

STRIKER 201

Chapter 201: Putting up a tent

Forbidden Area:

Right after he stepped into the place, the unknown egg inside his mental zone started reacting. It began to suck the pure natural energy from outside.

Jeremy could feel more natural energy around him, noticing the speed at which the natural energy entered his body. His mouth twitched. His lifeline beast was reacting as if he had kept it without food for a long time.

Then he shifted his attention back to the environment. Looking around, he realized that last time he had picked one direction to explore.

In that direction, he had come across sinister corrupted beasts and the black lake at the end. Since he knew the black lake was located to the north, he decided to check the west.

Even if he could find a cave-like structure, it would be best. He then started walking along the path. The overgrown bushes hindered him along the way.

But he used the katana blade to cut down the weeds. As he continued to clear the ground, he found that the unknown beast egg continued to absorb the natural energy as well.

Jeremy once again felt that he had made the right decision to come here. This forbidden area was a paradise for him. He then continued to move forward.

He thought he might come across the corrupted beasts living here. But his gaze fell on a poorly maintained structure. Its structure had been taken over by fungus. Half of the metal rooftop was missing.

As he got closer, he saw the holes in the concrete walls. Jeremy's eyes gleamed with delight. He knew this forbidden area used to be a chemical plant.

He had no doubt that the black lake was related to the chemicals. During the start of the mutation, the whole chemical plant underwent mutation as well.

But he hadn't expected to see one of their storage areas.

"It must have been a shed used to store chemical items," Jeremy said to himself.

He was looking for a place to practice. Maybe he could make use of this rundown structure. He had a beast repellent odor with him.

As long as he spread it around the whole shed, no beasts would come near. Then he could arrange a tent to practice inside. As this idea occurred to him, he made up his mind to implement it.

He then walked toward the rundown shed while keeping an eye on the surroundings. He didn't want any corrupted beasts to appear all of a sudden.

As he got closer to the rundown shed, he noticed it had no openings. It was fully open, but the place had been overtaken by vegetation.

Jeremy decided to go around the rundown shed to spray the beast repellent odor as well. He then started to do it.

He began to spray the beast repellent odor on the sides of the shed. Then he quickly finished doing it on all four sides of the rundown shed.

The smell was so disgusting that he doubted the beasts would come near the shed. He then stored the odor bottle in his storage ring.

Jeremy then entered the place. The concrete floors were cracked, and in some parts, they were covered with fungus. But one good thing, though, was the huge vacant space.

As long as he set up the tent in the center, he could have a 360° view around. Even if any corrupted beasts interrupted his practice, he could respond in time.

He then walked up to the middle of the place. The whole shed was over 90 meters in length. When he arrived at the exact spot, he saw that the ground there was covered with concrete.

Though the concrete was old, Jeremy thought it was enough for him to set up a tent. He then spent time taking out the items and poles to start setting up the tent.

It didn't take long for him to complete it. Finally, a tent with ventilation was ready. Jeremy was satisfied with the look, but he was not done yet.

He had poison bombs with him. Jeremy took out the poison bombs and started arranging them around the tent. Even if the beast odor repellent didn't work, the beasts would be destroyed by the poison bombs.

He had brought ten bombs with him, so he continued placing poison bombs under the concrete one by one.

A few minutes later,

He heaved a sigh of relief again. He was working hard on one hand, but his lifeline beast was absorbing the natural energy from this place without breaking a sweat.

Then he confirmed the place's safety once more before entering his tent. He closed the tent before sitting cross-legged on the floor.

He then closed his eyes and started practicing the inner healing method. The pure, rich natural energy entered his body.

As time passed, his breathing method caused the healing energy to be absorbed by the cells. He could feel his cells becoming active. They were absorbing the healing energy like his lifeline beast.

But he was not angry at all. This was the reason why he took all the risks to come here. This forbidden area was a paradise for him. If it weren't for the presence of the black lake, people would have cleared out this place.

Time passed.

It was post-noon when corrupted beasts detected the smell of human prey entering their territory. They followed the scent all the way up to the tent.

But as they got closer to the rundown tent, the bad smell attacked their nostrils. The corrupted beasts were taken aback by surprise and fled from the place as if they were running away from an enemy.

Meanwhile,

Javier's men were already waiting near the university. They got a call from him. When Javier heard that the kid had run into the inner part of the wilderness, he was surprised.

Then he found out that his men had been exposed. He immediately scolded them. If that kid called for help from the university, it would cause trouble for them.

So he asked his men to change the location. More importantly, he also told them to change their suits. The black suits were the reason for their exposure.

Chapter 202: Part 1: Tier-4 Black Crystal Snake

Central University 14:

Daniel Stone and Betsy Lowe meet up for lunch. They couldn't help but discuss Jeremy Night.

"Did you see him?" Betsy Lowe asked.

Daniel Stone shakes his head before saying, "Nope, I haven't seen him since the day before yesterday. I was busy training as well."

Betsy frowned. Usually, Jeremy Night would call them up to inquire about their details. But today he didn't make any calls to them.

"Brother Jeremy must be training at the Joint Training Facility. After the rat beast incident, he seemed to be hitting the facility regularly. He is not even doing any missions," Daniel uttered after watching her expression.

"Mission?" Betsy thought.

She suddenly thinks Jeremy Night might have gone for a mission. But she knows if it's true then their instructor must have known about it.

Her heart wants to call him to check Jeremy's whereabouts. But she stopped. She knows Jeremy Night is strong. He can make decisions for himself. She doesn't want to cross the line.

So she pushed aside these thoughts and started eating.

From beginning to end, Daniel didn't find anything suspicious. He still thinks Jeremy Night is at the Joint Training Facility.

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Forbidden Area:

Time passed by.

When it was close to evening, the unknown egg lifeline beast suddenly started to feed back. Jeremy's body was receiving energy from it.

It didn't take long before his physique evolved to Tier-1, Rank 5 - Mid Stage.

Jeremy's eyes gleamed with a twinkle. He didn't expect to evolve so soon. Even though it's a small advancement, it wouldn't have happened back at the university.

The environment here helped him greatly. If he continues to practice in this place, it would take a few months for him to become a Tier-2 Beast Tamer.

But at the university, it might take him a whole year before becoming a Tier-2 Beast Tamer.

Jeremy then collected his thoughts. He opened the tent and walked out. He saw the sky was already dim. It would be a full night in one or two hours.

