

## **Black Plain 1551**

### Chapter 1551 The Queen's Plans

"But, Minos, would those be your only regrets?" Dana questioned him.

"No. I intend to have an extensive and powerful family. So not being able to have more children would be a shame." Minos replied.

Ella couldn't help but comment, smiling. "But that wouldn't be a regret because it can happen in our state. After all, your last child will also be the child of a princess, potentially the child of the future queen!

If you are lucky and she is female, your lineage will continue to exist, and there will be many descendants of yours in the Spiritual World."

The other women in the area smiled, indicating that this really could happen, and Minos' comment was wrong.

He looked at that guide and said. "It wouldn't be the same... Anyway, forget about those dreams and come back to reality. How long will it take me to get to the capital from where we are?"

Those women didn't pursue the subject, even though practically everyone there wanted to tell him that he was the one who should wake up to reality.

Dana then said. "Two weeks if battles and parades do not delay you."

"Hmm, I shouldn't be too late now." Minos said in a low voice, considering that the closer to the capital he got, the fewer women seemed interested in challenging him.

At the same time, he didn't have much else to negotiate in cities ahead, for what he and the Black Plain needed, he had already made agreements to supply such demands.

Of course, more resources would always come in handy for an emerging force, but one had to be careful not to try to swallow more than one's stomach could hold!

Minos had no urgency to get more stuff in this place, so to avoid taking the situation to a higher level, he would no longer pursue business in this state.

At most, he would continue to collect resources from the women who dared to test their luck with him.

But as that group finished having their meal amidst the conversations among the many women there, one of the lookouts in Dana's group shouted. "A group is approaching us rapidly from the south."

"Could it be some rival family?" Someone in that group asked as she tightened her fingers on the dagger of her weapon.

The Flowers Kingdom was not a place without competition among the local forces. After all, these organizations were practically shaped by blood ties, and every family had its problems and intrigues.

That was even more true for a large organization with as many resources and members as the local royalty and nobility.

So there were conflicts between internal powers in this state.

However, these conflicts were generally not as severe as one might find, for example, in the ancient northern region of the Central Continent.

However, one of the women in Dana's group then said. "It's probably some fool wanting to challenge Minos."

This woman was not entirely wrong, but she was not right either.

Minos realized this when he saw some faces he already knew.

"Your Majesty Minos Stuart, I return to you with news of your grandfather, Oswald Coleman." The woman who had promised Minos to investigate Oswald's whereabouts said this aloud when she saw him.

Minos clenched his fists upon hearing that and asked. "Where is he? What is his situation?"

The other women in the surrounding area relaxed as they realized that this newly arrived group was not composed of their direct competitors and calmed down.

Meanwhile, the woman Minos had defeated earlier said to him. "Oswald Coleman still has his manhood, but his situation is not good. He is in the middle of a challenge and probably won't win."

"Where is he?" Minos insisted.

"He's north of here, in the northernmost city in the kingdom, Sosa. If you leave now, you can reach him in about a week's journey...

I advise you to run. The woman with whom he is disputing is not famous for her patience."

"If she castrates Oswald, I will rip her head off," Minos said as he prepared to leave, making all the women in the surrounding area feel bad at his comment.

In this place, despite the rights and duties that everyone involved in a competition had, nothing gave the one challenged the right to kill a challenger. What's more, if a foreign man was not in the midst of a challenge, they could not even raise their hands against warriors from the kingdom or could be punished by the royal family.

But still, none of those women wanted to rebuke Minos, knowing that he had his reasons for his threat and was quite powerful.

He then looked at Ella, indicating that woman to lead the way.

pαndα`nove1`coM "Ulva, you will be free of your responsibilities to me if my grandfather is in Sosa. So until I verify that, you must accompany us." Minos said to that woman who was already prepared to do that.

"I know..."

"Then let's go. There is no reason for us to delay any longer." He said as he flew off in a northerly direction, not even bothering to say goodbye to the previous group.

"Will he be able to achieve that goal?" Dana asked her advisors.

"Probably not..."

"Hmm, and it will be better that way." Another woman said. "If he doesn't arrive in time, he will have to beat two princesses to be able to free Harold and Oswald.

In that case, it will be impossible for him to escape even if he can beat the Third Princess!"

"We could slow him down a bit on his journey..."

But Dana didn't like this suggestion and said. "If he can save his grandfather by his own strength, we should not stop him. His journey will be hard and rushed enough, so hindering him now would totally take away his chances."

"But..."

"No buts. A warrior should not enter disputes where the victory is already decided before the start of the match. There is no point in doing that. We would accomplish nothing but disgrace to our own names." Dana said firmly.

Some warriors would rather die than have an undeserved victory. To them, a battle was something sacred that should be respected to the fullest, especially when it came to challenges.

Fighting in wars was different, but in controlled tournaments, challenges with rules, a victory would only be satisfactory to genuine warriors if it came through their own powers or abilities.

Many female warriors in this state thought so, and this high-ranking noblewoman in the royal succession could not help but deter those less committed to the hour from hindering Minos.

