

RAISING A FEW WIVES IN A BEAST APOCALYPSE

Chapter 81 Baneful Ground!

"Wow, what a satisfying battle". Muku said from the sidelines.

"And Jade lost due to her arrogance, like you said too," Hope spoke from beside him.

"But would she have won if they didn't battle so soon and she wasn't arrogant?" Chloe asked Muku.

"Who knows, don't forget that Emily also recently reached her current stage. So, like I said before, I'm not too sure," Muku replied.

"Just like now, any battle they will have in the future will likely be won based on who made a mistake that the other one capitalized on first. Or maybe who attacked faster" Layla gave her insight before closing her eyes again. She was likely trying to recover faster by focusing on her abs, yet at the same time, she was interested in what was going on around her.

"Hmm, I wonder if it will be like that for the rest of us since our classes are at the same level?" Hope asked.

"Maybe, but I doubt it can be so perfect; your element is directly suppressed by Emily's, so having an equally matched battle would be hard", Chloe replied.

"Well, that sucks", Hope replied with a dejected look on her face; although her poison element was lethal, she felt it wasn't as good as the others.

"Don't feel bad about it; you're all growing; I'm sure you'll find a way to fight back eventually", Muku spoke, trying to console Hope.

"Yeah, you're right!. Our classes are the same level so I shouldn't be forever suppressed by her!" Hope was immediately motivated, got up from her seat and ran to the battleground, her eyes blazing with battle intent.

"Umm, where is she going?" Chloe asked.

"Well, it's you versus her next, so..." Emily, who'd just arrived beside Audrey and Jade on Audrey's back, spoke.

"What? When was that agreed upon!?. You fight her if you want; do you want me to be poisoned to death!?" Chloe shouted out in protest. Unlike Emily's fire, her lightning left a lot of gaps which Hope's poison could get in from, so why would she agree to a battle with her? That's basically asking to be positioned to death.

"I'm sure you can think of something" Muku replied while picking Chloe up with his telekinesis and throwing her toward the ring. Although he also wouldn't ever want to fight Hope without creating a force field, he still wanted to see how others would fight her.

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"What a cool entrance!" Hope called out with admiration in her eyes when Chloe seemingly flew over and landed on her feet.

"Yeah, that was totally intentional... Anyway, I hope you don't make it too potent". Chloe replied with a wry smile on her face. She was brainstorming how she could come out of this without her body turning green from being poisoned. She could try to evade the poison, but Hope has the "Whisperless Death" spell that can't be seen so she won't know where to run to.

"Yeah, don't worry, I know just what to do...that reminds me, there's an idea I want to try. It won't harm your body; want to help me? The point of all this is to improve ourselves instead of winning right?" Hope asked Chloe with a hopeful look in her big purple eyes.

"Okay, sure, as long as it doesn't harm my body, then it's fine", Chloe agreed despite having a bad feeling about it; she just couldn't say no to those cute puppy dog eyes.

"Thank you, thank you, thank you. Oh, and can you relax your mind, like, don't resist, or it will likely cause a backlash to me?" Hope thanked Chloe and told her what to do. Audrey,

who was already standing by the side, didn't say anything and just let them do whatever they wanted.

"Okay, I just hope you know what you're doing" Chloe replied. Her bad feeling kept getting worse but she trusted that Hope wouldn't do anything to harm her, and Audrey was there to intervene if anything went wrong.

"I do... mostly. Baneful Ground!" Hope replied and immediately cast her spell.

"What what did you s..." Chloe was about to address Hope's unreliable words when she saw a purple dome that originated from Hope quickly expand towards her. She wanted to run, her senses were telling her to run, but she chose to trust Hope, and the poison wasn't the usual dark green, so it shouldn't melt her skin, probably. When it reached her, immediately closed her eyes and braced for impact.

She felt herself being enveloped, but no pain of any kind like she expected rocked her body. She internally sighed in relief and subconsciously relaxed her mind. Then everything went blank; her consciousness felt muddled and she couldn't even properly complete a thought. All she knew for sure was that she was filled with uncontrollable anger that was about to explode from her body.

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"Hmm? What's that spell?" Muku asked no one in particular as they looked at what was happening.

"I don't know, but don't you think it kind of looks like her "Hallowed Ground" spell?". Emily replied, her face now looked slightly better.

"She couldn't be trying to poison...no that can't be possible right?" Muku spoke again as soon as his words fell.

Boom!

BOOM!

Two auras exploded out on the battlefield.

"!!!!"

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[95% of Pseudo-Legendary class potential realised...]

"Yes, it worked!" Hope exclaimed to herself as soon as she received the prompt. Opposite her, around ten metres away, Chloe was standing still unmoving.

Hope's aura immediately exploded and started to increase, which she expected. But she didn't expect for Chloe's aura to also explode beside hers and be even stronger than hers. Chloe's aura was now as strong as Layla, Emily and Jade, which meant...

Before she could say something, Hope noticed something about Chloe. More precisely, her aura was mixed in with something else, something that reminded her of the time Jade went berserk. Remembering her spell, she couldn't help but get a bad feeling. Then Chloe opened her eyes.

Boom!

Lightning exploded out of her body, going crazy around her; it was all around thirty centimetres thick, if not more. If Hope didn't know what it was from the start, she would have mistook it for snakes. Dark clouds immediately covered the sky above them. Thunder ringing out all over the place. Thick blue lightning bolts soon started getting discharged from them hitting the ground. In Hope's eyes, the scene looked like the end of the world. The previous battles had caused destruction on the ground but Chloe's damage alone was more than the one caused by everyone else before her.

Boom!

Chloe disappeared in front of Hope with a clap of thunder.

"Oh, shi..ahh!" Hope exclaimed in fear. How could she not? Chloe, who had disappeared from her sight less than a second before, was now in front of her, holding her lightning-covered arm out in a punch. If not for the slender hand that stopped the punch, Hope felt like she would have died right then and there.

"Well, little Hope, look what you did. You almost lost your life because of it". Audrey said with a chuckle, teasing Hope, who was now pale-faced. Hope probably didn't hear it through all the thunder ringing all over the place.

"You go to the others; I'll take care of this; she should run out of mana soon enough with all this expenditure". Audrey got closer to Hope and spoke. Hope nodded and quickly ran to the others, the experience had truly shocked her. Especially when she knew that it was her fault.

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"My, this actually stings a bit. To think this usually quiet and meek Chloe would be so destructive". Audrey said as she pushed Chloe away with a little bit of her strength, throwing her a bit of distance away.

"Ahh!"

Boom! Boom! Boom!.....

The crazed Chloe screamed out in anger after landing on her feet when Audrey pushed her away. The lightning bolts in the sky that were hitting the place randomly were now targeted, and they all hit where Audrey stood. Audrey didn't dodge; she was strong enough, and her mana barrier was enough to block the attacks of a lower rank like Chloe, even if she was going berserk.

When the dust and smoke from the lightning bolts dispersed and Chloe noticed that Audrey was unharmed she appeared to get even angrier.

"What kind of scary spell did that little girl create to turn her friend into this?" Audrey said to herself as she looked at the approaching Chloe. Chloe was running at super speed, but to Audrey, she might as well have been walking as she could clearly see everything.

Boom!

Then suddenly something that made even Audrey's eyes widen happened. Chloe turned into a lightning bolt and appeared in front of her within an instant.

Bang! Boom!

Chloe immediately threw her lightning punch, though a lot stronger than any she'd thrown before. This time, Audrey's casually made mana barrier that had already been battered was breached, and the punch connected. Audrey was so surprised that her mind blanked out for a second; after all, she wasn't exactly a battle veteran who was ready for

anything and everything. This open was enough for Chloe who threw another punch, even stronger than the one before. Although the chance of actually hurting Audrey with her punches was slim, it would at least hurt a bit for Audrey.

Whoosh! Bang!

Before the punch landed, Muku appeared behind Chloe, grabbed her by the neck a bit and threw her back. Chloe was unprepared for this, so she hit the ground hard. However, it didn't hurt her much as she immediately got up.

"Sorry for interrupting; I know you can easily handle it, but I don't know how to do it without hurting her accidentally due to your power difference. So let me do it," Muku said to Audrey, but his gaze never left Chloe.

Chapter 82 Ending Chloe's Berserk Mode

"Y-yeah, sure" Audrey replied, just as Muku said. She and her mother's heart were holding her back. She could have suppressed Chloe with her aura alone but didn't know if it would anger Chloe even more and make her overdraft herself which would require more time to recover from. As for fighting out with Chloe, she didn't know how to properly control her strength yet, evidenced by the slight push that threw Chloe away, which was unintentional. So she chose to let Chloe tire herself instead. But Muku had other plans.

The more time Chloe spends in the berserk state that doesn't care about her body condition, the more self-harm she'll be causing herself. So Muku came to try and knock her out.

"Steel Cage!" Muku cast a spell that trapped Chloe within it.

Boom! Boom! Boom! Bang!

But the lightning bolts from the sky made quick work of it. And Chloe broke out. Her current state of mind was to attack anyone closest to her, who was now Muku, and so she attacked.

Bang!

She punched at him but her fist bounced off the air. Clearly, a force field Muku had created. Before she could regroup, Muku grabbed her with his telekinesis and froze her in place.

"Gotcha!, phew!"

Boom! Boom! Boom!

"What tha!?... Audrey, quickly lock out the lightning!" Like before, lightning struck down in the area Chloe was in. And for the first time ever, Muku felt his Telekinesis start to falter. Chloe's lightning bolts were slowly chipping away at it. So he told Audrey to lock

out the lightning. Audrey's barrier had been to keep their auras in but didn't stop things from outside from getting in.