He was unwilling to leave the place. Since he has reached mid-stage, he wanted to proceed further. He would be happy if he reached Rank 6 at least before leaving the Forbidden Area.

Jeremy knew it was a huge risk. But he also knew that it was a golden opportunity to increase his progress. Though he was inside the Forbidden Area, his location was actually close to the entrance.

So he was actually safe. As long as the corrupted beasts didn't find him here, he could be safe. After contemplating for a few minutes, he decided to spend the nighttime here.

Even if he was found absent back at the university, he was not afraid. He thought that Instructor Jacob would understand that he had gone for a mission.

So he was not worried about the STRIKER Department members either. They must be busy with their practice.

Then he returned to his tent and started practicing the Inner Healing Method.

Time passed by.

The nighttime came. The Forbidden Area became more deadly. Apart from the daytime beasts, the nighttime corrupted beasts and bugs had started emerging.

The night time in the wilderness was more deadly than the daytime. Even the plants would become blood-sucking beasts during the nighttime.

The deadly insects would even trouble big beasts. The danger of beasts didn't depend on their size. Even a small poisonous bug could kill a high-tier beast.

Jeremy forgot about the outside noise. He was totally immersed in the practice. The unknown egg lifeline beast had found that opportunity was rare.

So it was taking the pure natural energy inside without taking a rest.

Not long after,

The nighttime insects had approached the rundown shed. As the place was covered with dense vegetation, it had attracted these insects to come.

But when these deadly insects got closer, the beast repellent odor attacked them. The odor terrified the bugs. They started flying back from the place.

Jeremy didn't know about all of this incident. As time passed during the night, the activities inside the Forbidden Area became intense.

It was normal for the beasts to appear one after another on the path. Did the beast odor repellent work on all types of beasts? It usually did. But the beasts living inside the Forbidden Area were unlike other beasts roaming in the wilderness.

It couldn't be said that the odor repellent worked on all of them. For now, the odor repellent had successfully driven away the poisonous insects.

Time passed,

At midnight, a black snake with a monstrous body appeared in the west direction, close to the rundown shed.

The strength of the black snake was Tier-4. Its length was over 10 meters. Its crystal black scales had terrifying defense.

The snake was moving forward. The rundown shed was in its way. Jeremy Night had no idea that a Tier-4 beast was nearing him.

Shortly afterwards,

The black snake reached the rundown area. It was about to move past the rundown shed.

Suddenly, the snake picked up the signal of prey hidden inside the shed.

Hiss!

The snake hissed before turning towards the shed. Since it had come across prey, it wanted to check it out. As it got closer to the shed, the beast repellent odor attacked the snake.

Hiss!

The forked tongue came out. The snake quickly felt something was wrong with the smell. The smell was so disgusting that the snake wanted to leave.

But the presence of the prey made it unwilling to go. The Tier-4 corrupted beast was strong compared to other lower-tier beasts.

So the disgusting odor didn't make the snake leave right away. After struggling for a bit, the black snake moved across the vegetation. It broke through the odor and stepped into the shed.

Hiss!

The forked tongue came out again. The black snake immediately felt the presence of prey. It received the signal better than before.

Hiss!

The snake hissed out again as intimidation. It didn't know what type of prey was hidden inside.

Chapter 203: Part 2: Tier-4 Black Crystal Snake

Dilapidated shed:

Hiss!

After intimidating, the black snake started moving towards the prey. It could only sense the prey was not far from its position. The prey was not moving at all. It was staying in one position.

When the black snake got closer, it was actually a few meters away from the poison bomb. The snake's elongated body eventually moved over the concrete floors.

Boom!

The poison bombs hidden beneath the concrete floors were triggered. The next second, the bomb went off with an explosion.

Hiss!

The snake's body was thrown away because of the impact. The shockwave spread across the area. At the same time, a green poisonous gas started to spread as well.

Jeremy, who was practicing inside the tent, was woken up by the practice. He immediately felt a sense of crisis. He opened the tent and saw the scene outside.

The place was covered with green poison gas. Jeremy was shocked to the core. He immediately held his breath and took his katana out.

At the same time, he swallowed an anti-poison pill. The pill would protect him from the poisonous gas.

Hiss!

The next second, he heard a loud hiss coming from outside.

Jeremy broke out in a cold sweat. The sound of the beast was terrifying. He thought that the beast was not a low-tier beast.

It must be a Tier-3 Corrupted Beast or above. Since a dense green poisonous gas had covered the area, it wouldn't be easy for a Tier-4 Beast to come at him.

He had bought this poison bomb to deal with Tier-3 and Tier-4 Corrupted Beasts. But he still had doubts in his heart about whether the powerful poison could affect the snake beast, which was a poisonous beast itself.

Hiss!

The black snake, which had collapsed under the rubble, emerged again. Dents could be seen on its body as the poisonous gas tried to cause holes to appear in its crystal black scales.

Yet the crystal scales on its back were so powerful that the poisonous gas was not enough to completely break them.

Hiss!

The snake hissed out again. It was clearly facing a threat right now. The forked tongue appeared and located the prey.

Swoosh!

Its huge elongated body dashed towards the prey. But the dense poisonous gas had covered the surroundings. If it wanted to reach the prey, it would have to go through the poisonous mists again.

On the other hand, Jeremy realized the threat he was facing. He immediately turned on the gadget and illuminated the area.

Swoosh!

When the light appeared, he saw how the green poison covered the place like mist. The next second, he saw a black shadow enter the mist in a flash.

A hint of fear flashed in Jeremy's eyes. He gripped the katana tightly and started to use the starlight energy. The starlight energy in his mental zone was full.

As he tried to imbue the starlight energy into the katana blade, he saw a huge black snake emerge from the poisonous mists while its back was lit with green flames.

The green flame was nothing but poison that had attached to its back. Jeremy's expression changed drastically. He didn't expect the snake beast to be this fierce.

It basically emerged from the poisonous mists. When the snake beast got closer, he realized that it was a Tier-4 Beast. So fear didn't affect him; he had faced a Tier-4 Beast before.

Compared to the Tier-4 Rat Beast, this one was really dangerous.

"Explosive Steps!"

He used the movement technique to burst forth with great speed. At the right moment, he evaded the direct confrontation with the beast.

