

RAISING A FEW WIVES IN A BEAST APOCALYPSE

Chapter 41 Who said you will die?

Hearing the question, Audrey's eyes widened so much from shock it seemed like they were going to fall off. She immediately regretted leaving the letter in a moment of weakness.

"I...ah". She didn't know what to say.

"Don't try to cover it up, I can even show you the letter. But if you don't want to tell me, it's fine, it's your decision.... though I was starting to think that we could finally start acting like a family, I guess I was wrong. I'm tired, I'm going to sleep". Layla spoke while looking at Audrey, the more she spoke, the more tears clouded her eyes, at the end, she was even crying, which made her look away.

She then layed down on the huge blanket they had placed on the ground to sleep on claiming she wanted to sleep. Seeing this, Audrey's heart hurt, she couldn't understand how this girl still cared so much for her despite how cold she had acted all these years. She was left not knowing what to do.

What she didn't know was that even from a younger age, Layla had long figured out that she was acting, she just didn't expose the fact that she knew. Audrey was way too attentive for someone who didn't care. She provided Layla with everything she needed over the year's, sometimes even before she asked. Her reason always being "I'm keeping up appearances". And whenever Layla got sick, Audrey's act would show quite a number of glaring cracks. Anyway, what mattered the most is that both of them secretly loved each other a lot so Audrey keeping such a thing from Layla really hurt her. Especially even when she knew she already knew.

"I'm sorry Layla, but I feel that the more you know, the more my death will hurt you and I don't want that." Audrey said while looking at Layla who was facing away from her with a sad look in her eyes as well as resolution to not say anything.

The other girls just listened on without saying anything, they felt like this was a family matter and they also couldn't do anything to change it so might as well stay silent. But of course hearing that Audrey had cancer was close to death also made them sad.

"But who said you were going to die?"

Before Layla could say anything, a male voice was heard from the door. There a young good-looking man who looked to be twenty, short black hair, grey eyes, wearing a grey track bottom, black t-shirt and a friendly smile plastered on his face.

"Who..." Audrey was about to ask who the young man was. She was so disorientated that she had forgotten seeing him beat up a whole gang earlier as well as interact with the girls.

"Muku Chisen, at your service. I'm also the proud teacher of these girls here. You must be Ms Knight, Layla's mother, nice to meet you". Muku spoke after interrupting Audrey while bowing down a bit.

"Sir!" The girls all shouted before jumping on Muku for a hug. Even the "tired and sleepy Layla". It had only been a few hours at best but to them it felt like forever. They just didn't feel their best without him in their line of sight.

"Ey!, who told you you could hug me whenever you feel like it. And all at once too, are you trying to ruin my reputation and by making Ms Knight misunderstand the situation!? Ow! Who pinched me!?, come on, do it to my face!, Jade I know it's you!". Muku was flustered by the unexpected situation, he didn't think they'd miss him so much in such little time. He then began spouting random things until somebody pinched him on the back. It was a group hug with him in the middle of five girls so he couldn't tell who did it but Jade was his first suspect for obvious reasons.

(A/N: Lucky bastard, I haven't hugged a girl since 2023!)

"It wasn't me!". Jade quickly shouted in protest as they all let go of the hug. Though the shout was more to shake off the embarrassment than to protest, though it really wasn't her. The girls now stood around Muku looking embarrassed at what they just did, especially in front of Audrey, Layla wanted to just dig a hole on the spot and hide fit eternity. Though the ever oblivious Hope still had a silly smile on her face, if it wasn't because she felt the others let go, she definitely wouldn't have. She had long started seeing Muku as her big brother, just hadn't said it yet.

"Okay brats, sit down, we have business to discuss". Muku shooed them off as he sat on a chair. The girls went back on to sit on the cloth where Audrey was. It was where they were going to sleep. All this was happening in front of Audrey's eyes which had narrowed a bit seeing how four of the girls looked at Muku, including her Layla surprisingly. But seeing how he shrugged them off, she relaxed a bit, at least it didn't seem like he had done anything inappropriate to any of them. Even looked like he was fighting them off.

"Now Ms Knight, I'd like to explain my statement from earlier if you don't mind". Muku said while looking at Audrey.

"Umm, aren't you a little too young to be a teacher?". Instead of replying to what he said, she asked a question that had been bothering her since she saw him.

"Ah right that, it has been a while since someone asked me that. You see ma'am the truth of the matter is...I'm a genius like non ever seen before.". Muku replied with a serious expression as if stating nothing but fact. Audrey was dumbstruck by his reply and didn't know what to say. The girls, although familiar with his narcissism that would leak out every now and then couldn't help but roll their eyes at his statement.

"Oh.." that's the only thing Audrey could think to say even after thinking for a moment.

"Umm sir, what did you mean before?". Layla asked, she was eager to know if he had a way to save her mother.

"Right, just as I was saying, I've observed that sometimes, the way a person evolves is directly linked to their body situation. Examples of this are Tom who was likely a bodybuilder before and got a class that involves a boost in his strength, his brother is likely the same with his lanky body. An even more solid example is John the hawk eyes guy, I heard that before evolution he actually had terrible eyesight and couldn't see without glasses. Then there's an example closer to home, Jade here, she was the ace of the athletics team, so her getting a physical type class shouldn't be a coincidence....."

"....As for the rest of us with elemental powers, maybe there are hidden qualities in our bodies which led to our super high affinities with our elements, giving us our classes.". Muku paused after saying this much, giving the group some time to think on it. He really wasn't joking when he said he was super smart before, though his conjecture is something

anyone would have been able to come up with sooner or later. But the difference is how he has already thought of it so soon.

"So you're saying...". Layla trailed off not daring to finish her statement in fear she might be too hopeful.

"Yes, if we get your mother to Rank One, chances are, she will awaken a class that will fix her illness. Of course I'm not a hundred percent certain so lets not get to excited until we see what happens". Muku finished her statement and made sure that they understood that it was still just a theory of his.

"Now, Ms Knight, are you willing to try it out at least?". Muku asked Audrey while looking in her direction.

"Yes she is!". Before she could answer, Layla loudly exclaimed first and decided on her behalf. Which was understandable, this was they only way they could at least had a chance to save Audrey. Hell, even if the apocalypse didn't happen, Audrey's case was already too far gone to be saved by medical treatment. The best it could do was extend her life a bit before she died.

"But...isn't it too dangerous?". Audrey was hesitant, she didn't want to endanger someone's life on her account, especially when they were just operating on a theory.

"Umm, ma'am, with no disrespect, I think you are looking down on me a bit too much. Remember how easily I beat the punk gang before?, I wasn't even using ten percent of my power then". Muku said with a serious expression.

"Wait, you are....SIR SORRY FOR BEING SO RUDE!!, PLEASE FORGIVE ME!". Audrey suddenly shouted pleading for forgiveness, startling everyone. She had finally realised she was talking to the monster who took care of that evil gang so easily without even breaking a sweat using his mystic powers. And she already knew that the world was now ruled by the strong like him, and if he gets offended by her, he could easily kill her or do anything with her and she wouldn't be able to do anything about it, and with his strength, neither will anyone else. She had forgotten that he was Layla's teacher and didn't seem to be evil, she was just that scared.

"Layla, you take care of this, I'll go outside for a bit". Muku awkwardly got up and left the room, he really didn't know what to do in the situation. The mother of one of his students was kowtowing in front of him shaking in fear. He also knew that if he stayed in the room, calming her down would be hard.

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As he left the rest of the girls followed behind him. They also wanted to check out the stadium and going with him would be a lot more fun.

"So, what did you do with the punk gang anyway?". Jade asked the question all the girls wanted to know as they walked around the stadium.

"I...let them go". Muku said while avoiding eye contact.

Chapter 42 Big brother!

"Really?". Jade was not convinced with his obviously unconfident answer.

Even the other girls were suspicious. But there's no way they'd think he fed them to beasts, the best they could think of was that he beat them up a bit more and let them go with a warning or locked them up somewhere for a while. Not that they were naive, it's just the impression that Muku had given them to that point that clouded their judgement.

But if Layla was here, she might have sniffed out the truth. Maybe not accurately what he did with them but at least that he didn't leave them alive. And she would have supported his decision too. These weren't the times to be lenient and forgiving, especially to such scum that would obviously hold a grudge and come back for revenge the very first chance they got.

Although Muku said it was for the girls. Deep down he knew he did it for himself as much as them. In fact, even if the girls weren't around, he probably would have still done it.

"Yeah really, anyway, lets go back, Layla should have calmed her down by now and it's not fun seeing emaciated people laying around with stomachs growling all over the place due to hunger. And Hope, better not say we should give them some of our food or I will spank you right here and now". Muku replied to her, quickly changing topics. He didn't want the kids to change the way they looked at him by knowing what he did, so for as long as he could, he would preserve the image of a kind teacher they had in their minds.

It just so happened that he noticed Hope wanting to say something when she was looking all the people around them. The people were not that thing yet since it hadn't been that long yet since the apocalypse began but one could tell that they were definitely losing

weight and were extremely hungry. And so Hope thought of asking Muku if she could give them some of their food since they could always get more if they wanted to. But Muku told her off even before she could say anything, hearing his threat she quickly grabbed her butt and gave him a fearful look. Emily and Chloe who were also thinking of asking the same also couldn't help but grabbing theirs as well, their faces reddening a bit from thinking of something they probably shouldn't be.

"Can we go now?". Jade said, she also didn't like seeing these people like this. She didn't even think of helping them, not because she was cruel or anything, but just knew that she couldn't. In fact even the other girls, other than Hope understood why Muku said they couldn't help.

