

## **STRIKER 36**

### Chapter 36 Part 2: Abandoned Mall

Jeremy Night's expression condensed. It's the first time he has faced this type of Beast, so he is not ready to take chances.

He slowly mobilizes the starlight energy in his body and channels it into the Katana Blade. The starlight covers the blade in the blink of an eye.

Growl!

The Black Hyena notices the threatening energy. The next second, it uses its body to sprint at high speed.

Swoosh!

Jeremy sees that the beast's speed is indeed fast as per records. But thanks to his senses, he can spot the beast. He grips his katana.

The Hyena arrives before him in the blink of an eye. Then it leaps forward to bite. The razor-sharp teeth are visible.

A quick gleam flashes in Jeremy's eyes. He sidesteps enough to avoid the attack. While moving away, he slashes his katana at the beast's weak joints.

Pfff!

The blade, filled with starlight energy, cuts through the joint of its leg like tofu. The next second, the hyena whimpers in pain. Now it has crippled one of its legs.

The Black Hyena won't be able to use its fast movements. Its inherent speed has been reduced by half. At the same time, blood starts pouring out from its injured leg.

Slash!

Jeremy's katana dances in the air. In a few slashes, the hyena's life is cut off, and its head is decapitated.

He then collects the decapitated head into the storage ring. He doesn't know what to do with the remains, but he thinks that once the competition is over, the remains will become food for other corrupted beasts.

Basically, this place has become a training ground for Rookie Beast Tamers from City A.

Clucks!

A human laughing sound wakes him up from his thoughts. Jeremy immediately turns around to see another Black Hyena coming out of the shadows.

"So there is a group here. But what's up with solo fighting?" Jeremy mutters.

He knows hyenas fight in packs, but this time they are taking turns to fight.

Jeremy silently runs the starlight energy. From the mental zone, the white mist decreases a little. He can't use this energy infinitely.

This time the Black Hyena is cautious. Whether it watched the previous hyena die, he doesn't know, but this Hyena is not confronting him directly.

Jeremy observes that the strength of the Hyena remains the same. It's another Tier-2 Corrupted Beast, so he takes the initiative to attack.

The Hyena retreats backward to attack. When the human gets closer, it leaps forward to attack with its razor-sharp claws.

Jeremy quickly observes the Beast's movements with ease. It appears as though time has slowed down. He is able to figure out what to do within seconds.

At the right time, he sidesteps and draws the katana at the hyena.

Cut!

The Hyena's neck is visible. He makes a vertical cut. The blade penetrates the flesh like tofu and then goes downward.

Pfff!

Blood gushes out rapidly from the half-cut Hyena's neck, but it is enough to keep the hyena from moving from its spot. It starts making a crying sound.

Jeremy doesn't hesitate further. In a flash, he completes the incomplete cut. The Hyena's head is decapitated and rolls over on the ground.

He then puts the head into the ring. This time, Jeremy is cautious. He doesn't know whether other Hyenas are hiding here or not.

So he begins searching inside the abandoned mall.

Meanwhile,

The other Beast Tamers have encountered Tier-2 Beasts on their way. While some find it easy to slay these beasts, a few others are struggling.

May Lindsey is among them, finding it very easy. She is walking sideways in the abandoned ruins. Wherever she goes, she leaves behind ice sculptures of decapitated beasts.

The group that follows her parts midway to find their own opportunities. No way, if they follow, they won't be able to kill many beasts. May Lindsey does the killings.

Petra Ross leads another group. She has flame control talent. Though it's B-grade, her flame power is enough to easily kill the Tier-2 Corrupted Beasts.

Other A-Grade Talents lead their own groups as well.

Somewhere, in front of the giant pond, Victor Scott is dealing with a group of crocodiles. He is poisoning them by using his lifeline Beast's Ability.

The pond area is covered with a purple mist. The potent poison kills any living thing. The vegetation around the pond gets corroded upon contact.

Victor is aware that he has to get the decapitated head as a trophy, so he waits for all of them to die. The poison is a powerful group killer.

As long as he finds another group of corrupted beasts, he can save his energy by walking. At the same time, he can increase the head count of the beasts.

Meanwhile,

The Instructors are watching the competition on the virtual screen. It was turned on right after their entrance into the Abandoned Ruins.

The Department Instructors are keeping an eye on their representatives and students. From time to time they also look at the status of other departments' representatives' fights.

But there are people who are concerned about the Striker Department. They are none other than Jacob and Ariel.

"What is he doing?" Jacob mutters as he sees Jeremy entering the abandoned mall a while ago.

"Strangely, he didn't encounter any corrupted beasts on his way while others have started hunting," Ariel says from the side.

"Hey, maybe the kid went into hiding," a middle-aged man from the Attack Department comments. His words reach the ears of others as well.

Though he didn't mention the name directly, everyone knows he is directing his words at the Striker Department. If not for Dean Carolyn's backing, these people would have started berating the Striker Department.

Jacob's eyes flash with a chill. Before he was appointed as the Striker Department Instructor, these people used to look at him. Now they are showing their real faces one by one.

"Ignore them, we know that kid's character. He likes to fight," Ariel persuades.

Seeing that Jacob manages to keep his cool, others are surprised.