Then he purposely started running into the poisonous mist. He had swallowed an anti-poison pill. Despite some skin-burning side effects, he wouldn't die from the poison.

Boom!

The black snake, with its huge body, ramped into the tent. The tent was destroyed on the spot. But the beast had crossed over the poison bomb again.

The explosion occurred. The impact force sent the snake beast flying.

Hiss!

Now the whole snake beast body was engulfed in green flames.

Jeremy's eyes flashed with surprise. He almost forgot about the rest of the bombs under the concrete. If the snake beast appeared again, he would lead it to the remaining eight poison bombs.

Hiss!

But to his surprise, the snake beast fled from the rundown shed and disappeared into the vegetation. Seeing that, Jeremy sighed inwardly.

He still underestimated the corrupted beasts living in this forbidden area. Fortunately, the number of poison bombs posed a threat to the corrupted beasts.

The two poison bombs had forced the Tier-4 Beast to flee. Unless a Tier-5 Corrupted Beast or above came to his area, he could practice here until then.

Jeremy then took back his gadget, which was flashing light right now. He turned off the light. He didn't want the light to attract powerful beasts at midnight.

One Tier-4 snake beast was enough to scare him. Jeremy then started to go through the damaged tent. It could be rearranged. Fortunately, only some of the sheets were torn.

But he didn't mind it. He then rearranged the tent and went inside to lie down. It was impossible for him to use the breathing method right now. It would take a few hours for the poisonous mists to disappear.

So he had to stay quiet for now. On the other hand, his unknown lifeline egg beast continued to absorb natural energy from this place, including the poison.

He smiled helplessly. Then Jeremy closed his eyes and stayed vigilant. The Tier-4 Black Snake had ruined his sleep. He didn't dare to fall asleep again.

Time passed in the blink of an eye.

Eventually, the dark night was gone. The sunrise appeared. Jeremy opened his eyes and stepped outside the tent. He then saw how much destruction had happened last night.

The old concrete floors were completely destroyed. Fortunately, the old rooftop was still there. Otherwise, the whole place would have collapsed because of the last night attack.

Chapter 204: Tier-1, Rank 6- Early Stage

Dilapidated shed:

It's the 2nd morning here. Jeremy is still unwilling to leave the place. He still has these 8 poison bombs left. With the bombs' protection, he can still practice here at peace.

So he started rearranging the tent. He didn't disturb the poison bombs. He also spread the remaining beast repellent odor around the shed.

After a few minutes,

Jeremy returns to the tent. Inside the tent, he sits cross-legged on the ground. He closes his eyes and starts practicing the inner healing method.

He breathes in the natural energy into his body. It is, in turn, being absorbed into every part of his body.

At the same time, the unknown beast egg is using the opportunity to absorb natural energy from the surroundings as well.

Time went by,

The unknown egg evolves again. Its strength rises from Tier-1, Rank-5 Mid to Peak Stage. The next stage is the 6th Rank Early.

With the lifeline beast's evolution, Jeremy receives the feedback in return. His Beast Taming Power further rises to the Peak Stage. He is still one step away from the 6th rank.

Jeremy thinks that tomorrow he will reach the 6th rank as well. So he continues his practice.

On the other hand, the corrupted beasts in the forbidden area have started their activities as well. But they are active in the inner part of the forbidden area.

They are nowhere near the entrance area. Only Tier-2 and Tier-1 Beasts are currently roaming around the entrance place.

Because of Jeremy Night, there is an unknown peace despite practicing inside the forbidden area.

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Central University 14:

A new day, a new challenge again for the beast tamers. The students have started their daily practice. Some attended classes, while others went to the joint training facility.

Betsy Lowe and Daniel Stone started their schedule as well.

Instructor Jacob, who was busy with his task, didn't have time to check out the STRIKER Department members today either. Because of this, he didn't know about Jeremy Night's absence.

Yet there was a person who was curious. That person is none other than May Lindsey. Ever since their battle against the Tier-4 Rat Beast, she has become more interested in him.

She wanted to track his progress so that she could increase the intensity of her training. But she was unable to locate Jeremy Night since yesterday.

A word was that he had gone for a mission. But the students would return to the university before sunset. So Jeremy Night should have returned yesterday itself.

Yet there is no sign of him today. However, she also thinks that Jeremy Night might be taking rest. He will definitely appear in the evening or the next day.

So she put her doubts aside and started focusing on her tasks.

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Outside the university, Javier's men were doing their rounds again. They didn't see the silhouette of Jeremy Night returning to the university.

The news reached Javier's ears. Javier thought that the kid had died in the inner part of the wilderness. He smiled thinking about the incident.

He then immediately called back his men to the office. He didn't want to waste money on a dead kid. His men wasted two precious days.

They could have earned more by completing the tasks of the security firm.

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Dilapidated shed:

Time went by,

The sky turned dark; night time came. Jeremy Night, who had been practicing quietly since morning, opened his eyes.

Since it was night time, the dangerous beasts would start coming out. He needed to be wary of them. So he stopped practicing. Compared to him, his evolution relied on the lifeline beast more.

He could afford not to practice, but that could not be said for the lifeline beast. The unknown beast egg needs huge resources. He wants the unknown egg beast to absorb as much natural energy as possible.

So he puts his trust in the lifeline beast and starts keeping an eye on the surroundings.

Time passed,

Jeremy could sense the beasts passing by his tent. But he didn't dare to move around and make noise. Even for the lower-tier beasts, he let them pass.

He believed that the beast repellent odor would do its job again. He continued to monitor the place. The night chill and dangerous atmosphere made him afraid to sleep.

Time went by,

No Tier-4 or higher beasts trespassed the place. Because of this, he was able to stay quiet. Eventually, morning came, and he could feel movement from his unknown egg lifeline beast.

"Another breakthrough," Jeremy Night thought.

The unknown egg lifeline beast broke the limit of the 5th Rank Peak before reaching the 6th Rank Early Stage. Then Jeremy started to receive the feedback as well.

His cells were absorbing the feedback energy. He could feel his muscles, bones, meridians, and veins getting strengthened at a faster rate.

They came to a stop when his power reached the 6th Rank Early Stage. He remembered May Lindsey was at this level. He didn't know whether she had improved after their duel.

Then Jeremy spent more time stabilizing his new strength.

Time passed by,

At noon, he decided to return. It was his 3rd day in the forbidden area. He didn't know whether his absence had been noted.