Firstly, they were too many people, by the time they provide a meal to all of them, the ones they fed would have already gotten hungry again. And who's to say that there won't be a riot when some see others receiving food when they aren't?. And for how long could they possibly do it even if by some miracle they can satisfy the whole crowd?. Then lastly these people would start expecting to be fed by them from then on, and if they aren't, they would likely turn on them, forgetting all they had been given for free before. Such is human nature, ungrateful trash that's ever greedy for more.

Of course there are some good ones who can be so good that one can confuse them for saints. But if they don't get corrupted by the world, or exploited, they will definitely be killed off. "The good die young" isn't just a saying, it has been proven correct in many cases. After all, in every dozen or so people, only one or two are truly good, the rest I either straight up evil or only appear to be good while waiting for a chance to strike.

(A/N: This is Muku's view on the world after experiencing some situations that forced such a thought process on him as he grew up..... though Author-san doesn't particularly disagree with it^_^)

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"Oh, is that so..."

As they stepped back into the room they had Audrey's voice trailing off. (Jade didn't knock and just opened the door)

Seeing them come in, both Audrey and Layla stopped talking. Audrey now looking at Muku with some embarrassment after being told about his personality by Layla. So remembering her overreaction was really embarrassing, not to mention so late in the game.

"Umm, Mr Chisen, for my less than proper actions and words before or like to apologise. And also thank you for looking after Layla even after the apocalypse began when your duty as a teacher basically didn't tie you down and you could have left on your own." Audrey spoke after collecting herself, she was a mature lady so could get her emotions under control in a lot less time than the little girls.

"Oh no Ms Knight, you didn't have to apologise, I totally understand where you were coming from. And you can just call me Muku, no need to show so much formality with little old me. As for taking care of Layla and the rest, and again, no need to apologise, I was only doing what I should have, they say "Once a teacher, always a teacher" after all. Not to mention that it wasn't only I who helped them, they helped me to, it can even be said that without them, I might have died already." Muku spoke in such a proper way as an adult is supposed to speak like, to the point that the girls wondered if he was the same carefree teacher from before who basically never cared about formalities.

"No, I've made a mistake and I should properly apologise, and if you have truly forgiven me. Like you requested I call you Muku, I hope you can call me Audrey". Audrey replied to

him with a smile on her pretty but still sickly pale face. She had been getting paler each day that passed by since she hadn't been taking her pills for a while.

"Oh no, I couldn't possibly be so rude to my student's mother". Muku quickly said, refusing to call her by her name.

"Well then I'll take it as you refusing to forgive me". Audrey said while displaying a sad face.

"Sigh, if it's like that, and you don't mind my rudeness, I'll address you as Ms Audrey from now on". Muku relented seeing her expression, he was really weak to women showing sad expressions...as long as there was no animosity between them that is.

"Good then Mr Muku, I hope we can get along from now on". Audrey's expression quickly changed as soon as he agreed to call her by her name, now her face displayed a beautiful smile. And Muku quickly realised that he had been tricked by it was too late. Seeing their exchangez the girls couldn't help but giggle among themselves.

"Okay, now that we have gotten that out of the way, why do you think about my proposal?". Muku got down to business again. He didn't want it delay it since none of them knew when Audrey's condition would suddenly turn serious and unsalvageable even if his theory was proven true.

"Ah, that.....I will try my best to cooperation and do whatever you ask of me. I just hope that you continue to take care of Layla if it does work and I....". Audrey trailed off at the end of her statement but everyone understood what she left unsaid. Because of which, the air in the room got a bit gloomy and everyone remained silent.

"I promise you, as long as I'm alive, as long as I have the power, no matter what happens, whether it fails or not. I will protect her with everything I have got until the end." After a minute of complete silence in the room, Muku's serious voice rang out again.

Hearing it, Audrey smiled beautifully and... approvingly?. Seeing her expression, Layla's face reddened and she layed down then covered her face in embarrassment. Seeing this, the other girls couldn't help but feel jealous even if they already knew that he would look after them too. They just wanted to here him say it like he did for Layla as well.

"What are you brats getting jealous for?, I'll take care of all of you too". Muku saw their expressions and quickly said with a roll of his eyes and a mocking smile to their obvious jealousy.

Hearing this, Chloe and Emily copied Layla's actions from a few seconds before. While Jade "Hmphed" and looked away, but one could easily see she was pleased from the small smile on her face and her slightly reddened ears.

(A/N: These girls blush way too much!)

"Then can I call you big brother from now on!". Hope shouted with excitement visible on her face.

"S-sure". Hearing her shout Muku almost fell off his chair. But seeing her blindingly excited face he couldn't help couldn't bring himself to turn the little girl down, so could only nervously agree.

Hearing this, the other girls were surprised, but then their eyes lit up a bit. They all thought the same thing.....{One less rival!}

Seeing the group's interactions, Audrey couldn't help but put on a helpless smile. How could she not see what was going on?. These four girls all liked their teacher. It was like there was a ticking time bomb in the group that would be set off the moment Muku chose one. Luckily Hope, the naive little girl only wanted him as a big brother, but who knows how long that will last before she wants more too?.

"Thank you big brother!". Hope excitedly called out as she jumped towards Muku aiming to hug her new older brother she always wanted. Especially now when she likely doesn't have any family left.

"Okay everyone, time to sleep, tomorrow we have to go hunting. By lunchtime tomorrow I want Ms Audrey to already be a Rank One". Muku said as his hand was grabbing Hope's face, pushing it away, preventing her from hugging him. Though she still kept on trying to push forward, clearly not wanting to give up. It was quite comical actually.

"Yes sir". After everyone else agreed to sleep, Hope could only reluctantly give up on the hug for now and also go back to bed...or more precisely the blanket on the floor.

Muku took the big couch as his resting place and slept there after pushing it in front of the door. They were in the safe zone so didn't need to be as on guard as before but still Muku made sure that if anyone tried to open the door, he'd immediately be woken up.

And like that, their eventful day ended...

Chapter 43 Generating random class!?

Next morning, they had breakfast, brushed their teeth and left the stadium after notifying Tom of their purpose for the day.

They didn't have to, but were just being polite. And of course Tom wouldn't stop them, quite frankly he even wanted to go with them, but thought they hadn't known each other long enough for such a request, not to mention his still broken hand, Hope hadn't gotten around to healing it after all that happened after. And Tom even thanked them for escorting Adam's group and was even more grateful that they killed the Shadow panther that was slowly wiping them out without them being able to do anything. Now they scavenging teams should be a bit more safe, in the area around the stadium that is.

They walked for quite a while in the direction of the city outskirts. They could have made noises to attract beasts, but they didn't want to call them too close to the stadium. As for why they were going heading towards the outskirts

instead of deeper in?. Beasts got stronger the deeper in you went while they wanted weaker ones, they could probably easily defend Audrey even if they went deeper in, but the chance of finding unranked beasts would be slim to none by then.

"Hmm, this should be far enough, Jade, scream for us". After walking quite a few kilometres away from the stadium, Muku spoke.

At this point, Audrey had long run out of stamina and was on his back. She had tried to protest to being carried but with the difference in strength in their normal states, not to mention now when she's sick and he's an evolver, she could only powerlessly let him carry her. She did try to push him away at one point but felt like she was pushing a wall and quickly gave up, resigning to her fate, albeit embarrassed.

"What!, why me?....wait, are you indirectly calling me loud!?". Jade was offended and so she shouted.

Muku didn't say anything just looked at her with a smile. She glared back. And in less than a minute since her shout, to her dismay, dog sized spiders could be seen speedily crawling towards them. They numbered around 15 in number. These little but quite big things always seemed to travel in large numbers. And from how they were coming out of a building, they were likely

nesting in it. As for whether Muku knew this or not from the start, only he would know.

"Do you still want me to respond to your question?". Muku finally said, it seems he had been waiting for the critters to show up before speaking.

"Ahhhhh!".

Then suddenly a loud scream that could shatter ear drums was heard. Unlucky for Muku the source's head was right beside his ear, though now was trying to bury itself into its back. That's right, it was Audrey's frightened scream. She had just noticed the spiders after they came close enough to them. Her vision had been impacted by her illness so couldn't see as well as before. But when she did see them, a women's worst nightmare, literal large spiders, she couldn't hold herself back. She had seen quite a few other beasts when she ran to the stadium, like large dogs, snakes and lizards killing off the people around her, but hadn't seen the spiders.

And even the beasts she did see seemed to be disgusted by her. Many had a chance to kill her but only sniffed in her direction before attacking other people. They likely smelled that she was sick and would rather have the healthier meals around her. Just as a human would rather have a fresh meal than one that's about to go stale if they have a choice. So in a way, being sick, saved her life. Anyway, on top of not seeing large spiders before, unlike the

beasts before, these were even charging I'm her direction which was another new experience. So her being so scared only makes sense.

"Hmph!". Jade made her signature sound and turned cat girl before jumping into action, punching the large spiders left and right trying to vent her anger from what Muku said.

Seeing her turn cat, Audrey's fear was suddenly cut in half, or even more than that. As now she was looking at Jade with wide eyes, unable to believe what she was seeing. Well, it's more of, what she was trying to see, as Jade was nothing more than a blur to her in this moment. She could only see a blurry figure punch one spider after the other. In less than a minute, all the spiders were on the ground on their backs, legs kicking around in the air while screeching from the pain.

"Phew, my work here is done". Jade stepped back to the group with a little smile on her face, she had punched away all the anger.

"Good job, you even did better than I thought, didn't even use your claws." Muku praised her, he has basically manipulated her into taking care of spiders all on her own.

