

Black Plain 1191

Chapter 1191 How To Enter The Royal Palace

After they finished studying the basics about the local powers and the Vogel family, Minos and his wives were chatting in the same library as before.

"It seems that soon the Vogel family will give a celebratory banquet for the kingdom's independence..." Minos commented as he closed one of the books before him and looked at the three women in front of him.

Like any other state in this world, Vogel had its national holidays, moments of celebration for the population. However, these were also times to remind everyone of the most important events in local history.

The population needed moments of rest and celebration to function without too many problems during the year. Some people could only give meaning to their lives if they had moments like these and could even lose the will or become rebellious without it.

So, to keep the psychology of the most ordinary and numerous people in the state in check, the local leaders used these occasions to cheer up these parts of the population on days like these.

On the other hand, a state without memory was doomed to repeat the same mistakes. Thus, these were also times to think about history and the mistakes and successes of their predecessors while using this to stimulate the patriotic sense of their population.

A population proud of its history was less likely to rebel and more likely to defend the state in case of need!

Therefore, even though Vogel had existed for hundreds of thousands of years, the royal family still celebrated the date of the state's independence.

By coincidence of fate, such a festive occasion was to take place in the next few weeks, precisely during this passage of Minos and his wives through this state.

"Do you want to act against them during this occasion?" Abby asked her husband.

"Yes. There will be many visitors that day, and this state's important figures must show themselves." He said in a low voice while moving his fingers through a brush. "It will be interesting if we act at that time."

"Don't you think it will be more dangerous?" Ruth asked.

"We don't need to act immediately that day..." Minos looked at her and smiled from under his mask. "We can work out a way to participate in this event, choose some targets, and act against them after the festive occasion."

"Oh?" Gloria opened her mouth, "So when you said you want to act on this occasion, is it just to get in touch with people who can help us get closer to individuals who can talk?"

"Yes. There will be many important people and their most loyal subordinates at that event." He said, so no one but them could hear. "We will use that moment to mark them. Then we will act against those weaker people and make them talk."

"If necessary, we will make them help us contact their leaders."

"But how will we participate in this event? I imagine that only authorized people can get close to the places where important people will be." Abby commented.

As they looked at each other, trying to find a solution to this question, one of the subordinate Spiritual Emperors of those Spiritual Saints from before approached them.

"Your Excellencies, are you in need of anything? There are many things we can help you get." That man respectfully said, drawing the attention of those four people.

'What's that? What a change in behavior!' Ruth watched that man, curious to know what was going on.

While Gloria and Abby were thinking similar things, Minos already had it in his mind that someone powerful was making things easy for him. 'Well, I'll just use the opportunity...'

'I'm already here to make contacts anyway. Then it won't be bad to associate with the people in this place.' So he thought before asking that Spiritual Emperor. "How do we participate in the Vogel family celebrations in the coming weeks?"

That man then smiled and said. "That will be easy to do. The Church will send members to attend this event. Then you will be able to access the celebrations with ease."

"Won't there be problems because we are not part of the local branch?" Minos questioned.

"No, as long as you don't try to get directly involved with the leading members of the royalty, there won't be any problems." That man replied, curious as to what they wanted to find.

magic

"Oh? Then it will be fine. We have no interest in getting too close to these people..."

"Is that so? And what exactly is Your Excellency looking for? Perhaps we can help you solve that more easily."

Minos replied. "Nothing much. We're just after someone capable of identifying something strange..."

"Something strange?"

"Hmm, we are seeking information from a fugitive. I believe he has made contact with some high-ranking member of the Vogel family." Minos made such a thing up. "But since we don't know if this family was 'forced' to help him, we don't want to ask them directly."

"We just want to probe such trouble from the shadows..."

'A fugitive? Well, things like that are not strange, but why would someone like that contact the Vogel family? And how would he be able to force them to do anything?' This fellow did not quite understand how that was possible.

But as a good subordinate, he knew not to question his superiors' wishes too much. "All right. I'll see if I can get some information regarding strange people approaching the Vogel family without alerting them to it."

"Hmm, thanks." Minos smiled from beneath his mask, wondering if this lie he had used would serve any purpose other than to prevent the people of this temple from knowing his real motives.

'I have no history with the Vogel family, so if their leadership decided to act against me, it must have come from others...' He looked silently at that man walking away. 'Sending a Spiritual Saint to the northern region was too big a risk...'

'That means they judged it worth the risk, or their grudge against me was too great. In either case, someone other than the Vogel family, in case they are guilty, needs to be connected to it.'

Minos had invented a situation to get the previous man away from them, but while avoiding letting this branch of the Church know his plans, he set them to research something that could be useful to him.

He had not simply invented a lie out of thin air. Instead, that was based on his conjecture, suspicions of the involvement of more organizations, and his confidence in the Vogel family's guilt.

If he were wrong, it would not negatively affect him and his women. However, it would confirm his suspicions and uncover something else if he were right.

So, after making his move and getting a method to enter the VIP area of the occasion the Vogel family would host in weeks, Minos stood up and prepared to leave that library with his wives.

"Come on, let's get to know some of this city, escape routes, etc." He said as he waved one of his hands. "Let's pretend to do some tourism while we find the weaknesses and strengths of this place."

"Pretend, eh?" Ruth asked as she took one of her man's hands. "Will we have to use those alternatives?"

"Maybe..." He commented without being too sure. "It depends on how guilty the Vogel family is, whether they will discover our actions, etc. In any case, we'd better prepare while we wait for that occasion and the action of that woman we met earlier."

"OK!" The three replied, already walking with him out of that temple.

Chapter 1192 Conversations With Church Members

After a few days in the capital of Vogel, Minos and his wives had gotten to know the basics of that city, ways to escape safely, and also got to know the local branch of the Spiritual Church better.

This branch was closely intertwined with the local powers, similar to what happened in the northern region before Minos' rise and how he planned the future with his actions before his departure.

Because of this, he and his wives realized that as much as the people in this branch of the Church helped them with no doors closed, they had to be careful.

Because of this, they had spent these days of waiting for the local holiday working in secret, minimally involving the members of that branch and not drawing too much attention.

On the surface, they seemed to enjoy getting to know a new place while waiting for the moment to talk to the royalty members about the 'person' they were searching for.

So, nothing had gotten in the way of their actions during this period, and their group had no problems or challenges.

And with that, besides that business of the four of them, they had met a lot of local services and even gone out shopping.

Minos' focus on this trip was to help the Black Plain, and as much as he was going to do his business, preferably in the Flaming Empire, where there were more options, that did not stop him from taking advantage of opportunities on his way.

Each state traded more or less the same series of products, with slight variation from one place to another in terms of versions. Naturally, there were differences in quality, but one would typically be able to find every kind of product when traveling through this world, regardless of which state one was in.

