

## **Black Plain 1241**

### Chapter 1241 Minos' Growing Influence

"Minos Stuart, what do you intend to do to pay for your boldness?" Gloria's father asked after a moment, looking at this son-in-law he had never expected to have.

Joseph had nothing against Minos as a person. In fact, he even admired this young man, as the Stuart King could do what was necessary to complete his own goals, someone who did not depend on family to get what he wanted.

But Minos was far from what he wanted for his daughter, even more so considering this young man's other two wives, something Joseph did not like since this meant less attention for Gloria. And like a good father, he wished the best for his only daughter.

He wanted Gloria to marry another member of the Spiritual Church, someone with similar talent as hers, as well as goals and customs. But, at the same time, it would be best if such a person were monogamous, as were most members of the Church.

But unfortunately, his beloved daughter had fallen for the wrong young man, and now she was no longer able to part with him due to an unplanned pregnancy.

Because of this, he naturally had a certain resentment against the young man who had disrupted his daughter's life and wanted such a person to make some commitments!

"What do I intend to do?" Minos repeated this part of his father-in-law's question and then looked at Margot. "I think I'm already doing everything I should, no? Didn't my mother-in-law tell you about our arrangement?"

Margot made a frown at Minos as her husband said. "She did..."

"Then what more do you want?" He asked and then looked at the redheaded woman at his side. "Gloria, are you by any chance unhappy? Do I mistreat you? Abby? Ruth?"

"Of course I'm happy." She replied as she looked at her father. "Father, Minos is very good to me. He is a much better man than I could ever imagine having. As for Abby and Ruth, they are always by my side and give me full support. We are a close-knit family!"

Margot looked at her daughter and felt immensely disappointed. 'How can she say that? Doesn't she have to share her time with him with these two?'

Meanwhile, Joseph was as calm as before, still looking at Minos. "That's not what we're talking about here. If my daughter weren't happy, you wouldn't be here talking to us so peacefully."

"The point here is, you are harming the Church through Gloria! She should be cultivating diligently to be promoted to the position of Matriarch, but now, in addition to living in the northern region, she is pregnant and cannot cultivate."

Gloria did not like to hear this and asked. "What do you mean? Are you saying that my baby is a retard?"

"Honey, you know your father didn't mean that." Margot gestures for Gloria to be reassured while Ruth, Abby, and Zoe stand silently, watching everything as if they were watching a show.

Joseph then said. "I am happy that I will become a grandfather. But that doesn't change the fact that you will have your journey delayed by a few years when you are still only a Spiritual Emperor."

Minos then said to his father-in-law while massaging Gloria's waist for her to let him handle everything. "That's not a problem. Gloria's cultivation speed is excellent, and she will naturally make up for the lost time in less than a decade."

"A decade?" That fellow looked at Minos, wondering where this lad got the confidence to talk about being able to cultivate to the 8th stage and now about this.

But Minos did not explain. "As for the rest, even if it doesn't happen, it doesn't matter. You know that just one or two levels won't change Gloria's status much. Plus, she can become much more powerful if she has political support, not personal power. So, pregnancy is not an issue."

"Oh? And where will she get that political support from? From you?" Margot asked as she smiled at him, indicating that he still thinks very highly of himself.

Joseph's eyes sharpened as he looked at Minos, waiting for this bold fellow's answer.

"Sure, who besides me has a state on their hands? I guess you don't, eh, mother-in-law?" Minos smiled back.

"Tsk!"

"With your little Black Plain, what can you do for Gloria? She is already one step away from becoming a Spiritual Saint!"

Minos paid no attention to his mother-in-law's comments and said. "The Black Plain still has a long way to go. But what about Vogel?"

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"Vogel?" Joseph's eyebrows frowned even more as he remembered the incident on that state's border with the Empire and the problems of that place after the fall of the royal family.

The Church groups in that state, including one of the Iron Hearts, had already made many changes in Vogel. In particular, the royalty members who had stayed behind were executed.

On the other hand, the Church members led by the Spiritual Sage who wished to find Minos had already organized much of that state and were almost putting it back to normal.

Joseph knew about all this and more but not about the negotiations between the noble families of that state and Minos' representatives. Hence, he was interested in what his son-in-law had to say.

Minos then replied to him. "Yes, Vogel will soon have a new king. And it just so happens that the best candidate for such a position is standing in front of you, father-in-law!"

"You?" Margot asked as she strangely looked at Minos.

She and her husband knew that the Stuart family name had come up among the possibilities, but no one in the Spiritual Church was taking such a thing seriously!

Therefore, after hearing Minos' confident tone, she and Joseph found his comment strange.

"Yes, I already have the support of the royal families of Blackrock, Albano, and Rosser." Minos smiled, showing some of his influence to get these people to stop bothering him. "My representatives are already in that state negotiating with the local families. So it's only a matter of time before your Church consecrates me as King of Vogel!"

Zoe, Joseph, and Margot heard this with open mouths, surprised by such a thing but also doubtful of the veracity of the words of this young man they barely knew.

But then, before they even questioned him, Gloria stepped forward to defend her husband. "Minos is speaking the truth. The Black Plain already has a trade agreement with Albano, and my husband is the best chance for Vogel not to fall into a civil war and get together before the Empire destroys their allies."

"Oh?" Joseph, the leader of this Spiritual Church post, opened his mouth upon hearing that and realized there was a bit of reason in his daughter's words.

'This fellow could become the one who keeps the peace at this crucial moment if he were to renounce many of the powers conferred on a monarch...' He closed his eyes and imagined that Minos was smart enough for that.

'Then he will at least have some advantages to improve his state's position with this move, which is enough to give him access to the leaders of 5 states of a higher level than his...'

'In other words, he can get a lot of political influence out of this!'

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## Chapter 1242 The Ambitious Black Plain Project

"So you want to become the King of Vogel, huh?" Joseph asked as he looked at Minos, thinking of the consequences this young man was ignoring. "And what are you going to do about the Flaming Empire?"

"What about the Empire?" Minos questioned.

"There is a conflict of interest here, no? Your family is part of the Empire, but you want to take command of an enemy state..." Minos' father-in-law cited this problem. "How will you handle it?"

The women in that place looked at Minos along with this man, and this young man answered. "I have no problem with the Flaming Empire, so I will find a way to solve these old problems when the time is appropriate. But until then, the powers of Vogel will be free to act as they wish."

"That really won't be under my control."

Margot frowned, thinking that this answer was not good enough. "If you become the ruler of that state, you will naturally be seen as an enemy of the Empire."

"I don't see it that way." Minos shook his head, indicating that this was not right. "In any case, the Emperor won't be able to do anything against me without breaking Church rules or risking being caught by the women of the Flower Kingdom. Then my family and I will be fine."

Margot shook her head in disappointment, seeing this young man using the barriers of the Church to defend himself rather than thinking of a solid solution.

