

STRIKER 261

Chapter 261: Tangled web

Class:

After the small talk, I turned towards the instructor and asked him about the top 10 mercenary teams. Jacob was stunned because he had heard a piece of news from Elder Derek.

But still, he started to explain. Betsy and Daniel were unaware of the situation. They were also interested in knowing about the top 10 mercenary teams.

"The mercenary teams are formed by the beast tamers. The top 10 mercenary teams not only have powerful beast tamers, but they also have rich resources."

"Most of the beast tamers come from the beast taming families. They don't lack resources."

"Most importantly, the city administration gives them tasks to explore the uncharted territory of the wilderness."

"As long as they explore a new area and map it in detail, they will receive huge resources from the city administration."

"Because of this, they have a strong reputation in City A. Even some medium and small-sized beast taming families don't dare to offend them," Jacob said in a solemn tone.

"Gasp!"

"They seem to be too powerful," Daniel exclaimed.

"Every city has mercenaries, but the mercenary team here has a strong background," Betsy said in a calm tone.

"I wonder what kind of resources they get for finding new areas in the wilderness," Jeremy asked.

Jacob's eyes flickered.

He said, "That's why strong beast tamers are needed. As long as we can find new territory, we can expand the human population. We can reduce the human settlements around the cities."

"Then everyone can live in the cities. But it's not an easy task. Countless explorers have died previously. But those who succeed can get resources from the Human Alliance."

"Some of them can normally be seen in the top 10 zones," he added.

Hearing this made the faces of the three change. Resources that could only be seen in the top 10 zones? Jeremy's heart was stirred. He still underestimated the power of the top 10 mercenary teams.

No wonder everyone had that panicked expression.

Jacob saw everyone's reaction, but when his gaze fell on Jeremy Night, he still decided to remind him.

"The leaders of the top 10 mercenary teams are powerful. They are Tier-5 and Tier-6 beast tamers," Jacob said.

"Tier-6 beast tamers," Betsy's eyes shone. Even her grandfather was at that level. He was one of the city governors of City B.

Daniel was shocked as well. He remembered the power of the commanders during the beast invasions was at this level.

Jeremy furrowed his eyebrows. Things were getting bigger each day. If he went after the Red Squad Team, then it would become troublesome.

He could go beyond tiers to kill Tier-4 beast tamers, but Tier-5 and Tier-6 beast tamers were on a different level. They could destroy a city.

If they released their lifeline beasts, then their strength would become even stronger.

Jeremy's mood was heavy. His enemy numbers were increasing day by day. He was starting to feel pressure. He had thought Central University 14 was a giant. They could deter all other forces.

But he was wrong from the beginning. Dean Carolyn wouldn't take action unless something big happened. It seemed like the university didn't have policies to handle this type of problem.

Right now, his resolve to leave this city and go to the top 10 zones for better opportunities has become stronger.

Only if he joined some truly powerful force could he act without worry.

Jacob's heart skipped a beat when he saw Jeremy's downcast expression.

"Alright, if you guys want, you can leave. I'm taking Jeremy to Elder Derek," Jacob said.

Betsy and Daniel nodded to him.

Jeremy nodded to them before leaving with instructor Jacob. They didn't talk until they left the Department Building.

"The City Guard Captain spoke to me last night. Is the news about the Red Squad Team real?" Jacob asked.

Jeremy raised his eyebrows in surprise. He then nodded his head in response.

Gasp!

Jacob took a sharp breath.

"One thing led to another. The beast taming families are really taking care of each other. Their members are connected to the top 10 mercenary teams."

"The mercenary teams are the backbone of the city. If things go south, I guess your wish of leaving City A might come true," Jacob added while walking.

Jeremy's eyes flickered. He didn't expect the instructor to reach this conclusion as well.

He then remained silent until they reached another building. Then they entered the building and quickly came to Elder Derek's office.

Creak!

The door opened automatically. Both of them walked inside. Old man Derek was sitting behind the desk, but his mood was not good.

Upon looking at both, his expression turned serious. He asked them to take a seat.

Jeremy sat in the chair, and instructor Jacob sat next to him.

Jeremy found Old man Derek's gaze on him.

"Kid, what's going on with you?"

"I spoke with Captain Nathan. Things are not looking good for you," Derek said in a serious tone.

Jeremy took a deep breath and relaxed himself. Even he found it hard to digest the news.

He then said, "I think someone posted a kill task in the underground network. A Red Squad Team member might have accepted the task."

"No wonder," Jacob uttered.

"It's possible. Captain Nathan came to the same conclusion. The underground network is a troublesome matter. Only the top 10 zones and other big forces can deter it," Old man Derek said with a sigh.

Jeremy Night felt displeased in his heart. He thought if University 14 was stronger, then why would these beast taming families go against the university's interests?

"Dean Carolyn has heard it as well. She has been under a lot of stress lately. When she heard about this matter, she decided to report it to the city governors."

"Only city governors can deter beast tamers from accepting tasks from the underground network," Derek said.

"She has asked me to stay at the university. Don't take a step outside. If the members of the Red Squad take action, it would be troublesome."

"Captain Nathan is likely going to meet the Red Squad members," he added.

Jeremy was surprised. He didn't expect Captain Nathan to act on this quickly.

Chapter 262: The week flew by

After the meeting, Jeremy went to the training facility to train. Only during the training can he forget about the outside noise. In the training room, he started practicing the new sword arts.

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Red Squad Headquarters:

It's a beautiful multi-storey building. Normally, only large forces have this type of luxurious structure. But the top 10 mercenary teams are different.

They have their own place to stay and train. Right now, Captain Nathan arrives at the beautiful red building. He has a solemn expression on his face.

The security team frowned upon seeing his car and him. But they don't dare to be disrespectful. Captain Nathan told them the purpose of his visit.

The security guards then informed the manager about the news. It didn't take long for another middle-aged man to appear. He is the manager of the Red Squad, Team Alex.

Upon seeing Captain Nathan, he greeted him with a smile and invited him into the building. Inside the building, there are Beast Tamers in training suits going about.

There are female staff behind the desk, explaining things to new Beast Tamers who come to join. Manager Alex took Nathan to his office.

They both went inside and sat in their respective seats.

"Captain Nathan, how can I help you?" Alex asked.

Nathan didn't hide it.