But in each state, there were peculiarities, products, and sometimes services that could be difficult to find outside that area. An example of this was the aphrodisiac trade, one of the vital sectors of this state.

So, Minos had taken the opportunity to buy in this state seeds and other materials related to specializations that were difficult to find in the Flaming Empire.

But while he was getting essential items for the Black Plain and getting to know the place better, Louise had already gathered a group of Spiritual Emperors to talk to Minos.

She had taken a few days to select those who had profiles similar to the one requested by Minos. After that, she still had to talk to each of them and set up a meeting with that fellow to present what he had in mind.

But finally, she had the opportunity to have all these people and Minos in one room, where they were meeting now.

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"So, you are here because you are interested in what Louise told you? Are you interested in joining my group?" Minos asked as he and his wives were seated on the same side of a large table, opposite the six people in Louise's group.

Upon hearing the masked individual's questions and observing the four of them there, those six people, Louise among them, nodded, waiting for Minos' following words.

"Well, you have made the right choice. Those who ally themselves with my wife's group," He pointed to Gloria. "will definitely get excellent results that will take you beyond your current goals."

"I dare say that the 9th stage will not be impossible for you if you do your job well." Minos said, showing them what he intended to deliver them if they were on Gloria's side.

"9th stage?" Louise and another woman there repeated simultaneously, impressed at how high Minos had already started.

It might not seem far to talk about level 80 onwards when someone was already above level 65, like most of these Spiritual Emperors. But the distance between these levels was many times greater than between levels 0 and 65!

That was especially true for these people from Vogel and even the Flaming Empire, where the strongest and most talented had cultivated for thousands of years and 'only' reached the peak of the 8th stage.

Because of this, instead of dreaming of such a difficult stage to reach, these 'youngsters' aimed to become as strong as the leaders of their post, high-level Spiritual Saints.

So, Minos had offered them something far beyond what they thought they could achieve in their lives, and they could not help but be shocked.

Minos smiled from beneath his mask and said. "That's right. But that depends on your limitations and efforts. It will be impossible if someone here has messed up their cultivation foundation or cannot work hard."

"But if you have the potential, then I guarantee that if you put in the effort and don't die prematurely, it's only a matter of time before you get there."

One of the more attentive men among those six people then asked. "And how would you help us with that? Do you have any way to prove that you can do that?"

Minos looked at the dark-skinned, long-haired man and said. "I won't prove it since that would attract trouble for me. Just imagine a Spiritual Emperor talking about the 9th stage..." He spoke in a tone of a joke. "But I won't ask for disproportionate things from you either."

"The more we ask, the more we will deliver. If one day we don't deliver enough to prove that we can keep this audacious promise, you will naturally have the option to stop your services."

"In any case, we will do this through resources, artifacts, and opportunities." He opened his hands and gestured. "We have a great infrastructure and organization on our side that will facilitate everything."

"Do you need proper armor? We can do that by developing one for you or even sponsoring you. Do you need doctors? We have promising people on our side and contacts that can bring you closer to high-level doctors from other organizations. And so on for everything you can think of."

"But of course, some of those things will grow with us. But that's kind of self-evident, right? I wouldn't be talking to Spiritual Emperors if I could attract Spiritual Saints..." He was sincere, but without harming himself by talking about weaknesses.

His main promise was ambitious. But as he said, if he were already capable of doing more incredible things, there would be no sense in wasting time on weaker people.

And since those people knew that Minos had challenging powers and seemed very young, he certainly had growth potential.

So, knowing that he and those behind his group needed time to mature as needed to fulfill that promise was not a bad thing. In fact, it was the opposite, a good thing!

After all, it was better to grow with an organization than to already be in a developed power that may no longer create significant opportunities for people at their levels.

Thus, being with a growing power could give them the advantage of being valued, even considering their 'low' levels.

They were silent after Minos' words, thinking on the subject.

One woman then asked. "And what exactly would we have to do for this opportunity? I imagine the 'costs' of such a chance are not small, right?"

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Chapter 1193 Agreement

There were no free lunches in this world, and every benefit came with its share of problems.

The woman who asked Minos that question and her companions knew that. So, none of them would believe that these people would give them a chance to reach the 9th stage without the costs being sky-high.

Hence, they all paid attention to Minos when he started talking about it. "Well, initially, not much. Your job will be more bureaucratic, sending information, relaying, or representing our thoughts locally. And, of course, recruiting more people who are reliable and interested in our proposals."

"Oh? That doesn't sound so complicated..." Louise said in a low voice.

"Yes. For now, for the next few years, our goal is to create a network, intelligence, and structure that will be useful further down the line. Thus, there won't be many risks, missions, or major efforts on your part in the short term..."

"And then what?" One of the men in Louise's group asked.

"Well, then, naturally, we will have more functions for the network we are beginning to build." He vaguely said. "But our actions will not be against the rules of the Church, or even against the good of that organization. Nor will we try to influence those we shouldn't so be unconcerned about that."

"Anyway, your main job eventually will be to support my wife in some actions within the Church." He pointed at Gloria as those people looked at her.

"Like a faction?" Another man commented as he realized the similarities of what Minos wanted with factions.

"I prefer to call it a group united by a common goal..." Minos said in a humorous tone.

"What goal?"

"To grow within the Church, of course."

Louise then asked. "And how is this group different from a faction?"

Gloria finally said something for the first time in this meeting. "Factions have that goal, and they function similarly to what my husband has talked about. But Church factions are complicated, involved with outside organizations, past grudges, etc."

"We are neither for nor against any faction. We want to work with everyone who has the goal to grow and add. And we have no intention of opposing anyone. If someone is better than us, we will not act against that person or faction unless they act against us first."

The people there were surprised to hear this since they thought that as people coming from the Flaming Empire, Minos' group would have some kind of prejudice and act with preferences.

But from what Gloria was saying, they were after a type of faction that would be more on the fence, not getting involved with either side of the internal power conflict in the Church.

And, thinking about it, they did not think it terrible that Minos wanted to create this 'group united by a common goal.'

Abby then added. "Also, our group will be tranquil and act mainly from the shadows. So, it's possible that our existence won't even be noticed even when you have to start acting more vigorously."

The people there looked at each other as Ruth suggested something. "In fact, I think we'd better put a limit on the number of people in our group. I think 30 or 40 members in each major Church post will be the most interesting..."

"More than that, we might draw too much attention."

"Hmmm." Louise nodded in agreement. "Besides, there's no need for everyone from one post to be in the same group."

"As long as some of us succeed and ascend locally, others will have to obey our orders, as the guards stopped by you earlier." She said, looking at Minos' mask.