"Yes, Master" Audrey did as she was told. So now the lightning couldn't get into Audrey's barrier from the sky, let alone hit Muku's telekinetic restraint on Chloe.

Crackle! Crackle! Bang!

Even having her lightning locked out didn't stop Chloe as she started generating the lightning herself. It was working as well, though not as quickly as the lightning from the clouds. Muku moved quickly, hit the back of her neck and she fainted. The lightning coming from her body immediately stopped as she slumped down. The sky also started clearing up.

"Finally done, what a feisty girl" Muku spoke with a relieved tone while taking Chloe into his hands. She really had caused him some trouble, he didn't expect that there were actually elements that could affect his telekinesis if they were strong enough.

"Is she going to be okay?" Audrey asked with a worried look on her face.

"Well, it will likely take quite a bit of time with some healing from Hope. We didn't let her go berserk for too long after all. She should be okay by this time tomorrow." Muku replied while they walked to the others who were looking in their direction with worried looks on their faces. If not for the unconscious Jade beside them, they might have run forward.

"That's good news. Today really was quite eventful" Audrey spoke in a more relaxed tone.

"Yeah, and super rewarding as well, now I'm the weakest in the group. Hahaha," Muku joked as they reached the others, who rolled their eyes hearing his words. He just defeated a supercharged Chloe and yet dared to say he was the weakest?

"I'm sorry, big brother, I didn't know this would happen" Before anyone else could say anything, Hope apologised with tears streaming down her cheeks.

"Don't worry about it; we all know it was a mistake. Just don't do it again. If you ever get a new idea for a spell, it's best to try it out on Beasts first. And as for asking for forgiveness, you will have to talk to Chloe about that when she wakes up." Muku replied to Hope with a gentle look in his eyes.

"She should be up by tomorrow morning, so don't worry too much, okay?" Muku added after seeing the worry in her eyes.

The girl listened to everything Muku said, nodded her head at everything then suddenly fell. She had been keeping herself up out of sheer will. Her head had been hurting since she used her spell, she felt like dropping on the spot but wanted to see what happened to Chloe first. Audrey acted quickly and grabbed her before she hit the ground.

"Is today a fainting day or something?" Muku spoke with a wry smile on his face.

The group then returned to the house, with three boards floating behind them where Jade, Chloe and Hope lay. Audrey wasn't with them, though; Chloe's loud display had drawn a bit of attention that she had to take care of. Luckily, it was only half-step beasts and lower that bothered to turn up. The stronger ones had better things to do. So after a while of going around the place killing the beasts, Audrey returned to the mansion. She even brought lunch....and dinner and quite a few other meals after that.

Seeing all the meat she brought using a few corrupted beasts, Layla couldn't help but grumble a bit. All the mana she'll have to use to keep all of it from rotting. Even though beast meat didn't rot nearly as quickly as normal meat, it would still rot within a few days if not kept on ice.

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"So Layla, what do you think about Chloe's strength?" Muku spoke trying to make small talk. They had just finished their late lunch since Emily had to recover a bit before she could provide the fire to cook the meat. It was another bird's meat so no one got any hidden attribute points.

"I think she might very well be the strongest of us who have Pseudo-Legendary classes, at least for now. As long as she can display the same amount of power she displayed while berserk on a normal day that is" Layla gave her unbiased opinion.

"Really, that's surprising; I thought you'd at least say you're about equal or something like that", Muku replied, completely surprised.

"I'm not as arrogant as Jade. If Chloe managed to land a hit on my mother who's a whole rank higher, then she's definitely the strongest. Not to mention she could struggle out of your Telekinesis, which I can't do," Layla explained herself. Hearing her, the others thought that what she said made a lot of sense.

"Yeah, Chloe is too strong, I'm not sure if I can resist her lightning with my fire. Especially when it's so thick and raining down". Emily also conceded, admitting being weaker than Chloe, at least for then.

"What about Hope's new spell, "Baneful Ground", she called it? What do you think of that" Muku asked another question to continue the conversation.

"Too dangerous" Emily answered with a trace of fear in her eyes.

"Should never be used on allies" Layla also gave her reply.

"Haha, yeah it definitely is something else. But I feel that it's going to be one of her most useful spells; as for being powerful, that's already been decided without a doubt," Muku replied while laughing. Though he really believed that the spell would eventually show its magnificence, his gut feeling told him so.

"If you say so. Also, what's our next course of action?" Layla replied and asked a question of her own.

"Other than getting stronger?" Muku asked a question of his own.

"Does that even need to be planned?" Layla replied with another question.

"Good point, then I've got nothing" Muku finally gave his answer. They'd basically done everything they had set out to do before, so the only thing he felt was left was to get stronger.

"I've got an idea, what if we go out and help Elsa evolve tomorrow if the others are up by then?" Emily chimed in.

"Oh, right! The little lady still hasn't evolved yet. I guess we can do that; we don't have anything else to do anyway," Muku replied after thinking about it a bit.

"But we haven't seen any unranked beasts for a while, though" Layla poured cold water into their plan.

"You're right! What should we do? Should we just use rank one beasts?. Will that work!?" Muku exaggeratedly replied.

"I'm not going to use my little sister as a test subject for such a thing!" Emily immediately interjected.

"Then what do you propose?" Muku asked her.

"We'll just have to look for them. The people from the university travel around the place, right? So maybe they know where we can find them close by," Emily told them her plan. She had actually been thinking of it since morning. The idea of her sister being defenceless didn't sit well with her, especially after the circumstances she found her in. So she wanted to remedy it as quickly as she could.

Elsa, who was sitting quietly beside her while listening on, immediately hugged her to express her gratitude. Even a little girl like her understood that she needed to have her own strength in the current world instead of relying on Emily for everything. Supporting Emily whenever necessary rather than holding her back sounded a lot better to her. Plus who wouldn't want powers?

"Okay, if that's what you want, we'll do it. I wanted to visit them again anyway. This time we'll be real neighbours since we'll be taking the mansion with us." Muku replied with a smile.

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Around 8 o'clock PM.....

"Thank you, sis", Elsa spoke while lying next to Emily in their shared room. She appreciated how Emily asked the others to help her evolve. Their room was dimly lit.

Muku had gotten solar panels and batteries from the mall before but was too lazy to set them up throughout the whole place. It was a mansion after all. And they still had a lot of candles anyway.

"Don't worry about it, you're my little sister after all..... Also is there something you need to tell me?" Emily replied while holding Elsa closer.

"They didn't make it". Elsa only said one statement but it was enough for Emily.

And so, like that, the two recently orphaned sisters cried themselves to sleep. Two precious faces they will never see again flash in their minds, along with all the happy memories they will never share again...

Chapter 83 Jack's proposition?

The next morning....

Everyone had gotten up, including those who had fainted. Jade and Hope were mostly fine. Chloe though, her body was slightly painful and felt fatigued despite her mana being full.

"I'm sorry" Hope apologised to Chloe as she cast her healing spell on her.

"I told you already that it's fine. Although things went out of control from what I heard, but at least I realised so much potential because of it right. Since no significant damage was done, I'd say it might have even been a blessing in disguise," Chloe replied to Hope's hundredth apology since she woke up, which was less than thirty minutes before.

"Even if you say that, what I did was wrong. I will always regret it. But still, thank you for forgiving me" Hope spoke while continuing her healing on Chloe, her eyes teary.

"Come here," Chloe said while pulling Hope in for a hug. She wasn't nearly as angry about it as Hope thought she was, in fact, she wasn't angry at all. She meant everything she said about seeing the incident as a blessing in disguise. Who knows when she'd have gotten to 99% potential realisation otherwise? And she had no memory of what happened when she went berserk anyway.

"Sigh, I wish I was awake to see the rampage, though", Jade commented from the side. Having been told what happened by Emily, she really felt like she missed out on something amazing. Not to mention that there will likely never be another chance ever again, which made her even sadder.

"You can just have a battle with Chloe in the future if you're so interested; that should give you a taste, at least", Emily chimed in while rolling her eyes.

"Ah! You're right! Chloe! you and I will have a battle right after we're done with this, okay?" Jade half asked and half told Chloe about wanting a battle with her.

"Sure, I wasn't conscious for the last one, so yeah, okay", Chloe readily agreed. She also wanted to see her "op" abilities as the others put it, in action. Beasts were fun to fight,

but their intelligence took away some of the fun from the battle. So fighting Jade in her new beast form should be quite fun.

"Great!, now will this thing go any...ahh!"

Bang!

"You brute! How could you treat a delicate lady like myself like this?" Jade exploded out in anger, looking at Muku, who had his eyes closed and was sitting on the ground.

Currently, he was moving the mansion closer to the university. And since he'd gained a bit of experience in it, it wasn't as hard as before so he was aware of his surroundings. Hearing Jade complain about the speed when it was already hard enough to keep it up and move it really pissed him off. And so, a telekinetic wave burst from him, and before Jade realised it, she had been smashed into the wall. Of course, it wasn't a too-strong wave, or it would have hurt....the wall.

"Honestly, Jade, you brought this one on yourself...like usual", Emily commented while sighing.

"Tsk, whatever" Jade replied while going back to her seat. She swore to herself for the thousandth time that she'd get back it him one day for bullying her... even if she caused it. What self-respecting man would be so petty with a cute girl like her?

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"Hey, look at that!" A random dude within the university safe zone screamed while pointing in a certain direction.

"What the hell!?" Another voice screamed.

"A ghost mansion!?"

"The vampire king's castle!?"