He said, "I want to know if there are any Red Squad members accepting underground network tasks."

Hearing that, Alex's face changed. The underground network tasks are private matters for the Beast Tamers. It's not something they can control.

Alex replied, "Captain Nathan, you must know that no one can offend the underground network."

"We can't interfere in the private lives of the Beast Tamers. But I assure you that the Red Squad team doesn't use underground network tasks to give our members," he added.

Nathan knew that too. He just came here to give them a warning. But he didn't know if it was okay to reveal the name of Jeremy Night. He thought it unnecessary because he only had verbal confirmation of Jeremy Night.

He didn't have any actual evidence that Red Squad members were after Jeremy's life.

"I came here to give you a heads up. We are investigating the underground network. I hope your Red Squad members don't get involved in it," Nathan said with a smile.

Manager Alex's heart skipped a beat. He was going to take this seriously and inform the founders.

Nathan then stood up to leave. Manager Alex accompanied him on his way out.

A few minutes later,

Alex returned to his room. He sat in his seat and made a call to one of the founders who was easy to talk to.

A beautiful female appeared on the video call. Alex greeted her before telling her.

The beautiful woman furrowed her eyebrows. The existence of the underground network is no secret to the Beast Tamers. It can be called the Black Market.

But it's not an ordinary black market. No power in City A can afford to offend them.

She then said, "We can't do anything about it. The underground network provides tasks with huge rewards. There will always be some Beast Tamers who will accept it."

"Just in front of others, don't accept the underground network for some time."

After saying that, the woman ended the call. Alex wiped the sweat from his brow. He was wondering how to deal with this problem. But Miss had given the answer.

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Meanwhile,

Simon, the father of a third-year student, Timothy, was thinking about Jeremy Night. He had posted the task in the underground network.

Normally, someone should have accepted the task. Yet he heard that the kid is doing well. It shows that the kid has returned from the wilderness without any harm.

He really can't go back and inquire. If someone finishes the task, he will naturally know.

"Let the kid live for a few more days," Simon thought.

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A week passed.

Jeremy Night has been staying at the university. He didn't go outside recently. The people who were monitoring him were shocked.

They knew that Jeremy would go to the wilderness twice or thrice a week. But a week passed, and he is still continuing his training.

The more annoyed were the senior students. They couldn't do anything against him inside the university. Billy was having trouble sleeping lately.

He had realized that people failed to complete the task again. He had decided to stop for the time being. He could see that other senior students were getting frustrated as well.

Those who were planning to target him outside were disappointed as well.

Dean Carolyn's statement had deterred them for a week. Now people had started thinking about how to deal with him.

If they let him go, then from next year onwards, the STRIKER Department will appear in the second-year area. If four years pass, then the STRIKER Department would become ten departments of the university, fourteen in total.

Whereas Dean Carolyn, Elder Derek, and Instructor Jacob were happy that Jeremy Night had been staying low-key. If he goes outside, he will return with some problem.

At this time, everyone understood that.

Meanwhile,

The one who was truly frustrated was the Red Squad members who accepted the underground network task. Their target had been staying in the university and had never left.

They had even thought of threatening the target's family to lure him out. But when they found out the target is the son of the City Governor of City C,

They were dumbfounded. They regretted it. But it was too late for that. If they abandon the task, then they will receive black marks. It wouldn't be easy for them to accept another task next time.

They didn't know that Manager Alex had issued a warning to members regarding this exact matter.

Yet they decided to wait. They were not going to miss the opportunity to earn wealth.

If the target goes to the wilderness next time, they will go as well. But they had decided to do it discreetly since the target was high profile.

They didn't want their identity to be exposed. If such a thing happens, not only would they suffer, but their families and the whole Red Squad team could suffer because of them.

Chapter 263: Two S-Graders Challenges him

Training Room:

Inside the room, Jeremy has been training with his new ability. During the experiment, he came across a new way to use the starlight ability.

He can smear the starlight energy on the single-edged katana blade. So he tried to coat the handgun bullets with starlight energy in the same manner.

After a few days of continuous attempts, he successfully fired the bullets coated with starlight energy.

When he tested them on dummies, the targeted spot was obliterated. He gave it a new name: Starlight Bullet.

He couldn't help but imagine firing the starlight bullets at the corrupted beasts. He had no doubt that the beasts would be destroyed.

Unfortunately, he can't go outside. Elder Derek had asked him to stay here. But it's been more than a week. He is still Tier-2, 1st Rank - Mid Stage.

Ever since he left the forbidden area, his progress has slowed down. Even his unknown egg lifeline beast has stopped absorbing natural energy from the outside, as if it dislikes the taste.

Without getting feedback from the lifeline beast, he won't evolve quickly. Jeremy then shakes his head, casting aside these thoughts.

Time passed.

In the evening, he exited the training room and started going back to the dorm room. While walking on the footpath, he heard the conversation of the students.

"May Lindsey has reached the Tier-1 limit. She is the first beast tamer among the first year to do so."

"Damn!"

"Doesn't mean she will become a Tier-2 Beast Tamer before the end of this year."

"It's too awesome!"

"It's the power of S-Grade Talent."

"What about Victor Scott?"

"He has been training with his family lately. No one knows about his real strength."

"I guess his strength must not be weaker either."

Jeremy couldn't help but raise his eyebrows in surprise. He had thought he had left them behind. To think they were just a step away. He thinks he underestimated the S-Grade Talent.

If not for the Forbidden Area, he would have been chasing their backs. He also feels glad that he didn't reveal his true strength.

Otherwise, he would have made more enemies. Jeremy feels a sense of urgency. He likes to take the lead. He doesn't want the two S-Graders to surpass him.

Soon, he returned to his dorm room.

Not long after, he received a message from both Daniel and Betsy. He read the message, and his expression changed the next second.

May Lindsey has called for a rematch. She wants to settle the score with him.

"Looks like the strength of the Tier-1 limit boosted her confidence," Jeremy thought.

He doesn't want to participate. Then everyone will find out his real strength. It would deal a great blow to the S-Graders. Then his strength would attract the attention of unwanted people.

He doesn't want to go through all of this. So he chooses to reject the duel. He has a lot more things to do. He wants to practice his sword and handgun skills in the wilderness.

Jeremy Night decides to find a way to handle it later.