But then she looked at Gloria. "What about you? What are you going to do? Are you going to stand against your own state?"

"I will side with my family, of course. I have nothing to do with the Empire's disputes with the four kingdoms to the north." Gloria said without hesitation.

They were members of the Spiritual Church, but most in this temple were natives of the Flaming Empire. As such, they had some of the history and culture of the people of this state, which put many of them against the kingdoms to the north.

Because of this history behind them and the education, Gloria had received from her father's family, Margot was in doubt about her daughter's position in all of this.

Joseph looked at his daughter similarly to Margot, seeing that this young woman was focused on her marriage, not their history.

But he did not press her. Instead, he just turned his attention to Minos' project. "So what are you going to do to repair the cultivation time Gloria will lose? What will you do if you become the King of Vogel?"

Minos answered him without delay. "The Black Plain will benefit from all this, and I will extend my influence, as well as Gloria's, across the four enemy kingdoms of the Empire. This will give us access to Church members in each of the posts in those states, which will help me crates good support for my wife."

The Church was one organization despite its divisions. So any member who had more support, even if not necessarily from their main post, could reap greater benefits.

After all, members of that organization could be sent to new posts, not necessarily being fixed in their home states.

So if Gloria had the support of all the Spiritual Saints from the posts in those four states, for example, even if she did not have support in the Temple of Payton, she would still be just as influential as the local leader.

In fact, the chances of her getting a promotion to another Church post, perhaps even headquarters, would become more significant if she had support from many Church members beyond her state.

The leader of a post, as in the case of Gloria's father, was not chosen by the local members of that temple. No, the decision came from a vote among members one level above, that is, the rank in charge of that branch.

In the case of the northern region, the post that oversaw that area was the Temple of Payton. As such, the Spiritual Saints of this place were the ones who decided the Spiritual Emperor to guide that area.

As for the Spiritual Saint who commanded the Temple of Payton, that individual was chosen by a council of Spiritual Sages in the Evergreen Empire.

But these individuals on the council oversaw various other posts, such as the cases of the temples in the capitals of each of the four enemy kingdoms to the Flaming Empire.

Thus, Gloria's morals with people outside the Empire were as relevant or more relevant than her having the same in the Empire!

Joseph was silent after Minos' reply, while Margot looked at him with an advisory look. "You think it will all work out, but the Emperor will cause problems for your family's sect if you become the King of Vogel..."

Minos laughed upon hearing that. "Good thing I have the protection of the Church for a few more years, right? As for the Gray Clouds Sect, I've never been to that place, so I have no relationship with them."

"Any trouble that happens is between the imperial family and them..."

"Really? What about that talk about you becoming the successor of that sect?" Margot remembered Maisie's comment when she had passed through the Black Plain.

Minos frowned and said. "That was the first time I heard that too. What can I do? They think they have some power over my destiny. But they didn't ask me if I wanted to."

"Anyway, all these problems can be solved or delayed if you help us..." He smiled as he showed them the way. "Just delay the Empire a bit, and the stability that existed before the fall of the Vogel family will return."

"One way to do that is to get me to the imperial palace..." He suggested.

"What?" Margot exclaimed in surprise.

"What do you want to do?" Joseph asked as the women in that place watched Minos.

Minos then said. "Nothing much. As Albano's trade ally, I promised to help keep peace in the region. So I am on a quest to fulfill that promise. If I can talk to the Emperor, maybe I can get something done without him knowing I will become the King of Albano..."

Abby and Ruth looked at Minos as they heard this for the first time, trying to imagine what he had in mind to attempt such a meeting. But knowing that their husband was a very capable man, they did not doubt that he could gain some benefit by having access to the Emperor.

"Well, that can be done." Joseph did not refuse Minos' request since diplomacy was part of the role of members of the Spiritual Church in the states where that organization was present.

Since it could also help Gloria to some degree, he was not against trying to use his influence to put Minos in contact with the local sovereign.

Minos was a descendant of the master of the Gray Clouds Sect, so it would not be entirely strange for him to meet with the Emperor. Even more so considering the mess, such a lad had made in the northern region a few years ago.

With that, Minos smiled that his father-in-law did not seem as foolish as his mother-in-law, who had given him a bit of a challenge during the previous visit.

'Very good!'

'Now I have to negotiate with this Emperor and eventually get peace...' He laughed internally at the thought that the responsibility of securing peace had fallen into the lap of just him, a revolutionary!

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## Chapter 1243 Tension In The Saints Slaying Sect

After finishing their previous conversation, Minos and his wives were relieved when Margot and Joseph left them to continue their business.

The two were very important in this Temple of Payton, so as soon as they had that brief talk with Minos and saw Gloria, they returned to their jobs.

But both had promised to return to their conversations from earlier during dinner, and from their tones, Minos knew that the two would still try to pressure him in some way.

However, after meeting his father-in-law, he also had the impression that he had favorably impressed such a person, which meant that his time would be easier in this place.

Thus, the four were left alone with Zoe, Gloria's cousin.

"You are very ambitious for a person only at level 61..." Zoe commented as she looked intensely at Minos.

But she couldn't look at him like he was a fool talking nonsense since she had heard all of Minos' arguments with those two millennial experts. He knew what he was doing and could even argue against her uncle and aunt.

So, Zoe was naturally interested in this husband of her cousin's.

Minos winked at her and said. "I started planning the independence of my state when I was at level 0... So, my current situation is much better than you think."

Ruth and Abby smiled as they heard Minos' humorous tone while Gloria said to her cousin. "Everything is going to be fine. Just watch how my husband handles things, Zoe."

"You all are confident..." The silver-haired young woman said in a low voice, not understanding how they could do all that while having so little.

Not only that, considering the strength of the Empire, of Vogel, of various organizations they would have to get involved in, she could not help but think that it was all hazardous.

But while Zoe had many things on her mind, Gloria said. "Minos, let me show you this place..."

In this way, soon, they all departed from the entrance hall of Gloria's parents' residence, with this beautiful redhead showing every part of this grand temple to her family.

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Meanwhile, at the headquarters of the Saints Slaying Sect...

This place was going about its days as usual, with many disciples training in the training places around the floating headquarters of this organization. At the same time, elders handled bureaucratic matters, sending and receiving orders.

But some elders from families in this organization had been a bit worried in the last months, fearful about what had happened to the Vogel family.

Some of them were responsible for putting Abe against Minos, so since the fall of the Vogel family and the beginning of the Spiritual Church investigations in that state, those responsible for that had hardly slept.

But that was not the only problem with the people in this place!

"Do you have any news of Gavin?" One of those concerned about the Spiritual Church, who was also in search of this young man, heard the question from the leader of that organization.

He then looked at that powerful person, who had the matters of the war against the Gray Clouds Sect in mind at the moment and was not so focused on this Gavin Rowse matter. "Sect master, we haven't heard from that fellow since he left Albano."