"Yes, with few involved, it will be better. It would be problematic to invest in an extensive group..." He commented, setting things that way.

With that, it did not take long for them to talk over a few more points, agreeing on the formation of this group.

After a brief analysis of the risks and potential returns, those six individuals judged that they would make a good profit from this move, so they did not hesitate to show their interest in going ahead.

In the end, Minos and his wives would still be staying a few more days in this city, so they would make this deal official with them little by little during this period.

As for the beginning of their relations with Minos' investments and the initial actions of these local members of the Spiritual Church, this would only happen after one year.

Minos stipulated that it would take that long to communicate with the Black Plain and its subordinates in that place to start acting for such an arrangement to work.

There was a time required to transport resources from one side of the continent to the other!

But this was not a problem for those who had already lived much longer than Minos and did not think a year was a big deal.

Hence, they departed from that meeting place inside the main temple of the Church in this state, going on to their business-related or not to this agreement.

As for Minos and his wives, they returned to their area to train and cultivate, something they had been forced to do outside the Spatial Kingdom in the previous days.

They could teleport to the Spatial Kingdom from wherever they wanted, but doing so near a place with several Spiritual Saints could become a problem.

To avoid unnecessary dangers, they had been training in a cultivation area of this temple, which, by the way, was not bad at all.

It was not a place that came close to the quality of the Spatial Kingdom, but compared to the northern region, it was hundreds of times better than that area!

That was a domain with areas of high spiritual concentration, after all!

Therefore, Spiritual Emperors like them felt no difficulty training in the area and continued to do so without any problems as they waited for the local celebrations to arrive.

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A few more days passed, and finally, the time had come to celebrate Vogel's Independence Day!

Because of the arrival of this great day for Vogel, the capital dawned in a different mood than usual, with many people taking to the streets early in the day, not to work but to celebrate.

At the same time, parts of the city had been decorated for the festive occasions of the day, among them the parade of the royal guard and army, an attraction particularly beloved by ordinary citizens.

But as the day began with the aroma of breakfast in various corners of this great city, Minos and his three wives were finishing dressing for the event they were to attend later.

They had been given the opportunity to attend the event's opening from inside the Vogel family's royal palace, where the state's most powerful people would be.

Since their group had to accompany the Church team participating in such an event, they had to report early to the meeting place. Because of this, they soon finished getting ready and left for their appointment.

"Honey, will we be able to find our targets today?" Ruth asked as she walked beside Abby and him.

Minos continued holding one of his pregnant wife's hands and commented. "Surely..."

"If they are to blame for something, we will certainly have contact with people related to the culprits!"

So, they soon disappeared amid the crowds going in this great city's streets, proceeding with other members of the Church to the royal palace.

Chapter 1194 Doubts Of The Crown Prince

After some time, Minos' group arrived at the royal palace, where the Vogel family was preparing to receive their guests for this great day.

The festival occasions of Independence Day ranged from early in the day to late at night, moving between public and more private events to which only the local high state hierarchy had access.

There were many public events around the city, but most were just for the population to enjoy and relax.

The only public event in which the royalty and the leading local powers participated was the opening of the parade of the royal forces and state army.

Such a thing was to begin in a few more hours, even before noon in this region of the Central Continent, after the royalty's breakfast with their top vassals and allies.

Events like Independence Day for states worldwide were not just about the past or popular celebrations. No, such days brought local powers together, creating many opportunities for conversation between people who rarely saw each other.

Because of this, many negotiations took place around the capital on such days, sometimes resulting in conflict resolutions, alliances, and even marriages.

So, as they made their way with the Spiritual Church group to the royal palace, Minos and his wives knew that the royal breakfast was not insignificant!

Important people would undoubtedly be there, which meant that the chance of their enemy being there would not be slight either!

With that, they were prepared for a long day ahead, but with sensitive eyes for the direction, they were looking for.

"Your Excellencies, we will enter the royal palace now, so try not to get involved with people above the 7th stage or who wear that brooch..." One of the Church members in that group guided Minos and his wives while showing the symbol on the armor of a royal guard.

"So we can't even talk to the guards?" Abby asked in surprise.

The man laughed at his mistake and explained. "You can. You can talk to people with that symbol on their clothes or items. But those who wear a gold brooch with that same symbol, no. Only people of utmost importance in the royal family have things like that."

"Oh? I see..." magic

"In any case, these people will not try to cause any trouble for members of the Church, but it is better not to get involved with them. Some are close to local Matriarchs or Patriarchs, which could cause problems to you..."

Gloria then said. "Don't worry about that. We won't talk to any of them unless one of them talks to us first."

"Hmm, our primary goal today is to observe those who might have the information we seek..." Minos said. "By the way, any news about what you promised us earlier?"

p This Church member they were talking to was the same person who had told them that there was this possibility of them attending this event. On that previous occasion, Minos had told this person about what they 'wanted,' and this person had promised him that the local branch of the Church would investigate suspicious signs of the Vogel family.

"The people responsible for that are still working. So, it might take a few more days before we get a result." He replied.

"OK."

After this brief dialogue, their group passed through a post of the Vogel family's royal guard, where they entered the palace's interior without difficulty.

Then, they soon made their way through the long corridors of that high-standard place, making their way to the area where breakfast was being hosted.

Two Spiritual Saints were leading this group, so it was obvious they would have access to the most important people at the start of today's events!

Then, as they stood silently observing their surroundings, their group quickly approached a place where several voices were mingling, and a delicious smell of food emanated.

"Your Highness is promising! Only 200 years old and already advanced to the 8th stage!"

"It is truly a blessing for the kingdom!"

"At this rate, it won't be impossible for us to counter the bloody Flaming Empire in a few centuries!"

Several congratulatory voices sounded from around a large hall, where tables were connected to form something similar to a 'U,' with the prominent individuals there near the end where there were tables.

There, Minos and his group saw several people with brooches similar to the one the previous man had told them to pay attention to and not to get involved with such individuals.

Among those people sitting around one side of the most critical tables, there was a white-haired man who emitted a noble, level 77 aura. To his right was a woman who should be of the same generation as him, probably his wife. Finally, to his left side was a smiling young man, who was nodding at the kind comments about him.

"You people flatter me. I'm not that talented, but I hope I can cultivate fast enough to at least help my royal father and the kingdom!" Abe, level 70, said for everyone there to hear.

In that instant, Minos and his wives came across those people, while the two leaders of their group drew the attention of the many people in the surrounding area.

That place was packed. Not only were almost all the seats around the tables there occupied, but many underlings of the local leaders who were there were waiting at the sides of this area.

So, when those two Patriarchs of the Spiritual Church appeared at the entrance of that hall, several heads turned in the direction of Minos' group.