"Shut up, you idiots, this isn't that kind of novel! Someone go notify leader Jack. I'm sure he'll know what to do" A calmer voice sounded, calming down the others a bit though they could sense some unease even in the voice.

"He's right, some go, quick!"

"Who are you telling to go? you go!"

"Tsk shut up all of you, I'll go myself" Seeing that these idiots didn't even want to go, the calm voice went instead.

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"Oh, a floating mansion is floating toward us from the North, huh? Well don't worry about it, go notify the others to stay calm. It's nothing dangerous, I'll join you all in a bit. And thanks for notifying me" Jack instructed the guy who came to notify him.

"O-okay leader". The man replied before taking his leave; he was still feeling uneasy but still did as he was told. With leader Jack joining them soon, everything should be fine... probably.

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"So they finally came huh?" Sarah, who was standing beside him, asked. Her personality has been calmer ever since the last time they had contact with the mysterious group.

"Seems so, and what an entrance they made. Let's go greet them," Jack replied while getting off his seat.

"But we were preparing to carry out the plan today, though," Sarah said; she was unwilling to meet those monsters.

"Don't worry, it can still be done. I doubt they'll have much to talk to us about. But as the leaders, we have to meet them or we won't be able to take it if they felt angered by it and attacked. Although I don't think they'd be so unreasonable, it's better to be safe than sorry right?" Jack explained to his girlfriend why they should be there.

"Sigh, fine, we'll go; I just hope nothing goes wrong", Sarah finally relented.

"Great! Let's go", Jack spoke while taking Sarah's hand into his own and leading the way. He could tell that she was still shaken from the last time, so he hoped that this would calm her down a bit. Which, thankfully, it did.

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"So this is the other safe zone, huh? The people here seem a lot less gloomy than those at the stadium. Not to mention stronger" Audrey said as they were walking toward the university.

"Maybe because there are a lot of hot-blooded young people here, it affected the rest positively. Unlike the stadium where it's mostly chickens that dare not step out of the barrier." Muku replied with a smile. He liked this place better than the stadium just for that very reason. It's better to see people who struggle to live than leeches.

"We seem to have drawn quite the crowd" Hope spoke nervously. Being stared at by so many people was something she could never get used to no matter what.

"Yeah, want to hold my hand?" Chloe replied while extending her hand to Hope like a good friend. Truth be told, she was also a little nervous.

"Well, I think you'd be looking too if you saw people come out of a floating mansion", Jade spoke; she was a lot more relaxed about the situation than even Muku was. The others silently envied her carefree personality. The only one who seemed as relaxed about the situation as her was Layla who didn't seem to even acknowledge the presence of all the people around them.

"Don't worry, everyone, I can sense the leaders coming; we should be out there for their eyes soon enough", Muku spoke, trying to calm the girls. He could somewhat understand the people looking at them.

They were both curious and wary of his group, since they didn't know their intentions yet, they chose to watch from a distance. Some had seen his group last time and heard about what happened to Dean's group who quickly ran and hid after confirming it was them. Some surprised murmurs were also mixed into the noisy group of people; it was from those who knew Elsa from before and could hardly believe how differently she looked in just two days.

"Ah, if it isn't Mr Muku and company. Welcome back! Would you like to join us inside for a chat?" Jack came out with his own people behind him wearing a slightly forced smile. He had heard about how it's hard to punch a smiling face and thought maybe he might as well try it out.

"Oh, it's leader Jack, thank you for welcoming us even though you're likely a busy man. And we would definitely love to have a chat with you, so lead the way, please," Muku replied with a smile on his face. The others from his group really wondered how he could switch gears so easily from his usual personality, which was quite laid back to this glib-tongued one. They didn't know that it was something he had to unwillingly learn to do

after being paraded all those years as a child genius. He might not have survived it all otherwise. But that's his dark history they will likely never learn about any time soon.

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"Sorry to be blunt and presumptuous but...is there something my people can help you with?" After they entered the large meeting room and took their seats, Jack immediately jumped to the major question he and his people wanted to know.

"Like I said before, I really like how smart Leader Jack is, and because of this, I respect you. So I'll also be straightforward with you. Yes, there are two things your group can help us with, well more of one, really; the other one can just happen naturally. You see, my comrade here has a little sister who needs some unranked beasts to evolve. And since I know that information is really precious, especially now, I'm willing to give you some Half-step beast meat for it, or a reasonable favour." Muku also got to the point and told Jack their reason for being there.

"Oh, is that so? Luckily for you, Mr Muku, we just happen to have the information you need. But before that, let me give you a proposition that will not only get you your unranked beasts but even more" Jack replied with a smile. He and his group were a lot more calm now knowing that Muku's group wasn't there to seek trouble with them. He even saw it as an opportunity to address an issue that had been stressing him for a while.

"Oh, is that so... Well, you've definitely piqued my interest, so please, do tell", Muku replied, looking at Jack with a curious gaze. His whole group also had curious gazes, wanting to know what the proposition Jack had was.

Chapter 84 Proposition accepted!

"You see, me and my group are planning to target a rice silo a few kilometres away from here. To that end, I'd like for you and your group to assist us. In return, we will share half of the gains. As for the issue with unranked beasts, it won't be a problem since there have been reports of unranked beasts residing close to the area. With each other's help, I'm sure the matter will be dealt with a lot easier than if one group did it alone" Jack immediately told them his proposition.

"Hmm... although me and my group could likely still easily complete both tasks as long as we have all the information...." Muku spoke, then trailed off at the end, making Jack and his group tense, thinking that the deal was about to fall through.

"But, since we aren't bad people and have learned that your group tries its best to feed the people here. We'll help and go along with you. Just know that if we sense that you're trying to exploit us, it will not end well for you" Muku continued, his words making Jack both relieved and tense at the same time. The idea of making them completely carry his group that was forming in his head was quickly squashed before it fully formed.

"R-right, there's no way we would ever do such a thing. Thank you for agreeing. You definitely will not regret this partnership," Jack replied, a bit nervous at the beginning but confident at the end.

"Great!, I hope so as well. Now for the other matter. We'd like to go through your base and see if there are any family members of any of my people here if you don't mind" Muku agreed to the deal and mentioned the issue he had mentioned before.

"Oh, just that?. Sure, feel free to go around and look. I suggest starting from the dormitories, everyone should have seen you other than the people there. So if anyone among them knew any of you, they would have come forward, and since none did, the dormitory people are the only ones left" Jack immediately agreed with a smile on his face. He thought it would be something difficult to deal with, but he was happy to help out.

"Thank you for the tip", Muku replied with a little smile of his own; he liked dealing with people like Jack, who was straightforward.

"I have an idea; I'll order someone to go tell them all to come out of their rooms when you pass by so that no one is skipped" Jack offered more help without even waiting for Muku to agree he'd already signalled for someone to go and do as he said.

"Thank you again" Muku expressed his gratitude again.

"It's nothing; we are allies now, so this much is expected", Jack waved it off.

"If you want, I can lead you to a room to rest while waiting for everything to be prepared", Sarah finally spoke; she had observed Muku's group and realised that they really weren't bad people. She now looked at Muku with a slightly weird gaze, and so did most of the people from her group. One young man surrounded by so many young and beautiful girls, how could they not suspect him of being a pervert?

"Ah! Sure, lead the way", Muku said while gesturing for her to lead the way.

With That Muku's group was led to the university's teacher's lounge. They were then offered some orange juice they didn't reject since it had been a while since they had any.

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"Being in a teacher's lounge brings back quite a few memories" Chloe said with a reminiscent look on her face.

"Yeah, you were like a little mouse afraid of everything back then. Haha," Jade jokingly replied.

"Well, not all of us can be as reckless as you", Chloe defended herself while feeling slightly embarrassed because what Jade said had some truth to it. Despite being an otaku who always wished for an apocalypse, she was petrified when it actually came. Truly a dark and embarrassing history for her.

"I guess you're right, to think we almost got killed by unranked dogs back then. Haha," Jade didn't try to defend herself.

"To think we've come so far within just a single month" Emily chimed in.

"Yeah, a lot has happened, hasn't it?" Chloe replied.

Knock! Knock!

"Come in"

"I hope I wasn't disturbing anything" Sarah's slightly nervous voice sounded after she entered the room.

"Not at all, Is everything ready?" Muku replied.

"Yes, everyone has been notified" Sarah replied, from as far away from him as possible. The girls noticed, but Muku didn't, and they immediately giggled knowingly.

"Great, let's go," Muku said while getting up; he vaguely felt like something was going on. He didn't understand but didn't ask. In his mind, a man can never completely understand what goes on in the minds of women, so he might as well stay silent in some cases.

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Around an hour later.....

"To think there was not even a single person any of you knew," Muku said with a wry smile on his face.

"Well, technically, there's Elsa", Emily defended.

"You know what I mean" Muku replied while rolling his eyes.

"It's not unexpected", Jade chimed in; she didn't have much hope of finding anyone from the start.

"And we did technically find a few people we knew, just that we weren't close enough with them for them to matter" Chloe added.

"Hmm, I guess you're right" Muku relented.

"Can we go back now? I'm sure Mother isn't too comfortable covering her face for so long," Layla, who hadn't said much since they came, spoke up.

"Aww, what a considerate daughter I have!" Audrey excitedly said while taking Layla into her arms. As Layla said, she had covered her face with a cloth before they left the

mansion; she was way too attractive, after all. They didn't want to have a repeat of what happened at the stadium.

"Can you let me go please?" Layla spoke while trying to break out of Audrey's hug unsuccessfully. Although she appeared to hate it, the others knew otherwise; her slightly flushed cheeks were also a dead giveaway. She secretly liked being pampered by Audrey; well, at least, she thought it was a secret. What was a real secret was how everyone already knew, even Elsa who'd barely just joined them.