"That brat hid in this enemy state of the Empire for a few months after his departure but escaped shortly afterward. Since then, we've lost track of him." This person said while trying to keep his worries in check.

,m Then, another person in the sect master's office stepped forward and spoke. "Sect master, we suspect Gavin is hiding in the northern region. But we have no contacts in those areas, so we are far from reaching any pointers."

The sect master grew more serious upon hearing this, not liking that his target had gone into hiding in such a troublesome place.

The problem with the northern region was that, considering its size, finding a person there would be like looking for a needle in a haystack. Also, due to the weakness of the inhabitants of such a region, finding clues about a Spiritual Emperor would be difficult. After all, someone like that could fly!

But then one of the sect master's trusted men said something positive. "If that brat went to the northern region, he won't be able to advance to the 8th stage. In that case, we just have to send groups to investigate him and keep our friends in the four kingdoms bordering such a region to watch for his eventual escape."

"He will try to seek a stronger place when he reaches level 69!"

"Oh?" The sect master looked at that man, finding that suggestion interesting. "Very well, let's send some Spiritual Emperors to investigate that region. But let's not take any rash action. The Spiritual Church has been very reactive lately..."

Gulp!

The two people who were most afraid of that organization among everyone in that office swallowed their saliva in fear, again imagining Vogel's situation.

After that, the sect master freed all of them to handle the affairs of the war with the Gray Clouds Sect, while those two left that area together.

"What are we going to do if the Church notices something? Should we alert the sect master?" The man asked the woman at his side.

The woman looked at him with wide eyes and said. "Are you crazy? The sect master will kill us all if something like this comes to his attention!" magic

"But what do we do? The Church will eventually find out something!" He said, worried about living with that fear for his entire life.

"Maybe not. Even if they suspect something, what proof will they have? The words of someone from that organization will only create suspicion. But we didn't give any direct orders. Everything was handled through personal conversations." She said, hopeful that the Church would get nothing to sentence them to death.

'Damn it!'

'After all that, we couldn't kill the damned Minos, and now we're living this drama!' The man thought to himself, remembering that the deaths of his family members had not been avenged after the whole plot.

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Meanwhile, the master of this sect was finishing listening to updates on the battles between his organization and the sect of Minos' grandfather.

The two organizations were not at total war, as the Flaming Empire would not allow that. Instead, the war between the two organizations was more like a partial conflict in which they fought on a pre-established battlefield.

That way, the two parties could assure the imperial family that they would not bring chaos to the Empire and everything would be resolved involving only the two organizations.

Since the two sects had close territories, the battle took place in a part of the Flaming Empire's border with the Evergreen Empire, where there were no living beings for hundreds of square kilometers.

"So that damned Oswald is thinking of intensifying the battle, eh? Fine by me!" He said in a firm tone. "Send more troops to the border. I want to wash that place with the blood of those damn gray clouds toads!"

"Yes, sect master!"

Chapter 1244 Inevitable

The next day...

After a quiet night in the capital of the Flaming Empire, Minos and his wives had gotten to know a bit of that city and the local temple.

They had not yet gone out to do business but instead visited the local library of the Temple of Payton, a place that Minos wanted to stop by to look for some information.

Minos had been looking for information on organizations outside the northern region of the Central Continent for some time but had not had many opportunities in the past.

In his recent passage through Church posts in Rosser and Vogel, he had other problems in mind in such situations and had not found anything useful either.

But still, Minos had not forgotten about the Blood Triangle Pirates, who were behind the map in his spatial ring. At the same time, he had an enmity with the people of the Saints Slaying Sect, so that was another organization he sought information from.

There was still the mystery of the North Sea, but Minos had no hope of getting information about such a place in the Flaming Empire.

After all, even Grant, the Storyteller, a native of the Western Empire, had lost a high-level companion in that place. So, how could a lower-level Empire have the answers he sought?

With that, Minos and his wives had spent some time in the library of the Temple of Payton the night before, having already obtained some hints and information that would be useful to them on their journey.

But they still had not gotten the best information, just enough to know there was something else to investigate in this place.

So after leaving the library the day before, they decided to return a few more times to this place in the coming days while they were doing business in this city.

It seemed that some organization in the Evergreen Empire was on to something important, but they needed to talk to more people to get less vague information.

With that, they had dined with Gloria's family and spent the night in that residence, where they woke up this morning when they would begin their business at this place.

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"Good morning, mother-in-law..." Minos said as he faced Gloria's mother in that residence's kitchen, seeing his wives already starting to eat.

Seeing this young man who still had his hair messy, Margot remembered something and smiled at Minos.

"How long do you intend to stay here?" She asked him as he strangely looked at her.

"Just long enough for us to settle some business. I think about three or four days. Why?" Minos asked before putting a piece of toast with jam in his mouth.

"Hehe, I don't think you'll be here that long..." She smiled as she prepared another plate for Gloria.  
"Don't you want to become the King of Vogel? I think you will soon return there..."

Minos and his wives did not quite understand what this woman meant and just watched her in doubt.

He then ignored her comment and said. "If you want me away fast, you can start by giving me some information about the Blood Triangle Pirates. I couldn't find out everything I wanted to because of the censorship in the local library books..."

"Blood Triangle Pirates?" Margot looked at Minos with a bit of interest. She knew a piece or two of information about this organization, so she wanted to know his motives. "Why do you want to know about them?"

Minos then answered her. "I just noticed some groups of pirates in my area claiming to be working for this organization in search of something. So, I became curious about them. After all, what is there for an organization from the Evergreen Empire to look for in those areas?"

Margot looked at him and said. "Forget about it. There is nothing for you to want to get involved with that organization just because they are looking for something."

"But can't you tell us a little about them, mother?" Gloria asked.

"No, you don't need to know." She replied, considering their own good.

'This is an arm of the imperial family of that place, which has a connection with the Church. Then, you'd better not know anything, so you don't get into trouble.' She pondered in silence.

Margot was too weak to know the most detailed information about this organization. Hence, she did not know what the Blood Triangle Pirates were after, nor the exact relationship of this organization to the Church.magic

Therefore, she could only suspect that it would not be the best thing for Minos and her daughter to get involved with things that even she, at level 77, could not access.

Meanwhile, Gloria was looking at her mother and pressing her jaw, feeling her mother was trying to slow them down. 'Alright! I'll find out when I get to the 8th stage!'

As for Minos, he just realized that the problem with this organization was much worse than he had thought. 'Maybe they are connected to a high-level group in the Evergreen Empire?'

'Well, considering that such a group even acts in the Continent of the Beasts, even considering the danger of going against the dragon laws, there must be something powerful on their side.' He considered.

He then asked. "Then tell me about the Saints Slaying Sect. Who is stronger, that sect or the Gray Clouds Sect?"

He could ask Gloria and Ruth that, but the two had not yet reached the level of experience to answer that question with the same expertise as Margot. So Minos was counting on his mother-in-law for that.