Not because of something petty or anything, just that he thought she'd be best for the job. The rest, him included would have created either a bloody scene(Him and Layla) or straight up killed the spiders by mistake (Emily, Chloe and Hope). So Jade was really the best choice for the job. Of course he could have done it more cleanly if he wanted to, and so could Layla but that would require unnecessary extra work which neither of them wanted to do. Luckily Jade didn't like thinking too much so didn't realise she had been used. She just smiled arrogantly after being praised.

"Now Ms Audrey, it's your turn". Muku said as he put her down.

"Sigh, okay". Audrey replied with a sigh, none noticed the glint of disappointment in her eyes when she was out down. She for some reason felt safest and tranquil when she was being carried by him. Now she had to kill these beasts?, her hands couldn't help but shake from nervousness.

"Here mother, use this....it's a bit cold, I hope you don't mind'. Layla walked beside her and in her hand a two metre two and two inches thick spear was formed. Seeing this mystical scene, Audrey was awed again, she and the girls didn't talk about their powers the previous day so everything was new to her. And seeing her own child creating an ice spear out of nowhere like that was even more mystical than Jade's transformation. Because of which, her nerves calmed down.

This was the reason why it was Layla who provided the weapon and not Muku. If she had seen Muku who she already thought to be beyond common reason do something mystical like this she probably would have been intrigued at best and thought it was to be expected of him. Which wouldn't have helped her nerves calm down. On the other hand, seeing her child do it, now that was something amazing in her eyes. So even if it was a a bit.... really cold to her, she accepted the spear with a smile on her face and walked toward the spiders.

The spider that was moving it's legs all over the place suddenly froze with it's legs spread apart, as if welcoming Audrey to stab it on its soft underbelly. Of course Muku had taken action, he was getting better and better with his telekinesis as time passed.

"Ha!" After a slight hesitation, Audrey made a cute cry and stabbed at the spiders head. She hit the mark, but sadly due to her pitiful strength, the spear only dug a bit into the skin and couldn't kill it. When she was about to pull it out in embarrassment. She felt an irresistible invisible force envelop both her hands and push them down while they still held the spear.

[9 kills left.....]

She received her first prompt, and since she had been told about it, she didn't get startled or surprised by it. Even the numbness running through her whole

body didn't faze her. She wanted to ask what that force that assisted her was, but she felt she already knew the answer to that so didn't and just walked toward the next spider. She felt a bit stronger already, whether she was imagining it or it was real, she didn't know but it at least made her more motivated but killing these spiders.

A few minutes later with the help of the force, she managed to kill nine spiders and was standing in front of the last one spear raised. Everyone held their breaths, this was the do it die moment. Although at least she visibly looked a lot better after killing the nine spiders, they still couldn't tell if it was doing what it was supposed to be doing.

Stab!

Again with the help of the force, she killed the beast.

[Kill count met. Evolution Commencing. Initializing Specialisation]

With that now familiar voice, like the ones before her, Audrey's body froze. A tingling feeling going through her body. She didn't know why, but she felt that the cancer cells in her blood were actually being consumed and mutated into something else by the energy rocking her body as it gathered toward a certain point.

[Mana core formation complete. No particularly outstanding quality detected. Generating random class].

Hearing those words, Audrey's heart felt like it was going to skip out of her body. Nobody had told her about the class levels yet. But anyone with even half a brain can figure out that a "random class" wasn't anything good.

[Random Class, Lesser Vampire awakening....]

With that last prompt from the IA, Audrey's consciousness went dark. Her consciousness was cut off from her body.

Outside of her body. Her eyes suddenly sprung open.

Her once beautiful brown eyes had turned blood red and nothing but the thirst for blood visible in them....

Chapter 44 Lesser Vampire or....?

"Mother?". Layla said as she walked closer to Audrey who was facing away from the group. All of them suddenly felt like the air around her had changed. And not in a "evolution is done" kind of way, but a sinister way they couldn't understand.

"Growl!"

As soon as she heard Layla's voice, Audrey's nails grew long enough to match her fingers in length. Her canine teeth elongated into vampire teeth. She then turned around and pounced towards the approaching Layla who was caught off guard. As Audrey was about to reach Layla and bite down. Muku who had reacted just in time appeared right in-between them. His arm held out in front of him to stop Audrey. In the heat of the moment he forgot he could just stop her with his telekinesis.

(A/N: That or author-san is just trying to advance the plot. Well whichever it is, I'm sure we can all agree that we're all interested to see where it's going right?)

And so Audrey bit down on his arm. Teeth sinking in, into his flesh. If he hadn't felt the evolution pain, he might have screamed out in pain.

"Ahh!". The girls screamed in shock at this sudden and completely unexpected turn of events. Especially when they noticed Audrey's sinister blood red eyes that lacked intelligence only filled with brutality.

"Wait!". Muku said, raising his free hand when he noticed the girls about to act, likely to attack Audrey. Although he felt warm that they wouldn't mind attacking her for him, he felt that the situation could be controlled with bloodshed..other than his arm's of course. Not to mention Layla who just stood there unmoving with a shocked look on her face, her

brain seemed to have crushed or something. The other girls stopped but it could be observed that they were ready to attack at any moment's notice if they sensed anything wrong even if they had to go against Muku's order.

[Lesser vampire venom detected in the bloodstream aiming to turn the individual into a lesser vampire. Unawakened bloodline has been roused. Unawakened bloodline attacking venom source]

The prompt from the IA is the reason why Muku stopped the girls. Since he didn't seem to be in any immediate danger and Hope could heal him easily enough, he took the "wait and see" approach. At the same time wondering what unawakened bloodline the IA was talking about. But then remembered the reward he got for being the first evolver, something about Nihilism. Which he had almost forgotten since unlike his telekinesis and metal element, he couldn't sense it. So with this sudden unawakened bloodline he got from nowhere, he assumed they were related in some way.

In Audrey's now empty head a prompt also rang out at the same time.

[Failed to infect target. Unknown blood force attacking individual. Individual's blood is being taken over. Unable to resist. Individual's blood is being mutated.]

All this was happening unbeknownst to anyone, Audrey included. If she was conscious to it, she might have panicked.

[Lesser vampire class nullified. New class, influenced by foreign blood force generating. Unique class, Grey-eyed Vampire Queen (Subdued) awakening...]

As soon as the Lesser vampire class was erased. Audrey's consciousness was awakened and put back in control, so she heard what was said after that. She was surprised and confused until the memories from her brief berserk mode hit her. She was distraught by what she did, especially how she was still biting down on Muku's hand even though she was now back in control.

Om Muku's side, here's what he got....

[Lesser vampire successfully subdued and converted. First servant gained. Grey-eyed Vampire Queen (Audrey). Completely unable to disobey Individual. Will die when individual dies. Cannot betray Individual. Unable to to attack individual]

Hearing the prompt Muku's eyes widened in shock. Inside thinking...

{How TF am I supposed to tell my student that I accidentally enslaved her mother!?!}

Then a more surprising thing happened. Audrey's blood red eyes suddenly turned grey like his own. Even more, her hair also turned grey. Even more exaggeratedly, when she finally let go of her grip on Muku's arm, her body started to age... backwards!?. She went from looking like a pretty 30 year old lady to a seemingly gorgeous 20 year old girl!. Her fangs still present but seemed more perfect for some reason and her long nails turned a metallic silver looking a lot stronger.

Layla's brain that was about to recover, short-circuited again from seeing this scene. Her mother now looked barely older than her and freakin looked even better than a super model!.

(A/N: Well who knew it was going to get to this!?. I certainly didn't, sigh, kinda wish somebody else was writing it and I was just a reader now. And I'm toootally not going to create an oyakodon moment^_^)

"Ah, big brother!" Hope who was also marvelling in Audrey's change suddenly noticed a shadow from the corner of her eye and called out to Muku". A LR1 giant python seemed to have been drawn over by either the spider blood or the constant screaming by the girls.

Woosh!

Before anyone could move, Audrey had already disappeared from where she was standing. Most of the group could only see a blurry image of her as she rushed towards the approaching snake.

"Mother!". By the time Layla called out, she was already closer to the beast than them. Her speed was surprisingly around the same as Jade's when she just evolve into a Rank One and used "high quick"!.

Slash!

The next moment, Audrey appeared a bit of distance away from the giant python. Everyone was wondering if she had missed since she hadn't gotten used to the power yet. Well except for Muku and Jade who had actually seen what had happened, but they were too shocked to say anything.

That's when the rest noticed her right hand she was raising at a ninety degrees angle. Her nails on the hand were now surprisingly at least a metre and a half long, looking like long, thin and sharp metal blades than nails. Then...

Bang!

The snakes large head fell to the ground with a bang, blood cascading out of its neck that had been cleanly divorced from its head.

"Anything that dares threatens my master will be killed". Audrey's cold voice rang out then....

[98 kills left....]

"Ahhh!, what am I saying, so embarrassing!". The same Audrey who looked so cool the moment lost all that cool air when her long nails that didn't have even a single stain of blood on them returned to normal and she she covered her face with her hands screaming in embarrassment. As she squatted down.

"Well....that was". Muku said but didn't know how to finish.

"An epic fail?". Jade finished for him while the others nodded.

Layla smacked her own forehead, embarrassed for her mother who ruined her one moment of being cool. She then smiled and walked to her. She heaved a sigh of relief knowing that despite her exaggerated transformation, her mother had returned back to normal and was still the same from before.

"Mother?" Layla asked, this time she stood a bit of distance away, having learned her lesson from before. Though she no longer sensed the ominous aura from before.