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The next morning,

When Jeremy reached his class, he saw all three of them discussing something. He greeted them inside before sitting in his seat.

He could see a lot of questions in Betsy, Daniel, and Instructor Jacob's eyes.

"Are you going to fight against her?" Jacob asked.

"No," he replied.

"What?"

"Brother, are you not interested?" Daniel asked out of curiosity.

Even Betsy was surprised.

Jeremy is not going to tell them the truth. If they learned about his true strength, they would be scared out of their wits.

"Don't forget, there are hidden enemies after my life. If I defeat May Lindsey, then the Lindsey Family will target me," Jeremy said in a serious tone.

Hearing that, the faces of the three of them showed some understanding.

Buzz!

Jacob's device buzzes with a sound. He sees the message.

"F@ck," he utters a foul word.

Three of their gazes turn towards him. It's rare for Instructor Jacob to lose his composure.

Jacob raised his head and looked at the three of them. His gaze fell on Jeremy Night.

Jeremy furrows his eyebrows. He thinks it has to do with May Lindsey's challenge. But he waits to listen to the Instructor.

"Victor Scott has also issued a challenge against you," Jacob said in a serious tone.

Gasp!

"What? Victor Scott?" Daniel took a sharp breath.

Even Betsy sat up straight. Today, two S-Graders have issued a challenge against Jeremy Night. Is it a coincidence?

Jeremy's eyes flickered with surprise as well. He hadn't expected Victor Scott to wake up as well. He had thought Victor was not interested in this challenge stuff.

Suddenly, a thought came to his mind. It could be possible that Scott Family wanted to do something to him. Then he shakes his head.

He had not exposed his ability or true strength. There is no reason for the Scott Family to target him. Besides, the senior students and the families behind them were already targeting him.

There is no need for the Victor Family to get involved.

"Jeremy, what are you going to do?" Jacob asked.

"I'm not going to fight against them," Jeremy replied.

He then looked at the Instructor and said, "I'm going to visit my parents."

"Impossible," Jacob uttered.

"You can't leave without getting permission," Jacob said.

Daniel and Betsy were confused. This conversation occurred not long ago. They thought Jeremy had already paid a visit to his family.

Jacob and Jeremy also saw their reaction. Seeing that, Jeremy stopped pressing further. Then he thought of an excuse before saying, "Maybe Captain Nathan can help me."

"Let's go to Elder Derek's place," Jacob replied. He is not the one who is going to make the decision.

Betsy and Daniel stood up to leave as well. They have their own daily schedule. In the STRIKER Department, everyone does self-study and training.

It didn't take long for them to get to Elder Derek's office. When they went inside, as usual, he was busy looking at the monitor and going through reports.

Chapter 264: Returning home

Derek's office:

"What now?" Derek asked.

"Elder, he wants to go home and see his parents," Jacob said.

Hearing that, Derek was stunned. Then he looked at Jeremy Night and realized that it was true. They had never heard of Jeremy Night visiting his parents, except for one time.

"I can't decide on this. Let's ask the Dean." After saying this, he called Dean Carolyn.

Dean Carolyn didn't agree initially, but she also realized that it had been a week since Jeremy Night went outside.

She then told him to wait for 10 minutes. In the meantime, she was going to contact Captain Nathan to ask for his opinion.

About 10 minutes later,

Derek got the call from the Dean. She gave permission because Captain Nathan agreed.

"You can leave," Derek said with a smile.

He could tell that there was a lot of pressure on the young man. They couldn't provide safety even inside City A.

Jeremy was taken aback. He hadn't expected the problem to be solved so easily.

Derek saw through his thoughts.

He said, "If it was the wilderness, no one would have agreed. Since you are going to be traveling between cities, no one dares to attack you."

Hearing that, Jeremy nodded. Then he and Instructor Jacob left his office. After returning to their first-year area, Instructor Jacob parted ways.

Jeremy also sent a message to Daniel and Betsy before going back to his room. He thought people would forget about the challenge as long as he was outside of the University.

It didn't take long for him to get ready and exit the university. After reaching the main street, he booked a flying cab to the airport.

About 20 minutes later,

Jeremy walked into the airport. He bought a ticket to City B. Soon, his identity and ticket were verified. He then went to board his flight.

Last time, he had heard about other zones during his journey. He wondered whether he could listen to new information again.

Soon, he arrived at the flight. Looking at the massive flying machine, his eyes flashed with a glint. The flight had some custom-made weapons to deter flying corrupted beasts.

He then entered the plane and quickly found his seat.

About 20 minutes later,

The massive flight took off from the field. No one knew about Jeremy's departure. Even those who had seen him leaving never expected him to visit his family.

When the massive aircraft left the region of City A, Jeremy was able to put his heart at ease. When he was in City A, his heart was under a lot of pressure.

Despite being powerful and promising, he had to stay low-key. The University could only provide some help. They were not going to look after him all day and night.

As time passed, he started to listen to the passengers' conversations. Some of them had traveled across zones and had seen wider worlds.

Jeremy was interested in their conversation.

"Have you heard the Beast Taming Association is looking for talented beast tamers?"

"They have started working for the Best Beast Tamer Competition."

"Yes, the winner of the competition would earn huge rewards."

"But what's it got to do with their recruitment?"

"Anyone can participate in the competition."

A few friends started discussing in low tones, but their conversation piqued the interest of many people. Jeremy raised his eyebrows in surprise.

He too knew about the year-end competition, but there were still a few months left for that event to happen.

Then he didn't think these people were making it up.

"He... He... He..."

"You guys don't know. This special recruitment is done for the Beast Taming Association's internal assessment."

"If any talented genius appears, then they can recommend him to other powerful zones. The Beast Taming Association there will nurture the talent."

"What?"

"It's not easy to become a resident of other zones!"

"Harumph!"

"It's a restriction for ordinary beast tamers. But for talented beast tamers from the big forces, they don't have such restrictions."

"Gasp!"

"You are right."

The group of friends spoke to each other. The other passengers were quite shocked to hear that.

Jeremy's eyes flickered. He didn't expect the Beast Taming Association to have such a process. If he could join, then he could leave the city to enter other zones.

But the problem was he couldn't expose his Lifeline beast. Only in Central University 14 did they overlook that fact because someone recommended him and made his information confidential.