The two women beside the Spiritual Sage of the Eastern Empire saw this and were pleased, soon leaving the area to accompany Minos.

"I have a feeling he won't make it in time..." The level 86 woman said to her fellow travelers, seeing that the queen's plans were going as planned.

At the same time, another woman used what looked like a colored crystal to communicate with the most powerful expert in this state.

"Your Majesty, Minos should arrive in the capital in no more than a month. He is currently going after Oswald, who is under Chelsea's challenge."

"Oh? Is everything on schedule? Or is there something I don't know?" A voice came from that colorful item that pulsed with the sound waves.

"No, Your Majesty, everything is as planned."

"Perfect. Let him finish his days of freedom as he wishes. My daughters are already waiting for him." A satisfied voice ended that connection.

Chapter 1552 Oswald's Situation 1

A few days later...

On this day, which would make it three months since Minos' arrival in the Flowers Kingdom, he finally arrived in Sosa, where his grandfather was supposed to be amid his challenge with a local noblewoman.

Like any foreign man entering the kingdom, Oswald was at risk of being challenged and having to follow the rules of this state. So even though he was not young and no longer had great potential to be exploited, this old fellow was at risk for having his manhood intact.

Some less talented women of the royal lineage of this state would challenge even men without much potential to be exploited since they were better off getting pregnant by someone like that than by nobody.

Not many came to the kingdom, and all could not challenge even those who passed through this state.

In some cases, even if a woman could challenge a given man, it didn't mean she would succeed. Another noblewoman could challenge before that other, and his losing or winning could mean the end of the others' chances.

Either he would lose his manhood, leave the state after getting what he wanted, or be too strong for most interested parties to do anything about it.

So even an old fellow like Oswald had his attractions for women with royal lineage!

But not only that, every cultivator who reached the 8th stage was considered talented in the Spiritual World. So even if Oswald didn't already have a promising future ahead of him, it didn't mean his children couldn't have one!

Amidst all this, the noblewoman who challenged him should be interested in getting his genes as soon as possible.

Minos knew this since Ulva, the woman who had located Oswald had told him about all the details of his grandfather's situation during his travel to Sosa.

Oswald was in the middle of the challenge with Chelsea when Ulva left to warn Minos, a challenge that was a contest of strength, something that would end when one of the two sides weakened.

Knowing all this, Minos wasted no time upon arriving in Sosa and headed toward Chelsea's estate with the women in his group.

"This way..." Ulva showed the way to Minos and Ella.

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After a few moments, Minos arrived in front of an estate that appeared to be a small village built into the trees, a very different place than he expected.

There were vines at different points, with stairs and walkways between the houses and trees, in a way that would catch the attention of anyone passing by for the first time.

The houses were very colorful and had different shapes, showing the care that the creator of all this had taken in developing a unique place.

Minos liked what he saw but could not take advantage of the experience to get to know the place, quickly following in Ulva's footsteps to the central area of this estate.

Halfway along their path, one of the several women watching the surroundings while others lived their lives in this different place, someone addressed them and asked. "Who are you? What are you doing here with a man?"

Minos spoke in place of Ulva or Ella. "I am Minos Stuart. I am here on behalf of Oswald Coleman. Where is he?"

"Minos Stuart?"

"The emperor of the Black Plain?"

"He's as young as they say..."

"Look at that gorgeous little body of his... Ah, how I wish I had the strength to defeat him."

"Yes, conceiving his child would be pleasurable..."

Comments circulated in the surroundings, while the women there who knew what he was after made slightly more serious expressions.

"Your grandfather lost his challenge against Miss Chelsea two days ago." One of the women on the guard of this estate said this, causing Minos to frown.

"Where is this woman?" He asked, not liking it.

"Miss Chelsea is preparing for the mating ceremony, so she cannot receive Your Majesty Minos Stuart." Someone said.

"So Oswald is still complete? Take me to him." He demanded as those women on the outskirts gave him ugly looks, not liking his tone of voice.

"Minos, you are wrong about something. We have no obligation to take you to him." One of the guards, most willing to show her displeasure, said this without using the correct title to refer to him.

In theory, everyone with a status other than his, i.e., sovereign, was obliged to refer to him with the proper title, even outside the Black Plain. That was an ancient custom in the Spiritual World, so several local women referred to him in the proper way.

But some more disrespectful people saw no problem in ignoring such a rule and showing their displeasure by using the name of a ruler without the titles.

Minos didn't mind this and heard that woman speaking. "You can demand what you want from these women who lost to you in your challenge, but no one here fits that condition. So behave yourself, or we will treat you as a violator of the royal laws."



"Is that so?" Minos asked. "So what if I say I will leave this state if you don't show him immediately?"

I have already won several disputes locally. As someone who is not in any challenge at the moment, I have the right to leave whenever I want.

If no one wants to challenge me, I can leave..."

Minos knew about the queen's interest in him because of the several women he had beaten since he reached this state. So he knew that he could blackmail these women with his presence.