Since his goal was achieved, he decided to return. He didn't take those bombs out. It's difficult to retrieve them once they are set.

So he removed his tent and gadget items and collected them into his storage ring. Then he walked out of the rundown shed. Not long after leaving, he came across a few lower-tier beasts.

He had no interest in wasting time on them. So he started heading toward the exit. It didn't take long for him to reach the previous gathering spot.

From that spot, he looked in the direction of the black lake before turning around to leave. He felt fortunate he had found the rundown shed.

He hoped that the old structure would still exist when he returned next time.

Chapter 205: Successfully injuring Tier-4 Hyena beast

Forbidden Area:

Jeremy leaves the forbidden area and returns to the inner part of the wilderness. He is continuing his journey back to the City A Gate.

But he unintentionally finds a group of beasts. A group of hyena beasts is devouring the corpses of their prey. Upon sensing the movements, they turn their heads and discover that a human has entered their territory.

There are four Tier-3 Corrupted Red Skin Hyena Beasts and one Tier-4 Black Skin Hyena, their leader, blocking his path. Jeremy grips his katana tightly without thinking much.

Yells!

The hyenas start yelling at the same time. Jeremy thinks the beasts are going to attack him. What's more surprising is that the Tier-4 Beast is still enjoying the meat.

It doesn't spare a glance at him. Its eyes gleam with a twinkle. Maybe he is carrying the smell of a Tier-1 Beast Tamer. That's why the hyenas are not afraid.

Yells!

The next second, they start charging towards him. They can move fast. So he imbues starlight energy into the katana.

The katana blade sparkles with starlight energy within seconds. In this tense situation, his heart calms down. His talent comes into play. He can see the movements of the beasts clearly.

Slice!

One of the hyenas leaps at him. Its claws are close to his neck. While moving away from the spot, he draws the katana at the beast.

The blade goes straight into the hyena's neck. Blood starts gushing out. He then withdraws the katana before stabbing the next beasts one by one.

In the blink of an eye, four hyenas drop dead on the ground. Their bodies have holes in their necks. The starlight covering the blade has not at all dimmed.

Yells!

The Tier-4 Hyena leader is enraged. Not only did he disturb it during its meal time, but he also killed its members.

Swoosh!

In a flash, the beast closes half the gap in distance. Jeremy's pupils shrink.

"Triple Rapid Cuts!"

Jeremy performs the sword move. He goes forward to slash. The blade in his hands dances before striking the body of the Tier-4 Hyena beast three times.

Yells!

The sword cuts leave shallow marks on its body. Blood starts pouring from the hyena's wounds.

Swoosh!

Jeremy decisively retreats backward. He is satisfied with the attack. Earlier, it was an impossible task to wound a Tier-4 Beast at his level.

Now he could leave a wound behind him. It shows that if his Beast Taming Power is increasing, then the strength of the starlight energy grows as well.

He can tell it's the work of starlight energy. If he were a Tier-2 Beast Tamer, he could kill the Tier-4 Beast in one move.

Yells!

The Tier-4 Hyena's eyes turn blood-red. It has become bloodthirsty. It didn't expect an ant could injure it.

Swoosh!

In a flash, it appears before him to tear him down.

Jeremy controls his impulse. He then executes the same sword technique again.

As time passes, the shallow wounds on the Tier-4 Beast's body increase. On the other hand, Jeremy is rapidly losing the starlight energy.

He knows if the starlight energy is gone, it is impossible to leave a scar on the Tier-4 Hyena.

Boom!

Just as he is momentarily lost, the beast appears in front of him and slaps him away. Jeremy feels like he has been hit by a fast-moving truck.

His body flies backward like a projectile before crashing onto the ground.

Argh!

A low grunt escapes from his mouth. Jeremy feels immense pain in all parts of his body. He can't move for a second.

He then sees the Tier-4 Hyena Beast yelling around. He was careless. A lapse of concentration during the battle is a grave mistake.

He didn't expect the Tier-4 Beast to explode with such speed. Jeremy regrets that he didn't bring a poison bomb with him.

He then thinks of something important before taking out the toad poison bottle from his storage ring. He quickly starts applying it to the katana blade.

The Tier-4 Hyena is busy yelling. Just as he puts the toad poison bottle back in the storage ring, he feels the strong gaze of the Tier-4 Beast.

Jeremy then forces himself to stand up. He roots himself in the same spot and starts using the remaining starlight energy. He doesn't want to hold back.

The katana blade in his hand gleams with starlight energy again.

Yells!

The next second, the Tier-4 Hyena dashes towards him to attack. Jeremy's gaze is set on the beast's leg. It's difficult to kill the Tier-4 Beast with his strength.

Especially at this stage, where he has completely used the starlight energy. He wants to leave a wound on its leg so that it can't chase him down.

When the beast gets closer to him, he sidesteps to attack its leg.

Cut!

The katana in his hand moves before cutting through its left forelimb. The katana blade meets skin resistance but is able to penetrate because of the starlight energy.

Yells!

The Tier-4 Hyena yells out in pain again. Jeremy can feel the mounting pressure of the Tier-4 Beast. He flees from the place the next moment.

The hyena is stunned, but it doesn't give chase. Its front leg is injured. The Tier-4 Hyena beast unwillingly leaves the place.

Time passes.

When the sun has completely set, Jeremy returns to the City Gate. The city guards don't ask him any questions because it is their shift today. They didn't see Jeremy Night two days ago.

So they think that the kid entered the wilderness this morning and returned by evening. After entering the city, Jeremy books a cab.

Jeremy doesn't know he has escaped from a great disaster. If Javier's men were here, they would be shocked to the core.

Shortly afterward,

The air taxi arrives at the spot. Jeremy Night takes it. The driver starts driving towards the university.

Jeremy feels a sense of relief coming back to the city. The forbidden area was quite an experience. But he plans to return next week.

Chapter 206: No one doubted!

Central University 14:

The cab driver dropped him at the university. After paying the fare, Jeremy quietly returned to the university. Soon, he reached his dorm room.

Nobody knows that Jeremy Night had been to one of the Forbidden Areas and returned unscathed. If the forces in City A learned about his actions, they would be shocked to the core.

No one dared to venture out alone into the wilderness. But Jeremy Night did it.