"Y-yes?". Audrey replied, she remembered how she had tried to attack Layla before. If Muku hadn't been there, she might have really hurt her daughter. And for that she couldn't forgive herself and couldn't even bring herself to face her. Not to mention she even bit the hand that fed her, literally, without Muku who knew if they would all be there at that moment and she bit him.

"Don't worry, I know it wasn't your fault, nor was it really you who attacked me before. I'm sure even Sir knows it" Layla knowing her mother immediately said. Over the years she had long figured out Audrey's act due to Audrey's shitty acting skills. So knowing what was going through her head at this moment was easy enough for her.

"R-really?". Audrey asked for confirmation. At this time the others couldn't help but wonder which one of them was the mother. Not to mention Audrey's unmotherly look at the moment.

"Definitely, now lets go back to the stadium and talk. It's not safe here". Layla affirmed with a soft voice.

"Okay". Hearing that, Audrey finally got up and walked toward the group. Her eyes daring not, to look in Muku's direction.

Muku who remembered the prompts left her alone for the moment. He knew that she had gone through a lot in these few minutes so needed time to think to herself without him adding to the trouble.

And so they walked back mostly in silence. Though due to the noise they made before, they encountered a few more LR1s that managed to get Hope, Emily and Chloe's Kill count down to 80 KP needed.

They only managed to reach the stadium late after due to all the battles. But when they did, everyone that saw them was looking their way from a distance. You'd think that it was because of Muku's presence due to what he had done the previous day, but it was actually due to Audrey.

The girl...no, the woman was now so beautiful that all the men were enchanted. She looked like an angel descended down from the heavens above. She was so beautiful that the women didn't even feel jealous, some even wanted her for themselves!.

In fact, if it wasn't because of Muku's deterrent effect, a large crowd would have long formed around her. Her now baggy clothes were just adding to her allure to these people. Hell, if it wasn't because of their newly formed bond, Muku might have also fallen for her newly acquired beauty and charm.

Seeing all those hungry looks on her, Audrey couldn't help feel a bit afraid. And without noticing it, she had moved closer to Muku.

"Hey!, stop there!". Suddenly a male voice was heard from behind them.

When they turned around, they were all surprised to see who it was.

Chapter 45 Finally did it!

It turned out to be one of the dudes they helped before. He was an unremarkable fellow who they'd likely have forgotten if given one more day without seeing him, even Hope who healed him.

"Can we help you?" Muku asked looking at him with an expressionless face.

"Ah, that, I was talking to you, I'm talking to this lady right here. Every new person to the safe zone must report to us the leaders so that we can assess whether they are good people or not. And because of which, I'm going to take this lady with me to my room for an interview". The man spoke some bullshit mixed in with some truths. As for why everyone thought it was some bullshit....well, his eyes were continuously scanning Audrey's body with a lecherous look.

The poor lady had to hide behind Muku in the end, she felt like he was the closest person to her in the world for some reason, ever since her evolution, she felt as connected to him as she did Layla. Seeing her hide behind another man displeased him a lot, but he didn't dare antagonize Muku directly and hoped his bullshit would work.

Everyone from the sidelines who saw what he was doing couldn't help but feel disgusted by his actions. He noticed them, but didn't care about what these spineless losers thought about him. He was a Rank One after all....well it was a random class (Woodcutter class) but at least it could be used to fight beasts.

"Oh, is that so?, well, then I guess my whole group will have to come with to your room now won't we?. Okay, lead the way, lets go". Just as the girls were about to lose it and beat up this trash of a man, Muku spoke after raising his hand to stop them. Hearing what he said, the girls stopped and now looked at the man with a mocking smile, waiting to see what he would do next.

"Ah, no!. Your group did such a great service for our stadium so I couldn't possibly do such a thing to you, just the lady is fine". The man denied taking Muku's group and shamelessly even said he only wanted Audrey. He even hid a meaning by saying "our stadium" than just "stadium", which was basically his way of telling Muku's group that they were outsiders.

"The lady is also part of my group though". Muku said, the small smile on his face widening. The four girls from his class felt a chill go down their spine. This was the expression he put on everytime he was pissed off and it never ended well for whoever pissed her off when he taught them before the apocalypse began.

"No, no, no, that won't do, I didn't see her before, so I need to confirm it my..."

"WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE!". Before the idiot finished speaking, he was interrupted by Muku's booming voice and then...

Boom!

His body was smashed into the group hard, he was even bleeding from his forehead but just couldn't get up no matter what how hard he tried to push himself up. He couldn't even move a finger, let alone his body. He felt like an insurmountable force was crushing down on him, the floor he was laying on even sank in a little. He now regretted giving in to his lust, though he only had that thought for 2 to 3 seconds before he fainted, the pressure just took much for his mind.

"Sir!, stop, reign in your aura, you'll kill him!" The girls quickly said in unison while shaking Muku to rouse him from his anger.

"Ah, sorry about that, I made you all see such a terrible side of me. Let's go to our room, it should help me calm down". Muku said after calming down a bit.

His aura retreated back into his body then he and his group left, heading for their room, they didn't even spare the idiot a glance. As they walked forward, the gathered crowd cleared a large path in fear of angering him and suffering the same fate.

What appalled them even more was that he has only used his aura, not his powers, but just his aura and a man was crushed and left a death's door. They all felt that they might have underestimated this monster by rating him based on the battle with the punk gang. Well at the very least, they now knew that this man, he was no saint, he was no push over, he will run you through if you get in his way.

As for Audrey, she had thought that seeing such brutish actions would have soured her mood and decreased her respect for Muku. But on the contrary, she felt the opposite, she was quite excited and pleased by knowing that he did all this for her. This is when she completely understood her new position as his forever loyal servant, she was now was incapable of disliking any of his actions. She even suspect that if he tried something with her, she probably would accept him with open arms with excitement in her eyes. Thinking of it, she couldn't help but blush, scolding herself for thinking like a teenage girl with a crush.

Of course Muku didn't see all of this so had no idea what was going on through her head. But the the girls did. The four looked at each other in the eyes and saw the bitterness that they all had.

They all thought, {Damn it, just when I thought the rivals had decreased after Hope took the sibling route.!}

Layla felt it the most. She and her mother liked the same man!, what was she supposed to do now?.

....

"So the idiot provoked Sir Muku's group because he saw a beautiful lady?". In another room in the stadium, Tom's voice rang out after listening to his assistant's report.

"Yes sir" the assistant confirmed.

"F*ck!, that bastard is going to get us all killed!. We're already lucky that sir Muku isn't a power hungry and cruel maniac who has no interest in the stadium and the bastard just had to go and poke the hornet's nest!. Is he dead?". Tom spoke again, ending it with a question.

"No sir, he managed to barely survive after sir Muku's companions stopped him just in the nick of time". The assistant answered.

"Oh, too bad, throw his ass out of the base, we never had a place for such scum here anyway, he only got into the position because he helped Dom once in the past. But I'm sure even Dom would agree that such an idiot is a liability. They do say "one should fear not a strong enemy but a pig ally" after all, and we just experienced it.

"....yes sir". The assistant hesitated a bit but went to do what he was told. Although he was hesitant to throw out a wounded person like that, he also felt that the bastard really could have gotten all of them killed if Muku chose to be unreasonable.

...

In Muku's group's room...

"So you're saying you got a random class that turned you into a mindless bloodsucker?. And luckily because of Sir's unawakened bloodline, your trash class was overwritten and you were given a unique class called Grey-eyed Vampire Queen? Which from the information from the IA is as strong as a Pseudo-Legendary class?. Well no wonder you seemed to be as strong as Jade when she just ranked up.". Layla spoke, trying to confirm what Audrey had said to the group, while Audrey just nodded in agreement.

"I'm so jealous, you look so cool...does that mean I'll also get a cool upgrade if I bite him?". Jade said while looking at Muku with eyes full of desire making him scooch a bit away from her.

"Maybe if you had venom that tried to turn me into someone like you, I don't think it will work. It seems to be just a defensive mechanism to anything that tries to change the state of my blood". Muku said quickly as Jade inched closer. Hearing him, she was disappointed but felt it only made sense otherwise he'd be too Op, making loyal servants left and right. As for the servant thing, they were told about it but didn't have a large reaction to it. Reasoning being....

"Jade you brat, you really wanted to bite me, didn't you hear what she said, when she said she's now my lifelong servant I can do whatever I want with?". Seeing the disappointment in Jade's eyes Muku was angered greatly, the brat really would have bit him if she didn't reason with her soon enough.

"I heard her, but I know you won't do anything, you're just not that kind of person. You just don't have it in you. So being your servant really wouldn't change anything". Jade said with a nonchalant expression as if stating a fact. Quite frankly the other girls thought the same but didn't voice it out knowing that no man would want to hear such a thing. But Jade the filterless idiot just said whatever came to mind.

"I don't have it in me huh?". Muku said with a dark and then.

Pa!

"Ahhh!". Jade cried out, now standing on her feet looking at Muku with shocked teary eyes as she held her aching butt cheek. While the others looked on with surprise etched on their faces.

That's right, Muku finally did it, he spanked the brat. It appears he hadn't completely calmed down from before which fueled him to do something he had always wanted to do. Spank the brat, he even felt that it was a shame she jumped away or he would have continued. He felt that it didn't even qualify to be a spanking with just one slap... definitely not because her butt felt really good in his hand.

It all happened like this, after he finished speaking, he picked her up with his telekinesis, put her in front of him. Before she could react, his hand had already made contact with her rear and she jumped away from him with a scream of pain. Then stood a distance away looking at him with shock.

"D-did, did you just spank me!?". She cried out again.

"There are just some things you don't say to a man". Muku replied to her slowly, his face expressionless.