He really could come and go as he pleased under the circumstances he was in, and he was also not totally against leaving.

He wanted to fulfill his promise to Isabella and the Edwardstone family and save his grandfather. But if these women of this state made that impossible for him, something that could indeed happen, he was prepared to make the hard decision to give up!

He would eventually return for revenge, but in the meantime, he would accept his defeat and retreat.

Some of the women in the surrounding area, Spiritual Sages, realized that Minos was not simply bluffing but being sincere.

Then one of them said after thinking the situation over. "Take him to Oswald Coleman's cell."

"But..." One of the most displeased did not like this, feeling humiliated that one of her superiors contradicted her words so quickly.

She had just said that Minos had no right to demand things, but now she would be forced to do what he wanted.

It was disappointing!

"Quiet! Do you want to irritate Her Majesty by acting this way?" A voice entered her mind, causing her to shiver in fear and shut up.

Minos saw that he got what he wanted and felt the tension in his surroundings ease as Ella and Ulva looked at him.

He looked at Ulva and said. "I have already felt my grandfather's presence. Then you may leave. You are free of your promises."

With those words, he climbed one of the side trees along with Ella, heading toward the detention where Oswald was, leaving Ulva and her group free to leave.

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#### Chapter 1553 Oswald's Situation 2

After a few moments, Minos arrived at a property on top of a building in that place built into the trees, soon being directed to where the inmates were staying.

In that place, men beaten by local women were waiting there until the date of the breeding ceremony.

Because of this, there were few cells, as the number of inmates was relatively small.

On his way to Oswald's cell, Minos still saw a dozen men in prison, individuals who were mostly quite depressed, given their desperate situation.

Many Spiritual Saints were around, but to Minos' surprise, even Spiritual Sages could be seen!

He looked at a level 89 individual, surprised to see someone so close to the peak of the world subject himself to this situation.

The woman leading their way saw Minos' strange look and commented. "This is, or instead was, a patriarch of an ascendant family of the Evergreen Empire. However, in a power dispute situation, he lost

something valuable to his family, and in a desperate attempt to prevent the downfall of that house, he came to our state.

Unfortunately for him, greed got in his eyes, and after a few victories, instead of returning with the resources he needed for his family, he was challenged and defeated by one of our elders.

Now he is awaiting the day he will lose his manhood, which may even become that of his death."

Minos listened to this interestedly, not thinking about what that woman implied by her unnecessary explanation. He asked. "Does that happen often?"

The woman guiding them shook her head negatively.

Ella then said. "But people from the Evergreen Empire constantly show up in our state. Not only men but many women from there."

The Flowers Kingdom was between the Eastern Empire and the Evergreen Empire, two enemies.

And contrary to what one might think, a neutral place was not necessarily a 'forgiven' place.

When a state lacked power and stood between two powerful states that were also enemies, the weaker one between them would suffer as the battleground between the two larger ones.

This kingdom had allied itself with one side in the past to avoid becoming a battleground between the two, which had saved it and made it very close to the Spiritual Church.

Given this proximity, the flow of people between the Evergreen Empire and the Flowers Kingdom was much more intense than that between that state and the Eastern Empire.

But despite everything, the Flowers Kingdom did not stand firm against the Eastern Empire, and the queen was even willing to allow one of the Travisani family men into her domain.

Anyway, Minos listened to this information about the local situation, improving a little more his knowledge of the current situation in the Central Continent.

But soon, he stood before Oswald's cell and no longer thought about these curiosities.

"Here is your grandfather... You have five minutes to chat with him, Minos Stuart." The woman who guided them said that before walking away to give those people time.

Minos had been given this opportunity, but that didn't mean he could stay as long as he wanted!

Minos then looked at the situation of his old grandfather, who was surprised to see his grandson there right after his defeat. "It looks like you're not growing up bad, haha." This old fellow said as he leaned against the cell bars, smiling. "How long has it been, three years? And have you leveled up again?"

"A little less than three years," Minos said, showing to this old man that he still underestimated him.

"Hahaha, in a few years, you will become stronger than this old man, Minos," Oswald said, with one of his hands going through the gaps in the bars to tap one of his grandson's shoulders.

"Perhaps sooner than you realize..." Minos closed his eyes momentarily. "In any case, I'm surprised you still fell here after all I've offered you."

Oswald became more serious and said. "Don't talk like I've had time to get used to those techniques... I only had a few months. Meanwhile, my opponent was someone almost like you, Minos."

"Oh?" Minos opened his mouth in surprise. "Then that must have been on purpose."

"Yes. I traveled around this state for almost six months, trying to find a way to save Harold. At that time, I didn't get even a single challenge. After that, I was challenged three times, but on each occasion, I did something I shouldn't have and ended up pissing off these women who challenged me.

It was only then, three months ago, that out of nowhere, Chelsea appeared and challenged me, making me play ridiculous games with her until a few days ago...

She seemed to be waiting for something."