With that, the group bade farewell to Jack and his group as they returned to the mansion. They had promised to set out the next morning, so would gather then.

.....

Back in Jack's office.....

"Did you really have to invite them to go with us though?" Sarah asked Jack. Although she didn't particularly disagree with his decision, she was just used to it at this point, so she couldn't resist asking him why he did it.

"Yeah, as you know, I'm super sensitive to people's auras, right? And although you might find this hard to believe, other than the little unranked girl, everyone in that group is now somehow a lot stronger than the Half-step beast that almost killed my team. They were all strong before, but in a day, they all got even more absurdly strong, even though the two new people were the same. Which brings me to the lady who had her face covered. Her aura...." Jack patiently told his girlfriend what she wanted to know, before trailing off at the end.

"What about it?" Sarah asked, getting him out of his daze.

"Right...I couldn't sense it. As you know, even unranked people have an aura albeit weak. But her, there was nothing. Yet I felt like she could kill me without me even knowing how I died. I suspect she might already be a Rank Two" Jack continued explaining, not knowing that his suspicion was the truth.

"Really!?, with how hard it is to realise potential?" Sarah exclaimed, not believing him this time even if he had never been wrong about such things before.

"I'm not sure myself; maybe she just has an ability that counters mine", Jack replied with a shrug. His eyes traced the curves on Sarah's body unbeknownst to her.

"Y-yeah, that's probably it, there's no way anyone has reached Rank Two already." Sarah was now even more certain that there was no way the woman could have reached Rank Two after Jack gave such a viable reason as to why he couldn't sense her aura.

"Well, it doesn't matter, we're allies, so no matter which it is, it's fine. And with the upcoming expedition, I'm sure we'll find out which it is soon enough," Jack spoke while getting up and walking toward Sarah, who was on the opposite side of the desk.

"Yeah, I guess you're rig...what are you doing?" Sarah replied while stuck in thought then felt a kiss on her neck from behind. That's when she noticed that Jack had gotten off his seat and came to her side.

"Nothing, I'm just showing my girl some love", Jack said in between the kisses.

"This.. Ahn..isn't the time" Sarah protested weakly with her eyes closed, clearly enjoying it.

"Don't worry, I'll be quick" Jack ran to the door locked it and ran back.

"Yelp!, what are you doing!?" Sarah let out a small, surprised scream as Jack picked her off the chair, put her on the table facing up, and immediately started pulling off her clothes. What he was doing didn't align with what he said of it going to be a quick thing.

....

Less than a minute later....

Pa! Pa! Pa! Pa!

"Jack!, ahn!, ahn!....harder!....faster!"

Clapping sounds accompanied by Sarah's lewd moans could be heard leaking from the room.

Chapter 85 Jack and Sarah's prowess

The next morning....

Everyone was ready, Muku's group had already arrived. They were already seated in one of the five trucks that were going on the expedition. Apparently, Jack's group kept these trucks and two fuel tankers in the safe zone, saving them from being either destroyed by beasts or the world's evolution from before. They were really lucky to have all of them. Especially now when they needed to go on such a long supply run.

"Never thought I'd get to ride a car again," Hope said excitedly.

"Tsk, this is nothing compared to a flying mansion" Jade replied with a pout on her face.

"What? Still salty about losing at rock paper scissors?" Muku took a jab at her.

"Why are you so happy when you lost too!?" Jade snapped at him.

"Well, I don't mind sitting at the back, but you clearly do" Muku defended himself with a smug smile on his face.

"Tsk, whatever" Jade didn't want to talk to him anymore lest she say something that would get her a spanking.

Like Muku said. They had lost at a rock-paper-scissors match, so they had to sit in the back. The front of the truck could only fit three people in. Audrey was the driver, and Elsa got a sit because of her child privilege. And the last seat went to Chloe who won the rock-paper-scissors match. Everyone else was sitting in the back.

While Muku, Hope and Emily were fine with it. Jade and Layla were gloomy because of it, just that Layla didn't voice it. But it was obvious by the chilling aura that she was released that made the others gather around Emily, who had a wry smile as she released a bit of her aura, knowing what they wanted. They were again made painfully aware of how much Layla didn't like losing at anything.

"Ah, finally, we're setting off; this is going to be fun!" Hope was still as excited as ever.

"Until the sound of the trucks draws beasts our way, maybe", Jade spoke, trying to dampen Hope's mood, but it did the opposite.

"That's even better, I can get target practice!" Hope replied even more excitedly.

"Ahh! Get away from me; you're so positive it's blinding my eyes!" Jade exaggeratedly said while blocking her eyes. Hearing her, everybody laughed, even Layla smiled a bit. They were enjoying the trip quite a bit.

The people on the other trucks looked at them with odd expressions. While they were all tense, getting ready to fight off any sudden attacks, the other group was clearly enjoying the ride without a care in the world. Seeing the scene stifled their hearts greatly. Is this what the difference between experts and side characters like them led to.?

"Hey, are you sure about leaving the mansion unattended?" Jade said after they finished speaking.

"Yeah, it should be okay; beasts don't usually stray too close to safe zones, after all", Muku replied with no worry in his voice.

"Maybe, but what about the residents of the safe zone?" Jade was still not appeased.

"Have you already forgotten about the Half-step R2 Corrupt Beast that Audrey "turned" last night and left in the backyard?" This time it was Emily who replied.

"Oh yeah....wait, won't it rip them into shreds if they invade them?" Jade asked, not that she was worried about them, she was just curious.

"Mother gave it orders not to leave the mansion gate. And it can sense them before they get in, so it can scare them away. If they still go in after that then...they deserve to die." Layla was the one who replied this time. Like Jade and Muku, she didn't particularly care about anyone outside of their group, so she didn't feel anything while talking about the possible death of some people.

"Oh, okay" Jade replied with a short answer after being told all she wanted to know.

"They wouldn't still try to enter after seeing it right?" Emily couldn't help but ask worriedly, her heart wasn't completely corrupted by the apocalypse like the others. Even Hope looked at Muku with some expectation that he'd provide a positive answer. She also still cared about humans in general like Emily.

"Who knows? Human greed is unpredictable, after all," Muku gave an answer that was neither good nor bad.

"I-I guess you're right", Emily replied; she wasn't naive enough to think that everyone would choose to preserve their lives over satisfying their greed. At this point, she just hoped not too many died.

...

Halfway to the destination.....

They had managed to avoid trouble so far due to the beasts they passed by not being close enough to catch the fleet. But their luck ran out as a pack of large brown wolves appeared in front of the fleet. Each wolf was at least MR1 and there was even a larger wolf in the back of the pack that looked on as the

other ones approached. The aura it released was that of a Half-step R2, an advanced one at that, probably as strong as a human with 60-70% potential realisation.

The fleet immediately stopped in its tracks and the combatants jumped out of the trucks. They stood in front of the vehicles ready to fight back the wolves, albeit nervously. There were at least 30 wolves while there were only 15 combatants, including Jack, and Sarah who had refused to stay behind. Although most of the people at the university had evolved and could take on unranked beasts and even LR1s, there weren't many stronger ones. Random classes and weaker classes, a bit stronger than that, made up the majority. So having fifteen evolvers that could fight stronger beasts from MR1 to PR1 was already amazing. Even rarer was Jack who could fight the weaker Half-step R2s.

"Want some help?" Jade asked after suddenly appearing beside Jack.

"N-not yet, please watch our backs and only intervene if we can't take it", Jack replied after calming his startled heart.

"Okay, if that's what you want, we'll make sure that no one gets too injured then," Jade said before disappearing; the next moment, she was back with her group at least 15 metres away. Her speed really shocked Jack and his group, but at the same time, they felt slightly more relaxed knowing that they

had such a strong group watching their back. Jack even took this as a chance for his group to gain more experience fighting beasts without stacking their lives on the line.

"Okay, comrades! show these beasts why humans have ruled this planet for so long and will wrestle back control eventually!" Jack screamed some motivating words to his group.

"Yeah!!!" The group, which was a mix of both men and women, also screamed back hot-bloodedly.

"Growl!"

"Growl!"

"Growl!....."

It was as if the wolves were waiting for this moment as that's also the moment they lunged forward. Their yellow eyes filled with brutality with only one thought in their heads, which was to rip all these noisy humans into pieces and devour every last one of them.

"Strength buff!" Sarah was the first to cast a spell. It was surprisingly a support spell which was the first time Muku's group came across such a thing. A faint yellow glow immediately enveloped all the evolver and their auras got a bit stronger as they charged forward to meet the wolves in battle. Their eyes were just as crazy as those of the wolves, though their craziness was powered by their backup.

"Crimson body!" Jack was the next to cast his own spell. His body was immediately enveloped by red flames, and his speed took another leap. He was the first one to meet the wolves.

Bang! Bang! Bang! Bang!

Within ten seconds, he had punched four wolves back into the pack, and he showed no signs of stopping. He madly punched the wolves left and right. But sadly his punches weren't strong enough to kill them in one shot. The wolves radiated earth elements, which might have played a part in their defence even though they couldn't use it. But those he hit still took a bit of time to get back up again and shake off the dizziness.

Soon, the others joined him, and their struggle against the wolves began. That was when Muku's group noticed that Jack had been targeting the stronger

wolves and leaving the weaker ones for his group so that they could somewhat fight them off.

...

"He's good" Muku commented.

"Yeah, a bit weak but knows what he's doing. Hey Emily, why can't you do what he's doing?" Jade replied then asked Emily a question.