"Patriarchs, it is our happiness to welcome you to my humble abode for another year!" King Vogel commented with a smile on his face as he raised a cup in the direction of those two.

The Church always sent people to participate in events like these, but usually, these individuals took turns. So, when the king saw those two faces he had not seen in decades, he could not help but welcome them warmly.

It was important to have good connections with each of these individuals!

Some might have the opportunity to go further than they could in this state, which he himself, the king, could not do given his limitations.

Thus, being friendly with these people was something he always tried, especially with people he had less contact with!

The two Patriarchs appreciated the warm welcome from King Vogel and soon greeted several of the experts in the surrounding area after exchanging a few words with the local sovereign.

They also congratulated the crown prince on his advancement to the 8th stage, an essential step for this local crown successor.

As they did so, Minos and his wives paid attention to each of the members of the royalty since if anyone had sent a Spiritual Saint to their state, it had most likely been one of these people!

On the other hand, Abe, who had been fretting over the actions of the Spiritual Church like a cornered animal, looked at the four people wearing masks, dressed somewhat differently, and looked strange.

'Who are these people? Why are people from outside the Church accompanying this group? And why are they wearing masks?' He wondered since Minos, Abby, and Ruth were not wearing the Church uniform, besides being disrespectful to wear masks in front of royalty.

'Are those the people from Iron Hearts?' He thought about what he had recently heard...

Chapter 1195 Throwing A Bait

Abe received information about every strange movement around his city. As such, Minos' earlier prank had reached his ears and scared the hell out of him.

After all, who would joke with Iron Hearts? No one in the Spiritual Church would do such nonsense!

And since these people kept their identities secret, he could not help suspecting that they were of such an order and were there out of suspicion against him!

So, as he stood facing these people, his heart began to beat faster, and he thought he had to try to probe the matter further by talking to these people.

"May I know who you people are? It is not common for members of the Spiritual Church to wear masks and ordinary clothes like you do." He stood up from his seat and said this while drawing the attention of several people in the surrounding area.

Upon hearing that, the three women of Minos were surprised, but none responded to Abe, even though this prince was addressing one of them. Instead, they all looked at their husband, who was currently staring at that person.

The two Patriarchs also looked in Minos' direction since they knew this young man was not ordinary.

They were not the same individuals who had discussed Minos' group earlier, but they knew about this person and had their curiosities.

Minos then surprised Abe by answering in place of his wives. "Your Highness, the Church clothing code doesn't apply to us, and there aren't any rules about wearing masks. So, we naturally behave in such a way."

Some of Abe's vassals looked strangely at Minos, not liking that this fellow was still making excuses instead of simply removing the mask from his face.

"Is there a special reason for that? I feel it is disrespectful against my family for outsiders not to identify themselves when coming to our event." Abe pressed, probing what the problem was.

"Of course there is..." Minos sincerely said. "We are searching for someone, but that person may be in disguise since he has the power, an extraordinary power..."

"A person?" Abe began to feel better, thinking that a chase was less bad than an investigation.

As Minos' eyes narrowed, he tried to test the prince. "The clues left by that person run through here nearby... I believe he is fleeing to the Black Plain."

"Recently, fanatical madmen think they can go into that place and act as they wish..."

Hearing about the Black Plain made Abe's heart beat harder, but as someone who was used to the plots of a royal family, he restrained himself from showing his fears.

Minos saw this but was not naive to think that such a person would hand him his own head on a platter. Instead, a high-level culprit would naturally exhibit unusual behavior that was difficult to unravel.

At the same time, some people in the surrounding area who were already finding the situation strange looked at the two Patriarchs with doubt in their eyes.

The King asked. "Who are those?"

One of them bitterly laughed and said. "I don't know. They have not given their name though they are passing through the kingdom."

"They didn't?" Some people in the area found this strange.

'How can mere Spiritual Emperors keep the secrecy of their information even from Spiritual Saints?'

One of Abe's subordinates then asked. "What's your name? Perhaps we can help you find this person."

"My name is Pyke," Minos said, remembering that there were people with that name in the Church at the time of Henricus Longus.

"Pyke?" The King exclaimed in surprise. "I've strangely encountered someone called that coming from the Church's headquarters..."

Minos laughed and said. "I come from a long line of Pykes, Your Majesty..."

With that, the people there realized that Minos would not give his real name and that this was probably a custom where he had come from.

But since they were just Spiritual Emperors, apart from the worried and guilty Abe, no one else there gave much thought to Minos' group.

They were curious, of course, but with so many experts in the area, high-level people in this state with the power to change their projects, they soon put the matter aside.

But Abe was still worried because Minos had mentioned the Black Plain.

As such, he could no longer maintain his previous good humor and was worried about potential dangers.

While he became much less talkative, Minos did not fail to notice such a thing, seeing from time to time how this prince seemed more natural before his group's arrival.

'Looks like this guy is afraid of something...' He pondered, not only watching Abe so as not to attract attention.

His wives also paid attention to their surroundings, noting who was subordinate to whom so they would know who to act against after this occasion.

They sensed that Minos seemed to have many thoughts on his mind, but they did not try to talk about it with him to avoid attracting attention from the people in the surroundings.

That was a dangerous place, where the walls had ears and eyes too!

So they behaved according to the previous Church member's advice. They did not try to talk to people with the brooch with the royal symbol of the Vogel family, while they behaved so as not to attract more attention than they should.

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An hour and a half later...

The royal breakfast was finally over, and everyone present was soon directed to the VIP area built on one side of the estate where the royal palace was.

Now it was time for the beginning of the public event to be opened by the royal family, something that would take place in front of the main square of this city, from where the parade of the royal guard and the state army would depart.

With this, Minos and his wives followed along with the other people with access to this area, passing by one side of a large garden while they were far behind in the group.

The more powerful ones were naturally further ahead, while Spiritual Emperors like them were far behind.

Because of this, they also got a little more privacy to talk to each other.

"Honey, what do you think of the previous situation? I noticed that you were very focused..." Ruth commented as she spoke next to one of her husband's ears.magic

He then said in a low voice. "My instincts are telling me that that woman was right. And I already have an idea where to start."

"Oh?" Gloria, who was on his other side, opened her mouth, curious to know if such a suspect was who she was thinking.

"Just to be sure, we're going to act against more than one person to throw off any kind of suspicion on us. But I think the culprit is the one you are thinking of."

So, while chatting, they soon arrived at where they would be staying at the beginning of that public celebration.

Chapter 1196 Time To Fish 1

After the previous situation, the day of celebration in Vogel went smoothly, with the public feast quickly unfolding to the citizens' happiness.

The more private occasion for the high-ranking people of this kingdom also continued for several hours, following the opening of the parades, to a large banquet that took place later in the royal palace.