She looked at him as she realized he was worried about his family. "Don't worry. The Gray Clouds Sect won't fall to the Saints Killing Sect. They are not that different in terms of power, and the emperor would never allow such a thing."

"I'm not worried about that..." Minos said. "I just want to know how hard it would be to destroy the Saints Killing Sect using the Gray Clouds Sect."

"Tsk!"

"You like to think absurd thoughts!" She said, feeling a little irritated at this young man who was so full of himself. 'Just you wait, you rascal. You'll soon lose that facade!' She controlled herself not to hit Minos at the thought of what would happen.

So Minos went back to eating with his wives, while one of them would ask Margot about the previous subject now and then.

But Gloria's mother would only answer questions concerning the Saints Killing Sect, leaving organizations from places stronger than the Flaming Empire aside.



That was until, just as they were about to leave that estate to go about their business in this city, a spatial disturbance appeared above the Temple of Payton, and they all noticed it.

"Pyke! Get out now. I'm here to get you!" A Spiritual Sage said this in a tone loud enough for everyone in that temple to hear him.

While Minos felt that this was probably for him, Margot laughed and said. "It's your time to talk to him, isn't it, 'Pyke'?"

Hearing this, Minos understood everything and looked at this woman as if saying she would pay for it.

"Pyke! Come now! It is inevitable. You will not run away from me today!" The Sage said once again as he looked in the direction of Margot's house, who had reported this fellow.

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#### Chapter 1245 Mystery Solved

The moment Minos and his wives left the kitchen of Margot's residence, the Spiritual Sage looked directly at the lawn of that estate, where they were.

When he saw the same faces he had seen months ago between the border of Rosser and the Flaming Empire, he immediately frowned.

"You?" He asked aloud, finding it an incredible coincidence that they were standing there. Even more so considering that Gloria was not in her Church uniform that day and had not even identified herself to him.

At the thought of this, this level 81 man soon began to feel that they had somehow disrespected him and made a frown as he looked at them.

Margot then pointed at Minos and said. "Cardinal, this is the young man who pretended to be Pyke during the situation in Vogel..."

Minos then looked at his mother-in-law with a surprised expression, upset that such a woman was scheming against him when he had done nothing against her.

But he was also surprised that Margot had found out about his time in Vogel when he had been careful to cover his tracks so many times.

Unfortunately for Minos, as much as others could not access Gloria's identification, Margot could. Because of this, she realized that her daughter had passed through the capital of Vogel just when 'Pyke' had been acting in that state.

With that, she connected the dots and identified Minos as 'Pyke,' whom this superior of hers was searching for.

After discovering this, it had only been a matter of hours before the level 81 Spiritual Sage received her message and came to this city.

"You?" That man opened his eyes wider upon hearing Margot's comment, feeling even more deceived by that brat.

"Kid, you tricked me! I was looking for you months ago, but you dared not identify yourself even though you were standing before me in that previous situation!" He said as he approached where Minos was.

At this moment, several experts in that temple were already watching them, trying to understand the situation. But not only that, even people from the royal palace on the other side of Payton's central square were focused in that direction, as it was unusual for someone of that man's level to appear in this state.

Unfortunately, Minos had no time to pay attention to the many eyes watching in his direction. "Cardinal, I don't know what you are talking about. How was I to know that you were after me? I was just following my journey here."

"Humph!"

"It was your duty to wait for someone sent by the Church to that state for you to give your statement. So why didn't you wait?" He asked, dissatisfied with this boy's excuses.

Minos then said. "I thought it could be done here in the Flaming Empire. What difference does it make if I report what happened here or in Vogel? At the end of the day, the information will still reach the Church command."

"Tsk!"

"You're good at excuses..." Margot said, trying to make it difficult for her son-in-law. "Be a little more honest, Minos."

"Minos?" That Spiritual Sage finally understood the identity of the rascal who had tricked him. "Are you the King of the Black Plain? It's not for nothing that you wish chaos in Vogel! You have your eyes set on that place!"

Minos cursed Margot in his mind as Gloria glared at her. This young redhead then said. "You are wrong, Cardinal. My husband never thought of Vogel until they attacked the Black Plain without any justification."

Ruth also said something. "And they were the ones who acted first that fateful day in Vogel. My husband was only protecting his state and even the Spiritual Church since the enemy was plotting against such a noble organization!"

Abby nodded in agreement. "They fooled the Church for years... I bet they were making secret toasts and laughing at this great organization." magic

The Spiritual Sage closed his eyes, feeling irritated by the defenses of those young women, but all that was reasonable to say, even considering that they were only defending Minos.

"None of this changes the fact that you are coveting a new state, Minos Stuart." He said before turning his attention back to Gloria. "And you, little girl. You stood in front of me and did not identify yourself. May I know the reason for this disrespect, or will you accept your punishment?"

But before he let her answer his question, he remembered better the information from 'Pyke' and what had happened in that now Volcanic Region. 'It was them!'

He looked back at Minos and asked. "You caused all that destruction? So it was your so-called bomb?"

Gloria closed her mouth and looked at Minos, while Margot was also surprised at such a thing.

Minos then replied. "Hmm, we were attacked by Spiritual Saints while looking for a place to blow it up safely. So, I was forced to use that thing in that place to protect my family."

Minos had no problem talking about it with these people. After all, the information about the power of that Black Hole Bomb was already known to the many who he had threatened in Vogel.

Since Margot had already handed him over on a platter to this Spiritual Sage, there was no longer any reason for him to hide the truth. But, on the other hand, he could very well use an unfavorable situation to his advantage!

Influence was worth a lot to powerful people, and his Black Hole Bomb gave him much of that!

Thus, he had surprised many people in the surrounding area, even Gloria's father, who had just appeared there because of the arrival of that expert.

"You did that? How?" Joseph asked in surprise, looking at Minos like many Spiritual Saints were doing.

Minos sighed and said. "I won't go into details, but I can make a fusion that results in something real that can grow independent of my powers."

That Spiritual Sage felt a little less offended by Minos' actions upon finding out about this, already considering that such a fellow was exceptionally talented for someone so ordinary.

Margot was amazed to hear all this and questioned him. "Is something like this possible? I've never heard of something created by a level 61 Spiritual Emperor becoming so strong!"

Minos shook his shoulders and said. "Ask the Spiritual Saints in the capital of Vogel. They all saw when I controlled that thing."

The level 81 man closed his eyes upon hearing this, having already heard such a thing from the people he had interrogated in the previous months.

'So this kid can do something like that?' He wondered. 'The King of the Black Plain is much more defiant than the rumors say! With something like this, he can threaten practically all the neighboring kingdoms in his region...'

'Could that be why the royal families of those three states are working for him in Vogel?' He wondered, not knowing the reality behind the negotiations in Vogel.

As the temporary regent of that state, he knew about the movements between the local noble families. In that way, he was aware of the actions of the Black Plain in trying to dominate that place.

