

Black Plain 1441

Chapter 1441 Envoys From The Western Empire

When the person in the 'void' looked in the direction of those three newcomers, he immediately identified two as people from the Quinn family's imperial guard.

As enemies of both this man's organization from the Eastern Empire and the organization of the person in the 'void,' the two 9th-stage individuals in the vicinity of Dry City did not like the arrival of such people.

'Why? What's going on? Have they found out our plans?' The Spiritual Sage, who had just sent Abe away, put one of his hands on the weapon he had at his waist.

Two of the three people who had just arrived in that region through a wormhole were Spiritual Sages, one level 81 and one level 82. The third individual was a high-level Spiritual Saint, the mercenary who had delivered Grant's letter to the imperial family of the Western Empire.

After the princess' orders, her men acted quickly and did their best to verify Grant's situation through that mercenary. Then, when they received approval from the emperor himself to take that man back to the empire's capital, these men left for this place, finally arriving this afternoon.

Because of the level of these individuals, that Spiritual Sage of the Eastern Empire was a bit agitated, with one of his hands on his weapon, just in case something came up.

Unlike Harold, those two individuals, a man and a woman, could kill him if they tried!

On the other hand, while the observers who were already in the area earlier were looking toward those groups, the two 9th-stage individuals soon realized that they were being watched.

"It seems that there are Spiritual Sages in the surrounding area..." One of them commented with a surprised expression, as she did not expect to find people with such high cultivation in the vicinity of this place.

She and her companion from the Western Empire were not fools who did not know anything about what had been happening in the Black Plain Empire recently. But the news circulating in the high ranks of forces outside the northern region and the information from that mercenary did not speak of more than one Spiritual Sage in this state.

"Hmm, one of them seems to be an old acquaintance..." The level 81 individual commented as he looked in the direction of the man from the Eastern Empire. "Serena, that one is a subordinate of the Trevisani family. I once fought him when we participated in the Continental Tournament 200 years ago."

The Continental Tournament was not exactly a normal competition, like those for young prodigies to show themselves to the world and become something else with its prizes. Instead, it was an event where the major organizations of this world bet on 'horses,' in other words, candidates.

Competitors in this tournament were indeed awarded prizes, but the biggest winners were those who bet on the right 'horses.'

Once, one of these winners obtained a majestic prize that the legends said that because of it, such a family obtained a Divine-grade medicine!

"Oh? Is that true?" The leader of that group, who was there for Grant, asked her companion while the mercenary between the two looked at the level 81 person with admiration.

'Continental Tournament?'

Gulp!

'Incredible!'

That level 81 man nodded in agreement to the blonde woman beside him. "Yeah, I wouldn't mistake that. He caused me a lot of trouble back then... But it seems that in the end, I outgrew him." He smiled as he considered the difference between the two.

"Alvin, what are you doing here? Is the Eastern Empire plotting on the Black Plain?" That level 81 man asked, as his voice vibrated through space, reaching only the ears of that level 80 man.

"Toby, you bastard. What are you doing here? Is the Western Empire thinking of getting involved with the Black Plain?" That man finally recognized his opponent from years ago, still on guard against possible attacks.

Toby then said aloud, with a confident smile on his face. "Tell me this, will you answer us now, or will we have to act?"

That fellow who had saved Abe countless times made a horrible expression, looking in the direction of those who were the de facto enemies of his forces.

'Damn it!'

'The Emperor wants me to continue working with Abe. So I can't leave my post or die at the hands of these bastards!' He thought.

"I'm just observing the area. What? Can't I? Emperor Stuart is quite talented, so it's only natural that my sovereign would want to know about Minos Stuart's progress through reliable sources." He said, not to mention his real motives there, but also not to draw the attention of the person in the 'void,' who was watching him, waiting for mistakes.

"Observing?" Toby heard that and clenched his fists, feeling there was no sense in anyone doing such a thing. "Cut the nonsense, Alvin. If you don't speak the truth for good, I'll rip it out..."

This man was saying when suddenly the blonde woman next to him put one of her snow-white hands on one of his shoulders. "Don't be hasty. Our mission here is not to fight the empire's enemies but to rescue Grant Yates."

"But..."

"No, Toby, back off." She ordered in a louder tone. "We don't know this person's purposes, and someone else in the area is even stronger than you."

This man had already sensed that the second Spiritual Sage was not weak. Still, due to the capabilities of this individual in the 'void,' even he was not sure how strong or where exactly he was.

"If this person is allied with Alvin or even decides to join him in an eventual battle between us, we would not be able to fulfill our purpose here." She added while holding her companion.

"I'm sorry, I got carried away." He said as he understood that woman's point but was still curious about Alvin's presence there. 'What does such an imperial family want? Are they trying to get in our way regarding Grant?'

'That can't be. There must be something deeper behind it!'

"Haha, sorry about that, friend from the Eastern Empire..." That woman said as she smiled and gestured toward the level 80 man. "We are indeed enemies, but we are not here today to fight against your state. I imagine that is true for you as well, right?"

That man did not want to fight such people and promptly followed that woman's plan. "True, I'm just keeping an eye on the area. I don't have to get involved in matters concerning my state unless you offend or provoke us first."

"Same for us." She was pleased to hear that. "Then, since we are not here as enemies today, forget my companion's words. He is a bit childish... Anyway, can you tell us where Dry City is? We are also interested in what you said yourself."

"Is that so?" That level 80 man judged this to be false. But in order not to make matters worse, he decided to pretend to believe it. "Dry City is in that direction." He pointed one of his hands to such a place. "Just follow there, and you'll see a bit of Minos Stuart."

"He's not bad..."

"I wonder..." Serena commented before leading her two traveling companions to Dry City, easing the tension on that mercenary and the two Spiritual Sages left where they were.

After this unusual meeting between representatives of three major forces of the Central Continent took place in the vicinity of Dry City, those three would soon notify their organizations about it!

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Chapter 1442 Spiritual Sages In The Dry City

After a few minutes since that group of Spiritual Sages and the mercenary from the Western Empire arrived at the Black Plain, they found their way to Dry City.

Since they were there on an official visit, even though they came from a higher-level state, those people followed protocol and did not just barge in.

There were codes of etiquette in every corner of the Spiritual World, and not every powerful individual would act like a superior who must be served by those weaker.

Since these individuals were only third-ranking subordinates within the Quinn family, none of them made things difficult and followed the protocols of the local forces when they were barred.

The local soldiers already knew the mercenary with the group, so the origin of this group was easily understood by all without further difficulty. Because of this, in a short time, those two Spiritual Sages were already being escorted through the streets of Dry City toward the local imperial palace.

"This place is just as the fame says..." The woman commented to her teammate, seeing that although there were few strong people in this city, the local quality was not bad, and the models were stunning, similar to those in her homeland.

