I heard a clashing sound coming from the front direction. I quickly moved ahead to see. When I saw the situation at the front, it completely horrified me.

"Gulp"

I swallowed my saliva in fear. The bandit groups were fiercely fighting against a swarm of bugs. The bandits' warriors are charging at tiny bugs. They release all sorts of attacks on them.

But what most scared me was that a few of the warriors were completely enveloped in shadow like robes. But through my perception, I clearly saw the truth. The shadowy thing isn't a robe, but rather bugs.

Through my perception, I observed groups of dots covering the warriors. When I continued to watch, I witnessed something unbelievable. It's a pure act of horror.

The warriors were reduced to bones by the swarm of bugs. A shiver ran down my spine. These bugs are not venomous monsters. But it belongs to the most deadly category, like the plant monster.

"Carnivore," I uttered in disbelief.

Though I have double repair strength. But facing carnivore bugs, I really feel clueless right now. As far as I recall, this is the first time I came across a hurdle like this.

Those mosquito pseudo-monsters at mountain Liz are ants compared to these tiny bugs.

Helplessly, I continued to watch the situation.

Atleast these bugs are doing the jobs of bandit-hunting warriors. No wonder the bandit boss has recruited so many warriors under his wings.

It may seem like the count of bandit warriors sounds astounding from outside. But I guess they had to deal with lots of casualties in this inner area.

Soon, the number of warriors fighting against bugs will continue to reduce. These bugs don't leave anyone alive. After consuming one warrior, they immediately target the next nearby warrior.

My brother tells me to move away from this place. But I knew if I did, it would immediately alert others.

It also involves certain risks. If I choose to fight against these bugs, it's possible to attract surrounding bugs towards me.

I don't have infinite lightning essence to fight against these monsters.

10 minutes later,

All the bandit warriors were reduced to bones. I even saw some of the bugs try to consume it.

I've made my decision to not go deeper anymore. Rather, I'll go sideways in search of open land.

The swarm of bugs quickly left the area in the blink of an eye. "Phew," that was something.

Above,

Mr. Jonathan, who was secretly guarding Zack, was completely impressed.

"Zack has good surviving skills. I wonder who taught him these methods," Jonathan said to himself.

He saw Zack avoiding danger just like that. It's not an easy skill to learn at all.

He also knew Zack's background. If James really taught him, then it's really something.

Mr. Jonathan knew that, so far, Zack had successfully avoided the dangers. Earlier, Mr. Jonathan sensed multiple groups entering the inner area.

It will be a matter of time before he comes across these people. When it happens, he would like to see what Zack would do.

Below,

Time went on.

One hour later,

As I expected, I finally found the narrow path. After choosing this path, I began to observe the footprints and other small traces. I want to check whether anyone has used this path recently.

Through perception, I noticed this narrow path was not a straight one. It's leading in a zig-zag manner. But my instincts tell me that it will surely lead to some resting spot.

After checking that there were no recent footprints, I walked along this path. I also used my perception to look out for the dangers.

20 minutes later,

A small smile blossomed on my face. I found a medium-sized tent house ahead of me. By looking at its size, it's enough to accommodate twenty warriors.

I used my perception to see whether anyone was staying inside or not. Fortunately, I didn't find any living signals.

When I got closer to the entrance, I found a few deadly traps. Deep pits were covered with deadly poison arrows in disguise.

I wasn't surprised by this. The poison is most deadly in this area. If not treated in time, death is the only end.

After avoiding these traps, I went forward to open the door. Then again, I showed some caution. I didn't step inside immediately.

I walked in after confirming there was no trap inside. I saw there were three rooms and one large kitchen. As I expected, this place must be a resting spot for bandits.

Suddenly, I thought about something.

Is there a secret basement built under this place? It's normal to have secret places like bunkers in dangerous areas.

I'm not expecting anything sophisticated like that. As curiosity rose in my heart, I decided to check this place out.

Other than a few shabby pillows, there was nothing left in the room.

Time went on.

20 minutes later,

I searched every nook and corner of this wooden house. Yet, I didn't come across any place leading to the basement. I felt disappointment in my heart.

Suddenly, several red dots popped up in my mind.

I quickly used the backdoor to walk out. I decided to observe these red dots from this place.

My expression condensed after hearing the sounds of conversations. Bandits? Or Warriors? I turned to look for an exit. But the backyard is covered with vegetation.

I twitched. There was no proper place to hide.

Having no choice, I leaped up to land on the roof gently.

"Have you heard that recently a large number of our warriors entered our territory?" One of the bandits is talking to his team members.

"Harrupmh, these guys came to seek their death." Their bandit boss uttered this in disdain.

There were five bandits in this small group, including their leader. They plan to take a rest here for a while.

My curiosity was piqued after hearing their conversations.

Another warrior asked, "So, who sent them here?"

The bandit boss halted his footsteps for a moment. Seeing that the other four warriors had quickly become alert, they immediately looked around their surroundings.

There is a possibility of a swarm of bugs attacking them. So five of the bandits went into battle mode.

But even after five minutes, there is no danger.

"Am I wrong?" The bandit boss muttered to himself.

From his years of experience, he had developed the knack of knowing someone's presence around him.

It may seem like an insignificant ability, but in this insect forest, this ability saved him countless times from danger.

He felt a presence nearby when he reached for the door knob. But there were no monsters or bugs around here.

Then he thought of something and opened the door to enter inside. After he walked in, the bandit boss quickly went to check the room.

He thought someone must have stayed inside.

Then he dispelled his thoughts and joined his team members to talk.

The bandit boss recalled the previous conversation.

He said, "I remember, these warriors were sent by the Fire Sword Team."

The atmosphere becomes quiet all of a sudden.

Then suddenly, the oldest bandit in the group burst out in laughter.

"Ha...Ha...Ha..."

The old bandit asked, "Leader, Are you sure? The Fire Sword Team never acted against our bandits. What happened to them now? "

The same questions bugged everyone's mind.

The bandit boss said in disdain, "Their black fist team got annihilated; many teams were dispatched here to search for evidence."

The old Veteran bandit commented, "Despite fooling everyone, they are living comfortably in the city. But we are rotting down here. "

The bandit boss replied, "Okay, leave the topic. Don't you know? It's taboo to talk about them. "

Roof,

My heart is set on storms. These guys are really hiding enough. And they dared to play on both sides.