"Sigh..."

'What do I do now? He clearly has a lot of advantages to take that place, but maybe he doesn't deserve that after all he's done...' He pondered in silence while several high-level Spiritual Saints from this temple questioned Minos.

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Chapter 1246 He Deserves A Medal

'On the one hand, he is probably to blame for part of what happened in Vogel. But, on the other, he has a right to have done that. After all, we don't forbid the powers of the northern region to act against those from other parts of the continent...'

And not for nothing. After all, what could mere Spiritual Kings and very few Spiritual Emperors do outside the northern region?

Because of this, only that weak region was protected from outside powers, and Minos' actions did not go against the Church's rules. But Vogel, on the other hand, had disrespected that noble institution and committed serious crimes that they knew would bring wrath upon themselves.

So was it wrong for Minos to move into that place to help the Church discover the Vogel family's plots and still wish to seize local power?

From the point of view of the rules of the Spiritual Church, Minos actually deserved to receive a medal, while House Vogel should be hunted down and exterminated!

But even knowing this, this Spiritual Sage did not like this situation at all, feeling as if it was wrong not even to question this person acting for his own interests.

'Never mind. I wash my hands of this problem.'

'The Vogel family attracted this little devil into their home, so it's only fair that they ended up like this...' He pondered after considering the matter for a few moments.

But then he remembered Minos' level and laughed. 'Hell, they're incompetent!'

'Even if this young man is out of the ordinary, the difference between levels is too great!'

'Then they can only blame themselves for being negligent and ending up in the current situation because of someone of level 61.'

As for the situation involving Minos and the other three neighboring states in the northern region, this man could not do anything about it. And he didn't care either.

The Church would try to avoid conflicts in their states, but at the end of the day, they were not totally against conflicts and problems like this man thought. So if Minos was using a weapon like the one that created the Vulcanic Region to threaten Rosser, Albano, and Blackrock, that was those states' problems with the Black Plain, not the Spiritual Church's.

Hence, this Cardinal soon put this matter of Minos blackmailing such kingdoms aside and turned his attention to those four people who had deceived him about the previous matter.

First, he turned his attention to Gloria, who had not yet answered his question.

The people in the surrounding area realized he wanted to hear these people, so they stopped asking questions, making room for Gloria to say something.

"Cardinal, I was not working that day, so I was without my uniform. As for not identifying myself, I am pregnant, so I just wanted to avoid our trip back here being delayed by any mishaps."

He heard this and realized that Gloria was pregnant, even considering her young age. "You truly are pregnant... And is a very talented little girl." He murmured, feeling the age of the fetus growing in the belly of this level 69 cultivator.

"All right, I'll forgive your disrespectful actions that day, but I still want to hear your statement about what happened in the Vogel capital." Then, he made a finger gesture, causing those four to float toward him. magic

Minos realized what he wanted to do and shouted. "Wait a moment. Let's do it here. There's no need for us to go to Vogel!"

"That will be your punishment for deceiving me!" The old Spiritual Sage smiled as he opened a wormhole to Vogel, quickly taking Minos and those three with him.

'Damn it!' Minos shouted in his mind, already finding himself inside that strange path commonly used by Spiritual Sages and stronger ones to travel.

'All on account of that woman! What a motherf...'

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As the five people disappeared from that temple in the capital of the Flaming Empire, Joseph looked at his wife and saw that she had an ugly expression on her face.

"What is it, dear?"

"I didn't think he would take Gloria too." She replied, feeling it was a shame that all this had happened.

Margot thought she could make that fellow suffer a little by arranging to send him to Vogel while Gloria would stay home for the next few months, away from Minos. But, unfortunately, she had not counted on the overreaction of the Spiritual Sage in question.

"It's too late now..." Joseph smiled at her, but he was still thinking about the information brought by that Spiritual Sage. 'So Minos can do something of that level? Not bad!'

'It seems he is more talented than I had thought.'

But for Margot Minos' talent and power did not change his status much in her mind since this fellow had impregnated her precious daughter without giving Gloria a chance to do other things in her life.

Anyway, while the people in the surroundings of this temple were talking about what had just happened, the emperor of this state was still watching in the direction of such a place in curiosity.

As a level 80 Spiritual Sage, he had been the first to notice that level 81 man's arrival and begin to observe the situation from afar. Thus, he had followed all the discussion in that place and was curious to talk to some of his old friends about the young man who had been taken to Vogel.

"Invite the Frost family to a dinner party at my house in four days." He gave his order to one of the imperial guards in his throne hall.

Harold did not like the idea of Vogel recovering and returning to the side of those other three states, almost unaffected. But Minos taking over that state differed from a local family doing that!



At the same time, like the Cardinal of the Spiritual Church, this old 'fox' had thought that Minos was blackmailing other states to speak on his behalf.

He had informants everywhere, so he was aware of the negotiations going on in Vogel with the royal families of Rosser, Albano, and Blackrock working for the Black Plain.

Then, Harold had 'understood' Minos' movement against Vogel and could not help but wish to talk to that young grandson of Oswald to hear some of his ideas.

If possible, he wanted to act with King Stuart to finish his historical enemies more easily!

'That young man is interesting...' He pondered as he returned to his training area. 'He has just won a war of independence and is already aiming to expand his domains.'

'I wonder what his potential is? And what is he planning? Will I be next?' He laughed as he thought about that last question, knowing it was impossible for Minos.

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So, in the blink of an eye, dozens of minutes had passed since the departure of Minos' group from Payton.

And just at this instant, a spatial distortion appeared over the capital of Vogel, with the appearance of five people in that place soon afterward.

"Well, welcome back to Vogel!" The Spiritual Sage said while the Spiritual Saints that Minos had met before were on the outskirts of that place, already waiting for them.

"You want to become the king of this place, don't you, Minos? Then I am confident you will not find it bad to visit your future city for a few more days..." He said with a smile on his face, as people in the surroundings were surprised by this information.

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## Chapter 1247 Back To The Capital Of Vogel

When the people on the outskirts of that area above the Vogel capital temple heard the Spiritual Sage referring to that young man as Minos, they soon connected the dots and understood the situation.

"Minos?"

"The King of the Black Plain?"

"So it was that fellow who was here at that time? No wonder he acted so vigorously against the Vogel family! He already wanted to take that kingdom for himself!"

The people there commented on the matter briefly, while the Spiritual Emperors in the surrounding area also watched everything from afar.

The Spiritual Sage had left this city earlier, and everyone there had stayed on the outskirts waiting for him, as this man was the local ruler and could not stay away for long. As such, among the many curious to see this group returning, the woman who had made the previous deal with Minos was there watching them from afar.

Seeing his face without a mask covering it and learning this person's identity, she was surprised that King Stuart was behind everything that happened in this place back then.