"And to think that was just a town surrounded by desert areas less than 30 years ago..." The level 81 man nodded to that blonde woman, agreeing with the fact that such a place lived up to its current reputation as a prosperous area.

'This local ruler must be an amazing man to transform a place like this so much...' The two thought similar things.

To transform something, someone could not just rely on resources!

It was true that resources could make the journey to transform something into its better version easier and shorter. But if that were all that was used, then whoever was behind these resources would just waste them.

To develop something to its peak or at least close to it, one would have to have patience. One would have to be like a magnet, attracting those similar in their surroundings and making them follow specific ideas and plans. At the same time, a little bit of determination was needed to endure the hard times, and finally, luck.

Someone could be talented, resourceful, and charismatic. But they were unlikely to fulfill their purpose if they were surrounded by tragedies, catastrophes that happened wherever they went, or times were always cloudy.

Knowing this, those two individuals could not deny the accomplishments and achievements of Minos!

'These people of this place should be thankful for him every day...' The woman thought as she looked at the people coming and going through the streets of Dry City.

Minos brought many problems to his people. But these people only had problems because of the prosperity and opportunities created by him.

Minos was talented and could have left this place long ago for a better area. But he had stayed and worked on the local weaknesses, solving many problems that now made the lives of the residents easier.

So even though blood and war were side by side with him, the inhabitants of the Black Plain, in general, could not deny the importance of Minos and had the ruler in their minds and hearts.

This power of faith was no small thing, and this woman could not help but wonder what Minos might achieve in the future because of it.

'Did he do it on purpose?' She thought, wondering what kind of person Minos was.

But it would not take long for her and her traveling companion to find out about that!

After passing through security on the outskirts of the Dry City Dome, being watched all the way by the soldiers and high-ranking individuals on the streets of the capital's core, they reached Minos.

Minos' men had already notified him of the arrival of this group through low-level telecommunication arrays. So he and the upper echelon of the local forces were already in front of the main entrance to the palace, formally waiting for these people.

Minos, his wives, Sarah, Dillian, some of his wives' relatives, and some high-level elders of the Gray Clouds Sect were standing around, along with the many imperial guards looking at those individuals with interest.

It was the first time that most of the people there saw and felt the pressure of a Spiritual Sage. Thus, almost everyone was impressed, some even wondering what it would be like to have such impressive cultivation.

Gulp!

'That woman is more than 20 levels in front of me...' Brooke Parkinson, level 61, thought to herself in admiration.

Even the level 78 Spiritual Saint, who was currently in Dry City next to Minos, opened his mouth a little when he felt the strength of the level 82 woman.

The strongest he had seen in his entire life had been Harold. But that man was much weaker than this woman just a few meters away from this elder of the Moss family.

Therefore, he stood closer to Minos, as if making himself available to the sect master in case these people had bad intentions.

Unlike most members of the Grey Clouds Sect, who might still have one doubt or another as to their devotion to Minos, this man was 100% committed to the current sect master.

But this was not simply because he believed in the potential that Minos had shown so far...

Anyway, as people looked at those two and felt admiration and fear, they walked up the steps of the entrance of that palace until they were 20 meters away from Minos.

"Seniors, this is the Emperor of the Black Plain, Minos Stuart." The mercenary, along with them, said in a low voice, avoiding looking at that silver-haired young man since the presence of these people there was his fault.

He did not know how Minos would feel about that. But considering how violent the local emperor was, this man would rather not risk angering such a person too much.

'He got people to replace us pretty fast...' He looked at the surroundings and saw many high-level Spiritual Emperors and also some Spiritual Saints.

After hearing this mercenary's indication, the level 81 Spiritual Sage looked at the level 68 brown-haired man and was silent for a moment.

'His aura is really formidable. Even at such a weak level, he already gives off the feeling of an experienced leader.'

The woman also watched Minos cautiously. She had to admit that such a young man gave her a different feeling.

He was like those remarkable people who would sometimes appear in the lives of ordinary ones and make those people feel out of touch with reality.

'He already has a daughter... It looks like this imperial family will be in this world for a long time.' She smiled at Sarah, considering that the fact that Minos had a child when he was so weak indicated fate favoring the proliferation of his genes.

Her companion then said aloud. "Your Majesty Minos Stuart, we are envoys from His Majesty Henry Quinn and Her Highness Amber Quinn. We are here on behalf of a man named Grant Yates. He must be part of your forces."

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Chapter 1443 Soft Contact

When they heard the voice of that level 81 man, those people native to the area and part of the Black Plain Army soon understood what this was all about.

Grant's stories had already become famous among the soldiers of this organization, considering that he was the imperial instructor and the teacher of hundreds of local experts. His stories also entertained many young army members who liked to dream of absurd things and potential revenge.

As such, when his name was mentioned, almost half of the people there looked in the direction of the headquarters, where that man was supposed to be.

"Grant Yates?" Minos said as he also understood what this was about. "What do you want with him? If it's not a problem, I'd like to know. Grant has been one of us for several years now and has had several deadly experiences on our side."

Grant had his spiritual cultivation crippled. But the body of a level 70 Spiritual Saint, as was his case when he was crippled, was stronger than that of a level 59 cultivator. Thus, after having his limbs regenerated by Dillian, this man battled a few times alongside the local forces.

The woman then said. "Your Majesty, we cannot give all the details since this is a Quinn family matter. But as you may already know, Grant was one of the emperor's subordinates. So this is about his responsibilities to our organization."

The man in front of the mercenary said. "Grant is not in trouble if that's what you want to know. But he has to return to the empire..."

"Now that we are here, I think his current situation will no longer be a problem to his return."

Minos already knew about the letter that Grant had sent by one of the mercenaries he had hired. So it was not a surprise to him that these people were there behind that old fellow and with knowledge regarding the imperial instructor's situation.

'Did he attract the attention of the imperial family of this state?' Minos frowned, a little uncertain about this, considering how unbelievable Grant's story could appear.

Minos himself had only believed it because of the prediction Henricus Longus had made in the remote past. Therefore, he judged that others without the same knowledge as him would hardly believe it.

But since he could not come up with anything to justify some unbelievable plot involving this family, Minos did not think the worst of these people.

"I see... Well, Grant is busy at the moment. So why don't you two accompany me while someone goes to get him? We can talk for a bit before we move on with your purpose here." He suggested as he showed the inside of his palace to these people with a gesture.

Considering that Minos was still a mystery to organizations outside the northern region, that woman accepted Emperor Stuart's invitation, even considering that she could 'pick up' Grant from where he was.

'Let's get to know this person a little before we leave.' She said to her companion while using a mental transmission, a form of communication of high-level cultivators.

'All right.'

The two walked away from that Spiritual Saint who had been serving as a guide to them and soon walked to where Minos was pointing.