"Hmm, me," Minos muttered, noticing that the queen really wanted to stop him from leaving this state. "They want to make me fight more than once to free you and Harold."

Oswald had already realized this and asked. "Will you succeed?"

"Don't worry. I'm not the kind who plays to lose." Minos confidently said to his grandfather.

"Very well, I believe you." Oswald sat down after saying that. "Now tell me a little about the situation of our family and sect..."

Minos would spend the next few moments explaining the situation of the Black Plain Empire, Gray Clouds Sect, and the Coleman family to Oswald, reassuring this fellow.

He hadn't expected Minos to be so strong as to face a level 80 Mortimer, but he believed it all, satisfied.

From Minos' words, the sect was doing very well, with Spiritual Saints getting stronger and stronger. As for the Stuart family, they now had an extra relative on the cultivation journey, with impressive talent and Physique.

"Hmm, good to know," Oswald said, pleased to find out about Sarah's situation. "Anyway, you'd better go. I'll be waiting for news."

Minos nodded, pleased to see that Oswald was complete and sure that it would be enough for him to defeat the queen's champions to get his grandfather and Harold freedom. After that, they could leave the kingdom and this place behind for good.

Thus, Minos did not wait for the woman from before to call him when his time was up. Instead, he turned around after speaking with his grandfather, intending to leave immediately.

"Ella, take me to the capital." He ordered, making this woman smile in satisfaction after weeks of traveling together.

"Very well." She led the way, leaving their guide through that estate behind, wondering how long it would take for Minos to regret his arrogance terribly.

'I'll make time to visit the capital... I want to see how the princesses crumple that idiot's face!'

So Minos departed Sosa and soon began his three-week journey to the place where the queen and some of her daughters were waiting for him!

#### Chapter 1554 Meeting The Queen

After three weeks of traveling, Minos and Ella arrived near the capital of the Flowers Kingdom, a large coastal city of over 3 million inhabitants.

Upon arriving, they were met with a glorious view of the local waterfront, which was 'u' shaped and had calm waves, almost like the place was a lake rather than an open sea.

The natural beauty was incredible, and one could easily see the colorful coral reefs not far from the shore, where also some boats were standing here and there, with women working.

Minos saw this part of the Flowers City from above as he slowly lowered his altitude beside Ella to pass through one of the entrances to this beautiful colorful city.

Like most Central Continent cities, this place did not allow people to fly under the local skies.

Following the local rules, Ella promptly directed Minos to the ground, near one of the entrances where the queen's guard kept track of all who entered.

Amid their descent, Minos put aside the beautiful local waterfront to pay attention to this city, which had a classical building style that matched well with the local natural features.

He was a little anxious as he arrived at this place where Spiritual Demigods lived, these experts that even he had to admit how impressive it was.

'Will I be able to solve this quickly?' He wondered, feeling that the journey to this place had been faster than he had imagined.

But the truth was that Minos had only traveled quickly through the Flowers Kingdom because, in addition to that place being small, the size of Stone Island, he had traveled utilizing teleportation arrays from the Black Plain to the border of such a state.

If he had traveled without such means from Dry City to this place, Minos wouldn't even be there yet. He would still be by the Flaming Empire!

Since he already knew the state of Isabella, Emperor Stuart hastened his steps and quickly moved into this kingdom of women.

On the other hand, he had become too strong for ordinary women at the 8th stage to stand a chance of causing him trouble. Therefore, he overcame his challenges more easily than he had anticipated before coming to this state.

With that in mind, Minos now considered how much longer he would stay, having already arrived in the capital, where he should face his last challenges.

'Harold is probably fine, so after I win the challenges of the queen's daughters, I will fulfill my promises and be able to leave.' He looked at the well-dressed women at the customs post, where a group of royal guards was already waiting for him.

"Your Majesty Minos Stuart, Her Majesty wishes to meet you." A level 89 woman said this to him as he nodded in understanding.

"I am glad to hear that..."

Ella was nervously standing next to Minos, eager to meet the queen, whom she had never seen up close.

So the two entered the capital, heading towards the royal palace of the McBride family, the royal home of this domain.

Minos would pay no attention to the surroundings as he was directed towards the royal palace, only paying attention to the various auras above level 89 in that city.

He could count 15 Spiritual Demigods just by walking through the local streets!

'The aura of Demigods is really different...' Minos thought as he felt the spiritual pressure of these beings, which naturally created zones of high concentration of spiritual energy in their vicinity.

To get an idea, if a Spiritual Demigod fell asleep anywhere in the Black Plain Empire, anyone in that region, including Spiritual Saints, could cultivate near them with immense ease.

The effects caused by the presence of one of these experts would be so great that, for some people, cultivating near them would be almost equal to going to a Spatial Kingdom!

The only difference was that Spatial Kingdoms could hold tens of thousands of people, and usually, any spaces within them had the same properties.

Standing next to such an expert would only have those effects if they didn't contain their aura and if someone was within 50 meters of them.

Minos was overwhelmed by these impressive auras and could not pay attention to the beautiful city of the McBride family.