'I wonder where the resources he promised to come from?' She wondered, but already with an agreement signed with Minos, there was nothing else for her to do.

Besides, if he could not fulfill such a thing, he would be the one to suffer the consequences, not her nor her companions. So, Louise was not worried about him keeping the promises made earlier.

'Did he do that considering that he would take the kingdom?' She opened her mouth in surprise, unable to believe Minos' risky move. 'What a dangerous thing! He's risking his own life with such a deal!'

Meanwhile, Minos looked at the surroundings of that city and felt the frustration of having to return to this place that was months away from Payton.magic

'Damn, now I'll have to pay to use the teleportation service!' He complained in his mind, feeling that this was the only way he could shorten his return to the capital of the Flaming Empire.

"Sigh..."

'I guess I'll have to make the most of this situation!' He accepted his new circumstances and soon considered visiting the local noble families to try to speed up those organizations' agreements with the Black Plain.

Minos was more than happy with the royal families of Vogel's three allied states and Elen's team negotiating in this kingdom. But since he was in this place now, there was no harm in participating in the talks to speed up the whole process of royal succession.

With that, his forced return to this place would not be wasted!

"There was no need for that. We could have talked in the Flaming Empire..." He muttered in a low voice, knowing that figure would hear him.

But that Spiritual Sage ignored him and said to the Spiritual Saints in the area. "You may return to your duties now. I will take the statements of these people, and then you can talk to them."

"Yes, Cardinal!" Several replied as they looked carefully at Minos before departing from there.

Some of them were the reinforcements sent by the Church after the battle against the Vogel family, so they did not know Minos. But others there, like the original leader of this post, Clarissa, had been with him before and could not help but watch him twice as closely.

Minos saw this and smiled just before following the Spiritual Sage toward one of the many rooms in that temple.

After a few moments, the four youths sat side by side while that old figure had his back to them, pouring spiritual tea.

"Let's start with where you got the information that Vogel's family was behind the actions in the northern region..." He said as he placed the cups of tea on a small table in front of those young people and drank some from his cup.

Gloria then said. "Minos' mother, Maisie Coleman, said she had suspicions against the Vogel family. Hence we decided to investigate that organization further."

"Just for that?" He asked in surprise.

This man wanted to know about this because the Spiritual Church had investigated the matter for some time before their actions, but nothing relevant had emerged. Thus, he naturally wanted to know how these children had bypassed the Church's investigators.

But upon hearing their answer, he could not help but be disappointed. It had only been instinct, luck that had led them to the real culprits of this crime!

Minos then replied. "That was enough. After all, we didn't need to justify our actions against this family and were willing to cause mayhem with a possible innocent."

It was better to kill an innocent than to let a guilty one loose. Minos believed this, so he had rather risk creating enmity with the Vogel family than let this organization pass itself off as innocent when it could not be.

That man understood their point and went on. "So what did you do to ensure the Vogel family was guilty?"

Minos laughed and said. "I think it was when we were just trying to kidnap one of Abe Vogel's men, and a Spiritual Saint tried to sacrifice himself to kill us."

The old man closed his eyes upon hearing that. "I already know that. The temple survivors have told me everything you said that day. When I asked that question, I was referring to what made you decide to act against this family even before that. Only your mother's instinct?"

Minos replied. "We met Abe Vogel days before that situation. On that occasion, he seemed upset when I mentioned the Black Plain. But that didn't even matter since we had already decided to interrogate members of that family before we even met him."

"So that's it... But tell me, did you have any other suspects who were after the Spiritual Saints who traveled the northern region? For that matter, what is the reason for House Vogel wanting to act against you? Is there some kind of old grudge between you?" The old man dressed in silver asked after he finished drinking his tea.

"There was no grudge between us. In fact, we always thought that the Vogel family was acting on behalf of others. But we have no idea who might have convinced this family to do something so foolish, nor the motive of this person or organization that did it." Minos seriously commented.

The Spiritual Sage's eyes narrowed, and he quoted a piece of information that had come to his attention during his time in Vogel. "One of our groups found a trace that connects the Vogel family with the Saints Killing Sect, two supposedly enemy organizations..."

"What?" Minos and his wives exclaimed in surprise upon hearing such a thing since, unlike House Vogel, the Saints Killing Sect had more than one reason for wanting to act against Minos!

They were enemies of the Gray Clouds Sect, which Minos' family led. Such an organization had also sent several people to the Black Plain during the latter part of the Black Plain War of Independence to kill him.

Unfortunately for these groups, they had all been wiped out, which invariably created a new justification for at least part of this organization to wish for Minos' downfall!

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Chapter 1248 Talking To Local Leaders

"That's what came up. But there is nothing concrete of the Saints Killing Sect's involvement with the past acts of Abe Vogel and his group." That Spiritual Sage told them this bit of information not to help them but to try to understand a possible motivation for such acts.

Abby then exclaimed. "So that's why that royal family attacked us! That damned sect wanted to take revenge on the Spiritual Emperors who died on the Black Plain during the war!"

"That must be the case..." Ruth nodded in agreement, feeling that it all made sense now.

"But if that is the case, it is surprising that Abe Vogel agreed to connect with a power of an enemy state and still take such a risk. I wonder what they offered him?" She asked Minos.

This brown-haired young man then said. "It must have been some help to replace his father or to make him stronger. He was very ambitious, after all."

The Spiritual Sage heard this exchange of words between these youths, but none of this was enough for the Church to knock on the doors of such a sect and destroy them. However, this was helpful information to add to the investigation into the Vogel family's rebellious action.

The Church was naturally concerned about two organizations performing unusual acts against them within a few years of each other. Thus, they were looking for reasons to justify such acts, perhaps something to direct them in policies that might prevent further acts of this kind.

But besides keeping this information in his mind, this Spiritual Sage could not help but find Minos' line amusing. 'The dirty talking about the unwashed, eh?' He laughed at how King Stuart had talked about Abe being ambitious.

While this man was thinking about it, Minos was already considering the matter of the Saints Killing Sect more seriously. 'I was right to mark that organization as an enemy to be destroyed!'

'I only defended myself against the people they sent, but even so, they went so far as to do something like that...' He pondered, not even needing a confirmation that such a sect had indeed given orders to Abe.

Unlike the Spiritual Church, Minos did not need a reason to mark someone as an enemy since he did not care about his public image or whether other organizations would think him fair. For him, his suspicion was enough to move him to that organization!

Therefore, he already considered the leaders of such a power as his mortal enemies!

'Very well, I was going to eliminate them before on account of my subordinates who died at their men's hands, but now that will be a personal matter!' He clenched his fists, already considering how to achieve such a goal.

Gloria, Ruth, and Abby were thinking similar things, but they soon returned to answering other questions from that Spiritual Sage.

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Sometime later, Minos and his wives finished their interrogation with the expert in charge of this state and were released by him.

In theory, they could now return to the Flaming Empire without further worries. But since they were in this place, they decided to stay for the next few days to try to talk to some local leaders.