If he joined the Beast Taming Association, it wouldn't be the same. He would have to reveal his abilities, and then it would become troublesome.

The only option he had now was to participate in the year-end competition. If he won the Best Beast Tamer Title, the Dean herself would recommend his name to other central universities.

But then the problem was the STRIKER Department. He had no way to solve that. If the next successive years didn't have talents to join, then the STRIKER Department would decline.

He then cast aside his thoughts before sleeping.

Time passed,

The flight arrived at City C airport a few hours later. It slowly landed on the field. Then the passengers exited the flight one after another.

Jeremy had yet to inform his parents. He wanted to give them a surprise. Then he exited the flight and came to the lobby.

Just as he decided to grab refreshments, he spotted a team of beast tamers wearing red combat suits. It was very eye-catching.

Jeremy took a sidelong glance at their badge. The next second, his pupils shrank. How could he forget them?

"Red Squad Team," he said in his heart.

What were they doing here? They were a mercenary team from City A. What business did they have here?

Jeremy had many doubts in his mind. Then he shook his head. He thought they must be here for their personal matters.

So he glanced at them before leaving. Soon he reached the street and called a nearby cab driver. The cab driver recognized his face. Before he could speak, Jeremy signaled him to calm down.

He then entered the cab and told the driver to head to the Night Mansion.

Chapter 265: News about Regular beasts

City B:

About 10 minutes later,

Jeremy Night reached the Night Mansion. He paid the fare before stepping inside the place. The guards at the gate were dumbfounded.

He signaled to them to stay silent before going inside the building. He then approached the mansion and entered.

He slowly made his way to the living space and saw his mother reading a book.

"Mother?" Jeremy called out.

Nora thought she was hallucinating. But when she turned around, she saw her son in front of her.

"Son," Nora uttered in surprise.

Jeremy quickly went to greet her. Then he spent an hour talking to her. By the time the Family Head, Ron Night, heard of his return as well.

He had decided to return home as early as the evening.

Nora then decided to cook her son's favorite food, so she stood up to leave. Jeremy then returned to his room.

Creak!

After returning to his room, he closed the door and went to take a bath. He spent 20 minutes in the bath before changing into comfortable clothes.

He then lay on the bed. He felt he had done the right thing by coming here. He felt a lot more relaxed now. It's just that he couldn't help but think about the Red Squad Team.

He was curious about their visit here. His father was going to return by evening. He would then find out the details.

Time passed.

Ron Night returned to the mansion at dusk. He had been facing problems lately. But the news of his son's return had wiped out his worry.

Jeremy was in his room when a servant came and informed him about his father's return. He then exited the room and went to the study to see him.

When he arrived there, he saw his father sitting behind the desk. But his complexion was not good, as if a mountain of trouble was weighing down on him.

"Father, what happened?"

"Your face doesn't look good," Jeremy asked as he sat opposite him.

Ron was taken aback. He was the one who was supposed to be asking this question. But his son had figured out his condition faster.

"I'm fine, my son. But you are the one facing an unknown threat," Ron replied, speaking about the assassination attempts.

"We have a vague idea about the killers, but they don't dare to kill me. It is the final straw of Dean Carolyn. She has already reported some of the family's actions to the Human Alliance," Jeremy replied in a calm tone.

Sigh!

Ron let out a sigh. He knew about the Beast Taming Families as well. It's not easy to accuse them. They then started to talk about the good things.

Jeremy recounted his experience. He revealed that his strength had surpassed the Tier-1 limit. Now he was a Tier-2 Beast Tamer.

Ron Night was taken aback by this surprise. Then he started laughing in joy. He could tell that his son would be able to take care of the enemies by himself in a few years.

An hour later,

Jeremy changed the topic again and asked what was going on with his father.

"A member of the top mercenary team has come to the city. Their mission was to steal the cub of the Iron Winged Panther."

"The female Iron Winged Panther is living together with its male partner. Both of their strengths are Tier-5. Recently, the female Iron Winged Panther gave birth to a male cub."

"They are living deep inside the wilderness. Yet, their existence was known to this Mercenary Team. Now they are seeking help from the City Administration."

"We three City Governors were against them. If the cub is gone, then the panthers' anger could turn against City C."

"But despite our rejection, they are still staying in City B," Ron Night said with anger.

Jeremy Night was caught off guard. He thought of other possibilities, but he never expected the Red Squad Team was after the panther cub.

Then he thought of something before asking, "Father, is it a Regular or Corrupted Beast?"

Hearing that, Ron's eyes flashed with a gleam.

He said, "It's a regular beast. This kind of beast is hard to find outside because their habitat is also invaded by corrupted beasts."

"I guess this panther couple is facing a threat from the corrupted beasts as well," Ron added.

Jeremy nodded his head. He knew that their lifeline beast was a regular beast. It's just that regular beasts live in the wild.

They have a wild nature compared to the lifeline beasts of the Beast Tamer. Now, the problem has come knocking at the door.

Jeremy Night wouldn't be staying silent.

He asked, "Father, what's their strength?"

"There are three Tier-4 Beast Tamers. Their team leader is a Tier-5 Beast Tamer," Ron replied.

Jeremy sighed inwardly. He could handle this level of combat power. With his new abilities, he was not afraid of facing Tier-5 Beast Tamers.

Then they talked about a few other things before Jeremy left. He had decided to enter the wilderness. He was going to stop their actions.

If they insisted on causing trouble, then he wouldn't mind killing them. Fortunately, he had the essential things in his storage ring. He didn't have to buy anything from the local stores.

Time passed.

At dinner time, the family of three had a good dinner. The dinner was filled with good laughter and talk. Jeremy shared his ambition of leaving City A at the dinner table.

Ron and Nora Night supported their son's ambition. Then they talked about their son's lifeline beast.

The resources needed by the unknown beast egg could be found in the top 10 zones. Because they knew their son's lifeline beast was not an ordinary beast, they were shocked to hear that the unknown egg had not hatched yet.

Nora learned the truth about her son's real strength. After knowing that her son had become a Tier-2 Beast Tamer, she was shocked to the core. She took time to digest the information.

Nora talked to her son about his grandfather. Jeremy promised her that he would pay a visit to them later.

After dinner, Jeremy returned to his room. He was now planning to enter the wilderness. He had a feeling that he could encounter the Red Squad Team members soon.