And so, he and Ella came face to face with the beautiful royal palace, a place that looked like an ancient temple, very well-flowered but spotless so that one would not find a single leaf on the ground.



Minos entered there and soon removed the auras of the Spiritual Demigods on the way there from his mind, not taking long to sense the aura of a level 93 person.

'That must be the queen...' He thought as he realized the most powerful aura he had ever felt.

This woman's aura alone was almost three times more abundant than the aura of some of the level 90 elders he had felt moments ago!

"Your Majesty Minos Stuart, welcome to my city!" The Queen of the Flowers Kingdom, Hannah McBride, level 93, said just before the grand doors of the royal throne hall were opened for him to enter.

Minos and Ella saw that beautiful woman seated on a golden throne, with a tiara of precious stones adorning her brown hair. At the same time, she wore a red and dark gold dress.

Minos realized this woman's body was very different from the others he had encountered so far, with her appearance being much sweeter and more beautiful.

It was as if she was not one of this kingdom's evil, man-castrating women.

But she was someone with that lineage. The problem was that after losing her innate abilities after breeding many times, this woman's body had returned to its natural condition.

Minos could sense this without anyone explaining it and was not so surprised by the queen's appearance.

Ella and Emma had told him some trivia about the innate ability of women of royal lineage in this state. So he was aware of these less critical points about these women.

After a few moments of silence since Hannah's speech, Minos smiled and said. "It is good to meet you, Your Majesty Hannah McBride. You are indeed powerful and beautiful, as everyone says, hehe."

She smiled at Minos' compliment and said. "It seems that you are not so different from the rumors either... It's just that I'd like to see some of your skills in practice to make a final decision on that."

"I believe Your Majesty will see that soon enough."

"Indeed..." She became a little more serious as several people stood on the outskirts of that royal hall looking at Minos.

Among those people, some 10th-stage eunuchs were there beside the queen's sisters and aunts and some of her daughters.

The queen had many children in her life. But less than half of them were females. At the same time, the royal lineage did not follow the traditional rule of this world in this state. Unlike the older children having a preference for succession, the younger ones were the ones who had it in this place.

Therefore, only the youngest daughters of the queen were around. Among them were the two women at the 8th stage who were there to meet the man who might soon breed with them!

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Chapter 1555 Seeing Emperor Edwardstone

The queen's 8-stage daughters, level 76 and 78, were standing there looking at Minos with interest, seeing in person this man they had heard several stories about in recent years.

In particular, they had been very interested in him ever since their mother had told them about him when Harold had been captured. At that time, the queen was already planning to give the seeds of Minos to one of them, so they had both had his name in mind for some years.

They just didn't expect that he would come to this state so quickly and at a higher level than they had anticipated, level 70.

Both were confident, and the beautiful Crown Princess, Adele McBride, level 76, was staring at him.

Minos noticed those thirsty eyes in his direction but temporarily ignored them. "But let's get to the point. Someone like Your Majesty has more important things than me to deal with... I am here on behalf of Oswald and Harold. Is there any way we can negotiate for their freedom?"

The queen smiled and said. "You know that we will only negotiate this in one way. The freedom of each of these men, for victories by you in challenges against my daughters..."

Hannah gestured in the direction of Adele and Bridget. "Adele will challenge you first. Then if you defeat her, you will be able to acquire the freedom of one of those two. Then you will have to defeat Bridget to save the second."

Minos looked at the two women appointed by the queen and said. "It's not a problem for me... But is Your Majesty sure you will prefer that path?"

We can form a friendship between the Black Plain Empire and the Flowers Kingdom instead of pursuing these challenges.

That could benefit both sides greatly and still avoid unnecessary grudges."

"Grudges? Why would we have grudges, Your Majesty Minos Stuart?" The first princess asked.

The third princess, that level 78 woman who could face Minos in the event of his victory, listened to his words alongside her two younger sisters.

The second princess was more talented than she and Adele, so she was already at level 80 and could not face Minos in this challenge. But still, she was there to meet the legend from the northern region.

Minos saw those three women practically eating him with their eyes and said. "Defeat constantly brings grudges to the defeated. In this case, I fear the royal family will disregard the state's rules, and my life will be unjustly threatened..."

The chief eunuch did not like Minos' insinuations and said. "I demand that Your Majesty Minos Stuart withdraw his words! We would never do anything against our own rules!"

It would only dishonor the noble McBride family and turn the entire Flowers Kingdom into an undignified, ill-spoken place throughout the continent."

"So the royal family intends to follow every rule of this confrontation?" Minos asked, looking directly into the eyes of the queen.

He ignored that eunuch and dared stare into those eyes, impressing everyone since not many Spiritual Saints would have such courage in front of Spiritual Demigods.

There were very few Spiritual Demigods, even if one considered all the experts at this stage in the entire Spiritual World.

Less than 5,000 beings were at the 10th stage, even considering beings of other races!

So Minos' courage was noteworthy, and the queen looked at him interestedly before saying. "Your Majesty doesn't need to worry about us.