But before that, as they were leaving the area where the level 81 Spiritual Sage was, they were stopped by some people from this temple.

Among them were Clarissa and Louise, as well as others they had seen before.

"Are you really the King of the Black Plain?" Louise, who already had more intimacy with Minos and those three women, was the first to ask, even considering she was one of the weakest there.

"Yes, this is me. And those are my wives..." He said, smiling at those people.

Clarissa then stepped forward and remembered how everything had happened. "You used the Church to conquer this kingdom? How did you have the courage? Do you know how many of our people died?"

Gloria then stood in front of Minos. "You talk as if it's our fault. But it was the Vogel family who decided to do all those things! We just reacted against them!"

But then Minos held one of Gloria's wrists and stepped forward. "As my wife said, the Vogel family is to blame for everything. As for the rest, it makes no difference. I helped the Church identify an enemy who would eventually try to get in its way."

"Tsk!"

"You don't deserve to compete for the position of the local sovereign!" Another person commented, feeling frustrated by the friends he had lost on both sides of the conflict.

Minos shook his shoulders and said. "It's too late now, I suppose..."

Minos initially did not want people to find out about his identity because it might somehow get in the way of his legitimacy in contesting the local throne. But since the local negotiations with Elen's group were already advanced, something he had discovered through the Spiritual Sage, this concern of his had disappeared.

Now even if the people of this Church post raised doubt about Minos' intentions regarding this state, it would do little to affect the agreements that were about to be confirmed.

The local families were afraid of going to war against each other, while they were even more afraid of a future in which their allies no longer existed. So, considering the alternative that had emerged in recent weeks, many had already convinced themselves that with Minos, they could continue living as before the fall of the Vogel family!

Hence, Minos was confident in speaking in such a way in front of these local temple Spiritual Saints.



And with that, Louise could not help but be more hopeful about her deal with him since, as the King of this state, Minos would undoubtedly help her with many things!

'Maybe I can become the next local leader with his help!' She clenched her fists in satisfaction.

magic

Meanwhile, some there felt uncomfortable, but remembering how Minos had started all this, they felt a little afraid of the Black Hole.

They knew this young man could not create such a thing to be already instantly as powerful as that Black Hole they had seen. But nothing stopped him from creating something and feeding it until it reached the level of that abnormality!

Hence, they also had a certain level of respect for Minos that could not be ignored!

So Minos and his wives talked to some of those people for a while until they sent Louise and others of their local allies to arrange some meetings for them.

Many leaders in Vogel lived in this city, so Minos wanted to notify them of his presence to get a chance to talk to some of them about his intentions regarding this state.

Elen was very good at what she did. He had confidence in that. But there was no comparison between talking to a representative and doing it with the de facto leader of an organization!

With that, it did not take long, and hours later, the King of the Black Plain and his wives would soon meet with local leaders in the area of the destroyed royal palace of the Vogel family!

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Chapter 1249 Difficult Choice

When it was already night in the capital of Vogel, Minos and his wives arrived in the area where the royal palace of this kingdom formerly stood.

There, a place not as well lit as the local squares but well enough to observe the ruins of this place, Minos and his wives settled down in a not-so-affected part of this area.

Several temporary lampposts were there due to the restoration actions the Church was promoting in this city that had suffered so much from the Vogel family's escape. Also, for this reason, the worst debris had already been removed, and parts of the old palace could be accessed easily by credentialed people.

Not everyone could enter there, as the area could be dangerous for weak people. But since Minos had a connection to the Spiritual Church and his guests were local experts, each person who came to this place to meet with him could get there easily.

That was true even for Elen's group, who were near this city when Minos sent his message.

Thus, slowly the royal throne room of this state, which had only been partially destroyed, was filling up with more than a dozen people, primarily Spiritual Saints.

"Minos, I didn't expect you to show up here..." Elen said as she approached the throne of this place, where Minos was comfortably seated at this instant.

Minos bitterly smiled upon hearing that. "Me neither... But anyway, I was forced to come to this city, so let's see if we can speed up our plans."

"Hmm, with you here, that is certainly possible." She said as she heard the murmurs in the surrounding area from the local experts who were already there.

Elen then looked at Gloria's belly and noticed the difference between the months since their group had left Dry City. "You are getting more and more beautiful..." She complimented this redheaded woman as she exchanged a few words with Minos' wives.

Meanwhile, Lulu kept an eye on Minos, remembering the last time she had seen this young man when he was only at level 60. 'These people from the Black Plain truly cultivate fast... How do they do it?'

'Maybe it's because of that place in Dry City?' She wondered as she remembered the strong spiritual fluctuation she had felt coming from the Dry City Cultivation Tower on her passage through such a city.

But since, in addition to Minos, Ruth, Gloria and Abby had also improved since she had last seen them, she knew that the issue here was not as simple as a supernatural talent on his part.

With that, she kept paying attention to the four of them as the last guests of this occasion arrived in those ruins.

At the same time, the local nobles were looking at Minos with various expressions on their faces, trying to read the figure of this unique young man who had appeared in their lives in recent times.

"Is this fellow the same as the one from that day? No mistake about that?" Someone asked in a low voice to the others, already waiting for the conversations to begin.

"The Spiritual Sage of the Spiritual Church who recognized him, so it must be true..."

"But doesn't that just make it worse? If he's the same person as before, doesn't that mean he has something terrible to use against us?" Someone gestured without making too much noise so as not to draw Minos' attention.

"That is indeed a concern... We thought he would be harmless, but the truth is not so simple!"

"Yes, we have to review all our concepts..." So someone was saying this when Louise indicated to Minos that all the guests, local nobles, and representatives of the royalty of Albano, Rosser, and Blackrock were already there.

Elen then returned to her group's side, while only Minos and his wives remained in that central place in the royal throne hall.

Minos raised one of his hands, asking for attention from the more than 20 people there, and said. "Well, thank you for answering my humble request and coming to this meeting..." He waved to some he had already seen during the situation months ago in front of his Black Hole.

magic

He also paid attention to those he had not seen, among them a young man with an ugly expression as he looked at him. "I didn't plan to be here today, but since fate has brought me to this place, let's take the opportunity to talk business."

As he finished saying this, one of the local leaders, the patriarch of the 3rd most prominent family in this state, asked Minos. "What does Your Majesty propose that differs from what Miss Nash has already told us?"

Minos smiled at that fellow and said. "Nothing, I'm just here to remove your doubts and convince those still uncertain about me. The Flaming Empire is powerful, so perhaps it is in all of our interests to resolve this situation as soon as possible..."

Some people there were satisfied with this since part of them already feared that Minos would try to extort them somehow because of the weapon up his sleeve.

The man who was making an unfriendly expression as he looked at Minos then asked. "What about that thing? How can we trust you when you have something so scary? Who will guarantee that you won't use such a weapon up your sleeve against us in the future? Will we be able to claim our freedom in the future?"