Seeing this, the other girls who had also been thinking the same as Jade couldn't help but grab their rears as they subtly moved away from Muku.

Chapter 46 Do I really seem so unreasonable

"You!...Ahh!". After the pain receded Jade lunged at Muku with a shout and again she found herself lifted up in the air by his telekinesis which prompted a cry from her.

"You still haven't learned your lesson I see". Muku said while cracking his fingers looking into her eyes.

Seeing this shouldn't help but shudder a bit, thinking that she probably wouldn't be able to escape this time. She also realised how dangerous his telekinesis ability was. She couldn't even sense it and only realised he was using it when he grabbed her.

"No no, I'm sorry sir, please don't lower your great self to the level of a disrespectful brat like me". Jade quickly changed her stance after realising she couldn't win, especially in such a confined space. So she shamelessly apologised. Seeing this, the others couldn't help but put on wily expressions. As well as promise themselves to always watch what comments they make about Muku, especially in front of him.

"Don't worry, I won't, but I can see that you have a lot of pent up energy don't you?. So tomorrow morning we'll be setting out, and we will spend the whole day outside. The group's progress is way too slow anyways. By the end of the week, I want everyone to have at least reached MR1.". Muku said to her before continuing to say something that

addressed the whole group. The others didn't disagree, as staying in the stadium was unproductive and quite boring actually.

If it wasn't because it was already late in the afternoon, they would have gone back out. So for now they could only tell each other some stories as they waited for nighttime to come and they would have their dinner and sleep.

Knock! knock! "Hello, Mr Muku!, are you there?. It's Tom."

Suddenly as the group was revealing in their stories and laughing with each other to pass the time. A knock was heard from the door followed by Tom's deep voice that was audibly laced with some unease.

"Come on in Mr Tom". Muku's vice sounded. At this time everyone was either sitting on a chair or the large sofa and the blanket was folded in a corner so letting Tom in wasn't a problem.

"Okay, thank you". Tom's voice sounded out again from behind the door. He slowly opened it and got in.

"Please, take a sit". Muku said gesturing at the chair beside his, which was also the only free chair in the room.

"Ah yes, thank you". Tom thanked him as he nervously took a sit. That's when he noticed her, the lady described to look like she came out of a fantasy novel by those who saw her, and he felt that they weren't wrong, she just looked that beautiful. But remembering the last guy, he didn't let his gaze linger and looked away.

Everyone in the room noticed his actions and internally gave him a nod of approval. They had noticed how easily people lost their reasoning from seeing Audrey from before. So Tom being able to untangle himself so quickly was really an achievement. While Muku narrowed his eyes wondering if Tom swang the other way and subtly pushed his chair a bit away from Tom's. Luckily Tom didn't seem to notice or he would have puked blood from anger, like since when did being a gentleman and not wanting to be beat up start being translated as being queer!?.

The girls though noticed what he did and the look in his eyes and they couldn't help but giggle. Their teacher really can be so childish at times. The only ones who didn't understand what was happening were Audrey and Tom but they didn't ask what they were giggling about.

"So, how can we help you Mr Tom?". Muku asked after seeing Tom hesitate to speak. Though he could easily get the reason Tom showed up, but what he was curious was to see which stance he'd take.

"Ah, right.... I'm here to apologise for the unbecoming and disgusting actions if one of my subordinates. Although we've already kicked him out of the base I am ready to receive any punishment you might have to ease your anger. Please, just don't destroy the stadium.". Tom spat out everything he wanted to say in one breath and now looked at Muku with a resolute that said "I'm ready to face hell, so give me your best".

"Oh...tell me Mr Tom, do I really seem so unreasonable or that much of an evil demon to you?". Muku asked Tom with a neutral expression on his face.

"Ah no, it's just.." Tom panicked and didn't know what to say so just trailed off. Internally he thought {Damn!, I said too much, should have just stopped at the apology}

"Well whatever, I just want to get this over with anyway. So let me tell you this now and you can tell the rest. If no one bothers me, I won't bother them. And I'm not unreasonable enough to find trouble with unrelated people just because they know the bastard who bothered me. Also we're only staying here temporarily so no need to make things awkward between us. As for the matter with that idiot from before, there's no reason for you to even be here apologising, it had nothing to do with you after all". Muku also said all he had to in one breath.

"Thank you for your understanding sir, I'll take my leave, and if there's anything you might need that I can help you with, please don't hesitate to call for me." Tom said about to stand up and leave.

"Wait".

Muku's voice stopped him, his heart couldn't help but skip a beat wondering if he messed something up. Although Muku said he wasn't unreasonable, and his actions up to that point proved it. Tom still couldn't help but be wary due to the men's power, it was so unnerving to around someone you know can squash you like a bug whenever they want to after all.

"Relax Mr Tom....Hope, can you help the man with his arm now?".

"Yes big brother!"

Hope excitedly did what her brother asked of her. She liked it when he asked things of her, even felt he didn't ask her enough. She was actually the one to ask him when she wanted to heal his hand from Audrey's bite, which she felt was a wasted opportunity.

In less than a minute, Tom's arm was completely healed!. Her healing was super effective when she only had to deal with one target as she can use a lot more mana in healing the injury. Like with Tom's hand she used a quarter of her mana which she couldn't spare before when there were seven to heal.

"Wow, it's completely okay now! Thank you young Ms and you too Sir Muku". Tom said as he excitedly moved his hand around. He really had been worried about how he was going to fight beasts and get stronger with a broken arm. He thought his hope of getting it healed by Hope was dashed by the idiot from before but luckily it seemed Muku really practiced what he preached.

Of course he could have waited for it to naturally heal but who knows if it would work the same way as the bones would likely heal in an awkward position. And Hope's healing seemed to return everything into its original state. So he really was grateful beyond words. This time didn't say anything else since he knew there was really nothing he could do for Muku's group with his strength so just swore to himself to help them in the future if he ever got the chance. He had already promised them way too many things in two days, so much so, his life was probably not his anymore.

"Okay, you can see yourself out now Mr Tom"

"Yeah, and please just call me Tom"

"Sure, Tom"

With that Tom left....

"Did you have to be so magnanimous on him?". Jade asked after Tom left. She could understand not holding someone else's sins against him but to even heal him?. Tom was the leader, so he should have kept his men in check from the start, which he failed. So not healing him should have been his punishment for failing as a leader in her opinion. But what Muku did, was basically rewarding him for failing.

"You see kid, in this world nothing is certain, you never know what could happen. Like, what if, one day Tom was the only one in a position to help us?, if we hadn't helped him now, would he help us then?. You might think that since we helped him before he would be obligated to do the same. But the thing about humans is that, sometimes they work based on the last impression you gave them. Besides, not like we lost anything from it, Hope got some practice in and the people of the stadium will now think positively of us again after the incident from before, which is never a bad thing". Muku calmly educated Jade as the others also listened on, they all couldn't help but think he really had some far reaching wisdom and always seemed to act in a way that would benefit them the most.

.....

"So, how did it go?". Dom asked his brother who had just reached in front of him a bit of distance away from Muku's room.

"Well, what do you think?". Tom said as he moved around his once injured hand. When he was walking over to Dom, he had made it seem like it was still injured.

"So it went well?". Although aware of the answer from Tom's hand and beaming smile, he still seeker affirmation, which was this weird many people liked doing for some reason.

"Damn straight!" Tom already used to his brother's weird personality trait replied.

"Good, now lets go eat, Adam's group really came with good stuff this time". Dom said as the brothers walked off.

Chapter 47 Self rejection?

The next morning, around 7 AM. The group was already up and were walking out of the stadium....

"Okay, I've had it with this stadium, it has no working shower!". Jade complained with a frown on her face as she sniffed herself. Being an evolver she didn't sweat as much as a normal person would. Hell, she barely sweated at all, but because of her hypersensitive sense of smell, she could still smell the faint scent of sweat on her.

The others nodded in agreement, while Audrey felt quite embarrassed, she hadn't bathed since the day of the apocalypse. Luckily for her, her sweat didn't stink or she would have had no face to be so close to the others.

(A/N: Apparently, some people, especially in South Korea, don't have stinky sweat)

"If that's the case, lets rap up here and continue with our journey. Your house is next if I'm correct, right?" Muku replied

"Y-yeah". Jade didn't sound too happy about the prospect of going to her house next actually.

The others all understood what she was thinking though. There was a high chance that she will likely end up in the same situation as Hope and she didn't know if she could take it. No one said anything about her mother being fine, as they felt promising her anything in such an uncertain time period could only lead to greater pain for her in the future. And so they continued their hunt in silence. Though Audrey had walked closer to Jade and held her hand as they walked. Jade accepted the gesture and they continued walking forward in silence. Having Audrey around really had a calming effect on all the girls...of course her new appearance still made them feel a bit awkward.

....

Around an hour later....

They had realised that although they couldn't go too far, Jade's house was actually close enough for them to reach on that very day. So they chose to go seeing that since it was mentioned, Jade had been really down, which dulled the moral of the whole group as she was their fire cracker. Even if they couldn't manage to return in time, they were strong enough to sleep outside anyway. And they all knew that there was basically no chance of finding Jade's mother home, what they hoped for was a letter like the one Layla got which would give them a clue of where to look.

(A/N: Kills Left= KL)

They had met a few MR1s which managed to get Emily, Chloe, Layla and Hope's KL to an even 80. The girls gave each other opportunities to kill the enemies so that they could all equally benefit. As for Audrey, she.... couldn't remember how she got her nails so long before and so with embarrassment, could only stand at the side lines trying to make her ability work. Jade said she will kill the later ones and no one could force her to kill after all. Muku was just a bystander considering he had 64 KL so felt that it was best to give the others this chance.