I guarantee that everyone in my state will respect the challenge's rules. Furthermore, I will personally ensure your safety until the time comes for your breeding ceremony.

But from then on, I can no longer guarantee your vital situation."

"Is that so? Then I feel relieved... Being surrounded by so many Spiritual Demigods is a bit much for someone low-level like me." He said, but without being able to convince any of those people that he felt pressured.

But before she proceeded with anything, Minos said. "Before we start anything, I want to meet with Harold Edwardstone. Is that possible? He is an ally of mine, and his daughter is my girlfriend... His family is worried, and I wish I could at least send a letter to Payton with his words."

The queen saw no problem with this and said to one of her handmaidens. "Astrid, take His Majesty Minos Stuart to Harold's cell and give them enough time to talk. Then, when everything is settled, take him to the Sapphire Rim."

"As you wish, Your Majesty." A woman dressed in a maid's outfit said this as she appeared from the shadows among the various people in that hall.

Minos thanked the queen with a gesture and then looked at Ella. "You are free of your responsibilities from now on. You can do whatever you want..."

"Oh, I intend to." She suggestively smiled at him, showing him she would stay to watch his downfall.

Minos didn't mind any of this and just followed Astrid, a level 89 servant of the queen.

Meanwhile, everyone in the place started talking about Minos, how rude he was in front of the royalty, and his impressive capabilities.

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In a matter of seconds, Minos arrived at where Harold was being held after Astrid had opened a wormhole for them.

That woman stood to one side waiting for him while he observed that dark place, a prison similar to where he saw his grandfather imprisoned, only a little bigger and darker.

When he appeared in front of Harold's cell, Minos saw this man lying on the floor with an exhausted look on his face, while he seemed to have aged 2 thousand years just by the time he was there.

Not being able to cultivate, having his strength sealed off, and still being constantly tortured by the thought that he would soon lose his manhood was heavy, even for a Spiritual Sage like him!

Minos saw this and understood Harold's plight, not being able to say anything but apologize for his delay.

"I'm sorry, it took me longer than I had planned." He said, surprising that man who had no longer expected to hear that noble, young voice again.

Upon hearing Minos' voice, Harold immediately opened his eyes. He looked out of his cell, seeing the young body of that emperor dressed in his high-level grade-3 dark-gold armor.

"Minos!" Harold said this as he stood up and stopped beside the bars of his cell.

"Hmm, after everything that happened, I couldn't let you end up like this, so I'm here to rescue you," Minos said, making that man show a smile for the first time in years.

"There was a moment when I doubted this would happen..." Harold said in a tired but grateful tone.  
"Anyway, I now see that you were not just trying to dominate my state in my absence.

Thank you, Minos. Not only did you not rebel, but you possibly saved my women's and my daughter's lives."

"Don't thank me. I did it for my selfish reasons."

"We all have our own goals... That doesn't take away the merit of your good deed." He said, grateful for this fellow's help. "Anyway, tell me about the empire, about my family."

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#### Chapter 1556 Conversation With Harold

"The empire is doing well, as far as it can..." Minos said. "The Edwardstone family lost some members in the silent confrontation against Mortimer. But not only that, some powers preferred a fate away from the empire after their treasonous actions.

So naturally, the imperial family lost some of its vassals." He said suggestively. "There's also the situation with the Saints Killing Sect and the departure of members of the Gray Clouds Sect to my state..."

There are fewer organizations and cultivators above the 7th stage in the current Flaming Empire than in your time."

Hearing all this, Harold felt the time change, clenching his fists in disappointment with himself. He didn't blame Minos; this man had never forced him into anything. Instead, he had bet on Emperor Stuart and unfortunately ended up in this situation.

So Harold was disappointed in himself, unhappy that he couldn't protect his domain from the malicious parasites that had caused all this chaos.

Minos continued. "But the empire is recovering. The imperial family has been regaining control over the state, and Isabella is skillfully leading it..."

The old supreme elder is slowly putting aside his position as regent to spend his days cursing me... Good for Isabella, I'd say."

Harold listened to this interestedly, figuring that old fellow wouldn't live much longer.

'He must be preparing for his departure...' Harold did not judge the supreme elder for being so pessimistic about the world, especially Minos.

'Isabella is currently at level 73, close to advancing. She is doing well by her mother and stepmothers' side, but honestly, I wouldn't say she is happy with your responsibilities."

Harold looked into Minos' eyes and asked. "I heard a rumor about you and her... Maybe that's why she's not so happy running the empire."

"Probably." Minos smiled bitterly. "Anyway, because of me, the Gray Clouds Sect is getting much stronger, and even with fewer members in the Flaming Empire, this force has never been stronger within your state."

In a short time, we will be able to regain all the power recently lost in that state through my sect."

"Is that so?" Harold bowed his head, looking at the dark part of his cell. "That sounds promising for the Black Plain Empire... What will be your next move, Minos?"

"To go away from this kingdom of women and see the birth of my son," Minos answered sincerely.