Chapter 266: Iron-winged Panther!

Mansion:

At midnight, he exited the room and slowly went to the main door to leave. The maids were asleep at that time, so he quietly left the mansion through the main door. But then he faced the next problem.

The night family guards were awake. They were doing night patrols. He used his eye ability to monitor their movements. When they were not paying attention, he slipped away from the main gate.

Only after leaving the mansion and coming to the street was he able to relax. Jeremy then quickly found an aircab. As usual, the cab driver recognized him, but he asked him not to disclose his whereabouts.

The cab driver realized that young master Jeremy might be here on a mission, so he stopped asking further questions.

He drove the cab towards the main gate. It only took a few minutes for the flying cab to reach the main gate. The cab landed on the ground. Jeremy stepped outside and paid the fare.

He then turned around and started walking towards the City Gate. A few beast tamers were entering the wilderness at night. He joined the queue and stood behind the last person.

The City Guards were shocked to see him there, but he signaled them to stay silent. Like others, they mistook the purpose of his visit; they thought young master Jeremy had come to complete a mission.

Jeremy then exited through the city gate and entered the wilderness. He still didn't know whether the Red Squad Team had entered the wilderness.

In order not to make his father suspicious, he didn't ask about the Iron-Winged Panther's whereabouts.

He then came to a hidden spot and continued to watch the entrance. There were beast tamers coming in and going out.

He couldn't see the Red Squad Team members. He didn't know if he was in a hurry; he should have inquired about them before coming here.

Commotion!

Suddenly, a commotion occurred. The sound was so loud that he could hear it from this distance. Then he used his eye ability to zoom in.

In the middle of the beast tamers, he saw three Red Squad members walking in, wearing their famous uniforms. The City Guards and the veteran beast tamers around them recognized the uniforms.

That's why there was such a loud commotion.

"Ha...Ha...Ha..., what timing?" Jeremy let out a small laugh.

He had been worried earlier, but he didn't expect them to arrive so soon. This reduced the problems for him.

Jeremy then waited for them to enter the wilderness.

Shortly afterward,

The trio entered the wilderness. Their likely destination was the habitat of the Iron-Winged Panthers.

He felt glad that he had come here on time. Even if there had been a delay later, the Red Squad members would have succeeded in getting the panther cub.

Swoosh!

Then he started following them. With his eye ability, he could spot them from a long distance. There was no fear of losing them.

Time passed,

The trio ventured beyond the inner part of the wilderness and entered the core area of the wilderness. This was where the high-tier beasts lived in large numbers.

The Red Squad members were experienced. They were discreet in their actions, moving without making any noise. They only moved from their spots when the area was clear.

For Jeremy, it was a learning experience. He was witnessing how a top mercenary team operated in real-time. It was a valuable lesson for him, but it was a pity that they were disregarding the safety of City C. So he was going to end their lives.

Time flew by,

Because of the Red Squad members' cautiousness, Jeremy avoided the territory of the high-tier beasts by following them.

They had not encountered a single high-tier beast so far. Now they had reached the dangerous, uneven terrain.

It was risky to walk on the sharp, rock-filled land. The trio effortlessly jumped over the pointy rocks. They had a clear destination in sight.

Jeremy furrowed his brows. He was seeing such terrain for the first time as well. He hadn't heard about land filled with rocks before.

The place looked like the aftermath of some disaster. There could have been a large mountain, which was later destroyed for some reason.

Jeremy then cast aside the thoughts and continued following them. Right now, he was not carrying a weapon in his hand. If he encountered any immediate danger, he could use his handgun to deter it.

Not long after, a hill came into view. The trio stopped a short distance away and began assessing the cave.

Upon seeing them, Jeremy stopped in his tracks and hid behind a rock. He saw the small hill as well and guessed this was the place where Iron-Winged Panthers lived.

His eyes flashed with surprise. He had never come this far before. Even before joining Central University, he had only reached the inner part of the wilderness.

He was happy in his heart that he was able to come here safely. Now he had to eliminate the trio and return safely.

Roar!

The next second, a loud roar disrupted his thoughts. When he turned around and looked ahead, he saw a black-winged beast over 15 feet tall confronting the trio.

Jeremy used his eye ability to observe the beast. Its entire body was pitch black except for its blue beast eyes.

The wingspan was over 20 feet and black as well. The edges of the wings appeared to be sharp blades. He understood where the name "Iron-Winged" came from.

The trio from the Red Squad was afraid of the wings. Jeremy began to worry. He knew the Iron-Winged Panther wouldn't be able to defeat them.

Because the trio had yet to summon their lifeline beasts. If the lifeline beasts appeared, they could pose considerable threats to him.

Jeremy then removed the handgun from the case and held it in his right hand, zooming in his eyes to find an appropriate target among them. Finally, he set his gaze on the first one and readied to shoot him.

Chapter 267: Part 1: Killing the Red Squad Members

Wilderness Hill:

Jeremy uses his eye ability to zoom in on the target. His gaze locked on the target's head. The next second, he began to cover the bullets with starlight energy. In the blink of an eye, his magazine is filled with starlight bullets.

Bang! Bang!

The next second, he fired the shots. The rounds of bullets blazed through the air before striking the target's skull. The starlight bullets pierced through the Tier-4 Beast Tamer's head.

Puchak!

The spray of blood hit the ground. The lifeless body of the Beast Tamer dropped dead.

Roar!

Taking this opportunity, the Black Panther roared before smashing the head of a nearby Beast Tamer. The Beast Tamer was caught off guard.

The Tier-5 Beast's paw struck his head. The next second, his head burst into pieces like a watermelon. The last one standing started fleeing.

He was coming in Jeremy's direction. Jeremy used his eye ability to target the person.

Bang!

The next second, he fired. In a flash, the starlight bullet hit the bullseye. The bullet drilled through his head before his corpse fell to the ground.

In the blink of an eye, three Tier-4 Beast Tamers lay dead on the ground.

Roar!

The Black Panther roared loudly. It had found another human prey lurking.

Jeremy collected his thoughts before looking at the panther. He then stepped outside and stood not far from the beast. Looking up at the massive 20-foot tall Black Panther, he suppressed the fear in his heart.

He said, "I don't know whether you can understand human language, but this place is not safe for you and your family. Go to another place to settle."