He then entered the bath. He spent 20 minutes in the bath before walking out. He then changed into casual clothes. After lying on the bed, he made a call to his parents and talked to them.

He had been away from the city for almost three days. On the call, he told them he had been to the outer part of the wilderness. His parents naturally believed him.

Those who couldn't reach him on the call considered this possibility. Jeremy spoke for a few minutes before ending the call. He didn't speak much.

All they wanted to know was about his well-being. The recent rat beast disaster had reached their ears as well since it happened in the middle of the city. They were quite worried about that as well.

Fortunately, he didn't tell them about his involvement. He told them that he was busy training at the university. Jeremy then collected his thoughts and checked the other missed calls and messages.

He texted back a reply that he had just returned from the wilderness. He also sent messages to Daniel Stone and Betsy Lowe. They were the ones who had sent him most of the messages.

About 10 minutes later,

He sorted out everything and was ready to face tomorrow. He then closed his eyes and fell asleep.

The following day,

Jeremy woke up on time. After getting out of bed, he started his routine. He then spent 2 more hours getting ready. He then walked out of the dorm building.

He then started walking towards the department building. He thought their STRIKER Department should be located in a separate place.

Currently, they are sharing the building with the Medicine and Machinery Department. His whereabouts were known by them. He wanted to arrive at and leave the department quietly.

So the current department location was not suitable for that. Maybe he should request Elder Derek. He had put him on a dangerous mission. After that, he had not seen him.

He then noticed that the unknown beast egg had become quiet. The natural energy in the surroundings was not satisfying for the beast. It really craved the pure natural energy in the Forbidden Area.

He had just spent 3 days there. He reached from 5th Rank, Early to 6th Rank, Early. Such speed was unreal. Even for S-Grade Talent, they needed at least a week.

"But I have done it in three days," Jeremy thought.

Soon, he reached the department area. He saw other students from different departments as well. When their gazes met, they were startled upon seeing him.

He nodded to them before continuing to walk towards the elevator.

"Hey, guess who's back?"

"It's Jeremy Night!"

"Looks like everyone is right. He has been going to the wilderness alone."

"Sigh, he can fight across tiers, so he can save himself. What about us? We can only form a team."

"Even the S-Graders don't seem to be this fierce."

"Let's go and spread the word. The past three days have been boring without him."

The group of students chatted before leaving for their class.

Shortly afterwards,

He reached the top floor. After stepping out of the lift, he started moving towards the class. When he got there, he saw that he was the first one there.

"They are not here," he muttered.

Then he walked into the room and sat in his seat. He took out his digital device and checked that there were no morning messages from Daniel and Betsy.

More importantly, there was no news of Instructor Jacob. He had thought he would have noticed his absence, but it seemed like he was busy with some other matters.

Jeremy looked around the place before feeling disappointment. When he was practicing inside the tent in the Forbidden Area, he didn't feel the passage of time.

Because he was immersed in practice at that time. Now that he was back, he didn't have an interest in practicing in this environment.

Now he could somewhat understand the mood of his lifeline beast.

"I heard the environment in the top 10 zones is comparable to the Forbidden Area. Even the top 5 zones are better than the other zones," he said to himself.

The recent incident caused by powerful people in City A had made this resolve tighter. He wanted to leave this zone and go to a better zone.

The Beast Taming Association's Tournament was still far away. Until then, he had to stay here. He then collected his thoughts before planning today's schedule. He would visit the library shortly.

Since he had made up his mind to make frequent trips to the Forbidden Area, he wanted to know more details about it. He suspected some vegetation and plants in that place were dangerous.

Meanwhile,

The news of Jeremy Night spread across the first year slowly. There were always people who wanted to keep track of famous students.

It was the topic of entertainment for them. Jeremy's absence made them more worried compared to the STRIKER Department members.

The news quickly reached the ears of May Lindsey. She was not surprised. Like others, she had thought Jeremy Night had been going to the wilderness.

But she didn't know what his current strength was. She would reach 7th rank in one or two days. She couldn't help but think about Victor Scott. Apart from paying attention to Jeremy Night.

She had been keeping an eye on Victor Scott as well. According to her family's intel, Victor Scott was raising his rank as well. She didn't think he would challenge Jeremy Night anytime soon.

Compared to her, Victor Scott was cautious.

Chapter 207: Spotted by suspicious people again!

Wilderness:

Victor Scott was locked in a fight against the Tier-3 Corrupted Beast. His lifeline beast, a spider, was now capable of killing Tier-3 Corrupted Beasts with a single scratch. The spider's venom was potent.

Now it could defeat the Tier-3 Beast easily.

Swoosh!

So he ordered his spider to make a simple scratch on the Tier-3 Hound. The Tier-3 Hound was trying to kill the spider.

But the spider's movements were hard to follow. The spider quickly arrived at the Hound's blind spot and bit it.

Owwwww!

The hound screamed in pain. The spider's poison started paralyzing its body. In the blink of an eye, the hound's organs failed one after another.

It was poisoned to death within seconds.

Victor Scott gave a satisfied look. His spider's poison was terrifying. Unfortunately, he couldn't use it against students during the duels.

If he were allowed to use poison, he thought Jeremy Night wouldn't be his opponent. But for that, his spider had to get near him first during the duel.

His Spider Lord talent gave him absolute control over his lifeline beast. For the past few weeks, he had been doing research on his own talent.

Especially after the duel between Jeremy Night and May Lindsey. The pressure on him had intensified, even though he hadn't expressed anything.

The people had already started to support him. He wouldn't be like May Lindsey. She was caught off guard by Jeremy Night's lifeline beast.

Jeremy's lifeline beast had disrupted her attack at that time. He didn't know what else Jeremy Night was hiding. Before being absolutely sure about his strength, he wouldn't challenge Jeremy Night.

Right now, he thought he was not using his Spider Lord Talent properly. Lately, he had been thinking of something dangerous.

As his talent suggested, he could be the lord of spiders. This meant he could control more than one spider. But he had not heard of anyone having two lifeline beasts in City A.

If he told his family about his crazy idea, they wouldn't let him do it. That's why he was researching on his own. If he could find a way, then his strength would soar. Then he wouldn't be afraid of anyone, including May Lindsey.

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Central University - Library:

Jeremy was reading information about the forbidden areas that were explored by past beast tamers. Each forbidden zone was unique. Some were marshlands that had buried countless bones of corrupted beasts.