The level 78 elder next to Minos then asked. "Your Majesty, what are we going to do? We won't be able to stop them from doing what they came to accomplish here."

"Hmm, that's right. We have no way to do anything." Minos smiled bitterly. "But Grant called these people on his own, so he can only regret the situation in case something he didn't plan to happen..."

"In any case, we won't do anything today. We will just accept what they have to offer."

That elder sighed in relief upon hearing that, soon beginning to walk alongside Minos and this fellow's wives near those Spiritual Sages.

"So, Your Majesty, where did you get the architect who developed this city? I feel at home here." The woman commented to Minos as she looked into his brown eyes.

Minos had heard questions like that from many people over the years and said. "I didn't copy either your state or the Eastern Empire, senior. I just dreamed about an ancient place, and such a thing inspired me to reproduce that in my city."

"But I haven't finished my work yet, haha."

'A dream?' The two looked at Minos with interest, not finding it impossible that this happened since there were all sorts of strange abilities in this world.

As the two looked at Minos, suddenly, a high-pitched, childish voice distracted the two. "Hey! Hey! Look at me!"

"Are you stronger than my dad?" Sarah asked as she ran to the side of the level 82 woman, interested in finding out about it.

She saw her father daily going about his business and sometimes even training. In addition, this young girl constantly heard rumors of how strong Minos was. Hence, she was curious about the strength of the people who interacted with her father.

"I have never met anyone stronger than my father. Are any of you like that?" She asked as she ignored the rest of the people there to look at the beautiful face of that blonde woman.

Gloria was about to run to get her daughter. Still, Minos held one of her wrists, indicating to let Sarah continue.

That woman looked at the little being less than a third of her height and smiled. "You've never met? But what about this old man? Isn't he stronger than your father?"

"No. Elder Theo claims to be stronger than my dad, but it is a lie. I saw it when dad showed him his weapons, and the elder was afraid." She said innocently. "Everyone gets scared when dad gets serious."

Some people in the surrounding area laughed as the elder Theo looked at Sarah, feeling that he had suffered a defeat for a child under 5 years old.

As he looked down at the ground in shame, those two experts looked at Sarah with interest, judging whether she was serious or making her father's accomplishments bigger.

"Sarah, you shouldn't keep bothering visitors like this." Gloria released herself from Minos and walked over to her daughter. "Haven't I told you not to keep asking these questions?"

"But mom..."

"That's fine." The level 82 woman said. "You're right, little Sarah. There is no one stronger than your father. You should be proud of him."

Sarah looked at that woman from her mother's arms and smiled happily, feeling that her father was the best.

With that, Minos nodded to that person, feeling that she had done something positive for Sarah, even without needing it.

Because of this, he felt much more comfortable with these people, knowing that Grant's trip would probably not be problematic.

'Well, when it is time for me to look at the North Sea, I can visit that state and see if he will still be interested in joining me on this journey...'

Chapter 1444 Future Spiritual Sages

After a few moments, the group arrived at a leisure area of the palace, where Minos normally received important guests in his city as equals.

Even if those individuals owed the proper etiquette to him, an emperor, as people of higher rank, they also deserved to be treated differently.

Minos was no fool and did that, soon in an area that overlooked the beautiful center of Dry City, where these experts sat down to eat and drink while waiting for Grant.

"So, Your Majesty, do you intend to travel to the empire in the future? A talented and prominent young man like you will have many opportunities there." The blonde woman said this while looking at Minos with a smile on her face.

"Maybe I will go in the future. But I don't have a date for that at the moment." Minos commented.

As a state leader, he would eventually do business with many states from this and other continents. So he was not kidding about going to the Western Empire.

But for the moment, he was in no hurry to do so since he had a long road ahead of him to get some relevance in a place like that. On the other hand, the Black Plain would not need to be connected to any high-level state for a while.

That way, Minos thought it best to keep his organization's distance from powers like the Quinn family.

"Is that so? Are you interested in staying on the Black Plain for a long time? Or, who knows, maybe you'll get out and see the rest of the world one day?" The level 81 man questioned, in doubt as to whether Minos would stay in that place or not.

He thought that for someone with Minos' skills and talents, there was no point in staying in the Black Plain and northern region.

Minos replied while the rest of his group just listened to the conversations between the three. "I intend to live most of my life here. After all, this is my land. So I will do my best not to have to leave."

'So that's it...' The level 82 woman understood that Minos wanted to develop as much of this place as possible and perhaps create a legacy.

As far as they knew, everyone eventually died. So what better to 'immortalize' than a legacy of creating and developing something?

Then he would be remembered for generations, and his name would not disappear in the river of time. So, as long as there were people to tell his story and accomplishments, he would not completely die!

The two experts could understand this even though they preferred personal power to such a thing.

On the other hand, they could not help but admit that Minos was somewhat different. It took a lot not to pursue power and status when you had as many opportunities and talents as in his case!

Anyway, as they chatted about matters of the sort, nothing too specific to forge in-depth relationships between them, just casual conversation, Grant arrived at that place next to a local soldier.

"Grant Yates?" The level 81 man asked upon seeing the face of this old fellow, who was supposed to be from a generation before theirs.

Due to the seniority of this person, even though there was a significant difference in powers between them, those two felt some respect and regard for the man in front of them.

"You are from the imperial family? Really?" Grant smiled after hearing his last name after so long.

"Yes, Mr. Yates. We are here under orders from His Majesty and Her Highness to take you back to the capital and personally report your experiences." The blonde woman said this as she stood in front of Grant.

"His Majesty..." Grant murmured in admiration.

Previously, he was a talented individual who might one day become a Spiritual Sage. But even so, he was only a newly promoted Spiritual Saint at the time. So he had never been close to the emperor.

So, upon finding out that he would see and speak with such a person, this man could not help but be surprised and also thrilled since one of his greatest dreams in the past centuries had been to return home.

He had learned to live in the northern region and even taken the Black Plain as his home. But still, he wanted to at least return and pay a visit to the Western Empire, resolve unfinished business, and then go back on his path.

In this way, he was pleased with this organization's sign and hopeful that the emperor would believe in him, as Minos had already done.

"Yes, you have to settle some matters, but His Majesty wishes to hear some of your group's tragedy and your experiences from you." The level 81 man commented.

"When do we leave? For that matter," Grant looked at Minos and asked. "Your Majesty, is there a problem with me leaving? I promise to return to continue helping the Black Plain in its development."

Minos smiled upon hearing this and did not stop this man from going. "It is up to you to decide. I never required you to be here."

"Thank you, Your Majesty. I will not forget all you and everyone on the Black Plain have done for me!" This man said emotionally, feeling accomplished.

After a few moments of thanks and casual conversation, Minos and the Spiritual Sages finished the matter smoothly, with those people soon departing along with Grant.