"Roar!"

The Black Panther roared as if it understood something. Then its blue eyes flickered before it flew away from the spot.

Phew!

Jeremy heaved a sigh of relief. He didn't know whether the beast had understood his words or not. But still, there was one more person to deal with.

He wondered whether his starlight bullet could puncture the skull of the Tier-5 Beast Tamer. But he was glad to know that he could deal with Tier-4 Beast Tamers with ease.

Swoosh!

Jeremy then turned around to leave. While making his way back, he couldn't help but think about the Tier-5 Beast Tamer.

If the Tier-5 Beast Tamer found out that his teammates hadn't returned, he would surely enter the wilderness to find them.

Jeremy's eyes flickered. He didn't like unfinished business, but he knew the gap between the Tier-2 and Tier-5 Beast Tamers. The Tier-5 Beast Tamers could act as City Governors here.

However, their position wasn't that great in City A. They could only be Captains of the City Guards or Leaders of the Mercenary Teams.

Jeremy decided to return the next night as well. He wanted to ensure the panther family had left the hill. If they were gone from this place, then City C would be safe.

With resolve, he started to move faster.

Swoosh!

In a flash, he left the rocky terrain of the hill and entered the normal wilderness ground.

Squeak!

Not long after, he heard a sound nearby. In the nighttime, he didn't know what it was. As he continued further, he heard the same sound again.

This time, he became alert. Either he was targeted by some beast, or he had trespassed into some beast's territory. He then cast aside the thoughts before continuing his journey.

All of a sudden, he felt a sense of crisis. With his eye ability and heightened senses, he quickly identified the threat.

Squeak!

It was a 5-foot tall and 18-foot long spiny rat. It's a Tier-4 Beast. After recognizing the beast, his expression changed drastically. Compared to the rat beast that caused the underground collapse in City A, this one was even more dangerous.

This particular rat beast was a meat eater. No wonder it came toward him. Jeremy thought this corrupted rat beast must be seeing him as prey.

But he didn't have time to waste. So he used his handgun to target the beast again. He could have used the katana, but he wanted to deal with this suspicious beast from a distance. He had no idea about what the bloodthirsty beast was carrying.

Bang! Bang!

Jeremy zoomed in on the rat beast's head and fired the gunshots. In a flash, multiple starlight bullets punctured the head of the spiny rat beast.

Its large body fell to the ground. Jeremy glanced at the corpse before leaving.

Swoosh!

He continued his journey.

Time flew by.

After the morning sunrise, he arrived at the city gate. He wore a mask and then walked into the city. He found a flying cab nearby and told the driver to go to the Night Mansion.

The driver nodded before taking him toward the Night Mansion. Jeremy sat in the back seat. Today's lesson was fruitful for him. He hadn't expected to encounter intelligent Regular Beasts.

He thought that the panther understood his language. If the panther left the territory with its family, it would be good for City C.

He then thought of something important. He had left behind the corpses. But the bullet wounds were visible; they couldn't be hidden. If their leader found out, it would be troublesome.

But then Jeremy thought that the chances of that happening were very low, so he pushed the thoughts out of his mind.

About 10 minutes later, the driver dropped him in front of the main gate. Jeremy paid before walking toward the gate. The guards opened the gate upon seeing him.

Jeremy then entered the place and started walking back to the mansion.

The guards exchanged shocked looks because they had never seen their young master exiting the mansion. Either they had been asleep or had failed to find their young master.

They didn't know whether City Governor Ron would punish them. They were not going to disclose this matter to Lord Ron.

On the other hand, Jeremy entered the mansion and started walking back to his room. Soon, he reached his room. After entering, he closed the door and went to take a bath.

Ron Night had already left for his office. Only Nora Night was asleep. They both thought Jeremy was resting in his room.

Chapter 268: Part 2: Killing the Red Squad Members

After taking a bath, Jeremy changed his clothes and went to bed.

Time flew by.

Jeremy woke up pretty late. No one disturbed his sleep. After getting out of bed, he started doing his morning routine. He spent an hour doing that before he went to the bathroom.

About 20 minutes later,

After getting out of the bath, he changed into his comfortable clothes and began to get ready. He then exited and went to the living room.

Jeremy saw his mother reading a book. His arrival was noticed by her.

"Are you hungry?"

"I'll ask the maid to bring you some food," Nora said.

"No, mother. I'm going outside. I'll have something on the way," Jeremy replied.

"Oh," she raised her eyebrows in surprise.

She then thought it could be a mission. So she didn't ask further.

Jeremy nodded to her before leaving. He knew that his father would have already gone to the office. After exiting the room, he quickly reached the main gate.

The Night Family Guards wanted to accompany him, but he rejected their offer. He didn't want to attract any attention. He then wore the mask before leaving through the gate.

He then made his way to the main street down the lane. Soon, he found a flying cab. The driver was a middle-aged man speaking to other drivers.

Upon seeing him, the cab driver quickly approached.

"Go to the coffee shop near the city gate," he told the driver.

The driver nodded, and then he hopped inside the car.

Swoosh!

The car hovered in the air before heading towards the destination.

About 10 minutes later,

The driver dropped him in front of the coffee shop. He paid before turning towards the shop. It's a luxurious establishment. From the fourth floor, you can get a good view of the city gate.

Especially of the people who are coming and going. He didn't think that the Red Squad Team Leader would have already entered the wilderness.

He must be waiting for his members to return this morning. He then entered the building. The staff greeted him. He nodded to them before entering the lift to reach the fourth floor.

Shortly afterwards,

He arrived at the fourth floor, where there were no walls. It's an open rooftop. You need to pay a high price to enjoy coffee here, so not many people come.

Jeremy then went to the desk near the edge. From there, he saw the city gate where people were lining up in the queue. He could even see the people waiting outside the gate with his eye ability.

He was getting a close-up view of the people there. If the Red Squad Team Leader appeared, he would spot him easily.

He sat on the chair comfortably. The staff came to take orders. Jeremy ordered cold coffee and then waited for his target to appear.

The staff was taken aback upon seeing a masked customer, but he didn't dwell on the details. He quickly went back to collect the order.

As time passed, Jeremy used his eye ability to zoom in and began to observe the people. The vision was so clear. He thought it would be good if there was audio support.