The Beast Tamers who had gone there to explore were buried there as well. Compared to such threatening forbidden areas, he thought that Black Lake was not that scary.

Apart from the Heath Family and Dean Carolyn, not many forces knew about the Black Lake Forbidden Area. It was a recently discovered one.

He doubted whether they had shared the information with the City Administration. Right now, City A was not strong enough to explore the dangerous area.

The Black Lake dangerous area was his trump card. He had put his hopes on that place to become a Tier-2 Beast Tamer.

On the other hand, some students noticed Jeremy Night as well. Since he was busy reading books, others minded their own business.

People liked to gossip. They wanted to know about Jeremy Night's strength. Last time, he had defeated May Lindsey. There were no words from Victor Scott as well.

So Jeremy Night was currently the number one student among the first years. They had started watching his movements.

Time passed.

Post-noon, Daniel Stone and Betsy Lowe exited their training room. They decided to see Jeremy Night. It had been three days since they last saw him.

Jeremy, who was in the library, left after receiving a text message from the members.

Shortly afterward, he returned to the department building. Then he saw Betsy Lowe and Daniel Stone in the classroom.

"Brother Jeremy. Where have you been?" Daniel Stone asked.

"I have been going to the wilderness early in the morning," Jeremy lied.

"We thought so," Betsy said.

She then added, "You can already fight against S-Graders and defeat them. Only by fighting in the wilderness can you improve yourself."

Hearing that, Jeremy smiled. He was looking for exercise. But both believed him. He felt sorry for them.

"Alright, what about you guys?"

"Tell me what you have done in the last three days?" Jeremy asked as he sat in his seat.

Time passed.

The three of them chatted until sunset. From them, Jeremy learned about Instructor Jacob. He had been given some important tasks, so he hadn't come in the past three days.

Jeremy sighed inwardly. His trip to the dangerous area went smoothly, and nobody knew about it.

A few days passed.

Jeremy again went to the forbidden area in the wilderness for practice. He used the same excuse as the wilderness training. Others didn't doubt his words.

He then used the same space of the rundown shed to practice. The placed bombs were still there and active. Jeremy had an extra bottle of toad poison with him.

Unexpectedly, he didn't face any corrupted beasts at night. His lifeline beast was absorbing pure natural energy from the surroundings.

Just as the three days went by, he didn't achieve any breakthroughs. He was still at the 6th Rank, early stage. But he was sure that his unknown egg lifeline beast was absorbing energy non-stop.

Then he found out that the successive ranks required a large amount of resources. It was not easy to break through. So he left the wilderness with disappointment. His second trip for practice didn't yield the desired result.

But his lifeline beast was able to consume pure natural energy. After returning to the city gate, he unexpectedly met people wearing black tuxedos again.

He wouldn't forget the two black cars and the appearance of the people. They were the same individuals who had stalked him during his first trip to the forbidden area.

While he was checking them out, they looked at him as well. They were not even hiding their gaze. Jeremy then looked at the City Guards.

The City Guards didn't want to deal with people with unknown identities. So he could only return to the university.

"Leader, it's him."

"The target Jeremy Night. He is alive."

"We were fooled by him."

Javier's men complained to their leader.

Chapter 208: Meeting black tuxedo guys again

City A:

Javier's men came here to confirm the news. after seeing that Jeremy Night was alive and well. They were shocked to the core.

The leader said, "Let's go back and inform the boss."

Earlier, he thought about targeting the brat right here, but he didn't know whether the kid had come out alone or not.

If the University people were nearby, then it could be a troublesome matter for them. So the men in black left the place.

Not long after, they returned to their security firm and informed their boss. Javier was shocked; it was him who had ordered the men to come back.

So he couldn't even vent his anger on his men. He made an error in his judgment. He then ordered his men to enter the wilderness next time to kill the kid.

He had even given up on the idea of teaching that kid a lesson. Anger blinded his judgment. Now he wanted the kid dead.

Javier's master, Rick, didn't know about all of these events. He was staying low-key because of the City Administration Investigation.

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The following day,

Jeremy Night left the dorm building and went to the joint training facility. This trip to the forbidden area didn't yield him any results.

So he decided to concentrate on his practice.

Instructor Jacob had returned not long ago. After knowing that Jeremy had come back, he tried to call him, but he ended the call after thinking that Jeremy might be at the Joint Training Facility.

Time passed.

When it was after noon, Jeremy exited the Joint Training Facility. He then went to the department. There he met with Instructor Jacob and others.

Daniel and Betsy were used to seeing Jeremy Night visiting the wilderness. It was just that their strength was weak; they couldn't accompany him.

"Jeremy, I know it's important for you to train in the wilderness. But don't venture deeper. Even the inner part of the wilderness is not safe for Tier-4 Beast Tamers," Jacob tried to warn.

"I know, that's why I have been roaming around the outskirts," I said to him.

Jacob sighed. He completely believed Jeremy's words. Even if Jeremy said he had visited the inner part of the wilderness, he wouldn't believe him.

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A few days later,

Jeremy left the University for the wilderness trip again. At this time, he was relaxed. His routine of visiting the wilderness was known to Dean Carolyn as well.

Surprisingly, she allowed him to leave whenever he wanted. Jeremy was shocked when he heard the news.

But he thought it had to do with his previous request. Maybe the Dean didn't want to disappoint him. He then collected his thoughts before focusing on the journey.

Soon, he reached the City Gate in a cab. He then stepped out of the cab and paid the fare.

Jeremy didn't want to waste time there. He always suspected that someone was spying on him. His doubts were directed at the men in black tuxedos. He still didn't know their identity.

About 5 minutes later,

He stepped into the wilderness after verification. He then started moving toward the inner part. Not long after, a group dressed in combat uniforms left the place as well.

They were the people sent by Javier. This time they had changed their costumes after listening to their boss's advice. This time they had received orders to kill Jeremy Night.

They were not going to do it here, so they followed him to the inner part of the wilderness.

Time passed.

Due to frequent visits, Jeremy Night became familiar with the path. He wouldn't be wasting time searching for directions and finding routes.

To avoid such headaches, he had carved some marks on the trees. With those clues, he could easily reach the Forbidden Area and then leave.

Just as he found one of the clues he had left behind, he noticed someone coming in his direction. Jeremy's eyes turned cold.