"That's probably something class-related; my flames can't enhance my body's state", Emily replied, not too bothered by it. She would have liked being able to do it as well, but still, her class offered way more and could do a lot more damage.

.....

The battle had gone on for around five minutes, and somehow, Jack's group was still holding on. They were now struggling a bit due to their fatigue but were holding on nonetheless. The importance of Sarah's class was highlighted in this instance; although she was always at the back getting

supported, she would cast "Rejuvenate" on whoever couldn't take it anymore, and they immediately regained half of their stamina.

"Wow, what an interesting class!" Hope exclaimed while looking at Sarah with glowing eyes.

"Your "Hallowed Ground can do a lot more though?" Jade spoke with a bit of confusion. She wondered as to why Hope would be impressed by someone less impressive than her.

"Be that as it may, just because I'm better than someone doesn't mean I can't acknowledge their skill right?" Hope answered in a way beyond her years.

"Hmm, I guess you're right....oh, it seems the leader is finally about to make his move", Jade was replying to Hope when she and the rest sensed the leader, who had stood back until now, about to make his move.

Chapter 86 Monsters

"I guess he can't hold back anymore huh?" Muku spoke while also looking at the leader, who was creeping in on the battlefield unnoticed by Jack's group and was completely focused on their opponents.

"I'm surprised it could actually hang on this long when we're hiding out auras. I thought it would pounce right in" Chloe replied.

"Even when a beast can't sense your aura if its instinct is strong enough, it can sense that there's danger close by", Jade spoke up as if defending the beast.

Whoosh!

Before anyone could respond, she was gone.

Bang!

"Howl!"

The wolf leader howled in pain as it was punched in the gut by Jade who suddenly appeared beside it. It was thrown a few metres back.

"Wow, their defence is really good. I thought that bunch would at least break a couple of bones, but it only threw it back", Jade said while staring at the beast that was getting up.

"Growl!" The wolf leader growled threateningly but was actually stepping back rather than forward. When it was looking at Jade who had only released a bit of her aura, it felt like it was looking at an insurmountable mountain. It got the urge to prostrate in front of her but it managed to resist the urge.

"Well, I didn't know you were actually a chicken instead of the wolf", Jade said while walking toward the wolf leisurely.

"Grrrr" The wolf's eyes were immediately covered in anger, it was as if it understood what she said and couldn't take being looked down on so much. Its body was immediately covered by a layer of brown earth from top to bottom, its eyes red with anger. Even its aura increased by a bit.

"Well, it seems the little chicken wolf actually has a bit of guts after all", Jade added to her mockery, not influenced by the wolf's enhanced state.

What she didn't know was that when the wolf entered its seemingly berserk state, it affected the wolves behind her that were fighting Jack's group. They were also powered up, although they didn't get the earth armour. Jack's group, which was barely holding on, was immediately overcome.

Crackle!

Then they heard an unfamiliar sound from behind them. Then a scene that left them all both scared and amazed happened. A blue trail of light passed by each and every one of them, leaving behind the charred corpses of the wolves. In less than a minute the remaining wolves that were still around twenty were killed off.

"What's up with Jade always causing problems" Chloe's annoyed voice sounded as she appeared in front of Jack's group after killing off the last wolf. She was annoyed by how Jade could have just one-hit-killed the wolf but chose to anger it instead. This took away the chance for Jack's group to gain experience and perhaps even realise some potential in the unfavourable but controlled environment.

"You can all rest by the side while she play... I mean, fights the leader," Chloe said to Jack's group before walking back to her group without waiting for a response.

Not that she would get one, they were all still shocked by her display of power that she seemingly did casually as well. Then there were her words about her friend playing with the wolf leader instead of fighting it to death like they were doing. She might have changed her words, but they all knew she really meant it when she said "play" Was the difference between them so large? Even their leader, Jack, was still struggling with a few peak-rank wolves, yet these monsters were already playing with Half-step R2s!

"Hahaha, this is so fun!" Just when they were still feeling gloomy about their weak strength. They heard a mad laugh from the distance and there it was, another scene that hit their self-esteem hard. Jade was basically using the berserk wolf leader as a wild bull that she waited to get as close to her as it could before disappearing and punching its gut. The wolf's earth armour had cracks all over it and was barely holding on. Even that was because Jade wasn't punching it too hard.

Crunch!

"Hey!" Jade suddenly screamed while looking behind her and glared furiously at Muku. Jack and his group just looked at the wolves with eyes so wide their eyes were about to

fall out of their sockets. The wolf that was spiritedly tried to bite a chunk out of Jade a moment before but, failing miserably, was now a swashed mess on the ground.

"We don't have all day, you idiot", Muku's annoyed voice sounded.

That's when something clicked in their heads. They looked at him, then back at Jade, it didn't take long for them after that to realise that he was likely the one who killed the beast. But...how did he do it? Wasn't he a metal element evolver?. What was up with this eerie way of killing?. Although they never thought of crossing his group, they saw the little display from just three of his group's members, especially the way the wolf was killed. It was now set in stone that they would never knowingly or willingly go against these monsters. At this point, even if his group took all the rice they found, they wouldn't even complain, just blame their luck and help them carry it back.

"Oh, it has a beast core?" Jade sensed something and her anger immediately disappeared as she looked back at the wolf's body and dug out its core with her hand enveloped in beast aura. She took out a brown core somewhat similar to the one from the lizard from before.

"May I ask what's that?" Sarah asked Jade curiously. It appears they had never come across a beast core, which was understandable since they seldom fought strong beasts to the point of killing them. And even when they did, why would they dig into the beast's chest?

"It's a beast core, it can...." Jade went on to tell them about the core.

She was in a good mood, so she didn't mind telling them. Sarah and her group were immediately awed by the core, to think it can help realise their potential if it's the same element as them and can recover the mana of everyone else. Thinking about the possibility that they might have left some cores behind in some of the beasts they killed really made their hearts ache. Truly, not being in the loop can lead to a lot of losses.

"So, are you going to use it now?" Emily, who had walked over with the others, asked Jade curiously.

"I might as well, although my Beast Aura already gives me great defence; having another layer doesn't hurt, right?" Jade replied then immediately consumed the core. This time though, no outside disturbance occurred, maybe because of her already significant strength.

She stood unmoving for a few seconds her eyes closed. She then opened them slowly, then a disappointed look immediately appeared on her face.

"What's wrong? did something go wrong?" Emily asked with a bit of worry in her voice.

"It's nothing much, I just realised I can only have one spell from each element, so I had to choose between the spikes and the amour. I obviously chose the spikes since I didn't have long-range attacks. I'm just disappointed that I had to waste a perfectly good core to find that out" Jade explained why she looked disappointed.

"Oh, it's just that?. Although it sucks but it also makes sense, your class can't be too broken after all. Now let's continue the journey; we've delayed enough," Muku spoke,

then went back to the track. Everyone did the same; Jack's group could rest while they continued the journey.

Although they met more beasts on the way, Muku's group took care of them this time. So they didn't need to stop the trucks as the beasts were killed while still a distance away. This sped up the journey.

At this point, Jack's group was numb to anything Muku's group did as they wouldn't be surprised if his group could even affect the weather at this point. Which they didn't know they actually could to some extent. If Chloe or Layla were to use their strongest spells right then, someone from Jack's group was likely to have a heart attack. Some things just shouldn't be done by humans...

....

Around an hour later.....

"That's our destination huh?" Muku asked no one in particular while looking forward.

There were four broken-down silos around a kilometre away from them. Rice grains were all over the place. But luckily, the silos weren't completely broken, which meant some of the rice was preserved under the rubble on top.

"It would be great to have something to go with the meat instead of eating by itself all the time. Even if it is super tasty" Hope spoke her mind, looking forward to having some rice after almost a month. She never thought she'd ever miss rice, but there she was.

"I just hope there really are unranked beasts as we were told" Emily was more worried about her sister's matter.

"Don't worry about it; I think you'll like what we find when we get there", Jade replied to her while looking forward, but the way she was looking, it seemed like she was looking beyond the silos...

...

{Why do I feel slightly uneasy?}. Inside the truck, Audrey thought to herself.

It was the first time she felt like this ever since she reached Rank Two. But she couldn't pinpoint what was causing the feeling so she ignored it while staying vigilant. Since she didn't know why she was feeling like that, she didn't bother telling the others.

Chapter 87 Spineless Jumper!

Soon after, they reached the silos. It took a bit of effort to remove the rubble on top, but eventually, they did and loaded all the trucks. Muku's powers could have made the whole process easy and quick, but Jack refused the aid saying that they'd feel too useless if they allowed him to deal with this as well.

"Now that that's taken care of, let me lead you to the area where the unranked beasts reside. Though I'm pretty sure you can already sense it" Jack engaged Muku's group in a conversation to address the other part of the deal. It was time to lead them to the unranked beasts nest.

"Sure, but I'm curious, how are you so informed about this area? No offence but I don't think you could have made it here without us," Muku replied and asked a question plaguing his whole team. And with good reason too. The brown wolf wasn't the only Half-step R2 beast they came across to get there, and it alone was enough to wipe out Jack's group.

"Oh, none taken. Although it kinda stings to hear, indeed, my team and I couldn't have made it here on our own. That's where my friend here comes in; he has a rare class called "Jumper". It has zero combat ability, but he can teleport a whole kilometre forward. Which makes him perfect for scouting missions" Jack said while casually grabbing a thin young man who was passing by behind him.

"Oh, no wonder, what an interesting ability", Muku replied, truly impressed; so what if he couldn't even kill a fly? He didn't need to. He could just disappear from the scene if it bothered him, and even with its annoying speed, it wouldn't be able to catch up and bug him more.