Minos had already noticed this fellow and heard Louise explaining in one of his ears. "This Spiritual Saint had his original body swallowed up for that thing. So he has a bit of a grudge against you..."

"Oh?" Minos looked interestedly at that fellow who was now at level 72, weaker than when he had almost died due to the Black Hole.

King Stuart then momentarily closed his eyes, not blaming that man for that. "I promise that unless you try to act against my state and family, I will not use that against you. At worst, you will have to deal with my other powers..."

After hearing that, the people there felt much better.

'Without that, he's just a Spiritual Emperor... He's not a threat!' Some of them thought similar things.

Minos then continued. "As for this question of your status, I feel it's too early for us to talk about that, no? You guys haven't even made up your minds to accept me as the local sovereign, and you're already thinking about the day you'll overthrow me?" He laughed.

"I think you guys should worry about the Flaming Empire, not me." He made a more serious expression. "And at the end of the day, what other choice do you have here that is even remotely comparable to my family taking on this state?"

"Will you prefer to be dominated by the Flaming Empire? Or perhaps fight amongst yourselves while your allies suffer what you will suffer in a matter of months or years? Maybe choose one family among your own to lead this state and end up getting a tyranny in a few decades?" Minos played out the options for these people to feel the drama they were in at the moment.

"No... I don't think so, right? You are smarter than that!"

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#### Chapter 1250 The Future Assembly Of Vogel

Hearing Minos' justifications, the people there could not help but make a brief silence as they looked at each other, looked at the ground and the rubble there.

They had all thought about it. But, unfortunately, the odds were not on their side, and all the alternatives, besides Minos, ended in risks to them that were far more significant than what this young man represented.

Finding out that Minos was the 'Pyke' who had appeared in this city before the Spiritual Church's battle with the Vogel family had guaranteed them a new doubt about him because of the Black Hole.

But even considering this, Minos was still the best option for them since they did not want to surrender to the Flaming Empire.

As for the other options, a local noble family taking over the kingdom would be like giving the key to a chicken coop to a wolf. They would take this state for themselves and use a possible confrontation against the Flaming Empire to diminish rival forces and increase their power. Eventually, it would be impossible to recover the state of such an organization with a chance for others to rise to power.

On the other hand, they had the option of subdividing that state into several autonomous regions and eventually fighting alongside the three allied kingdoms against the Flaming Empire. But this would put them in a situation where some could stay out of this conflict, affiliating with other states, such as the Empire itself.

None of them wanted to be dominated by the Empire. But if one of them received a very generous offer to weaken the others, none of them were sure that all their organizations would refuse the Flaming Empire.

In short, many uncertainties would arise with a possible subdivision of Vogel, which might be against the interest of these local organizations.

And even if this did not happen, the option of moving forward with Minos was much more promising.

Besides the fact that he had contacts with the Church and the Empire, something that could help maintain peace in the region, he was just a Spiritual Emperor from the Black Plain. So, with him, these families would at least have a chance to compete for local power in the future on better terms than at present.

Since more than four major local organizations had an interest in eventually taking over this state, all of them and their main partners preferred the option of relying on Minos!

But, of course, even noting this option as the best, they would not accept such a thing without at least negotiating the best possible terms and some guarantees.

"You're right." Another local leader, a level 75 Spiritual Saint, said this while playing with some debris in his hands. "You are the best option for Vogel and our families at the moment. But how long will that be? And how much exactly are you willing to offer?"

They had all already heard Elen's introductory offers, but they wanted confirmation from Minos and also something more.

The representatives of the royal families of those three kingdoms paid attention to Minos' direction and then listened along with the other people there. "Well, recently, I bet with someone from the Spiritual Church, which will be decided in less than 20 years. So we can put a preliminary agreement for that same time."

He continued. "We will form an assembly in this state that will have great powers to legislate and even counter my orders as king. It will also be able, every 20 years, to vote for me to remain on the royal throne."

"Then you can choose my permanence or removal for the first time when this bet expires." He opened his arms, gesturing to the people there.

The most influential individuals in that hall opened their eyes to Minos' offer, something enormously interesting to them.

"And what would that be like? How would we be represented?" One of them questioned.

Minos thought of something and said. "Each local noble family will have a representative on this council for every five Spiritual Saints in their ranks. Each family can choose these representatives, and there is no obligation regarding their level."

"If someone feels that a Spiritual King can represent the family well, so be it."

"But each representative will be entitled to one vote, which will carry equal weight regardless of who the representative is. The joint decisions of this assembly will be passed with a simple majority." He explained, adding. "But to unseat the king, at least two-thirds of that group will have to choose such an option."

Those local leaders received these comments from Minos positively, feeling that this would be a fair system for their families, giving them power equivalent to their current positions, somewhat fair.

Since the time frame for deciding whether he would continue as king would also be relatively short, they did not see a problem with that either.

What could Minos do in 20 years?

Hell, at higher levels, that time interval was not even long enough to advance a single level!

So, Minos' rule and the advantages that the Black Plain could have with Vogel would be limited.

Moreover, if their families could decide the state's future through this assembly, they would take a slight risk of being ruled by an incompetent or unprepared young man.

Thus, with the assurances that Minos was willing to give them, they could not help but view this situation more positively and have some of their worries diminished.

"Well, I agree with those conditions..."

"Me too..."

"Yeah, it's not bad."

Several of them voiced their opinions on this matter.

Minos then continued. "Apart from this matter concerning the local powers, I will keep the taxes already levied by the Vogel family, but the share remaining with the royal family will be reduced to 10% of the original amount. The difference in that amount will be at the disposal of this assembly for the best use for the benefit of Vogel."

"Furthermore, we will have no further additions or demotion of noble families until the first vote on my continuance as King of Vogel. Then, finally, we will give you all the advantages already promised by Elen."



After he finished speaking this, the people there started talking among themselves, arguing among their families, and then with those opponents, they respected the most.

But, in general, except for a few points, everyone agreed with what Minos had to offer and thought that going ahead with him would not bring any significant risk to their organizations.

The big risk to their organizations was not a young Spiritual Emperor, even considering his powerful weapon. After all, at the end of the day, none of them had significant grudges against Minos or the Black Plain. Instead, their problem was a war with the Flaming Empire, so this whole negotiation went more smoothly than one would expect from a meeting that would become known as the one that decided the future of this state.magic

With that, when they had been in that place for more than an hour, those Spiritual Saints began to leave the area, promising to send their definitive answers in the next three days.

Some of them still wanted to discuss the state's future with other relatives, so evidently, they would not promise something just after this one conversation.

But Minos and his wives felt that most of them were already convinced to stay on their side, so they left satisfied with all of this.

'Now I just need to sign some agreements and check with the Church when this state will have its freedom to officiate a new ruler!' Minos smiled as he flew back to the local temple.