He held the katana in his hand tightly. He stood there and wanted to see what was going on.

Shortly afterwards,

Five men dressed in combat uniforms appeared. Their gazes were directed at him. Jeremy's heart skipped a beat. He recognized the person leading them.

Last time, he saw them at the City Gate. They were the tuxedo guys. He couldn't remember offending anyone.

"Who are you guys?" Jeremy asked.

"Kid, you can run fast. But today is going to be your demise," the middle-aged man said.

A murderous glint flashed in everyone's eyes.

"Catch him!"

"I'm going to break his bones one by one," the middle-aged man said.

Swoosh!

Hearing that, two people from behind rushed toward the kid to capture him. They sensed the aura of Tier-1 Beast Taming Power from the kid.

So they didn't sense any threat at all.

Jeremy imbued the Starlight energy into the katana blade. When the katana blade was filled with starlight energy, the two men rushed to his side.

Cut!

Jeremy drew the sword at them. The katana in his hand went parabolic before slicing through the body of the Beast Tamer.

Pfff!

Blood erupted from the chest wound. Under his disbelief gaze, Jeremy targeted the next person as well. In the blink of an eye, the katana blade left several cuts on their chest.

Pfff!

Blood was gushing from their wounds as they collapsed on the ground. Everything happened within seconds.

The three remaining Beast Tamers were shocked to the core, including their leader. His eyes flashed with horror.

"Explosive Steps!"

Jeremy exploded with great speed to eliminate the rest. The middle-aged man came back to his senses and summoned his Lifeline beast.

A Tier-4 Red Lion appeared, but his aura was at Tier-4 Early Stage. Similarly, the other two brought their lifeline beasts outside.

One was a Tier-3 Black Sand Monkey and the second one was a Tier-3 Iron Tail Battle Scorpion.

The three beasts blocked Jeremy's advancement.

Slice!

Jeremy was not afraid of the beasts. He immediately targeted the Tier-3 Beast Tamers and their lifeline beasts. He would deal with the leader last.

Chapter 209: Deadly Toad poison works!

Wilderness:

Slash!

Jeremy Night confronted the two lifeline beasts. After getting close to their bodies, he slashed at the beasts with his starlight-filled katana blade.

Pfff!

The katana blade cleaved the neck of the Black Sand Monkey; the next second, the blood gushed out like a torrential flood.

Aaahhh!

The contracted beast tamer screamed out in pain. As his lifeline beast died, he experienced a severe backlash. His mental zone was tearing apart.

Jeremy ignored the madman going crazy and targeted the scorpion beast. The scales of the scorpion were strong, but he had faith in his starlight energy.

Roar!

The next second, the Tier-4 Red Lion roared at him. Their group leader was caught off guard. He hadn't expected to lose one more man.

"Explosive Steps!"

Jeremy used the movement technique to reach the side of the scorpion beast. Then he began to stab the abdomen of the beast with his starlight katana blade.

Pfff!

The starlight blade penetrated the beast's body without hindrance. The next second, the scorpion beast let out a noise of pain.

Its massive body turned around to attack him.

Jeremy didn't want to let go of this opportunity. Otherwise, the Tier-4 beast would prevent him from attacking again.

He directed the katana to target the beast's abdomen once more. The katana in his hand moved; in the blink of an eye, he stabbed the beast multiple times.

Pfff!

Like a torrential flood, blood flowed from the wounds. With severe injuries, the scorpion was now close to death.

Swoosh!

Jeremy then appeared in front of the scorpion's contracted beast tamer and plunged the katana blade into his body. The last one died with reluctance.

"Brat!"

"You are seeking death," the middle-aged man shouted.

He felt that the kid was slippery. He had lost one more man within seconds. He realized they had made a huge mistake by not checking the intelligence.

This kid could kill across tiers. Even he started to feel fear as well.

But he still refused to believe that a Tier-1 Beast Tamer could kill a Tier-4 Beast Tamer. The middle-aged man ordered the Red Lion to attack.

"Lion Roar!"

The middle-aged man shouted. The next second, the Tier-4 Red Lion locked its gaze on him. The massive lion beast opened its mouth.

A fierce wind gathered in its mouth like a beam.

Jeremy immediately felt a sense of crisis. He used "Explosive Steps" to escape from the spot.

Boom!

The next second, a fierce wind beam shot at him. He was able to escape in time. The beam struck the empty ground with a loud booming sound.

A massive crater appeared at the spot, and at the same time, the impact force swept away the surroundings.

Jeremy Night was standing at a distance. His eyes flickered.

He knew that the Tier-4 beast was not easy to deal with.

A good idea came to his mind.

He immediately took out the toad poison. He started smearing it on the blade's edge. Before the middle-aged man could find out, he put the toad poison bottle back in his storage ring.

Swoosh!

The next second, he took the initiative to attack, charging towards the Tier-4 Red Lion.

On the other hand, the middle-aged man was disappointed that his attack had missed. But then he saw the kid running towards his lifeline beast.

"Seeking death," his eyes flashed with a mocking tone.

He was aware of the terror of the Tier-4 beast. It could easily kill a Tier-1 Beast Tamer.

"This kid is going to die miserably. It's a pity that I've lost my men," he uttered with hatred.

Stab!

Jeremy's eyes turned cold. He had put his trust in the toad poison. The deadly poison had helped him kill many corrupted beasts.

He appeared beside the Tier-4 Red Lion. He thrust the katana blade into the beast's body with brute force.

Puchak!

The blade went inside the body. The deadly toad poison started to take effect, and Jeremy immediately withdrew the sword.

Roar!

The Red Lion roared in rage. Its massive paw swatted away the prey.

Boom!

Jeremy felt like he was struck by a hammer. His body was flung backwards before crashing to the ground at a distance.

The middle-aged man, watching from afar, was dumbfounded.

"What?" he blurted out.

He couldn't believe his own eyes. That brat had managed to injure his beast. He didn't know how to react. How could a Tier-1 Beast Tamer do that?

He knew Tier-1 Beast Tamers didn't have much strength. His eyes filled with fear. He didn't know what was going on.

A thought of fleeing appeared in his heart.

Roar!

The Tier-4 Red Lion let out a roar. This time it was not because of Jeremy Night's attack, but because of the pain. The deadly toad poison had begun damaging its organs.

It was causing heart-wrenching pain to the beast.