The mercenary hired by Grant to deliver the message to the Quinn family also departed alongside those individuals, leaving Dry City back to the previous peace before their arrival.

When everyone realized they were 'free' of these troublesome visitors, several individuals following the situation closely sighed in relief, feeling that they could breathe normally again.

Among them, the level 78 Spiritual Saint next to Minos was the most grateful for the departure of those experts.

'It seems that everything occurred well...' He thought about it as he felt better.

Then, this man from the Gray Clouds Sect approached Minos and asked. "Your Majesty, will this bring us any trouble in the future? I mean, Grant knows about that place and might end up saying things he shouldn't..."

Minos answered that man. "Grant has a Soul Contract with me that binds him to keep such a place secret. So even if he goes insane, he would be destroyed by lightning punishment before he causes us harm."

"But they have Spiritual Demigods..." This person insisted, worried about the Spatial Kingdom.

After months since the end of the war between the Gray Cloud Sect and the Saints Killing Sect, Minos had made agreements with the strongest experts from his sect who came to the Black Plain Empire. Such agreements involved them having the opportunity to cultivate in the Spatial Kingdom and thus grow stronger more quickly.

Obviously, they would have to take turns in the fight against Abe. Still, several Spiritual Saints were already aware of this and had been enjoying the cultivation sanctuary of Minos.

Because of this, a part of the experts from that sect was already 100% loyal to Minos and was utterly at his disposal to bring all the rest of the sect to the Black Plain.

Since this man was one of those who knew such a place, he was naturally worried!

"Even they can't stop the heavens from punishing someone..." Minos said to calm that expert, someone who was among those who had the best chance of becoming a Spiritual Sage in the near future.

That was his goal with his revelation to these experts. To develop future Spiritual Sages for the local forces!

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Chapter 1445 Level 99

The Spatial Kingdom was a cultivation sanctuary made for training soldiers and promoting the forces of an organization.

After gaining the position of master of the Gray Clouds Sect, already gained various responsibilities in that organization and identifying those most committed to him, Minos presented such an opportunity to these Spiritual Saints.

After a few weeks since he first did this, these experts began cultivating in that place, eliminating any doubts they had about Minos.

They were people who wanted to become stronger and had ambitions. So by being presented with this opportunity, they all became much more agreeable toward Minos. Not only that, they helped even this emperor become more interesting to follow by others who did not know anything about the opportunity.

With that, of the Gray Clouds Sect's Spiritual Saints currently in the Black Plain Empire, 29 already had contracts with Minos and occasionally pursued their dream of reaching the 9th stage in that place.

Minos needed Spiritual Sages, and these people wanted to become individuals at that cultivation stage. Thus, the two sides worked harmoniously, with those individuals from the Flaming Empire slowly learning about the local plans for the future.

Because of this, the concern of people like that level 78 Spiritual Saint regarding local success was already high to the point that they seemed like true natives of this area.

But even that individual, so close to the 9th stage, calmed down a bit after Minos reminded him that it was not easy to go against Soul Contracts.

'We'll probably be safe...' He sighed as he tried to return to his positive thoughts regarding the future.

After a few moments of talking about the group that had left, the people in that area focused on receiving important visits heard Minos changing the subject.

"All of you, enjoy the weeks ahead of us. I intend very soon to go into seclusion to advance. After that, I want to make a full-scale attack on the enemy forces." Minos said thoughtfully.

He then looked at those people there who were members of the Gray Clouds Sect and already had agreements with him. "As for you, convince the other experts to sign agreements with me as soon as possible."

"The sooner we have these people training in the right place, the better the results of our final confrontations with Abe's terrorists will be!"

"Yes, Your Majesty." They replied before departing from there to follow the orders of the local sovereign.

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One week later...

Somewhere, countless meters above ground level, a man was meditating under the clouds in one of the central areas of the Eastern Empire.

This man had long blond hair and pale skin, but the sun's rays from there seemed to make his skin shine like a diamond, emitting a halo under his body.

He was wearing a large golden robe with the symbol of an adult dragon skull, while he had a tattoo of a golden half-moon on his forehead.

Below him, the space seemed to tremble due to his aura, which created a gigantic zone of low spiritual pressure, causing spiritual currents to blow in the direction where he was.

The result of this? For dozens of kilometers, this was one of the best areas to cultivate in this state, even considering that the biggest beneficiary of this was the man responsible for the phenomenon himself.

Anyway, while this man was quietly meditating at this place from where he could observe the main points of his state, suddenly, a subordinate appeared nearby to disturb him.

"Sorry to disturb Your Majesty's meditation, but I have news regarding Alvin." A man dressed in silver armor with some golden details, level 95, said this as he knelt in front of that man.

That was none other than the supposedly strongest man in the Central Continent, Vico Travisani, Emperor of the Eastern Empire, level 99!

Vico opened his eyes and looked through the void before him, seeing far beyond where he was. "What happened to him? I see he doesn't look well."

He could spy on that level 80 Spiritual Sage who was watching Abe in the northern region, even though he was at such a distance. But Emperor Travisani could not see beyond the present, so he did not know what that man had found to send an unexpected message.

The level 95 Spiritual Demigod then said. "Responding to Your Majesty, Alvin came across envoys from the Western Empire on the Black Plain. According to him, these people visited the local sovereign. Then they left alongside a man who had not come with their group initially."

"Oh? Is the Western Empire planning to get involved with the Black Plain to get in our way? But how will they do that? They don't have a non-aggression agreement with the Church that is as good as ours..." This man sitting in a lotus position, muttered in a low voice, not understanding the situation.

He then looked in the direction of Dry City and saw that the situation in this place seemed normal without the presence of people from the Western Empire.

Unlike what one might think, the free spiritual energy in the sky and on earth was not the same everywhere. Each region had its own 'mark,' something cultivators of the highest level could distinguish.

Therefore, by observing Dry City through his abilities, this expert could notice that the millions of people in that place were only beings from the northern region and adjacent areas. Thus, he did not suspect that Minos was plotting with the Western Empire, his greatest enemy.

He tried to observe the people in the imperial palace, but no one there caught his attention.

'King-grade physique... It's not so bad, but he'll never become a God with an innate ability of that level.' He watched in Minos' direction, feeling there was no point in paying attention to this young man or worrying about such a person allying with his enemies.

"What should we do, Your Majesty?" That man asked after a few minutes of silence from his leader.

Vico then replied. "Start an investigation regarding what these people from the Western Empire went to do in Dry City. But for now, don't do anything else. I want to know what their next moves will be."

"Fine. But what about Alvin, Your Majesty? He has not been succeeding in his journey."

Vico looked once more in Alvin's direction and said. "We have nothing to do. There is a Spiritual Sage from the Spiritual Church watching his movements. If he does much more than he has already been doing, he will bring trouble to all of us."