Harold heard this and became a little less tense. "Son? Who is pregnant?"

"Abby, my empress."

"Good!"

Silence spread through the surroundings until Harold spoke again. "So, no plan for the short term? What is the status of the four states you promised me part of your territories?"

"Things have changed. I did my best to make it happen, but with Mortimer's rise, his forces and other states in that area have been forced to retreat.

Because of this, there is no longer any threat in that area to frighten the side of the four territories.

On the other hand, my state has strengthened recently, so our old plans would no longer be possible to realize."

Minos intended to follow his plans when he made deals with Harold and Isabella. But times have changed, and many setbacks have arisen to alter the course they were following.

Now, with everything having already happened, Minos did not feel he could accomplish what he had promised Harold, even if he tried with all his being.



Minos had never promised to do everything himself. Harold and his forces needed to act to provoke the leaders of the enemy states of the Flaming Empire to wish to flee to the Black Plain. The time for that had passed, and now the people of those states feared Emperor Stuart's territory far more than this other man's!

Even the heavens recognized that Minos had no control over this, and the lightning punishment had not and would not fall on him over this matter.

Harold knew that the heavens were impartial and punished those who broke their promises because of bad intentions.

Minos even had bad intentions, but not regarding his promises with the heavens as his witnesses.

Therefore, this Spiritual Sage could only regret the failure of his agreement with Minos.

"Anyway, that doesn't matter anymore." That exhausted fellow said, sighing. "Do you even have any hope of getting me out of here? I heard from a eunuch the local sovereign's plans for you. Will you be able to defeat her daughters?"

"Defeat? That I am not capable of." Minos was honest. "If what I heard is true, they are strong enough to defeat me in a fair fight.

"Then what are you doing here?" Harold asked in an altered tone, stepping forward and grabbing hard at the bars of the cell.

"I am here to win by forfeit," Minos said. "None of the princesses will stand up to my worst, and they will either have to die or give up the fight.

Either way, I will get what I want and eventually return home."

Harold's eyes opened considerably, seeing how far Minos was willing to risk himself to save his life and Oswald's.

He had already heard about Oswald's plight from a eunuch who was torturing him with the idea of becoming one of them. Because of this, he was very grateful to that man, who had risked coming to this state and falling into the queen's trap.

But not only that, when he found out about it, he was relieved that that man had taken such a risk and come to this place, ensuring that Minos would come to the Flowers Kingdom.

Anyway, that had been in the past, and now Harold was impressed with Minos' commitment and said. "Good luck. Otherwise, we may all end up the same way very soon."

With Harold's laughter, Minos nodded to this man and looked at the level 89 woman waiting for him, who had heard everything.

But Minos didn't care what she had heard. Knowing what he had in mind and a little about the local situation in the Flaming Empire would not help the princesses against him at all.

"So you're supposed to be able to kill the princess?" That woman asked before opening the wormhole to the royal palace of this state.

"It's not impossible. It's up to her." Minos said. "I can't defeat her, but she won't be able to defeat me either. In this situation, she either forces her way to face me or gives up.

I just don't know the exact outcome of that fight." Minos' eyes narrowed. "If one of them takes too long, a new alternative may arise, and I may become too strong for them to hold off the challenger."

That woman's eyes narrowed, and she looked at Minos, trying to read his words, which she couldn't understand since she didn't believe he was being literal.

In any case, it was not her job to do anything against him at the moment. All she had to do was to get him back to the palace for the start of the challenge!

"For I want to see what you are capable of, Minos Stuart." She commented.

...

#### Chapter 1557 Beginning Of The Challenge

Appearing in a different part of the imperial palace than the one he had left, Minos immediately saw that there were fewer people in the surrounding area compared to minutes ago.

But the princesses, the queen, and some of the most powerful eunuchs were there, eagerly awaiting him for the start of the most important challenge to this state in centuries.

When Minos returned to the side of that high-level Spiritual Sage, everyone stopped what they were doing to pay attention to him.

Meanwhile, he saw Ella standing there, noticing that this woman wanted to see him perform.

He smiled and shifted his gaze in Princess Adele's direction, feeling that he had better start this challenge immediately. "I am here to follow through with Your Majesty's plans for Your Highnesses... Will you challenge me simultaneously or one at a time?"

"Arrogance!"

"Tsk! He is saying big words before his final moment..."

"Typical!"

"Your Majesty Minos Stuart must be joking. We would never challenge you simultaneously." The third princess said, making room for her younger sister to challenge Minos.

She had a feeling that her sister would have a hard time beating Minos, so she was already mentally preparing herself for the day when she would have the chance to challenge him.

'When I defeat him, I will have a beautiful and talented daughter with him...' She thought quietly, making room for Adele to make the challenge.

The queen's youngest daughter then stepped forward and challenged Minos. "I, Adele McBride..."

She made the challenge, and Minos readily accepted it, looking at that level 76 woman, who should be the strongest at that level of all his opponents.