After the staff arrived, he took the coffee and started to enjoy it.

Time flew by,

Jeremy finally saw a red silhouette approaching the city gate. Jeremy zoomed in on the person. He saw a middle-aged man with a thick beard wearing the Red Squad Team uniform.

His appearance caused a commotion. The beast tamers surrounded him, asking for autographs. Everyone was aware of the Red Squad Team's popularity.

It's not every day you can see one of the top 10 Mercenary Teams in City C.

Jeremy's expression turned serious. He quickly left the place and went to the first floor. He then went to the counter and paid the amount.

Shortly afterwards,

He started rushing towards the city gate. When he joined the queue, he saw that the middle-aged man had already entered the wilderness.

Then, in front of his eyes, he summoned his lifeline beast, which was Iron-Eagle. Realizing it was a flying-type lifeline beast, his expression darkened.

He thought that the middle-aged man would reach the destination in a short span of time. He felt a sense of urgency. Unfortunately, he couldn't use the flying vehicles outside because he didn't have one.

He then saw the middle-aged man leave the place on his eagle. Soon, it was his turn. The Guards were again surprised because they had seen him not long ago.

But Jeremy signaled them to be quiet. He then entered the wilderness and started rushing towards the place without thinking further.

Time flew by,

Jeremy remembered the route crystal clear in his mind. As long as there were no corrupted beasts blocking his path, he would reach the hill area soon.

An hour later,

The middle-aged man with a thick beard had already reached the hill area. Now, with the help of his lifeline beast, he was searching for the Iron-winged Panther.

At the same time, he was searching for his members. At that point, he was sure that they had died. He thought that they had likely perished at the hands of the two Iron-Winged Panthers.

Only the attack of two Tier-5 Beasts could kill his friends in such a short time because his members also had their lifeline beasts.

Even if it was a Tier-4 Beast, the three of them could handle a single Tier-5 Regular Beast. He thought the appearance of one more beast would have spoiled their plans.

He was enraged. If he found the beast, not only would he steal the cub, but he would also kill both of its parents. Then he would cook and eat it.

If not for someone awakening a suitable talent related to the Iron-winged Panther, they wouldn't have bothered to come here.

Now things had changed. They had lost members. He couldn't answer to the higher-ups. They would be extremely disappointed. So he didn't want to go back without finding the corpse or killing the beasts.

Chapter 269: Eliminating the Tier-5 Beast Tamer.

Time flew by.

Jeremy reached the destination two hours later. It was not easy. He had been running non-stop. After arriving at this rocky terrain, he stopped his movements and started to move across carefully.

It didn't take long for him to arrive at the previous spot where he had killed the Red Squad members.

Cry!

The next second, a loud bird cry was heard. Jeremy's expression changed drastically. He raised his head and saw an eagle beast flying overhead.

He caught a glimpse of someone standing at the back of the beast. Jeremy was sure that he was a Tier-5 Beast Tamer from the Red Squad team.

He hadn't expected another party to be flying over his head.

Swoosh!

He then swiftly rushed out toward the cave-like structure. He thought that the Iron-winged Black Panthers must have left yesterday.

Otherwise, the Red Squad team leader wouldn't be waiting here.

On the other hand, the middle-aged man with a thick beard noticed something wrong. He was searching for the Red Squad members' corpses.

Not even he had seen their corpses. The trace of the Iron-winged Black Panthers was lost as well. It was a great failure.

Suddenly, upon seeing a Beast Tamer trespassing in the area, he felt suspicious.

"Go down," he ordered his lifeline beast.

Cry!

The Giant Eagle dove down the next moment. In the blink of an eye, it touched down on the ground with amazing stability.

The middle-aged man landed on the ground. He then called back his lifeline beast. He saw the trespasser heading for the cave structure.

Unfortunately, he couldn't see through his strength. But he believed the other Beast Tamer must be a Tier-5 Beast Tamer because only Tier-5 Beast Tamers and above could come to this core area.

Otherwise, they would be killed by higher-tier corrupted beasts.

Meanwhile,

Jeremy was inside the panther's living cave. He was looking at the many skeletons inside. He thought they were the bones of the prey eaten by the panthers.

He didn't have time to fully explore this cave because he saw the Tier-5 Beast Tamer landing on the ground. Now he was going to confront him.

His gaze fell on the holster. He didn't know whether the Starbullets could hurt a Tier-5 Beast Tamer. The Tier-4 Beast Tamers had shown some resistance during the attack yesterday.

So he had decided to use his katana blade.

Swoosh!

He held his katana sword in his right hand and got ready to confront the enemy. Not long after, he noticed footsteps nearing the cave.

Upon hearing that, he started to cover the katana's single-edged blade with starlight.

The middle-aged man walked inside the cave. He knew that the Beast Tamer was inside. His eyesight became sharper. His talent was related to sight.

That's why he had contracted with the Giant Iron Eagle. Inside the cave, he could see clearly. When his gaze fell on the Beast Tamer, he was stunned.

The next second, his eyes widened in disbelief.

"How is this possible?" he asked himself.

Because he found that the Beast Tamer was Tier-2, not a higher-tier Beast Tamer. Did he belong to a Beast Taming family?

He knew some Beast Taming families allowed their children to enter the core area with their entourage to train.

But he saw the sword in the Tier-2 Beast Tamer's hand pointing at him. The next second, he assumed that the Tier-2 Beast Tamer was lost, probably left behind by his entourage.

So he casually walked up to him. He was not worried about being harmed by a Tier-2 Beast Tamer. He had confidence in his strength.

Jeremy Night was taken aback. He was prepared to attack him. Seeing that their leader was casually coming toward him, he pondered his options. He was not going to make a mistake.

If he let this person go, there was a chance that things could go wrong. So he decided to attack.

"Rapid Triple Cuts!"

Jeremy brought his sword forward to attack. He moved in rapid succession to execute the first move. The starlight-filled sword aimed at the man's neck.

The middle-aged man was startled. His heart surged with anger. He had hoped for a conversation, but he never expected the Tier-2 Beast Tamer to attack him.

His eagle-like eyes saw the sword coming at him clearly. He could figure out that the other party was aiming at his neck. He swiftly moved his body.

At the same time, Jeremy used his eye ability to observe him. Seeing that the enemy was moving at the last moment, he adjusted his sword immediately.