"So we should let him continue what he's doing? But what about the key to that place?"

The emperor closed his eyes and said. "He hasn't found that map after so long in the northern region... Sigh, maybe that thing isn't around there anymore."

"Let him continue with his work while he can. But once he loses his current condition, make him return."

"OK." That man said before departing from there and leaving his sovereign alone.

Vico entered his state of meditation and once again looked at the difference in cultivation between his level and what the cultivation should be for him to reach level 100.

Looking at this, this man felt like a small human next to an 11-story building.

'I still have a very long way to go!'

'I must prepare for the Continental Tournament's next edition!'

Chapter 1446 Level 69

The Church also received the communiqué about the visit of the Western Empire's envoys to Dry City. But unlike Vico Travisani, they were not so concerned about Minos relating to such a state.

After all, Minos was already deeply connected to them. So if he did such a thing, it would be the same as courting death!

But still, the Church was watching the movements around the Black Plain Empire and initiating investigations regarding the motivation for the Quinn family's contact with Minos.

Minos was not big on the continental affairs of these high-level organizations. But since these organizations were protective of their territories, possible enemy movements on the Black Plain were enough to make the Church look at that area more concerned about taking action.

Since this organization had been humiliated by the Eastern Empire because of a loophole in its non-aggression agreement with House Travisani, the Church just wanted an excuse to attack.

So even though Minos was insignificant, these powers were giving him and the Black Plain more importance than they deserved.

Meanwhile, the Flowers Kingdom had been watching the whole situation in the Black Plain. The Queen closely followed Minos' information since she was interested in this young man's genes.

But she was also aware of the growing tensions around her state involving the major powers of the Central Continent!

...

Amidst the movements of different high-level powers around the Central Continent, Grant and his group finally arrived at the capital of the Western Empire!

Upon arriving there, those people did not take long to smile along with that old fellow, who almost began to shed tears upon seeing his homeland after so long.

But Grant would eventually calm down a bit to be able to say goodbye to the mercenary who had finally been released to enjoy his earnings from the Black Plain. At the same time, as he calmed down a bit, he took his superiors' advice.

"Grant, I know you are not to blame for the situation back then, but you should prepare yourself. They will try to punish you somehow for staying away so long without reporting." The level 82 blonde woman commented to this fellow as they walked towards the imperial palace.

The level 81 man nodded in agreement. "And I would tell you to be careful what you say to His Majesty. We have heard some of your stories and know they can be controversial..."

These people had traveled together for days, having talked a lot with Grant, listening to his stories about his accident, life in the Kingdom of the End, and time on the Black Plain. At the same time, these people had informed him of some up-to-date facts regarding their homeland.

Because of their many conversations, those two knew that Grant had some hard-to-believe stories that might be better kept to himself, at least on first contact.

If the emperor continued to consult with him, he could eventually talk more without significant problems. But already touching on these delicate topics right away was not something these two experts considered wise.

Grant heard this and did not think it bad that these two were trying to advise him. They might not understand that they were fools for not recognizing the near danger, but they were good people for caring about it.

"Hmm, don't worry. I will just answer His Majesty's questions. And if there is room, I will explain my opinion only." He said before finally seeing the imperial palace at the end of the street they were currently walking on.

Amber was already with her father in a meeting room in that place, each sitting as far away from the other as possible but without disturbing the people's mood.

The Emperor had made many mistakes with his daughter, while this woman had a lot of resentment toward this man. But the two knew how to be professional in situations like this.

Hence, they treated each other merely as co-workers, except for when the Crown Prince got involved in matters.

That young man was very influenced by his sister!

The Crown Prince was the same age as Minos, around 37, but was much weaker than this emperor, currently only at level 57. Also, he was much less intelligent, and after losing his mother when he was only 13, he became very dependent on his older sister.

In this situation, now the emperor's only male heir, who should become the next sovereign, was somewhat influenced by Amber, which naturally made things difficult for the emperor.

In any case, today, they were not there because of Crown Prince affairs but because of the imminent arrival of Grant Yates, with whom they wanted to talk.

"Your Majesty, Your Highness, Grant Yates has just entered the imperial palace." One of the eunuchs who worked for this family announced loudly, signaling to everyone in that business room for them to go to the imperial throne hall.

With that, it did not take long for Grant to come face to face with his sovereign and the woman who had somehow been responsible for all his misfortune.

He greeted everyone in that place and thanked those people for granting his request to give him this chance to speak.

After this, he would talk to those people for a few hours, briefly describing the situation that had happened in the North Sea, as well as some relevant facts that had happened in the many years that had passed.

That would not be the last time he would talk about this to the local forces. But the first of many occasions that he would deal with this problem.

Grant just did not know that from today on, his life would be just that, and he would have to get used to a reality that was not as good as he imagined!

But only in time would he know if his decision had been right.

...

Thus, two and a half months passed quickly...

In the meantime, Minos came out of his seclusion, finally having reached the last level of the 7th stage, level 69.

With this achievement, he was only a few steps away from reaching the 8th stage!

Soon, he would fulfill the promise to Gloria's mother and have his long-awaited chance to evolve his innate ability!

In the midst of this, he was meeting with the experts of the Black Plain Empire, reviewing the plans for the actions of their forces against Abe's terrorist group.

To Minos' surprise, upon emerging from his seclusion, he discovered that two of the Spiritual Saints of the Gray Clouds Sect had advanced.

One of them was someone who was previously at level 74, now at level 75. The other was a level 76 8th-stage cultivator who had reached level 77.

Other than those two, only Gloria among all the local Spiritual Saints had advanced, reaching level 72!

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Chapter 1447 Plans Of Action

Upon revisiting his wives after days of seclusion, Minos was happy to see Gloria at level 72. At this level, she should have enough powers to fight ordinary peak Spiritual Saints.

Even individuals with complete sets of Silver-grade techniques at level 77 should not have the ability to defeat her at this time!

On the other hand, as much as Ruth and Abby were still at level 67, Minos judged that they would be able to advance to level 68 in no more than six months. So, naturally, he was not disappointed by the speed at which they had progressed over the past few weeks.

As for the rest of his forces, several new Spiritual Emperors had appeared in Dry City, while others, as in the case of Elena, currently at level 65, had advanced and become stronger.

But amidst this, the local forces had not lost any members recently.

Abe's group had already been under a lot of pressure and could no longer damage the local forces as before.

But it was not for nothing. In the past few months, a thousand more Spiritual Emperors had arrived in the Black Plain Empire from the Gray Clouds Sect.

With these people, even if the focus of Abe's group were Spiritual Saints, the situation of the local forces had improved a little more in the period because of 'more eyes' watching the situation.