"Well, this is new". Muku said looking at the twenty one metre tall giant rats in front of them, squeaking at them and seemingly readying to attack. He and his group had walked in on their meal on a dead giant python.

"Yeah, I was starting to think that there were only snakes, spiders and lizards here....now that I think about it, it only makes sense for there to be giant rats here". Layla replied to him also suprised.

"What do you mean it makes sense?". Hope asked, she didn't get it.

"Probably that, since there are lizards and spiders, then snakes should also have their opposite around, hence the rats" Chloe replied to her first before anyone else could.

"Oh, that does make sense, but how come we didn't see them now though?". She asked confused again.

"I'm not sure, probably usually stay in hidden spots or the author just thought to add them just now, well either way, they are here now. And they don't look happy to be interrupted". Chloe answered her again with a thoughtful look on her face.

"Ah, you're probably right...wait did you just say the au..."

"No time they are are coming!"

Before she could finish her sentence, Hope was interrupted by Muku's shout. As for why they were being taken seriously, well...all of them were LR1. Although relatively easy foes for their current selves, the rats were a new kind of enemy so didn't know what tricks they could suddenly pull out, so extra caution was needed.

"Ice walls!". Layla called out and two thick, two metres tall ice walls rose from the ground on both their sides leaving a narrow two metres wide gap in-between for the rats to attack them from.

"Mom, this is your chance!". That's right, Layla was doing this to make things easier for her mother, who felt like digging a hole right there and then and hide for needing her daughter to take care of her like this.

"But I still can't..."

"Here". Before Audrey could finish talking and say that she still couldn't elongate her nails like before. Muku interrupted her and handed her a silver rapier.

"Sigh, fine". She could only take it with a sigh, honestly she really didn't like killing. Especially now when her life was no longer in danger. Which was why her nails weren't elongating, she was stopping herself subconsciously, but wasn't aware of it yet.

"Jade, you join her". Muku said while looking at Jade with a smile.

"Sigh, fine". Also like Audrey, she wasn't willing, though for a different reason, her mood was just out of it. But seeing Muku's smile she couldn't bring herself to refuse.

And with that, the two close combatants of the team sped forward, their speeds neck and neck. Seeing this, Jade's competitive nature was stimulated and her speed increased. She had only been half hearting it before. She used her high quick and I'm less than a thirty seconds, ten rats were dead. If the rats had some form of secret weapon, they definitely didn't get a chance to use it before they died. She then ran back to the group. leaving the rest for Audrey, her mood her visibly improved too.

[78 kills left....]

(A/N: Take the KL with a grain of salt, I don't know if I remember correctly)

Audrey seeing Jade's feat that she knew she couldn't do also felt her blood boiling and in her long baggy black dress ran forward. She wanted to kill them all as fast as possible and see how close to Jade's strength she was. Though quite frankly even if they were equally strong, she probably wouldn't stand a chance against Jade who had quite a decent amount of experience on her side.

And so, the end result of Audrey's boiling blood was taking around three minutes to kill the ten rats. It appeared the rats didn't have any special skills after all. But still, Audrey couldn't help but mope afterwards.

She had realised the gap between her and Jade, both in strength and experience, Jade made it look so easy, while she ended up getting scratched left and right before she got the job done. Though the scratches were shallow, they were still embarrassing, an old lady like her showing such a pathetic display in front of children, how shameful!.

(A/N: The above is basically Audrey's thoughts, and a lot of people who aren't actually that old call themselves old, so don't read too much into it)

[88 kills left....]

"Umm Hope dear, could you please he.." Audrey was speaking as she walked toward the group, wanting ask Hope to heal her wounds. When suddenly her fangs made a sudden appearance as she passed a rat Jade killed and before she knew it she was already biting into it. And a shocking scene happened, all the scratches on her skin miraculously started disappearing.

"Is that safe?". Jade asked while looking at Audrey like the rest.

"Well, it seems to be healing her body so I'd say yeah... maybe. A bit unsavoury maybe but, as long as it works I guess." Muku replied also looking at Audrey who was now getting up with horrified look in her eyes, also shocked by what she had done.

"What, what was that?, am I still a monster?" Audrey asked no one in particular.

"No I don't think you are a monster, more of because of your lack of control on your abilities they are basically doing whatever they want with your body...I suspect that you're subconsciously rejecting them. Which, with your special class that seems to have basically altered your race, might be quite bad". Muku replied her.

Hearing him, Audrey calmed down a bit at least she now had an idea of what was going on. Like he said, she had been internally feeling quite disgusted by her vampire class. Though, because of Muku's interference, her class no longer needed her to consume blood to survive and would only need it under certain circumstances like now, she still felt disgusted with being a vampire. But now seeing how it was causing her problems, she knew she had to find a way to accept her new self, after all, if she didn't become it, she would have definitely died in a little while.

Squeak! Squeak!

Bang! Bang!

Just as Audrey was still stuck in thought and the others were waiting for her to collect herself. Two loud squeaks were heard from outside the walls of ice. And before the group could make sense of it, the walls were both broken through a distance away from Audrey and two large rat heads could be seen coming through, one on each side.

"Well damn!, two PR1s here!?". Muku voice cried out.

Chapter 48 Chloe and Emily step in!

That's right, the two giant rats that were around two metres tall, were both peak Rank Ones!. These would be the first PR1s the group has come across ever since the dog boss.

"Well luckily these rats are giving an aura around the same as the dog boss. Which makes sense considering that the LR1s of their species only counted for one kill point each... quite disappointing actually". Jade said. After the initial surprise of the sudden appearance of the two beasts, everyone realised that their auras weren't anything special.

"Can I take one of them?, I feel I need to develop my fighting style a bit more, I lack diversity like Layla has". Emily was the first to ask for a rat.

"Yeah, you're right. And I'll take the other, we really shouldn't continue relying on our one hit kill skills that are over the top anyway". Chloe seconded her. As she said, she and Emily along with Hope tended to condense most of their mana into one attack which then left them powerless. Although it got the job done, it wasn't really a good game plan as they might get into situations where they'll have to fight more than a single target.

"I'll take down my ice barrier then.". Layla said and in the next moment, she and the rest were standing a distance away from Emily, Chloe and the rats.

"You can do it girls!" Muku screamed from the sidelines.

"Hey!, did you really have to move so far away!?". Emily screamed back dumbstruck by how quickly they all moved away.

Chloe looked on with a wry smile on her face. Quite frankly she also wanted to move away, nobody wanted to be around when Emily fought. The girl really liked making her flames explode on impact for some reason, which tossed

debris all over the place. At one point Muku was almost stabbed on the kidney by a stray glass shard from one of her impact points where there was a building behind the beast.

"Umm, Emily, why don't I lead my rat a bit away before you attack yours so that we don't get in each other's way?" Chloe said while looking at Emily nervously, hoping she doesn't realise the real reason she wanted to move away from her.

"So you also don't trust me huh?, it was only one time and he stopped it didn't he?, you know what, whatever, do what you want hmph!". Sadly for Chloe, Emily caught on.

But since she had gotten what she wanted she quickly got into action, saving the apology for later.

"I can finally try it out!". Chloe's voice rang out in excitement. As an anime fan she had seen quite a few where lightning had been used and she was about to copy one of those techniques.

"Lightning coat!"

She screamed out and her body was enveloped by blue lightning that crackled all over and...

Whoosh!

She sped forward, leaving a blue lightning trail behind her. Surprisingly her speed was almost as fast as Jade's fastest speed!. And it could be seen that with enough training she will reach Jade's speed, if not surpass it.

Bang! Squeak! Boom!

In less than a minute she was beside one of the rats and punched it on the guts with her lightning charged fist. Surprisingly the force was enough to throw it onto a car that was abandoned close by. The rat squeaked in pain from both the lightning punch and being smashed into a car. But it didn't stay down for long and ran toward Chloe as soon as it got up who led it a bit of distance away from the other one.

.....

"Well damn!, who would have thought Chloe was actually a battle mage!?" Jade exclaimed a bit shocked. Suddenly the front line would be occupied more than her and Muku, with the addition of Audrey and now Chloe if she wanted, which she found quite hard to accept. Not to mention her speed that will likely surpass hers eventually.

"Well, what did you expect?, her class is Zues' Descendant, and I doubt Zues could have become the king of the gods by solely tossing lightning bolts from a distance now would he?". Layla replied to her.

"Still though, I can't help but feel my role in the group is diminishing now" Jade said with a pout.

"Well, you haven't been trying to develop new skills or delve deeper into your class, so obviously you'd feel like that. Like that green aura that makes your claws explode on impact. I have a feeling you really should look into that. Don't forget that all your classes are Pseudo-Legendary, so technically they are all equal in power". Muku chimed in on their conversation.

His words being exactly what Jade needed to hear at the time and they quickly raised her mood. The others couldn't help but be impressed by how he

knew exactly what to say, and it wasn't just empty talk either. This is part of why his students really admired him.

"Yeah!, you're right, I'll do that, I refuse to be left behind!". Jade spoke excitedly, already thinking of ways of using her green aura in other ways than making her projectile claws explode.

"(A/N: hehehe, it really sucks when author-san interrupts a battle scene for some random talk right?. Well, it was done to me and now I'm doing it to you! ^_^)

...

"Wow, it worked!, it even felt more fulfilling than tossing a lightning bolt from the distance!....now what?". Chloe spoke to herself, excitement apparent on her face.

After coming up with a plan, she let the rat get close to her while standing still looking at it. When it was around two metres away from her, the rat squeaked as it lunged at her, its mouth wide open wanting to bite off the head of this prey that dares hurt it. The rat hadn't noticed the lightning she had been gathering in her hand.