"Yeah, and if your group wasn't around, we were planning on using him to scout ahead and then take appropriate detours when necessary. Though that would not have only consumed more time, it would have also had a high-risk factor with an equally high chance of completely blowing up in our faces and killing us all if an anomaly occurred. So we're really happy that your group joined us. I know we have barely managed to not drag you all down, let alone help. So thank you for tolerating us" Jack explained to Muku what their initial plan was.

And honestly, he was right about the chance of success having been low. The previous time the jumper came to scout, the wolf pack was nowhere close by. Just like most of the beasts, Muku's group took care of on the way. This made Jack's group realise how naive they really were to think they could have succeeded with their weak strength. Luckily they realised before it was too late.

"There's no need to be grateful; we're in a cooperation. And I don't think the Jumper is as weak as you think he is....well he is, but he has the potential to be a great assassin" Muku waved off Jack's appreciation and moved back to the Jumper.

"That's where the problem is, sadly he's a wimp, he dares not get too close to a beast ever since he almost died when he killed his last one to get to Rank One" Jack replied with a wry smile, he also knew that the Jumper could be a great assassin, but the guy didn't want to get too close to beasts.

"Oh, no wonder he was hiding behind Ms Sarah before; I thought he was her guard or something", Muku spoke with a look of realisation on his face. He and his group then looked at the Jumper with an odd look in their eyes. They felt like he was wasting the potential of a decent class.

As for the Jumper himself, although he was internally complaining about them gossiping about him in his presence, he didn't say anything. Just stood there with a face red from embarrassment since everything Jack said was true. But even the he refused to ever get too close to a beast that isn't at least extremely injured, even if he's beaten to death, he won't do it!

"Well, at least he is useful in some other ways, right?" Muku said with a shrug, choosing to look at the positive side of things.

"I guess so..." Jack said while pushing the Jumper back so he could go rejoin the others. They had been talking while walking to the unranked beasts.

"So that's them huh?" Muku asked a rhetorical question while they hid behind a pile of rubble and observed a nest of unranked mice. They had made burrows through some rubble of a large building and were using it as a nest.

"Yeah, that's them" Despite knowing that it was a rhetorical question, Jack responded anyway.

"So Emily, what now?" Muku asked Emily beside him.

"Huh? What do you mean?" Emily didn't understand the question.

"I mean, should we just get ten of them, beat them half to death, and age finishes them off, or should we do it one by one? If it's one by one, we can great a ring for the two to fight, which will give Elsa some battle experience." Muku explained what he meant. He was asking whether Emily wanted to baby-feed Elsa or let her suffer a bit like they did, which would make her stronger in the end.

"Oh, that's what you meant. Well, although I'd like to baby-feed her. I know that's not good for her in the long run, so let's do it one by one." Emily made her decision. Hearing her, Elsa looked at the one-metre-tall mouse and was a bit unwilling, but she also realised that it was what she needed to do to get stronger, so she didn't refuse.

"Good choice, let me set everything up then," Muku said while looking in the direction of the mice; then one of them floated over under the surprised and curious gaze of the others. But since they weren't too smart, they didn't follow it to see what was happening. They continued loitering around the place after looking at their floating companion briefly.

"Wow, so convenient" Jack commented as he witnessed everything happening in front of his eyes.

Muku just smiled and continued doing what he was doing. He then created a ring with his metal element. It was about twenty meters wide, and a bit over a metre tall. He placed the mouse inside. Then handed Elsa a silver sword and an axe just for the nostalgia of it. Before she could say anything, she found herself on the opposite side of the mouse.

"Get it little Elsa! I'll give you that laptop you've been eyeing if you get it!" Muku immediately started cheering for Elsa excitedly. He was so enthusiastic about it to the point that Emily wondered if he was Elsa's real sibling while she was a fake.

"Yeah!, Elsa! Go!" Soon Jade joined in, even more enthusiastically than Muku.

Soon, Emily, who didn't want to be left behind as long as the others, excluding Layla and Jack, were cheering for Elsa like mad people. Jack smiled wryly, to think these crazy

weirdos were a lot stronger than him. Even Layla covered her face with her eyes from embarrassment at knowing them. Luckily, other than Jack, there was no one else around, and Muku had created a sound barrier around them, or she might have died from embarrassment.

Elsa was exasperated by the behaviour of the idiots. Normally it was only her older sister who was so excitable, but now there was a whole bunch of them. Although outwardly she gave them an annoyed look, internally, she was happy; even the nervousness she was feeling was greatly reduced. She grabbed the two weapons in her hands tightly and focused her attention on the mouse that hadn't moved till now despite looking like it couldn't wait to tear her apart. She figured Muku must have been holding it back.

"Squeak" The mouse squeaked loudly and sped toward Elsa. She was briefly startled by the charging beast but quickly realised that it wasn't as quick as she thought it would be. She easily dodged to the side and slashed at its side. A large gash immediately appeared and blood flowed out, dyeing the beast's fur in the area red.

"Squeak!" The mouse squeaked both in pain and anger, but there was nothing it could do. And so, the battle continued like that, the mouse would lunge forward, Elsa would dodge and slash it again. She became more daring after a while and started using the axe, which she used to finish it off by burying it into the mouse's head.

[Condition for evolution met. Kill nine more unranked beasts to reach Rank One and acquire specialisation]

The prompt familiar to most but unfamiliar to Elsa sounded in her head. She had finally taken her first step to getting stronger.

"She's good" Jack commented with some amazement in his voice. The way she dealt with it, her strength. She seemed way too strong for a little girl. Did just being in Muku's group make you weird?

"Hidden attributes" Layla spoke up, only saying two words that confused Jack but were familiar to everyone else.

"I didn't know they'd make such a difference," Emily said with a hint of surprise in her voice. Elsa was a lot stronger than her and most of the girls in the group when they began. It seems eating all that meat really helped a lot. The others were also presently surprised.

"Sorry, but what are you all talking about?" Jack couldn't hold back his curiosity and finally asked. Though it always made him feel like a country bumpkin whenever they talked about something he didn't know and he had to ask. How was this fair? Didn't they all experience the apocalypse for the same amount of time?. Why were they so much more knowledgeable than him then!?.

Chapter 88 Death

(A:N: Hey!, it's me again. I didn't want to do this since it might seem a bit like a spoiler but I have to. This chapter is something that's bound to make some people think "I'm dropping this sh*t". So I just want to say, read the next chapter as well before deciding. P.s I don't like AoT or JJK ^_^)

Muku then explained everything they knew about hidden attributes to Jack while getting the next beast for Elsa to fight. The little one said she could kill another one before resting. Since she looked energetic enough, no one denied her what she wanted. So, soon after she was enthralled in another battle with another mouse.

"So you're saying that Beast Meat is not only safe to eat, but it has other uses than just sating hunger? I knew I shouldn't have listened to Sarah when she stopped me from taking back some spider meat" Jack spoke with a regretful tone.

"Woah, I'll hold you right there. You see, not all beasts can be eaten, especially spiders, why would you even think that's edible?" Muku immediately stopped Jack's dangerous train of thought. Who did he think he was? Hajime Nagumo from Arifureta, who could eat anything? Even he, with his plot armour, didn't dare do such a thing!

"Oh, they can't be eaten? How do you know though?" Jack wasn't trying to refuse Muku's advice, just that he was curious how he knew.

"Let's just say my group has a Poisonous Meat sniffing anim...Oww!" Muku didn't mind giving Jack a hint, but it got him a kick to the leg from Jade, and he immediately shut up. Jack was smart enough to realise that their being able to distinguish between edible and inedible meat had something to do with Jade, so he didn't ask further, afraid he might also get a kick. And with their lack of significant ties, his kick might kill him on the spot.

.....

Around an hour later.....

Elsa was already fighting her ninth beast and would reach Rank One after just one more battle. Although she had been taking regular breaks, she was now a lot slower than when

she began. Her body was drenched in sweat, but even then, she refused anyone's help in ending the battle. This made Emily very worried and proud at the same time. This was the first time she had seen her little sister push herself so much.

"Wow, little Elsa is really amazing; I'd have asked for help long ago," Hope spoke while looking at Elsa with admiration in her eyes.

"Well, we can't all be the same way. And you're perfect just the way you are" Muku spoke while patting Hope's head.

"Jeez, Big Brother, I know, you're so goofy", Hope complained, but the fact that she wasn't trying to get away and the big smile on her face made everyone quickly realise that she was enjoying the attention. They all rolled their eyes at the two. Weren't they just randomly displaying their affection for each other when unnecessary now?

On the side, Audrey gave Layla beside her a side glance that made Layla's hair stand, and she immediately stepped away from Audrey. How could she not know what her mother was thinking? Although she wanted it too, she would be too embarrassed to be like that in front of a stranger like Jack. Seeing her move away, Audrey pouted a bit but didn't do anything else. Everyone then refocused on Elsa's battle.

"Hmm?" Audrey then made a confused sound and started looking around them. Her previous unease that had gone away returned again, this time a lot more intense than before. Even the others were looking around, they felt like something bad was about to happen. Jade's senses were basically shouted at her to run away immediately.

"I think we should..." Audrey was about to say that they should leave the area before she was interrupted by a golden light.

Boom!

It was Emily who had jumped toward Elsa with a boost from her flames for more speed. She had noticed a shadow from the sky speedily approaching Elsa and would reach her within a second or two. Like the great sister she was, she didn't even think before her body moved forward to defend her sister.

"CAW!"

"Ahhhhh!"

A loud sound of a crow sounded, immediately followed by Elsa's high-pitched fearful scream.