The cities of the Black Plain were now safer. At the same time, each outpost had enough power to temporarily hold off enemy pressures until reinforcements arrived.

That had escalated the losses of Abe's mercenaries and made possible the present situation where the terrorists were practically up against walls, trapped in a particular area surrounded by Minos' forces!

...

"Your Majesty, currently, the enemy group should be mostly located at a point further south in the empire, between the borders of the Vogel and Cromwell areas." A local soldier presented this information to Minos while this emperor was seated in the main position at a long table in a meeting room.

The local forces had acted vigorously over the past few weeks. They cleared areas and searched meter by meter several towns and villages, as well as forests, to wipe out enemy hideouts.

That led to several conflicts around the empire. Still, eventually, the enemies were significantly damaged by these actions and were forced to retreat.

With the success of the local forces, the Western Empire's mercenaries were now restricted to a few areas of the Black Plain Empire. They were now in parts of the state where the local powers had men stationed, watching the situation.

The terrorists' situation was now so extreme that they had virtually nowhere to hide and were slowly being wiped out without being able to recover in the slightest.

In this situation, Minos was preparing to launch a definitive attack, intending to finally take Abe Vogel's life!

"Very well. Tell the Assembly of Vogel to send men to help us in the attack." Minos said this to some of his subordinates who were responsible for communicating with such an institution.

After Minos' previous orders concerning the Assembly of Vogel, his Black Plain core forces had begun to buy off the representatives of the Vogel noble families.

They were lobbying favorably for the causes of the empire in that place, gradually making the Vogel area powers more interested in staying in the empire and voting with Minos.

Because of this, as much as there was still a large wing of representatives in the Assembly of Vogel who was against Minos, he already had several supports to get men for this attack.

But not only that, as people who wanted to take revenge on Abe, even forces with their problems with Minos could favor this kind of action!

In crazy times like these, an enemy's enemy could be a friend. So Minos saw no problem in demanding things from that Assembly, even considering his role as shallow ruler of that area.

"At the same time, call in all our high-level experts. In two weeks at most, I want most of them to be on their way to that area in the vicinity of Vogel." Minos said while already thinking about further actions he could take with this move.

'After I act against Abe's group, whether or not I kill that cockroach, I may pay a brief visit to Vogel to strengthen my relations with the organizations in that area.' He remembered that such an area had never been entirely OK with him in the leadership position.

Vogel had only accepted him as sovereign due to the difficulties after the fall of the Vogel family.

From the changing situation in the Flaming Empire due to the kidnapping of the emperor, the subsequent weakening of the Saints Killing Sect, and the rise of Minos as master of the Gray Clouds Sect, much had changed. Now he was no longer seen as indispensable, and some even considered Emperor Stuart a problem.

So that area could soon become rebellious or strip Minos of his position as ruler!

To avoid problems with the greedy leaders of the families in the Vogel area, Minos was planning to visit the Assembly. He wanted to show them their advantages and disadvantages depending on which side they chose.

"What about Dry City, Your Majesty? What will we do with the local defenses?" A level 66 soldier from the Black Plain Army asked, worried that the enemy might be able to attack that place, as had happened in the recent past.

Minos had not forgotten that incident where Mirya and Viola had lost their lives and said. "Let's leave 10% of the empire's forces around the capital and belt of cities. That should be enough to protect the area from possible enemy counterattacks."

The people there agreed to this, some feeling eager to continue training after taking care of these matters, while others longed for the impending revenge.

"What about the level 80 Spiritual Sage, Your Majesty?" The level 78 elder of the Moss family asked Minos, considering that this was the one responsible that they had not yet finalized this conflict.

Minos then said. "I have the plan to stop this person. But I will need the high-level elders of our forces to suffer a little to hold him back."

Gulp!

"What will it take?" A level 77 woman asked while other people in that room swallowed their salivas.

Emperor Stuart replied. "There is a way we can obligate the Spiritual Sage to retreat. We just need to force him to use his abilities. Then, when he has no options but to act, he will give up Abe."

Minos then finished his speech. "Then I need you to 'dance' with him while the rest of us deal with Abe's forces!"

...

Chapter 1448 Near The End

A Spiritual Sage was someone with abilities under space who could travel through wormholes and use their short-range spatial manipulation to 'catch' things through 'gaps' in space.

That was something that Minos' enemy had been using for ages to save Abe, but it could not be seen as him using his own powers against the local forces. At most, he was hindering Emperor Stuart's movements but not acting against this guy.

What would be considered a hostile attitude, let's say, would be him using this ability directly against Minos. Or something more obvious, attacking the local forces members in favor of Abe and his group.

So Minos wanted to force this man to use his abilities on a level beyond what he had done so far by using these high-level Spiritual Saints to attack him.

Through this, the Spiritual Sage would have to choose to receive the attacks from dangerous people or escape and risk losing sight of Abe.

When a Spiritual Sage moved under the 'gaps' in space, they would lose sight of the 'ordinary' side, where other beings, like Abe, would be. Minos knew this from the memories of Henricus Longus, and when he heard that the man would not fight them, he thought this might be his chance to beat him!

This second alternative would decrease that man's vigilance on Minos' main enemy, which could raise their chances of success.

He explained this to the strongest of his forces, making it clear that they would not have to take any significant risks. Instead, they would 'just' have to work hard to keep the enemy as long as possible unable to help Abe.

'That won't be easy...' One of them thought, considering the power difference between the parties and the speed of a Spiritual Sage, that was not small.

After all, someone at the 9th stage had an extra chance of having a more developed movement technique than someone at the 8th stage. That is, people with the same movement technique could have different stages of mastery in them because of their cultivation stage.

Thus, even if the difference in energy was not great, it was, there would still be a difference in prowess regarding comprehension and mastery of techniques that someone of a higher stage would have an advantage.

These old elders of the Gray Clouds Sect knew this and could not help but imagine the Herculean work they would soon have.

"What if we can't?" A level 77 man asked their leader.

Minos and all the other people there looked at that person, and the silence there lasted for a few seconds.

After some thought, this brown-haired fellow replied. "There are a few possibilities of what could happen if we fail. The first and least bad is that we would have to do it all over again, but in another area, the same thing we will do in this place between Vogel and Cromwell. On the other hand, the second and worse is that the Spiritual Sage will take Abe away, far out of our reach."

"But I believe that won't happen. The enemy wants Abe to fight in the area for as long as possible. Then he will only leave when forced to, and he won't save that worm's life."

There were other possibilities, but they were not as likely as these two, nor would they have such different consequences.

"In any case, no significant change should occur in favor of the enemy," Minos said after a brief moment in silence. "Even if we cannot defeat them on the first try, we will only have to focus on that conflict for a few more months."

"The enemy has nowhere to run, no remaining alternatives to save themselves!"

...