Minos and his wives attended every part of this event, mostly paying attention to the behavior of those present, particularly those of high rank.

They did not miss the opportunity for conversations with royalty and low-level nobility members who attended the event. But those conversations mostly covered their purpose of spying on the Spiritual Saints in those areas.

But after breakfast, their group had little result in looking for suspicious signs. Instead, they at most finished identifying each of the underlings of the royalty present at that event for their action that would come in the next few days.

And so, after a long day of celebrating with the royal family, the Spiritual Church group returned to the local temple with Minos and his wives.

"Well, now that we have the basic information about our targets, this city, and local powers, let's get ready to act in the coming days," Minos commented to his wives as they walked at the end of the church group.

"Do you think 'he' is the culprit?" Abby asked, already knowing who Minos' suspect was.

"I don't know, but he is my main suspect. After I mentioned the Black Plain, he did not show any signs. But I noticed that for the rest of the event, he seemed to have had his mood affected by something..." Minos said as he looked at Abby.

"It could be that it is something else, and he has no involvement in it. But I don't know. He seemed odd to me."

"But what about you?" He looked at Gloria and Ruth.

Gloria then said. "I noticed a few Spiritual Saints watching in our direction during the event. Some were probably just curious about us, but others seemed to have something on their minds."

"Hmm, I noticed the same thing," Ruth said. "Some subordinates of the royalty also did the same."

"Let's get ready to act as soon as possible. If the other party is guilty, they might try something too!" Minos said before their group entered the Church temple.

...

Meanwhile, in the royal palace of the Vogel family...

Abe was with his staff in his office at this very moment, expressing his problems in his expression.

Each of the six individuals in that room knew he was not in a good mood and waited for his orders in silence to avoid irritating him with other problems or possibilities.

After a while like this, he opened his mouth and said. "Did you guys notice that group of four masked people from the Spiritual Church? They looked very suspicious to me... I can't tell, but the way that person talked to me seemed like he wasn't afraid of me."

,m "Oh?" One of the men who had not been present at most of today's celebrations exclaimed upon hearing that. "But that's normal, isn't it? He's a member of the Spiritual Church from a branch outside our state. So, it should be normal not to be afraid of the local royalty."

Another who had heard Minos' comments earlier disagreed. "No, I think His Highness is right. When he answered the earlier questions, his words seemed to have a trace of defiance or audacity."

Silence returned to that place until Abe stated. "And their identity is very mysterious. The Church members themselves did not want to talk about it for some reason..."

"I'm afraid they are the ones who said they were part of Iron Hearts!"

Hands clenched together, making the sound of leather rubbing together, as sweat began to form around the bodies of those individuals.

Abe ordered. "Keep an eye on their movements. At the same time, try to find out as much as possible about them in the next few days and prepare a plan of action if the threat becomes true."

"If they are just after someone unrelated to us, leave them alone. Otherwise, we'll have to blow it up and risk everything on our emergency plan!"

Gulp!

The people there swallowed their saliva, praying so that they would not need to go to such an extreme.

"We will do our best, Your Highness!" They said before leaving in a hurry from that office, leaving an anxious and sighing man there.

...

On the other hand, at King Vogel's residence, this man was standing next to his only wife, sipping a glass of wine as they stood in the bathtub in his courtyard.

"I feel that Abe did not enjoy the party today..." The crown prince's mother commented while she had a worried look on her face.

"Are you worried about the rumors going around?" The king questioned his wife while having a relaxed expression on his face.

She nodded in agreement. "The bad tongues say that our son is planning something big and that it may not be favorable for you, dear..."

"Sigh!"

"Even a coup has already been suggested as a possibility among our intelligence experts." She sighed, thinking that her family was in a delicate situation.

That was a problem constantly faced by royalty around this violent world.

Princes and sometimes princesses were born on the premise that one day they would become pillars of their state, surrogates, and natural heirs to their parents' positions. And as much as some of them were not interested in positions of power, there were almost always those who were ambitious and strove to reach the top.

Unfortunately, reaching the top meant replacing at least one of their parents, something problematic in a world where parents could live for thousands of years...

There was a real risk that the children of a king would not have the opportunity to rule, often this being the award to their children, not themselves.

Because of this, sons who wished for their parents' deaths or acted to hurry their deaths were not uncommon, leading to that woman's concern.

"And from what I've been told, he's playing with some hazardous things so that he can rise to your position..."

The king then stopped his wife from continuing. "That can't be true! He wouldn't be able to risk the whole family's good and still betray us!"

"Perhaps..." The queen said in a low voice, regretting that her husband did not see the true colors of their eldest son.

But she, who had a personality more like Abe's, was not wrong. 'I have to do something to protect my family, even if I have to act against my own son...' She looked at the king. 'I can't lose the only person I've ever really loved in this world!'

Chapter 1197 Fishing Time 2

Three days later...

As Minos and his wives were preparing to act, having already begun to watch their targets, a Spiritual Emperor from the local Church post came to them with information.

They were currently drinking spiritual tea in a store where one of the subordinates of the local royal family came every afternoon. In this place, they were at a table next to a glass window that overlooked the avenue in front of this establishment.

And just at this place they had been visiting for the past three days, the member of the Church who had talked to them about what they were looking for stopped beside them with a worried expression.

"What is it?" Abby asked as she looked at the man, who had an unfriendly expression and was holding a black envelope.

Minos and his other two wives also looked at this man, curious about this unusual visit. "Do you have something to talk about, or are you just here for attention?" The masked man asked, causing that individual to swallow his saliva and look at him.

"The investigation I had promised, about attitudes... Cough! Cough!" He coughed and then began to speak more quietly as he crouched beside that table. "About that family's strange attitudes. We've already had results regarding that!"

"Oh?" Minos opened his mouth in surprise. "What did you guys find out to make you so alarmed? Is it as we thought? Is something wrong?"

"Yes, there is a strange situation." He said, drawing the attention of those four, who at the moment simply began to ignore the person they were watching.

That Spiritual Emperor then handed the black envelope to Minos and said. "We have not been able to find anything about the fugitive you are after. But that family seems to have had some strange movements in the last few years."

"Our investigators were not sure whether or not this could have any bearing on what you are looking for. But since our branch had promised to investigate strange acts by this family, we are handing you the results."

"The rest is up to you..." After he finished saying that, he looked at those four once more and left that place as quickly as he had arrived.

But Minos and his wives were not bothered by this. On the contrary, they soon turned their attention to the target in that store, while he opened the envelope and read the information compiled there.

"Hmmm." Minos made a brief sound with his mouth closed, attracting the attention of his wives.

"What is it? What's in those documents?" Gloria asked as she looked out the window next to their table, observing in the direction of those chasing them.