That's when the others looked in their direction. They saw a horrifying scene they would have never dreamt up even in their worst nightmares. A giant bird with its large sharp claws directed in Elsa's direction. And right there, in between the two, stood Emily. She had her back to the beast while facing Elsa with a relieved smile on her face for making it in time.

"I'm glad I made it in time; I don't know what I would have done if I lost you again", Emily said while caressing Elsa's hair lovingly.

"Si-sister", Elsa could only manage to say that one word before her throat was clogged by emotion, and she couldn't say anything else. Tears streamed down her cheeks nonstop.

"Don't cry, it's fine. I chose this" Emily said, the same smile still on her face, but now she was also crying.

"It-it's my fault", Elsa said while falling to her knees and hugging Emily's legs, then continued crying.

"Please take care of her and..... I love you" Emily then looked in Muku's direction before wording out the sentence without making a sound. She smiled even more brightly after finally being able to say it. After almost a year of feeling it, at least she won't have too many regrets now. Blood started flowing out of her smiling lips.

How could it not?. There was a huge claw stabbing threw her chest after all. That's also when the MR2 Crow had frozen up the moment its claw came into contact with Emily's blood and regained its awareness. It immediately took to the sky and started flying off. Audrey, who'd finally made her move, just barely missed. Everyone else wanted to attack the crow but were afraid to hit Emily, so they could only watch as it flew away.

Muku just stood there not doing anything, his eyes looking at the crow. Everyone felt a weird primordial aura start to leak from his body. As for how they knew it was primordial, they didn't know, they just felt that it was and was somehow linked to all of them. They found themselves grovelling before they knew it, they couldn't move. The

immediate space around Muku started breaking and mending itself, but it looked like it wouldn't be able to hold for long. It was the space that couldn't hold his power and would immediately break down, creating a black hole. Everyone was scared by this, but only Audrey was excited as if something she had been waiting for was finally happening.

Muku's hair started turning grey. After half of it turned grey, one of his eyes that hadn't left the beast that was flying away started glowing with a grey light. Then the beast that hadn't flown too far plunged to the ground. Muku's body started cracking up and blood leaked out of the gaps. Audrey, who was the only one who could move, immediately hit the back of his head, making him faint. Since her move was to save him, her bloodline didn't stop her from hitting him.

As soon as Muku fainted, the cracking of his body stopped. The space immediately stabilised, though, for some reason, everyone felt like it was no longer as strong as it should have been. Audrey didn't hesitate and immediately ran to the area where the beast fell. Jade followed behind her, though not as fast, but quickly stopped after seeing that she couldn't keep up and waited for Audrey to return. Elsa wanted to follow, but the others stopped her as they remained with the unconscious Muku.

She found it on the ground with its legs in the air. Half of both its wings seemed to have been shaved off, yet. No blood was leaking out. It was like this was the beast's new normal state that replaced how it looked. Like part of it was completely erased from even having part of it in the first place. Audrey didn't delay, she quickly took Emily from the beast's claw and ran back to the others. She placed her beside Muku.

She, along with everyone, looked at Emily with expectation in their eyes. As if wanting her to be alive even though they knew it was impossible with such a wound. And to their utter disappointment and anguish, she, Emily was long dead. Her body already growing cold.

"Nooo!" Elsa screamed in sadness and pain. Again because of her weakness, her family had died sacrificing themselves for the useless her. Why was it always them and not her!?. Was she cursed by the very world itself to be the cause of the death of everyone she loved!?.

Beside her, Jade, Chloe, and the rest didn't make a sound. Jack, who was standing by the side looking on with some pity, suddenly felt like a storm was brewing.

"CAW!" That's when the stubborn and maddened crow made its appearance. Although it could no longer fly it was still a genuine Mid Rank Two beast that not even Audrey could kill herself.

BOOM! BOOM! BOOM! BOOM!

As if they had been waiting for the beast to show up. Jade, Chloe, Hope and Layla's auras exploded.

Jade's berserk state made a reappearance. This time even more intense than before. Long green hair that reached the ground. Long sharp claws. Long green tail. Long, sharp, beastly teeth felt her mouth. And Intense Beast Aura twirling around her. Her eyes showed nothing but bloodlust as they looked at the giant crow. Not only had Jade broken to Rank Two, but she was also not alone. There were three other berserk Rank Two's beside her. All looking at the beast with the most primal level of hatred and savagery.

Chapter 89 Rebirth

Just like Jade, the other three had gone berserk. Chloe's returned to her familiar state. Black clouds quickly covered the sky above them. This time they were even darker. And the lightning crackling from her body was even darker than before. Luckily, she hadn't let the lightning go berserk like before, or some people, Jack in particular, would have died. It was she was both berserk and aware of what she was doing, just like Jade and the rest.

Hope, who wasn't even completely at the peak of Half-step R2, surprisingly broke through as well. No wonder someone said that anger can be the most powerful and helpful tool if used correctly. Her eyes were glowing green with a calm light. Yet the dense purple poison swirling around her painted a different picture.

Layla's state and aura were even more odd. One of her eyes had turned pitch black like a black hole. While the other was white as snow, from the pupil to the iris, everything was white. Her hair was also half black and half white. Even her aura was divided in two; one side was black and sinister, and the other side was white and freezing.

Audrey who had barely managed to not lose control. Was the reason why Elsa and the others weren't affected by the domineering auras that would have crushed them to death? Although the girls hadn't completely lost it, they still couldn't control their auras.

Many Rank Two beasts close to the area sensed the mass breakthrough. But none dared come this time, their senses told them they would only be walking to their deaths if they went.

Boom!

Woo!

Bang!

Stab! Stab!

Before the MR2 Crow could make sense of what had just happened. Its face came into contact with a Beast Aura-covered feast. For reasons unknown to it, it didn't try to dodge even if it might have been able to. The feast threw it backwards, with a cry of pain leaving its mouth. Its skull was left with a dent where it was hit, which made it dizzy.

Then it was enveloped by a purple poison that not only filled it with fear but was slowly eating away at its feathers. It was like the poison implanted fear into its very mind making it too scared to even fight back. It didn't even try to fight back against the poison eating away at its body with its mana.

Then another fist landed on its body, their time a lightning-coated one that punched the air out of its lungs from its abdomen. Its body was left feeling numb. Now even if it wanted to use its mana, it would be very difficult to do.

As if that was not enough, its (remaining) wings were stabbed through by ice spears that suddenly came out of the ground. It was stopped in its place in a very painful way. Its legs were also frozen into place as soon as they touched the ground.

This all happened in less than five seconds. All Jack saw was a Rank Two beast that had been cawing in anger the previous moment. Beaten up, Slowly losing its feathers, it felt

fear in its eyes, spasming with smoke coming from its feathers as it tried hard to breathe and was frozen in place the very next moment. All his hair stood still, that's how freaked out he was. This happened to be the very same Rank Two that he and his group came across before. Yet here it was now, getting its ass handed to it and not even daring to fight back.

The Crow continued getting beaten up for the next few minutes. But for some reason, it still didn't fight back even once. No matter how close to its death it got, the beast took it passively. It was like its very will was broken. Of course, the berserk girls wouldn't care about this. All they cared about was venting their emotions and ending the beast's life.

BOOM!

WOO!

STAB!

STAB!

The girls finally finished off the beast. Chloe finally let the lightning fall. It was one single bolt. But its thickness was the scary part. It was two metres thick, striking down on the four-metre-tall bird. The bird was basically cooked alive. Its feathers were completely burnt off. But their sacrifice helped the beast keep its life for a few more seconds of suffering.

This was because an even denser cloud of poison enveloped its body. Its mind was immediately broken, if it wasn't broken already. Its internal organs were also getting liquified inside its body due to the intensity of the poison. But the bird that now seemed to have cockroach origins managed to survive even this. Though it would die in less than five seconds.

But Jade and Layla wanted it dead in that very second. One of them stabbed it right through its head with a green earth spike. While the other at the same time stabbed it through the heart with an ice spike. And with that, the Crow that didn't know it would be flying to its death the moment it set its eyes on this group died. It was put out of its misery finally.

The auras of the girls immediately stopped burning so intensely. Although they were still intense, anyone could sense that they were at the end of their road. They then all turned back and started walking back to Emily's body. The mad looks in their eyes are long gone. Now all that was left was sadness accompanied by tears that didn't stop flowing.

Whoosh!

Something left the bird's body at a fast speed and soon reached Emily's body. That's when the others noticed that it was the bird's Rank Two core. The bird was a dark element beast so Layla could use it, but she had no interest in it right now. Especially with what was happening.

The core was floating above Emily's body. The darkness element in it actually started getting expelled from the core and fading into the surroundings for some reason. The previously pitch-black core turned clear and then slowly descended on Emily's forehead under everyone's confused expressions. Even Elsa stopped crying and looked at the core, wondering what was happening.

The core soon touched Emily's lips and melted into her mouth. The others couldn't help but get their hopes up, they wished that some kind of miracle would occur. But then, even a minute later, nothing happened. Their eyes started turning dim again. That's when smoke started coming out of Emily's body. The air around her body quickly started heating up, to the point that they all had to step back.

Their hope was rekindled again. But then something completely opposite to what they wanted happened. Emily's familiar golden flames started burning around the body. Then her body was burned to ash less than a second later not giving them a chance to react.

"Ahhh!" Elsa screamed again in horror. Not only had her sister died in front of her. But she was burnt to ash soon after as well while she was thinking a miracle was about to occur. The little girl was close to losing her mind because of what was happening. It was just too much for her. She immediately fainted soon after the scream. It was her body's self-preservation system acting up after sensing that Elsa really was about to break.