And Minos was not wrong!

Right now, between Vogel and Cromwell, Abe was stressing himself out once again, trying to find ways to regain his former position against Minos.

Even with advice from the Spiritual Sage of the Eastern Empire, Abe hadn't been able to change his plans much, and in the last few weeks, his situation had only gotten worse.

He had even improved the efficiency of his actions. Still, the enemy side had evolved so much more than him in this respect that he did not have good results, even though he improved.

Even the Spiritual Sage had seen this and given some more specific advice to this young heir of the Vogel family. But, surprisingly, for both of them, even the ideas of this old expert had been defeated by Minos.

The result was the situation this terrorist group was in, surrounded by enemies watching them while they feared for their survival.

The most worried of all was Abe, who remembered very well what the Spiritual Sage had told him weeks ago.

'I have less than three months until the deadline he gave for my probable death...'

Gulp!

He swallowed his saliva as he stood in silence with the mercenaries who had been left over since the last batch of reinforcements arrived from the Western Empire.

Currently, Abe's forces were hardly receiving any reinforcements. Moreover, even when they did, it was not fast enough for them to replace those lost.

Ten died, but only seven arrived. With such a ratio, the number of experts there had never been so low!

"Boss, what are we going to do? We could be attacked any minute by that damn person..." One of the strongest there, level 77, said in a tone laden with the fear he felt of Minos.

Minos was not only an abomination capable of fighting people of higher levels than his own. He had mass destruction weapons capable of annihilating all of them there!

And, in fact, Emperor Stuart had already used one of these weapons against this group of mercenaries!

After the situation in the Flaming Empire had calmed down with the end of the war between those sects, Minos left his Black Hole Bombs with the elders of the Gray Clouds Sect. After all, he could not teleport with those artifacts on his side.

But after months of that organization sending reinforcements to the Black Plain Empire, all of Minos' mass destruction weapons had been brought to Dry City.

Some of them were being used to enrich cultivation rooms, but one had already been used to try to eliminate Abe!

In that situation, Minos had tested whether he could affect the Spiritual Sage with something so powerful. But that individual's strength was not small, and he had managed to save Abe, even though he had gained a burn scar on one of his hands.

In any case, these men knew the terrifying power of a Black Hole Bomb, so they could not help but worry about being surrounded by Minos' men.

"Let's follow our new strategy..." Abe commented before trying to stimulate these men on with a little lie. "If everything goes wrong, the senior will help us. I'm sure of that!"

That way, soon, these people would return to their activities, a little more relieved but still tense about their situation.

Chapter 1449 Different Interests

Three days later, in the Vogel capital...

The Assembly of Vogel was bustling as usual this morning, with many representatives coming and going. At the same time, now and then, elders appeared there.

The representatives of the local organizations in this Assembly were relevant Spiritual Emperors from the local noble families, talented people, and potential future leaders of their houses. But from time to time, some Spiritual Saints would appear to watch over these individuals' actions and meet with other experts.

Besides being the seat of the local government, this place was very suitable for hosting meetings between leaders since it could be considered a neutral space for any powers. Thus, all kinds of negotiations took place there, and it was not uncommon to see even mid-level Spiritual Saints walking in the corridors of this place.

But not only were these individuals not uncommon there. Members of the Black Plain Army and officers of the empire also made their presence felt since Minos ruled with the Assembly.

One of these members of Minos' forces who was there practically every day was Elen Nash, currently at level 65.

And this woman was at this moment talking to the representatives of the Assembly, presenting the request made by their sovereign.

"... Thus, His Majesty expects that local forces will be sent to the vicinity of the border with Cromwell in less than two weeks. He intends to initiate at that time a massive, joint attack against Abe Vogel's terrorist forces..."

The more than 600 people in that place, sitting around stands similar to those in an amphitheater, heard this in silence. Still, many of them were already expressing their satisfaction at hearing this.

Abe's death would be the conclusion of the revenge of many people there!

On the other hand, as much as some favored it, others could not help but feel mixed feelings because they had to help Minos.

'Killing Abe would be wonderful, but that would not come without cost...'

'Minos wants to use our forces to share his losses.' One woman among many there thought about it, considering the implications of the Assembly helping him.

Everyone there wished the worst for Abe Vogel. But some of those who had a vested interest in removing Minos from the position of local leader could not help but admit that such a terrorist was no longer a problem for them. At the same time, Emperor Stuart was a headache and a hindrance to the power project of several of the organizations they represented.

As people who had a chance to follow their current leaders, they themselves could be harmed if Minos succeeded in his endeavors!

Therefore, some were opposed to actions that could benefit Minos!

'It would be better if Abe and his men lasted a little longer for them and the main Black Plain's forces to continue to wear themselves out.' A level 68 man thought to himself. 'As long as Abe eventually dies and those terrorists no longer implicate Vogel, everything will be fine.'

When Elen finished speaking, the president of the Assembly, someone opposed to Minos, took the floor and said. "I thank Miss Nash for her words, communicating His Majesty's interests."

"But I fear the Assembly will have to vote on the matter for us to decide how it should be treated. It may not be interesting for us to send our best experts into this conflict when we already have to worry about the Flaming Empire." He recalled that fact. "No matter how weakened they are now, that doesn't mean they are harmless!"

"Yes!" Someone shouted as he rose from his seat to defend a position contrary to the proposal presented by Elen. "We have our affairs to attend to, and it is His Majesty's duty to lead with that problem."

"Didn't he become master of an enemy sect to solve this? Then let him use the members of that organization to wipe out Abe's damned group!"

"Yes, he said he was doing that to solve the problem. So why does he now want to force us to act? Or was his move useless?" Someone questioned aloud.

"Tsk!"

A short, blond woman said. "We had to accept such a thing, but now we will still have to pay the price of war with our men? No way!"

Discussions spread throughout that vast place as those more favorable to Black Plain began to show their opinions.

"Nonsense!"

"Abe Vogel is a traitor to the fatherland. We were put in the current precarious situation by him, so we must participate in eliminating the wretch!"

A tall, strong man said. "I am disgusted by these people who now want to 'forget' what Abe did against all of us..."

"That bastard not only betrayed us, he also tried to eliminate us during the attacks on the Church headquarters in our city months ago! How can you ignore this? His Majesty is only asking for our help so that we can eliminate that worm more easily!"

The people there began to argue with each other, with many getting up from their armchairs to defend the side they preferred.

The president of the Assembly did nothing to stop the arguments, content for all this to continue since he preferred not to give Minos any time.

For him, the longer Minos had to fight Abe, the less powerful the Black Plain core would be at the end of this conflict with terrorists.

That would be best for the Assembly. It could keep its powers and eventually appoint a new leader for the state, someone who could be from his family, as were the plans of his elders.