Minos and his wives knew that people were chasing them or, more accurately, watching them. After all, such a thing was already expected to happen, and their opponents had tremendously underestimated the abilities of the four of them.

As people with Golden-grade techniques, talents of at least Silver, and many resources at their disposal, they noticed the three people 'following' them whenever they left the local temple.

Because of this, Gloria watched these individuals while her two harem sisters kept an eye on their target.

Minos heard the question from his pregnant wife and, like her, did not change his focus, as if he was reading a newspaper while having a quiet moment in this store.

magic

He then answered. "There have been abnormal movements of low-level Spiritual Saints and high-level Spiritual Emperors from this family in the last four years."

The Church recorded the movements of the high-level forces in the places it was located in case that kind of information was needed in problematic situations. Because of this, when the investigative group that produced that document began their work, they used such information and analyzed it according to the problem reported by Minos.

"Some low-level Spiritual Saints are away from their normal duties, presumably in seclusion. But some of them, when they appeared in public in recent years, was always at the Crown Prince's side..."

"Before these strange movements, one of these Spiritual Saints was seen meeting with a group coming from the Flaming Empire and then returned with a ship full of resources days later," Minos said in a grave tone.

The Flaming Empire did not do business with any of its enemy kingdoms. As such, it was highly unusual for trade relations between powers from those states to happen.

It was even less common for someone from the royal family of one of those states to agree to get involved with people from the empire!

These states were mortal enemies, something that went back to their primordial days. At that time, an ascendant force, the leader of the state formerly located in the central part of today's Flaming Empire, attacked the four kingdoms to the north and took large portions of their territories.

Since then, battles motivated by revenge or attempts to recover these taken lands have taken place in these areas.

Eventually, the opposing side also lost many people and began to seek revenge and complete domination of these enemy states.

Because of this, many wars had already taken place in these areas, and the hatred that one side felt for the other was not so simple that deals were made as casually as described on the papers in Minos' hands.

Something could happen, but great reasons would have to be behind it. Whether they were risks or opportunities, something big had to be behind a 'fraternization' action between old enemies who would normally kill each other at first sight!

Because of this history, that information was somewhat strange and aroused suspicion from the investigators who noticed this record and Minos.

"On the other hand, there was a recent situation where several high-level Spiritual Emperors from that family were reported killed in an 'accident' while the Crown Prince's group was hunting..." He finished telling his wives what was in that dossier.

<anno data-annotation-id="a63dd30b-6c81-9790-5ab0-5daf81ee939a">"A file burn?</anno>" Ruth asked as she thought about the tone Minos had used to speak the word 'accident.'

"Maybe. Anything can happen in a hunt, but considering the dubious history generated by this fellow, it's not unlikely that this is a file burn..." Minos said as he remembered that he and his wives had learned about the local rumors.

The local underworld and high-level organizations, such as the Spiritual Church itself, took for granted that Abe Vogel was ambitious, ready to act towards his goals.

Because of this reputation, many said that sooner or later, he would act more loudly to achieve a higher-level position. That is, of course, if his father did not gently make room for him by handing him the throne.

Even a 'wing' of the local royal family was already siding with the Crown Prince because, supposedly, King Vogel was a weak person in terms of personality.

He had power. After all, he was a high-level Spiritual Saint. But he was supposedly too 'nice' for his leadership role.

Because of this, evil tongues attributed quite a track record to Abe!

"Anyway, there are a lot of coincidences here, from the period when our troubles started and the end of that sect in Albano..." Abby said in a low voice.

"Hmm, so what are we going to do now? That person probably doesn't know anything, or he would have been erased along with the others..." Gloria looked at their target and then turned her attention to the street again.

Minos then said. "We don't have a choice. Our suspicions are not enough to play the Church against them. So, we can only go ahead with our plans!"

"At worst, nothing will happen. At best, they will not stand still and show themselves!"

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Chapter 1198 Fishing Time 3

With Minos' last words on the subject, his three wives soon became more profound as they began to prepare to deal with the enemy.

Their suspicions, the coincidences, and the strange behavior of part of the Vogel family were not proof of its guilt. At least, this would not be enough for the Spiritual Church to send an extermination group and free Minos of these opponents.

,m But they could not just leave this place without doing anything about it, waiting for the will of the enemy or the insecurity of ignorance.

Perhaps those who had sent Spiritual Saints to the Black Plain had given up on the idea for good. Or maybe that was temporary. But, one way or another, knowing nothing was a massive risk for Minos and the Black Plain!

The truth could get them into trouble, but with the knowledge of reality, they could at least act to try to control their destiny.

With ignorance, they would be like people lost in the middle of a desert during a storm. Where they would end up would depend on what fate chose, which was no different from gambling one's life!

But in the view of Minos and his wives, only a fool goes where the winds take them! magic

They would rather have a hard time but be in control of the situation than an easy time when they would not know whether they would be on the edge of a cliff or in the middle of the valley.

And as such, they would instead act against the target they had been watching!

"So what do we do now?" Abby asked as she sipped some tea.

"We'll follow him after he leaves this store. We'll knock him out and interrogate him in an empty nearby building." Minos said so that only the people at their table could hear.

"What about our 'friends'?" Gloria asked. "There is a Spiritual Saint among them. I don't think we'll be able to fool that person."

Ruth then said. "These people are cautious... They put someone at level 70, with two level 69 cultivators to watch people of our level."

Abby smiled from under her mask and commented. "That's probably on Gloria's account. They want enough strength to act against us in case of need..."

"But it's a lot of power just to keep an eye on us."

Minos then said before answering Gloria's question. "Someone from the local branch of the Church has probably already sold information about me. So, those people are good for that too... But anyway, they are certainly more concerned about Gloria."

"In any case, we have no choice but to see what they will do in that situation." He looked briefly outside that establishment. "We truly won't be able to fool them, and we won't just give up our plans."

"But will they act? If so, we won't need much to convince the Church headquarters anymore." He slowly commented as he brought a cup of tea close to his mouth.

"And in the negative case? What if they do nothing?" Ruth asked.

"Impossible!" Minos said. "They are watching us and will act in case of need. And since this family probably thinks they can destroy us without a trace using just those three, I'm sure they won't hesitate."

"Makes sense..."

When Ruth commented on that, their target finally got up and left that store after paying for what he had consumed.

Seeing that, the people in Minos' group also moved, leaving the medium-grade crystals as payment for what they had consumed, and headed for the exit of that establishment.

As they walked along the central sidewalks of this capital city, following the same path as their target, their enemies were also moving.

"Where are they going now?" One of the two Spiritual Emperors asked as they followed above the buildings in that area.

"From what we've seen in the last two days, they're going to go to Sector 23 and then return to the Spiritual Church temple." The Spiritual Saint commented as he had a calm look on his face.