Whoosh! Crackle Bang!

Boom!

At the last possible moment, Chloe side stepped and a lightning charged fist that was completely covered in blue lightning connected to the side of the giant rat's face.

There was actually enough force in the punch that the rat's head exploded out on the opposite side she punched. Brain matter flying out everywhere. The rat was long dead before that though. The concentrated lighting had long fried its brain on first contact.

[75 kills left.....]

"Woah!, I did that!?...it seems way messier to blow up a head from this close though. But I quite like the move, I'll call it Lightning Fist Fury!, hehehe, so cool. Best part, it only took a third of my mana!". Chloe spoke to herself with geek like look on her face, clearly enjoying her abilities. The complete opposite of Audrey it seems.

Muku who had been closely monitoring the battle finally sighed in relief, especially after Chloe's final stunt of seemingly letting the rat bite her. His soul almost jumped out of his body when he saw her not moving out of the way, he wasn't privy to her plan after all, considering she had come up with it on the spot.

"Big brother, I think your bad habit of experimenting mid battle has rubbed off on Chloe". Hope said looking at Muku with a blaming glare then made him want to die a hole on the spot and hide from the embarrassment.

"But who would have thought I'll once meek Chloe would be so adventurous and daring?". Jade exclaimed.

"Maybe she was just waiting for a trigger". Layla proposed an idea which the others felt might be true.

What they didn't know was that the moment Chloe killed the rat, two large crimson eyes opened up in a nearby building.

As soon as they opened, Jade started feeling like something was wrong. But since she couldn't detect anything, she didn't voice it out to the others, but she

subconsciously out her guard up. Which Muku sensed but didn't say anything since she didn't say anything, but also prepared for any sudden situational changes as he and the others looked at Emily's battle while Chloe walked back to them.

.....

A few moments ago...

After Chloe led her rat away, Emily's battle also began.

"Flame burst!" She threw her first spell at the rat.

Boom!

Squeak!

The rat had underestimated the firepower of her small fireball and so didn't dodge. It turned around to hit the fireball with its tail instead. It managed to get

the work done by successfully hitting it, but...it lost half of its tail because of it which left it squeaking in pain.

Its eyes turned red and charged toward Emily.

"Flame burst!". Emily readied to receive it by summoning five fire balls in front of her.

Seeing the fire balls, the rat hesitated and didn't continue its charge and actually started stepping back. It seemed to have enough intelligence to know it would suffer greatly if it was hit with all those at once. Because of this it started circling Emily from a distance, looking for a chance to strike.

It was at this time that Emily managed to see Chloe concluding her battle with a cool new skill. Which also seemed to fulfill their target, a finisher that didn't take all their mana and leave them powerless as Chloe was smiling and still looked rosy despite the fight with a PR1. Of course the fact that the rat was only about as strong as a MR1 lizard might be the reason the fight was so easy for Chloe, among other reasons like her sizable strength.

"Damn!, she's already done it!, I can't even copy it with my fire or my clothes would be burnt off me. Only if I had better control over it, maybe I could do it....and this rat is really starting to piss me off!". Emily spoke to herself,

frustration clear in her voice. She couldn't think of ways to minimise her mana usage while keeping the attacks strong enough.

"Flame storm!"

And so she gave up and created another effective but costly attack. She screamed out as she opened her arms and flames appeared in-between, spreading out the further they went.

The rat that was caught unprepared was turned to ash before it could escape.

[75 kills left....]

"Oh well, I'll try again another day". Emily said to herself with a wryly smile on her now pale face.

Chapter 49 Lightning judgement!

"Sooo, what happened to developing less costly attacks?". Muku asked after he and the group walked up Emily who was now too tired to even walk to them.

"I'll come up with something next time, if not, I'll just evolve and get stronger this way until I can afford to use these spells as much as I want. All of you can take care of the marathons while I'll just sprint.". Emily said with a laid back expression, clearly she had mostly given up on reducing the expenditure and distraction of her attacks. She was on her way to be someone Megumin would give a thumbs up.

(A/N: Megumin is one of the main characters from the anime "Konosuba" who always uses all her magic power in one attack and refuses to learn any other spells even when they are more cost effective. Another one of author-san's favourites)

"Okay, whatever floats your boat I guess". Muku shrugged, as whatever she chose she'd still be very useful. With her current firepower, she can be like the group's secret one use weapon when fighting stronger enemies and can support herself on weaker ones...of course she'll have to create better skills sooner or later.

"Oh and you too Chloe, good job, what amazing work you did" Muku said with a smile while placing his hand on Chloe's shoulder.

Crumble!

As if waiting for this one final push, Chloe's clothes broke apart and crumbled to the ground before the little pieces were carried away by the wind. Leaving her completely naked and right in front of Muku. It seemed her "lightning coat" skill had basically destroyed her clothes when it continuously travelled through them and they were barely holding on until Muku touched them and they fell apart. Everyone froze, the smile also freezing on Muku's face as his and Chloe's eyes met.

"Ahhhhh!". Chloe's piercing scream was heard as she tried to cover her privates with her hands. Without thinking, Muku took off his t-shirt and draped it over Chloe's naked body and turned around to look away from her.

"Y-you pervert!". Jade was the first one to summer as she screamed at Muku with a red face as if she was the one who was exposed.

As for Chloe she probably wore Muku's t-shirt that was luckily long enough to be like a dress to her. And then covered her eyes with her hands before looking away from the others, she didn't know how to face them after what such a thing. She felt like she could just die from all the embarrassment. Her mind going crazy, her thoughts all over the place....

{He saw everything!, What am I going to do now?. Should I make him take responsibility?. How am I going to face the others now?. Will they think it was deliberate? What kind of perverted skill did I create!? And....HE WAS EVERYTHING!!}

The others just looked at her with wryly expressions not knowing what to say, even Audrey didn't know. She also had never had her body seen by a man after all.

"It was an accident you idiot!. I'm sorry Chloe, I didn't mean to.". Muku screamed at Jade without turning back. The brat was really trying to add fuel to the fire. He also apologised to Chloe.

"I-its okay, I know my skill caused it, you have nothing to be sorry for. I should be the one apologising for showing you such an indecent thing". Chloe summered a bit as she replied. She couldn't blame him, since no one thought that her new skill would do such a thing.

"Oh no, you dont have to apologise, I quite lik...".

"ROAR!!!"

As Muku was about to say something that would have definitely gotten him called pervert by more than just Jade this time. He was luckily interrupted by a super loud roar and all his senses screamed "danger!". As he and the whole group looked in the direction of the scream.

There it stood on two legs. A giant rat, even among giant rats. A rat that roared instead of squeak. Greyish fur, two upper front teeth long enough to be daggers and likely just as sharp, long sharp claws on its feet and even longer and sharper claws on its long and muscular upper body limbs, crimson eyes, a standing height around four meters!, and wind swirling around it!?. Along with a new stage the group didn't know existed.

"Half-step Rank Two!?!...this aura, it's worlds apart from anything we've seen before. I feel like a child in front of an adult". Muku said with a frown while gathering power to.... defend?

That's right, unlike before, Muku didn't want to fight this thing. His first thought was to runaway. But he somehow felt that escape was impossible, especially with his large group that involved pure mage types who weren't that fast.

"Chloe, condense all your mana into your ultimate attack, Hope, you too. Layla, support me, Jade, don't engage in close combat yet, Ms Audrey...look after Emily" Muku gave his orders while his eyes didn't dare stray from the beast even for a second.

The others hearing him talk so seriously did exactly as they were told. From his tone they knew that this battle was going to be on a completely different level from the ones they had before. There was a real possibility of dying here. They all got the notification for the beast's rank after all.

"Roar!!!"

The giant rat walking on two legs with muscular almost human like arms ran in their direction, eyes filled with furry. The two PR1 rats they killed were its mates after all. It was going to tear each and every one of them apart for what they did.

"Giant Cleaver!". For the first time Muku also called out the names of his skills for more concentration to show the seriousness of the situation.

And with this shout a large rectangular blade with a length of five metres and a width of two metres materialised in front of him and flew toward the approaching beast. In normal cases, the blade will easily split the beast in two but this time it was different.

Bang! Boom!

The beast actually slapped the blade away with easy and continued it's approach. Greatly shocking everyone from Muku's group, they at least expectes it to put in a bit of effort into deflecting it after all.

"Shrike's frozen spear!". Layla attacked soon after recovering, going for the skill that killed Death's Shadow.

Bang!

And again they were appalled, the beast evaded the pillar and broke it apart with one slap.

"Fuck!.... Silver spear rain!". Muku pulled out another skill after Layla's attack failed.

Twenty silver spears appeared above the beast and dropped aiming at it, as soon as they fell, more formed then after they fell even more formed. This repeated five times. The girls seeing this were a bit surprised, they had assumed that Muku could only create swords...which apparently wasn't true. Which makes sense really, he was a metal warlock not a sword warlock after all.

Bang! Bang! Bang!....

The five waves all hit the target, while a few strays would hit the ground causing dust to rise up, completely covering the beast. For a few seconds everyone stood still waiting to see if that attack worked.

Then suddenly, the dust was blown away, making the giant rat king visible again. Of the hundred spears that fell on it, only three managed to pass through its wind barrier and land on its body. Even those three didn't seem to do much damage after stabbing its back, only angering it even more.

"ROAR!!!"

The beast roared again, even louder than before. At this point it was just around ten metres away. Then it sped forward again.

"Hope now!". Muku ordered hope to release her attack. The dark green ball of poison she had been condensing that was just as big as a soccer ball was thrust forward.