'Worst case scenario, we will lose an ally but gain our freedom and power of choice.' He thought about it, imagining the resources currently being sent to the Black Plain going to his family.

'In the best case scenario, we can make a quantum leap while the Flaming Empire does not threaten us, and the area experiences the greatest peace in millennia!'

So while everyone was thinking about their interests, the occasion continued for hours. That happened until sometime late in the day, the vote deciding whether Elen's proposal would pass took place.

The result Minos would soon know!

...

Another week passed in the blink of an eye...

By now, most of Minos' men who were to participate in the full-scale attack against Abe were already in the vicinity of Vogel's borders with Cromwell.

More than 8 high-level Spiritual Saints, 25 mid-level, and 30 low-level ones were in the vicinity of the area, along with the more than 5 thousand high-level Spiritual Emperors guarding the surroundings.

Of these individuals, most were people originally part of the Gray Clouds Sect. Still, there were some Spiritual Saints and Spiritual Emperors from the Vogel area, people who had attended Minos' call.

But these people were not there because of a favorable position of the Assembly of Vogel in favor of Minos' plans against Abe!

As Minos was about to find out, the Assembly had voted against him!

As for these experts, they were people who hated Abe too much and had come on their own, even though their families had not ordered them to join Minos' forces!

...

Chapter 1450 Time To Battle

After all of Minos' men had arrived at their posts for the attack against Abe and the terrorists, this ruler and his wives arrived near where it would all begin.

In one of the southernmost cities of Cromwell, where one of the Black Plain Army bases was, Minos and his three wives had just appeared in the inner area of a teleportation port.

Upon arriving at that place, the emperor was met by several soldiers and allies in the surrounding area. He was quickly updated on the local situation.

"So we couldn't get that previous request approved?" He was surprised to hear such a thing from Eduard, level 65, who was there to welcome him alongside some elders of the Gray Clouds Sect.

"No. Of the more than 600 members of the Assembly of Vogel, 411 voted against Your Majesty's request." That soldier said, just before adding the latest information from the group nearby. "However, some Spiritual Saints and hundreds of high-level Spiritual Emperors from this state have decided on their own to come and join the battle. So we won't be fighting without any help."

"Is that right?" Minos' eyes narrowed as he thought he was not wrong. He really needed to visit those people to make them feel some of the respect they had for him when he became king of Vogel.

Now Minos' powers had increased significantly, and recently he had even started to use high-level grade-3 weapons and armor due to his latest advancement.

Previously he had been able to do this, but due to the level of these items, he would be exhausted after one or two moves. But with the latest advancement, he could already handle fighting with items of this quality while using 'batteries' to keep himself in battle.

Because of this, his individual powers, even without using fusions, had already reached a level similar to those cultivators with Black-grade technique sets who were at level 76.

Some of the local leaders were people with Silver-grade technique sets and were between levels 75 and 76, people that Minos could not win without other help due to his limit being at level 74, considering that other characteristic.

But even though he had this disadvantage, Minos judged that he could currently put more pressure on people of this status than the last time he had seen them, when he had been crowned. So he wanted to use the opportunity of being around to visit those people!

'I'm still guaranteed a few years as local sovereign, so they won't be able to remove me from my position yet.' Minos thought about this as he walked alongside his women and his people. 'That will give

me some advantage here, considering I can advance in the meantime, while they have little chance of achieving the same...'

'Some will definitely prefer to be on the side with greater future potential!'

Minos knew that when he reached the 8th stage, everything would change. He would immediately become stronger than most Spiritual Saints, even from the Flaming Empire.

Since Vogel's Spiritual Saints were even weaker than those of the Flaming Empire, this would give him an undeniable advantage in this place!

That way, he was ready to show that he had not previously become king just to accept all the decisions of that Assembly!

"Very good. I will pay a visit to the capital of Vogel after our first attempt against Abe and start solving that problem then." He said after leaving that city alongside his group, flying towards a further outpost of his forces.

After speaking of this, he turned to the Spiritual Saints already on his side and to Gloria and said. "Your focus is on the strongest opponents, particularly the Spiritual Sage. Any enemy below level 76 should be ignored and left to me. You must focus your strength on disrupting the remaining opponents."

They heard that and accepted Minos' orders, already knowing that this brown-haired fellow could deal with all opponents below level 76 at once.

Minos' reputation as a killing machine, made for war and reaper of battalions, existed long before he used the black hole for the first time!

Since many there already knew this, no one would ask him to think twice about it!

Gloria then added. "All of you should make the battlefield as chaotic as possible. Only then will we be able to disrupt the Spiritual Sage and ensure that Abe is injured!"

If there were attacks in virtually every direction, the space itself would be hostile, and even if the Spiritual Sage managed to get Abe away, this fellow could still end up dying.

As such, these people planned to make it as difficult as possible for the enemy to escape and to ensure that even in the case of escape, Abe would be significantly injured.

Everyone there already knew the strategies of Minos and the Spiritual Church, which was advising them to try to disrupt the Spiritual Sage. So they nodded in agreement, keeping these ideas in their minds for the battle that would soon begin.

...

So, dozens of minutes passed, and soon Minos' group arrived at the outskirts of one of the forward encampments of his forces, which was watching the enemy's movements.

Several of these outposts were scattered around an area 10 times the size of Dry City, which stretched more than 100 kilometers between Cromwell and Vogel.

The enemies had been surrounded and were in this 'small' area, trying to hide or run away from them.

Upon arriving at that post, Minos did not go to observe Abe. Instead, he just went on to talk to the strongest men already in that place, giving his last orders for everyone to start acting as soon as possible.

"Is everyone already far outside the boundaries of that area?" Minos asked a level 78 Spiritual Saint, thinking about how he would start the attack.

"Yes, Your Majesty. Just as you ordered, no one from our allied forces is within the area marked as enemy territory." That person promptly replied.

"Very well, prepare to act. I intend to initiate the attack." He got up from a chair at the end of the table from where he was and prepared to get out of there.

He had experienced the situation of using his skills against enemies on several occasions and judged that everything would be easier for his forces if they fought in a 'clean' setting. So Emperor Stuart had already decided how to clear the area and make it as difficult as possible for his opponents to escape.

The people there already more or less expected what Minos indicated he would do and promptly began to prepare, sensing that he would violently initiate this battle.

Everyone began to retreat, indicating subordinates and weaker individuals to raise defenses and prepare for the shock.

As thousands of individuals began to be alerted, Minos flew to the center of that area. Then he picked up a mirrored sphere that he had been given back by one of his men upon arriving in the previous city.

"Now is your time, Abe. Today you die!" Minos muttered to himself before arming that device and hurling it toward the center of that forested area.

With that move, the Spiritual Sage in the distance noticed Minos taking action, already at the beginning of the battle using a Black Hole Bomb!

...