'So far, they don't seem to progress in their investigations or whatever they are doing here.' So he thought as he looked intently at the group of four people who were almost to the place from where they usually returned to the local temple.

"Oh? They're not returning!" The other Spiritual Emperor exclaimed, already a little more excited to see something different happening.

It was boring to chase someone who followed the same routine every day. So when people in the position of these three were watching someone's tracks, they would cheer for such individuals to do things differently than usual.

And with that, upon noticing the change in the routine of those four, these three individuals soon increased their speeds and attention to their targets.

As they did this for about five minutes, the Spiritual Saint finally realized that Minos' group was not just making a simple course change!

"That person..." He looked in the direction of someone who seemed to have been ahead of Minos' group for the entire time since the four left the previous tea store.

"They're chasing that person! And that individual works in the area of His Highness's office!" He exclaimed to his companions as his heart began to beat faster.

"What do they want? Why are they doing this?" One Spiritual Emperor asked the other, as they still watched and chased Minos' group.

Unlike the Spiritual Saint who was there with them, these two did not know of Abe's plans, of what this local heir had done in the recent past. As such, they did not feel the same nervousness as this expert, who was aware of what could happen to the entire royal family in case Abe's orders were discovered!

He was not nervous because the Spiritual Emperor, Minos, and his wives were pursuing, had some crucial information. Such a person did not, since all the Spiritual Emperors with information of the kind had already died in 'accidents.'

Only Spiritual Saints like this one had not experienced the same, as they were less numerous, more powerful, and family-relevant individuals.

What scared this Spiritual Saint was the possibility that Minos and those women were suspicious of the Vogel family!

It would only take one high-level Spiritual Saint from the Church to investigate them closely for everything to go from bad to worse and for the end of them all to come!

As such, this man could not help but break into a cold sweat at this critical moment, remembering Abe's orders for him to get rid of these people in case the worst unfolds.

And just at this challenging moment for him, when he needed to make a decision that could not be reversed later, Minos and his wives acted!

When they were close to a little crowded area, Minos and his wives ran towards that man while his body slowly fell to the ground.

Minos knocked out this level 66 Spiritual Emperor with a single mental attack and promptly acted alongside his wives to 'rescue' this citizen 'falling ill.'

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Chapter 1199 Fuse 1

Watching the action of Minos' group unfold, the Spiritual Saint chasing them stopped for a moment as he pondered the matter.

'What do I do now?' He wondered, uncertain between acting and doing nothing about the matter.

Abe's orders were quite clear.

Kill the enemy if they demonstrated they were in search of something related to him, to his crime.

However, this Spiritual Saint could not help but hesitate at this moment because of the consequences of such an action.

'If I get involved with a conflict with them and eliminate them, there is a risk that the family's position will get even worse and suspicions against us will increase to the point that we will have no escape.' So he looked at one side of that situation.

'And even if no one finds out anything, I don't know if it's worth the risk of attracting a missing people investigation to our city just because of a Spiritual Emperor who doesn't know anything...'

The man chased by Minos' group did not know about the crimes of Abe and the Spiritual Saints involved in the Black Plain plots. Moreover, since they knew what was happening there, it would be easy for the Crown Prince's team to isolate such a person and prevent the enemy's plans.

So, this Spiritual Saint could not help but consider the other alternative!

'On the other hand, letting these people leave after acting against us and allowing this Spiritual Emperor to go back to work also has its dangers.' He clenched his fists. 'They may somehow compromise the security of the royal palace and eventually increase their suspicions if they realize that 'their' man has accomplished nothing.'

'Having people with suspicions of us alive could become a problem. After all, an investigation may lead to nothing, but a focused enemy with suspicion will always be a potential danger!'

Having a powerful enemy like the Spiritual Church with suspicions against you was like having a woman suspicious of her husband's betrayal. She would test her man continuously, and as time passed, instead of losing her suspicions, she would become more shrewd, and the chances of him exposing his secrets would increase!

Since the people in Minos' group were talented, with one of them already being close to the 8th stage, this man could not help but imagine the potential of this problem!

'If I let them get on with their business, they won't find out anything. But will they forget whatever they are looking for?' He wondered. 'If they don't forget, even if they eventually drop the matter, they will grow stronger in a short time. By that time, their influence will increase, and it will be harder to stop them if they decide to stand against us!'

What he was most concerned about was not Gloria. After all, that woman would not have a great cultivation speed after reaching the 8th stage. But Minos, on the other hand, could advance easily to the beginning of the 8th stage!

Minos was only at level 61, and for talented people in this state or most of the Spiritual World, reaching the end of the 7th stage was not difficult.

That was, of course, considering that he was talented.magic

But because of the information the royal family had obtained from Minos' action at the local Spiritual Church temple entrance, this person knew that such a masked man must be highly talented.

Who would have a powerful ability to oppress those stronger than him without great talent?

No one!

Such a thing would go against Natural Law!

The more impressive someone's abilities were, the higher his talent should be, or he would be unable to expose such things.

A person might think that having techniques of outstanding quality was enough to reach the top of the world, but that was a foolish mistake!

A golden scroll would be nothing more than a valuable treasure to brag about if its owner did not have the necessary understanding to learn the technique inscribed there!

In this way, this man did not need to know how long it took Minos to reach level 61.

He knew that such a person was talented!

But Minos already had a power capable of dominating those of several levels above his by only being at level 61, so what would happen if he became a Spiritual Saint?

Thinking about how this fellow could probably reach level 70 in a few decades, this Spiritual Saint trembled with fear. 'If that happens, even if we want to fight with everything, we probably won't be able to stop the information from leaking out without much damage!'

'Even His Majesty might have trouble stopping this person from obtaining this information if we give him the chance to grow up...'

'By that time, it will all be over!' So he pondered, already almost entirely sure of what he should do.

Not acting there seemed the best decision in the short term. Nothing would happen, and the family would be able to live in peace for a few more years.

But the potential of a living enemy was many times greater than the problem of a dead enemy!

Acting there might attract people from the Church, but even an investigation by experts might lead to nothing. However, if Minos were determined to go after them, then doing nothing today would be like waiting for the end.

In this situation, this level 70 man decided to act!

"Let's see what they will do. If I realize these people have bad intentions against the family, we will act!" He said in a low voice to his two companions as he prepared to secretly enter the building that Minos' group had entered a few moments ago.

Gulp!

"All right!" The two soon began to follow this Spiritual Saint, fearful of having to act against members of the Church but sure that there must be a solid reason for this irreversible decision.

...

Meanwhile, inside that empty building that Minos and his wives had entered...

The five people there had already reached an area that looked like a large empty basement, where a lot of dust could be seen on the floor, and the typical smell of closed places was in the air.