Cut!

The blade came down forward, slicing through half of the upper arm bone. But it couldn't go further.

The middle-aged man's eyes shrank. He couldn't believe he was hurt. He used his eye ability to move within a fraction of a second.

Yet the Tier-2 Beast Tamer had adjusted at the last moment to attack him. He then retreated backward.

Jeremy had to withdraw the sword to attack again. This all happened within seconds.

He sighed inwardly. He knew the physique of a Tier-5 Beast Tamer was a lot stronger than that of a Tier-4 Beast Tamer because each evolution brought a lot of transformation to the body.

That's why his new starlight energy couldn't overpower the Tier-5 physique. He guessed if he was a Tier-3 Beast Tamer, he could have easily killed him.

"Who are you?" the middle-aged man shouted. His right arm was severely bleeding. The blood drops were hitting the ground.

A hint of fear could be seen in his eyes because it was incomprehensible to him. How could a Tier-2 Beast Tamer hurt him?

Jeremy's eyes turned cold. He didn't want the Tier-5 Beast Tamer to escape. Since he couldn't cleave his body in two, he decided to put his trust in the handgun.

He immediately removed the gun from his case and held it in his right hand. He covered the bullets with starlight energy in a flash.

The middle-aged man sensed something was wrong when he saw the handgun. Before he could turn around and escape, he heard a gunshot.

Bang! Bang!

Jeremy fired a continuous round at him. He used his eye ability to lock onto the other party's eyes. The starlight bullet tore through the air before piercing the middle-aged man's eyes.

The starlight bullet didn't stop before striking his brain.

Puchak!

Blood sprayed on the ground as the lifeless corpse fell to the ground.

Chapter 270: Smooth return

Phew!

Jeremy heaved a sigh of relief. He looked at the handgun with a smile. He thought he made the right decision by learning handgun skills.

More importantly, he was glad that he found a way to use bullets. The starlight bullets really helped him today. He was going to treat them as a trump card.

Next, he decided to take care of the corpse. After getting close to the corpse, he removed the storage ring and began to inspect it. He thought Tier-5 Beast Tamers had huge resources.

The next second, he found a lot of boxes. The boxes must have expensive items stored inside. He took one of the boxes out to see what was inside.

He removed the cover and saw a bright blue fruit. The fruit was oval in shape. He didn't know about the fruit. Before he could put it back, a huge suction came from his mental zone.

The blue fruit in his hand started to disintegrate. The blue energy was being sucked by the unknown beast egg. In the blink of an eye, the blue fruit in his hand was gone.

Jeremy's heart skipped a beat. If he took out the other boxes to check, then it was possible for the lifeline beast to absorb everything. He then put the storage ring into his ring. He decided to do the checking later.

He then began to take care of the corpse disposal.

About 20 minutes later, he left the place. He had dumped the corpse in a safe place. No one would be able to find it. Even if someone found out later, they would only see bones.

He thought that corrupted beasts would soon raid this ownerless place.

Swoosh!

He then started going back toward the city.

Time flew by,

Jeremy returned to the city a few hours later. His return journey was smooth. Some Tier-3 Corrupted Beasts attacked him, but he killed all of them.

Before joining the university, the Tier-3 Corrupted Beasts had been considered dangerous to him. But everything has changed now. He could kill a Tier-5 Beast Tamer.

If others learned about his feat, they would be shocked to the core. He had skipped 2 tiers to kill a Beast Tamer.

He then entered the city after checking. Seeing that there were two hours left before dusk, he quickly found an air cab to return.

About 20 minutes later,

Jeremy returned to the Night Mansion. The Night Family guards and the servants thought he was coming back from a mission, so no one asked anything.

He then walked into the building and went to greet his parents. His mother was in the living room reading books. He then sat on the sofa and started chatting with her.

Nora thought her son had returned from a mission as well. She didn't inquire about the mission.

A few minutes later,

He returned to his room. Jeremy finally put his heart at rest. His father was still at the office, so no one knew what he had done. He then went to the bathroom to take a bath.

He spent quite some time in the bath thinking. He was now considering the Red Squad Team's response. He couldn't continue to stay here.

He knew that the Red Squad Team would definitely send another team to investigate. He hoped that they would return without getting any clues.

Then he completed his bath before stepping outside. He changed into his comfortable clothes.

Time flew by,

Late at night, right after dinner, he began to have a serious conversation with his father about the killers inside the study room.

"What do you think?" Ron Night asked.

Hearing that, Jeremy furrowed his eyebrows. Obviously, he was not going to tell the truth because the forces involved were too big.

"Father, don't worry about it. I have a plan in mind," Jeremy replied before explaining his plan to leave City A.

As long as he went to the top 10 zones to join a better force, he would take care of the problems directly.

A few minutes later,

Ron Night understood his son's plan, but there were challenges.

"Apart from Central University, it's not going to be easy to join some other forces. They will ask you about the lifeline beast," Ron said.

"I hope it will hatch soon," Jeremy said.

There was another reason why he wanted to go to the top zones. They had an abundance of resources. He was thinking of hatching the unknown beast egg with those resources.

Then they spoke about a few other things before Jeremy returned to his room. Now he felt more relaxed at heart. He had explained everything to his father.

Except for the names of the forces who were after his life. He could leave for City A tomorrow.

The next morning,

Jeremy had breakfast with his parents. They understood that their son was going back to the university. Jeremy promised them that he would visit them twice a month.

About 20 minutes later,

Jeremy left with his father. His father was going to drop him off at the airport. It didn't take long for them to reach the airport. Jeremy was still thinking about the Red Squad Team.

Jeremy then stepped outside of the car. He thought of something before saying, "Father, if there is news about the Red Squad Team, then don't forget to tell me."

Ron was stunned. Then he thought his son was worrying about the Iron-winged Panther mission.

"Ha...Ha...Ha..., are you still worried about that mission?" Ron asked with a laugh.

Then he said, "Don't worry, I heard that they had already left the city. They were not seen here."

"Okay," Jeremy replied. He knew the real reason. Since people were already thinking that they had left the city, it was good news for him.

He then bid goodbye before entering the airport.

Ron Night stood there until his son's back disappeared from his sight. Then he decided to leave. He didn't have a clue what his son had done for him and the city C.