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The Beast's Manipulation

Could the Beast, the Island, and the Lord of the Flies be the same being, or would they simply be separate beings with the same goal? In William Golding's novel *Lord of the Flies*, the symbol The Lord of the Flies warped Simon's identity to instill fear. This only happened due to the three of these working together. How could this have been accomplished, and where does Simon fit into this puzzle?

First, we need to understand Simon. Simon fits right in to the archetype of outsider. Page 56 holds evidence for many important ideas in this paper. This comes directly from the book, "Simon turned away from them and went where the just perceptible path led him. Soon high jungle closed in... He looked over his shoulder as Jack had done at the close ways behind him and glanced swiftly round to confirm that he was utterly alone." At this point he starts fitting much more into the outsider archetype. This isolation foreshadowed the Lord of the Flies' manipulating him.

On the same page as the last quote, the personification of the Island reveals itself. "the creepers dropped their ropes like the rigging of foundered ships. His [Simon] feet left prints in the soft soil and the creepers shivered throughout their lengths when he bumped them." The use of their and them gives the creepers a more human-like description. They later leave Sow/Lord

of the Flies as tribute to the Beast in that same grove. At many points, the creepers cause fear in the little' uns, and because the little' uns first imagined the Beast, these three must be related.

Now, Simon had always been a cause of suspicion. Due to his mysterious and isolated nature, few people completely trusted him. This lack of trust eventually led to Simon failing to prove the true identity of the Beast as a figment of their imagination, and being killed. This only confirmed the existence of the Beast in the mind of Jack's tribe.

Thus, the Beast finally caused the fear it had strived for all along. Simon would never have been manipulated if these three entities hadn't worked together. This fear quickly turned to chaos, and this could have caused the death of every single kid. They only survived because of pure luck. Simon really was the Beast's agent of chaos.