On the other hand, Jeremy Night realized it was the right time to attack the middle-aged man. His lifeline beast wouldn't be able to save him.

Jeremy stood up.

"Explosive Steps!"

Jeremy used the movement technique to explode forward with great speed. He dashed towards the middle-aged man, uncertain as to why these people were targeting him.

He was going to get answers from him.

The middle-aged man felt something was wrong with his beast. He could feel through their connection that his beast was poisoned.

His expression changed drastically. He immediately called his lifeline beast back to his mental zone.

Things had gone beyond his imagination. He felt that brat was abnormal. He could cross-kill. He decided to leave this place.

"Where are you going?"

He heard a loud voice the next second. When he turned around, he saw Jeremy Night coming toward him. His expression changed drastically.

"Damn it," he uttered before fleeing.

Jeremy's eyes narrowed. He had to catch him to get answers. If he lets him escape, he might face another wave of attacks in the future.

Time passed.

He used "Explosive Steps" to try to catch him.

Aaahhh!

The next second, he saw the middle-aged man collapse onto the ground. His face was pale.

His eyes gleamed with a twinkle. He thought the middle-aged man was receiving backlash.

Chapter 210: Discovered the truth

Wilderness:

Jeremy reached the side of the middle-aged man, seeing that he was suffering in pain. He pointed his blade at the man's neck and asked, "Who are you?"

"If you don't tell me, I'll make your death worse," I added.

Hearing that, the middle-aged man's expression changed drastically. He hadn't expected to collapse here. What was worse was that he was at the mercy of a Tier-1 Beast Tamer.

"I don't think your body is strong," the middle-aged man shouted. He had gone mad. Then he leaped forward to attack.

Cut!

Jeremy's eyes flickered. He covered the blade with starlight energy and then swung the sword.

Puchak!

The blade cut through the skin and flesh of the middle-aged man.

Pfff!

Blood splattered.

The middle-aged man was stunned. He hadn't expected his Tier-4 Physique to break. He realized something was wrong with the starlight energy. His eyes reddened with anger.

Jeremy saw that the middle-aged man was not giving up. He calmed his mind. In his eyes, the movements of the middle-aged man became slow.

Slice!

He swung his katana, and the blade sliced through the man's stomach effortlessly. Blood splattered on the ground. The middle-aged man widened his eyes in disbelief.

He noticed that the kid struck him within seconds. Then a look of understanding dawned on him. He thought this kid could be using a Lifeline beast ability. He broke out into a cold sweat.

Tud!

He dropped to the ground as blood leaked from his body. He felt both of his legs go weak. His whole body was becoming ice cold.

At the same time, he was experiencing a terrible headache because of the backlash.

"Save me," he uttered with great difficulty.

Jeremy unsheathed his sword. He looked at the dying middle-aged man with a cold gaze.

He asked, "Answer me. Who is behind you?"

"Otherwise, I'll use deadly poison to attack," he added.

Hearing that, the middle-aged man's last mental defense broke down.

"Our boss, Javier," the middle-aged man said in a low tone. His words were incoherent, but Jeremy was able to understand.

"Javier?" Jeremy muttered.

He heard this name for the first time.

"Which organization are you from?" he asked.

The middle-aged man replied, "Goldcorp."

He had completely lost hope. He should have done thorough background verification of the kid. This kid could use a Lifeline beast ability to kill across ranks.

"It's Goldcorp again," Jeremy's eyes turned icy.

Now he had to find out their reason. Seeing that the middle-aged man's body was turning pale and bloodless, he decided to ask a few more questions.

"Why target me?" he asked.

"Rat beast....," before he could complete his words, the middle-aged man fell unconscious due to blood loss.

But for Jeremy, it was enough. From the Rat Beast, he could connect the dots. The shocking revelation was that Goldcorp was behind the Rat Beast Incident.

It was no secret anymore that the underground passage collapse started from the site located at Goldcorp's construction site.

Everyone was more or less convinced it had something to do with them. The city administration was conducting the investigation, and it had become the main news this week.

But he didn't expect someone from behind the scenes to target him. He didn't know whether to laugh or cry. He had been staying low-key, not wanting to offend powerful people.

But fate made him come across these people again and again. Now he had officially offended them since the middle-aged man revealed the last words about the Rat Beast.

He thought it was connected to the mission they had done. It was he who explored the passage and reported it to the Instructor. He believed that the mastermind behind this incident might have done his research as well.

Since he was connected to the underground passage collapse, he thought this group wanted revenge.

"Goldcorp.. huh?"

"I might use you guys as an excuse to leave this zone," Jeremy said to himself.

He didn't know how Dean and others would respond if they learned about this incident. He doubted whether she would seek justice for him.

Jeremy revealed a smile before shaking his head. Only he could protect himself. Then he saw the middle-aged man had completely lost his blood. He was lying in his own pool of blood, breathing his last breaths.

When his vitality was completely gone, Jeremy left the place and started going back to the forbidden area. Since he had a target behind his back, he felt it was more important to raise his strength.

Time passed.

Jeremy returned to the rundown shed an hour later. Due to his request to visit here, he made this place exclusive for himself.

Apart from him, if anyone entered the place, they would be bombed to death. He had placed so many explosives here that not even a Tier-4 Corrupted Beast could escape unscathed.

Jeremy then entered inside. He walked up to the tent to enter, sat cross-legged on the ground, and started to practice the Inner Healing Method.

The Lifeline beast, his unknown beast egg, was happily absorbing the pure natural energy from the surroundings.

He thought it wouldn't be long before he reached the 7th rank.

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Meanwhile,

Goldcorp's shareholder, Rick, was worn out because of the investigation.

Like him, the other shareholders cooperated with the City Administration's investigation.

The recent disaster was connected to their site and had brought great reputational damage to their organization. Rick acted well to make others believe.

If Goldcorp's higher-ups knew it was all his doing, they would surely kill him. But Rick was tempted by the City Governor's post.

He was doing everything to become the next City Governor. He still hadn't given up on his plan. Then he thought of his assistant. He had asked him to stay low-key. He didn't know what he was doing.

Once the investigation was over, he would leave the place for a while. Then he would come back with a better plan.

The Rat Beast Incident had already caused some reputational damage to the three City Governors.

He thought if something like the Rat Beast Incident occurred again, they would be fired from their jobs.