The others covered their mouths to stop themselves from screaming. They were overcome with pain and anguish even stronger than before. Why did it seem like the world was playing a trick on them? Why was it continuously giving them hope only to take it away soon after? Tears started streaming down their cheeks again. That's when....

BOOM! Golden flames enveloped the area, them included,, even before they could react. This time it was Jack who screamed in fear, that too like a girl. Luckily for him, no one was paying attention to him, or he might have just died from the embarrassment. That's when he noticed something weird. The sea of flames that surrounded them was only warm and didn't burn them at all. It actually felt rather nice, like a mother's warm embrace.

Unlike Jack, the others had been looking in the area where Emily's ashes had been from the start. They didn't even flinch when the flames enveloped them. That was because they could see a familiar body forming from the golden flames. That's right, Emily's body was getting reformed!

The golden flames started getting pulled back to their origin. And the more flames that gathered, the more visible Emily's body became. Before he knew what happened, Jack was on the ground unconscious. Jade had knocked him out. She had noticed something that the others hadn't yet, which was Emily's nakedness. Which should have been obvious from the start since her clothes were burned along with her body before. But with all that was happening, everyone completely overlooked it.

Soon, the flames were almost gone and Emily's standing body was completely visible. Her eyes were closed but visibly moving around. When the last of the flames entered her body, her eyes opened up. They were the familiar golden colour everyone knew. When they opened up, they were briefly showing confusion, but as soon as they looked at the others, the confusion was gone, and she immediately smiled at them.

Woosh!

Jade immediately disappeared from the spot along with the jacket she took off Muku at some point. The next moment she was hugging Emily as well as covering her with Muku's jacket.

"Oh my, I didn't think I'd ever get one of Jade's rare hugs," Emily said with a smile while teasing Jade.

"Shut up, you jerk with a broken class", Jade said with a smile on her face. Tears were still streaming down her cheeks, and still not letting go of the hug. It was as if she was worried Emily would disappear if she let her go.

Chapter 90 Hug Fest!

Five minutes later...

"Umm, Jade, it's been five minutes," Emily said with a wry smile on her face. She didn't know Jade was so clingy before.

"Just for more minutes, please", Jade said, refusing to let go.

"N-no, w-we don't, have the time!" Emily explained while prying Jade off her. She fixed the jacket and closed the zipper. Luckily, it reached her knees, so she wouldn't be too embarrassed walking around with it, though being commando underneath was still a problem.

"Arg!" Just as she was about to sigh in relief and walk to the others. She was again hugged tightly. This time it was Hope, and she did it in an even more exaggerated way than Jade by using her legs as well to hold Emily. So, at this point, Emily was carrying Hope, who wasn't saying anything as she walked forward. Although it was quite a task to deal with these clingy friends, she could feel their love for her which made her newly regenerated heart feel warm. It always felt good to know that you're loved after all...even when it's a bit extra like her current situation.

"Can anyone help me get her off m...oh come on?" Emily was submerged in hugs before she could even finish asking for help removing Hope from her. The others had joined in on the hug, Layla included, she couldn't keep her usual calm in this situation. Even Jade came for a second round to the dismay of Emily.

...

Another five minutes later.....

That's how long it took for Emily to convince them to let her go.

"We're beyond happy to have you back, Emily", Audrey spoke with a happy smile on her face. A few happy tears ran down her cheeks. Although she was also part of the five-minute hug, she almost jumped to hug Emily again but controlled herself as an adult.

"Although I never really left, I'm still glad to be back" Emily replied with a smile of her own.

"Mmm" Before anyone could say anything else, Elsa's little voice was heard from behind them. Emily immediately walked toward her.

Elsa slowly opened her eyes with some confusion in them. Then as if remembering something, her eyes widened for a moment before tears started flowing out of them. She

didn't even bother to move from where she was laying, nor look to the sides. Just continued looking at the sky with her reddened blue eyes full of pain.

"Aren't you going to get up from the ground?" A familiar voice sounded beside Elsa. But she couldn't remember whose voice it was. She didn't even bother looking.

"No, I'm fine here. I'll get up after a while," She replied weakly, still not bothering to look at the voice's owner.

"Are you not going to look at me when you talk to me?. I thought my little sister was a lot more mannered than that. I guess I was wrong" The voice sounded again. This time saying words that confused Elsa. That's when something clicked in her mind. That voice, it was....

Her head snapped to the side looking at the source of the voice. And there she was, her one and only sister. Smiling at her with teary eyes.

"Hello, little sis" Emily spoke while looking at Elsa.

"Sister!" Elsa shouted, sprang up and jumped into Emily's arms who was kneeling beside her. Her momentum took Emily by surprise and they both fell to the ground.

"Ow, hehe, such an unruly little girl", Emily said why, hugging Elsa there on the ground, not bothering to get up. Though she was almost certain Elsa would refuse to move in her current state anyway.

"Y-you're real r-right?" Elsa's choked voice sounded from within Emily's hug.

"I don't know...but I'm at least as real as you" Emily wanted to tease Elsa a bit, but feeling her hug tighten when she said she didn't know, she had to cut the joke short. Even when she found Elsa last time, she wasn't nearly as emotional as she was now. She realised that seeing her get killed must have left a big and deep wound in Elsa's mind that would take a while to heal.

"As much as I would like to continue our hug. I think we should get up now. Let's go back home okay? There we'll be safe" Emily spoke softly to Elsa. Who still didn't want to let go. It was only after hearing about home being safer that she agreed to let go. But she still didn't let go of Emily's hand. That's when Emily realised that the others might not be as bad as she thought now that she compared them to Elsa.

"Muku's condition didn't get worse right?" Emily suddenly asked the others a question that confused them for a bit before they realised something. They immediately looked at Muku and sighed in relief. Although there were cracks all over his skin, they weren't bleeding anymore, so he wouldn't lose more blood. They were too focused on Emily's condition that they forgot about Muku's weird condition. However, it was only after Audrey said his life wasn't in danger that they did so. Hope wanted to heal him immediately, but sadly, her mana was drained; they hadn't held anything back when beating up the crow.

"Wait, how did you know?... weren't you already...." Jade trailed off at the end, but everyone understood her question. Since Emily was dead by the time Muku had his weird outburst, how was it that she spoke like she knew everything?

"Oh, that, I'll tell you later on; for now, I think we should get back. Who knows what we'll come across next" Emily replied, dismissing Jade's question for now.

The others didn't disagree. And they quickly left the area. Jade dragged Jack along while Audrey princess carried Muku. Luckily for him, he was unconscious, or he would have died from embarrassment.

....

"Jack!" Sarah screamed as soon as she saw the unconscious Jack getting dragged by Jade.

"Don't worry, he's fine. Just unconscious, he'll get up in a while," Jade said why letting go of Jack's collar, allowing him to fall to the ground with a thud. Sarah glared at her as she ran forward but didn't say anything. She checked on Jack, and after seeing that he really didn't have any wounds on him and didn't seem to be injured, she was appeased.

"Can I ask what happened, if you don't mind" She gathered the courage to ask what had happened while holding Jack's head in her lap. Her whole group wanted to know what was happening when they kept on hearing explosion after explosion in the distance. When they finally made up their minds to go over and see what was happening. The sky which had long darkened in the direction, released a lightning bolt that struck away all their confidence.

"Oh, that, nothing much, just somebody dying because of the appearance of a Rank Two beast, it getting beaten up and killed for it then the person coming back to life looking all prim and proper" Jade explained in a way that left Sarah with a lot more questions than she had when she asked the first question.

She was also interested in knowing why Mr Muku, who seemed to be invincible before, was in such a state. But after the previous reply, she didn't bother, she just assumed it happened while fighting the Rank Two beast or something. After seeing a glimpse of what seemed to be straight pandemonium before. She no longer questioned that the group had at least one person who was a Rank Two Evolver.

"Since everything here has been taken care of, let's go," Jade said while walking to their track. She jumped to the back. Layla, Chloe and Hope joined her. Chloe left the front seat to Emily because of her "situation" that wouldn't appreciate a strong draft.

"Hmm, this is actually not so bad" Jade said while she sat on top of the rice that was covered up by a tarp below them. It was a lot softer to sit on than the meat from before. Hope was beside her with Muku's head lying on her lap. She even had a smug grin on her face, after all, she had won a rock-paper-scissors match for it. She didn't mind how bloody he looked just enjoyed getting to touch his head for a change, even if she liked being patted by him. The others were giving her side glances filled with jealousy.

And so, the return journey began; this time, Audrey released her Rank Two aura in their immediate surroundings. So no beasts dared to bother them, it seemed Rank Two beasts weren't too commonly found yet. Which was a pleasant surprise for the group since only Audrey was ready for battle.

Well, Emily was also ready since she had also reached Rank Two, but no one had actually noticed it yet. She had long noticed that they were oblivious due to all that had happened, but she didn't say anything, she wanted to see how long it would take them to realise it.

To think the terrible incident had actually become exactly what she needed to rank up, she couldn't wait to tell them about it and see their expressions.

The journey went smoothly and they arrived around 5 pm. Jack had regained consciousness along the way. So when they arrived he was ready to talk with them about how they were going to divide the rice. He almost wet his pants when he saw Emily getting out of the track with a smile on her face as if she wasn't the same person he watched get impaled and killed by a rank two beast.

Jade smiled at him while placing a finger on her lips with a dangerous look in her eyes. It was clearly an indirect way of saying, keep your mouth shut or die. And of course, like the real man he was. He nodded in agreement, internally promising himself to never mention it even if he's beaten to death. What? Thought he'd refuse to keep quiet? Tsk, that's not being manly! That's just being an idiot!