Boom!

It exploded into a region of green mist at the spot the rat was. She had taken some inspiration from how Emily made her attacks explode on impact. The poison was quickly mixed in into the beast's swirling wind barrier which allowed some of it to get to the rat. It wasn't enough to do significant damage to it considering their differences in strength but it was enough to irritate its eyes, bringing the rat to a halt as it roared with its hands on its eyes.

Due to its lapse in concentration, its wind barrier visibly lost most of its strength. And on that matter, it seemed the rat could only use the wind to defend and not attack or it would have likely already done it by then.

"Chloe!". Muku noticed the declined defense and screamed out to Chloe to act. Even if she was close to him and he didn't have to shout, he felt it would convey the severity of the situation. As the rat seemed to already be recovering, which would make its defense super strong again.

"Lightning judgement beam!".

Boom!

Chloe screamed out and a two metre wide beam of lightning shot of the area in front of her arms she was opening wide. Her normally brown eyes now glowing blue. It was so quick it made a boom sound as it broke the sound barrier aiming at the rat king's chest area. The recoil sent her flying back, by Muku would had been expecting this grabbed her with his telekinesis. He quickly noticed that Chloe had lost consciousness. She had used every ounce of mana she had in the attack after all, so it only made sense to faint, this was her first time going all out... luckily she didn't destroy her clothes this time.

[30% of Pseudo-Legendary class potential realised]

It was at this moment the rat king finally opened its eyes, which then widened at the attack it knew it couldn't avoid. It solidified its defense as much as it could in such little time and then...

Bang!!

The attack hit it's barrier and shattered it with little resistance and smashed right into its chest. The beast was lifted off the ground and thrown back wards, getting rammed through a house and coming out through the other side. Its chest area now having a scorched black spot that covered all of it and a part of its hands and stomach. It's fur and surface skin was burnt off. Sparks of blue lightning crackling all over its body as its body spasmed. Blood flowing out of its mouth.

The beast looked like it was close to death, that's just how devastating Chloe's all out attack was. Hell it wasn't even all out since she had used a decent amount of mana in a battle before otherwise this attack might have blown a hole through the rat instead.

It truly deserved to be called lightning judgement....

Chapter 50 Final judgment!

"Woah!....isn't Chloe a bit too Op?". Jade asked looking at the deviation. Even the ground Chloe's attack passed by was scorched black!

"Definitely deserves to be called lightning judgement". Layla nodded in agreement.

Even Emily on the side wondered if her ultimate attack could be that strong. The answer was no, her attack was super strong, could cover a wide area but as for single target damage, Chloe definitely ruled. For now, she was a crowd battle type mage while Chloe also for now seemed to be more inclined to single target battles. As for whether they could evolve into being able to do both, only time would tell.

"Is it over?". Hope couldn't help but be hopeful, her face was now a bit pale after using most of her strength.

"Roar!"

As soon as she stopped speaking, a roar answered her question. The battle was still not over. The rat king stood up again, it's aura now chaotic, it's eyes completely red with the iris that was supposed to be there nowhere to be seen. Looking at it like that, everyone couldn't help but think.. "berserk mode". The intelligence I'm it's eyes long gone. They were seeing it through the large hole it created through the house.

"Roooooar!"

It roared again as it charged forward, now on all fours like a true beast. It smashesld through the poor house from before and finally putting it out of its mystery. And it's wind barrier was long gone but it still felt stronger than before.

"What are we going to do now!?". Hope screamed in fear, she was internally kicking herself for having a loud mouth that jinxed it.

"I can try to intercept it, I still have most of my mana after all". Jade spoke with a serious look, but there air of confidence she always had before was nowhere to be seen. She knew that even if the beast lost it's defense, she likely wouldn't be able to do much damage to it in this state.

"No, Layla by me some time, I'll put an end to this". Without even thinking about it, Muku turned down Jade preposition.

"Yes sir". Layla replied to him as she prepared her skill to delay the beast. She also didn't support Jade's suicidal attack.

"Tsk, fine". Seeing the others basically ignoring her suggestion, Jade gave up on it. And also because she knew Muku wouldn't say he'd take care of it if he didn't have a plan.

"Shrike's frozen spear barrage!" Layla spammed her current best spell.

(A/N: I know I have been jumping between skills and spells a lot...but in my defense, it's what felt right at the time. But from now on, it will be spells all the way, it seems to make more sense now)

Bang!

In it's berserk mode, the beast's senses didn't seem to be as accurate as before. Because of which, the first ice spear stabbed it in the gut and took it to the sky. As a testament of its absurdly high body defense, the spear only managed to poke a few centimetres into its body before it was broken with a slap and the best started following down.

Bang! Bang! Bang. Bang!

Four more spears appeared below the beast and hit it at the same time. The force from them was enough to throw the beast back with a few extra holes on its body. It's internal organs were likely in a mess by this point but the beast didn't seem to care and quickly got up before charging forward again.

Though this time Layla couldn't do anything as the attacks had left her spent. She also realised how weak she still was, she couldn't even properly wound the beast. And only managed to delay it for close to a minute.

....

During the time Layla was engaging the beast. Muku raised his hands up in the air which made those who could afford to look his way curious. The only ones who didn't look were Layla who was battling the king rat and Audrey who was looking at the battle feeling useless for not being able to assist her daughter.

Then a two metres thick cylinder started to form above Muku's hands and slowly kept extending into the sky. Making the others wonder what he was trying to make. Just as Layla's for spears threw the beast back, Muku's attack was just about finished. Looking at it, the girls couldn't help but widen their eyes at the magnitude of it.

"Final Judgment". Muku said with a serious voice as he looked at the approaching rat as if sure this attack would definitely kill it.

[50% of Legendary Class potential realised]

Whoosh!

With that a giant silver hummer so big it could completely cover three rat kings, not to mention one descended onto the rat king. If it was before its berserk mode it definitely would have tried to run awayz but now, it actually waited for the attack to descend on it while roaring at it.

BANG!!!!

A dust cloud rose from the impact point and spread in all directions. Layla had to use the last bit of her mana to create an ice dome of they would have been consumed by the dust cloud as well. Muku was gasping for breath beside her so he couldn't set up a force field barrier.

[60 kills left....]. (Muku)

[70 kills left...]. (Chloe)

[79 kills left...]. (Hope)

[79 kills left...]. (Layla)

That's right, the rat king was flattened into a pancake. It was even pushed more than a metre into the group. And it gave out ten freakin kill points!! That's the same as two PR1 rats compined!. Which shows just how much of a beast it was. Hell even the killer dog boss only gave 5 kill points.... though it was also just a PR1 beast so it made sense, but to only be as strong as a rat while being a dog is quite embarrassing, maybe it wasn't as outstanding as Muku's group thought.

"Sir, I think you went a bit overboard there". Layla said, her pretty face a shade paler after having to use her mana again when it was so low already.

"Just a bit?, we would have been thrown away by the dust cloud if you hadn't interfered!". Jade was hysterical, they already hadn't bathed for a while and he wanted to make them even more dirty?. How could she not be made, even forgetting the fire situation they were in a for moment.

"Cough, sorry about that, I thought it might survive if it the attack wasn't at least that strong". Muku was a bit embarrassed, he knew that he really had overdone it a bit.

"No big brother, you don't need to apologise, you were just making sure it didn't survive after all". Hope quickly defended her big brother while glaring at Jade and Layla which made them smile wryly. The little girl had completely switched sides.

"We should get out of here soon, all that commotion should have drawn in a lot of attention here." Emily said with a worried face. The others nodded as they knew she was right.

But what they didn't know was that any beasts that were close enough to the battle ran away instead. The territory overlord was fighting a foe strong enough to make him go berserk after all. Who would want to stick around for that.

Anyway, Layla took down the ice dome and with Chloe on Audrey's back they left the area. Their destination was anywhere away from there. Their journey to Jade's house would have to be put on hold for now. But they couldn't go back to the stadium now, not with most of their members out of commission like this, especially when they just found out that there were monsters like the rat king roaming around. It would be dumb to be as carefree as before knowing such information.

So their target was a house to rest in as they thought of their next step somewhere a bit of distance away from the battle sight.

....

Ten minutes after Muku's group left the scene, a monster slithered over. It's cold yellow serpentine eyes now staring at the flattened rat king. A trace of surprise appearing for a second before it lunged on the body and swallowed it with little effort.

After it's meal it looked in a certain direction before slithering back where it came from. The direction it looked in, just happened to be the direction Muku's group left in. Whether that was the reason it looked, only it knew. But for some reason, it didn't go in that direction, maybe the rat king was already a good enough meal for the day and it didn't want to bother itself for now.

Whatever reason it was, it definitely saved the lives of Muku's group as in their current conditions. They had zero chance of fighting the city's overlord monster that was even stronger than the rat king.

....

During the time the monster looked in their way, Muku found himself looking back not knowing why. But he for some reason felt that they made the right decision by leaving when they did or they would have regretted it.

He didn't know why though. He subtly looked in Jade direction but noticed her acting normal, meaning she didn't detect anything. Which made him sigh in relief, it seemed that at least for now, they were safe.

{It seems I need to get stronger, I was so arrogant until now thinking that no beast can threaten me that much in this city right now...how wrong I was. That rat would have definitely killed me if I was alone, that is if I didn't run away. This won't do, how can I protect them like this?}

Muku thought as they walked forward, thinking about a horrible scene from his childhood. The others could sense a gloomy aura suddenly surround him, but didn't ask because they thought it was due to the battle having tired him out.

And like that, their walk continued as they searched for a building...then a great one appeared in their sites, albeit a bit sketchy....