But as Spiritual Emperors, they could ignore these signs and just focus on what they were about to do.

After Gloria, Ruth, and Minos started watching the surroundings, preparing to act if the enemy decided to act, Abby activated her innate ability. She made a blue fog come out of her fingers and envelop that man's body.

She then used her nerve control ability to wake this person from his faintness caused by Minos before stimulating reactions to make him tell the truth.

After a few moments, she felt that such a person was ready to talk and asked some basic things, such as his address, family, and essential things in his life.

They were going to threaten him, so it was important to know what they could best use to control him!

"Well, now tell me about your work. Do you have contact with any high-level members of royalty?" She asked, not wanting to demonstrate right away who their target was.

They were not sure if the enemy would act immediately, so in case they did not, it would be better to keep their main suspicions secret.

"Yes, some members of the royalty. But I don't have close contact with any of them, even though I work with the staff of His Highness, Abe Vogel."

"Is that so?" Abby took her cue. "What can you tell about him? Is he as ambitious as people say? Do you think he would be able to do something outside the rules for the sake of his power?"

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Chapter 1200 Fuse 2

magic

Upon hearing Abby's question, that man could not contain himself and said what he thought or knew under the effects of her innate ability. "I don't know His Highness to say if yes or no, but he can probably be considered an ambitious person."

"He seems very focused in his activities and does not tolerate mistakes."

"Would he violate the rules of the Church to get a higher position?" Abby rephrased her question.

"I don't know..." That Spiritual Emperor answered sincerely, while his body trembled from trying to reject the manipulation caused by Abby's powers.

Meanwhile, the three opponents of Minos' group were already in the surroundings, silently observing that area with several pilasters and low light.

Only a small side window on top of one of the basement walls allowed light to pass into that space.

'They are talking about His Highness!' The Spiritual Saint's eyes widened as his heart beat faster and faster at the possibility of what would happen there.

He heard Abby's voice. "You don't know anything compromising?"

"No."

"And who would know? I bet there are Spiritual Emperors who are closer to him, no?"

He continued to tremble as he said with difficulty. "That would be his secretary. But that person took her post just recently, so even she won't know much..."

"Only those above level 69 would have sensitive information." He commented, startling the Spiritual Saint and the other two men by his frankness in telling the truth so quickly.

'Is he on drugs? Are they forcing the truth out of him?' The Spiritual Saint noticed the bluish fog in the surroundings of that subordinate of the royal family.

'Damn it!'

'Those bastards of the Spiritual Church even have someone with such a good ability!'

'With that, they only lack the strength to be able to remove the truth from someone who knows something!' He clenched his fists and began to breathe faster.

"Boss..."

As his companions tried to warn him that he was making too much noise, Minos and his wives turned toward them, already in fighting positions.

"Who's there?" Minos asked, but he already knew who these people were.

He had no idea of their identities, but he was aware that these people were the ones who had been watching them for the past few days.

Abby then used some of her strength to end that hostage from them and positioned herself next to her team.

At this decisive moment, the two Spiritual Emperors were in doubt about what to do, but soon their leader stepped forward out of the shadows.

"What is the meaning of this? What is the Church doing kidnapping a subordinate of the royal family?" He asked, pretending he had not heard their questioning.

p Minos and his wives stood almost face to face with those three men, none of those three hiding their faces, despite the camouflage clothes they wore.

The leader of the Black Plains then said in a grave tone, trying to compel these people to act. "I suspect that your family has committed a heinous crime. So, naturally, we are investigating the matter. Why? Are you here to talk?"

"Heinous crime?" The two Spiritual Emperors looked at each other, not understanding what this was all about but certain that there was more there than meets the eye.

The Spiritual Saint sensed that Minos was looking for the crime committed by Abe's group, which could end their entire organization. "You are making unfounded accusations! What proof do you have? How can you act against one of our own without any evidence or witnesses?" He asked in a more agitated tone.

But he did not give Minos a chance to answer.

"I think you're trying to harm us on purpose!" He said before looking at his two companions. "Did you see what this woman did? She was manipulating our subordinate!"

He looked at Minos' group again, pointing one of his fingers as if he was showing those two the world's most remarkable criminals. "I bet they're up to something nefarious! They were probably going to manipulate our subordinate into confessing to lies!"

"What?"

"It can't be! Why?" The two exclaimed, realizing that Abby's powers seemed sinister and this group was trying to sabotage the Vogel family.

A spear appeared in one of that Spiritual Saint's hands, and he said. "I feel you are enemies of House Vogel and traitors to the Spiritual Church. Surrender now peacefully, or we will have to act in self-defense!"

"Oh?" Minos opened his mouth, pleased that such a person had decided to act.

It would have been much harder for him to prove the Vogel family guilty if they had ignored him. But with this Spiritual Saint willing to act, that showed all the guilt of this organization, enough for the Church to consider action against them!

That was why he had said the previous words and was happy with the enemy's stance.

As for the power difference between their groups, he did not think he was at such a disadvantage there.

Minos then smiled and said. "I'll give you the same chance. Surrender now, and you may be able to save yourselves. Otherwise, prepare to face extermination!"

"You have sent Spiritual Saints to Black Plain, a far more heinous crime than the one committed by Furious Shadows!"

As the two Spiritual Emperors frowned, the Spiritual Saint's face became darker, with him realizing that the opposing side had already figured it all out.

"Fallacy! You're crazy!" He shouted as he circulated his energies, already preparing to act. 'First, I'm going to kill this wretch just to make sure that bigger problems don't happen!'

"Men, these people don't listen to the voice of reason. So use lethal force. There's no need to spare any of these people!" He said as Minos' group also prepared to act.

Minos looked at Abby and Ruth and then said without delay. "Do as I instructed earlier. But don't hesitate. This battle will be over in a heartbeat!"

"All right!" The two replied while Gloria was in anticipation to see what difference Always Up would make to these three at this point.

The effects of that herb on her body had already passed, and only Abby, Minos, and Ruth could still experience such a thing.

But since the difference between her and that Spiritual Saint was only one level, and she probably had better techniques than his, she knew that the battle was not so unfavorable to her group.

That even considering that there were two other opponents there who, in typical situations, would be strong enough to cause danger to them.

Hence, despite being pregnant and at a disadvantage in terms of level to her group, Gloria was somewhat excited and curious if they could achieve Minos' ambitious plan.

Minos saw that the enemies were about to attack and commented provocatively to that Spiritual Saint. "If you will not surrender now, prepare for the ultimate consequences. We will kill these two and force you to talk!"

"Tsk!"

Without another word, the three flew towards Minos' group as black rings began to appear from the bodies of those two Spiritual Emperors.

Devouring Art!

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