'Adele is at level 76 and has at least 5 Golden-grade techniques. The rest are Silver-grade techniques. So her strength should be similar to level 80 adversaries with Silver-grade techniques.

Hmmm, she is stronger than Mortimer.' His eyes narrowed. 'But the biggest difference between the two is that he had one more technique and could manipulate space.

Despite the quality of her techniques, Adele doesn't have those two advantages.'

He pondered the slight chance he could beat Adele without using his fusions.

'It would be impossible to beat without something like that.' Minos came to that conclusion.

But that was only for a simple confrontation, where one would fight the other. The women of the Flowers Kingdom usually made fair challenges for the level of their opponents, so there were alternatives other than head-to-head combat.

Direct combat was just how Minos could most easily solve his problems with these women and achieve Oswald and Harold's freedom if he won.

So first of all, Minos didn't move, waiting to see what kind of challenge that woman would propose. He was willing to try if it was something he thought easier than a fight against her.

In any case, from that moment on, no woman of this state could interfere in this fight in Adele's favor. Otherwise, she would lose the challenge to outside interference. So Minos was sure no one else would act against him, and he focused only on that woman.

"Minos, how do you want to dance with me? Will you do as you did with several of my cousins and try to use your fists to defeat me?" Adele asked with a teasing smile, already distant from other people nearby.

She knew of Minos' abilities and would not allow her opponent to simply become stronger through the few 8th-stage women in the vicinity.

"If you're going to fight me, you'll have to do it without your annoying skill." Adele laughed.

She had prepared herself for this challenge. In fact, her older sister had as well and would not simply allow women weak enough for Minos to steal their cultivation levels to stay within his range.

That would be dumb!

Minos frowned, feeling that winning would be harder if that was the case. 'I can't go into the Spatial Kingdom to get people to lose their levels to me... If I can't use one of those people, I'll have problems!'

He then asked. "What option do I have other than that?"

The first princess explained. "We in the Flowers Kingdom are very fond of games and challenges. So besides beating me in a battle, you can defeat me in a game.

For example, we can travel to my kingdom's border with the Marine Empire and enter a giant coral reef. Whoever gets through a reef first will become the winner of the challenge.

Another option is a simpler game, like an arm wrestling match. We can play three times and more easily determine the winner."

Minos saw that no one said anything to contradict the princess, noting that arm wrestling could even decide something as important as the fate of a Spiritual Sage.

'Things in this place are really peculiar...' He looked at the queen and saw this woman smiling. 'What do I do? I don't know much about the characteristics of either of these two women.' He looked at Adele and the third princess. 'Either of the two may have a skill capable of far outdoing me in some games...

If I pick something I'm unsure about, I could lose easily!'

Minos was confident in his abilities. If Adele were at the same level as him, he would accept any challenge from her and be sure he would win. But the situation was quite different, and he did not want to risk his own life or his freedom.

'If I simplify everything and create a black hole, I can cultivate inside it or even go to the Spatial Kingdom and bring someone with me...

No, that would be bad. The queen might realize I have a dimension capable of supporting living beings!' He clenched his fists.

Dimensions capable of doing such a thing could only be produced by Gods, meaning they were Spatial Kingdoms!

Hence, acting in such a way would risk handing this information to Hannah on a platter.

He then asked the queen. "Does the challenge have a time limit? By the way, if I beat Adele, who can guarantee me that the third princess won't change her mind and give up challenging me? I don't want to show off my skills and then have no choice but to leave my grandfather or Harold behind."

That woman saw that Minos wanted to prolong the situation and said. "The challenge has no rules that harm the challenged side. So you have all the time you can stand or remain undefeated within the challenge.

When it comes to your last question, don't worry; you will be challenged.

And even if Bridget doesn't challenge you, you would still get the liberation of those two if you could defeat Adele and make Bridget quit."

"I'm glad to hear that." Minos smiled, just before making his aura more oppressive, ready to begin.

"Well, so be it. I will not challenge you to games that give you the upper hand, Adele McBride. Instead, I will make you give up in a battle with our powers under test."

...

#### Chapter 1558 Minos' Plan

"Is that so? And how are you going to do that?" Adele asked with interest, curious to see where Minos drew his confidence from.

Minos said nothing, immediately activating his techniques and making his Soul Avatar show itself to everyone in the surrounding area.

But he didn't try to affect his opponent's body or the people near the place where the queen had chosen for this challenge to be initiated.

Instead, he directed his forces towards the activation of his main technique's fusion, causing a black hole to appear between his hands as he had them open and turned to the skies.

A black hole of about ten cubic meters appeared in the hands of the Soul Avatar of Minos, showing the experts there the ultimate creation of Emperor Stuart, something capable of confusing even them.

Even Queen McBride couldn't see through the event horizon and couldn't help frowning at the sight of something so strange coming from a young Spiritual Saint.

All kinds of power were possible to exist in the Spiritual World. But some of them were truly shocking, as they gave excessive powers to their users, to the point that some could even destroy the world if they so wished.

Adele saw that and felt it would not be good to touch it.

'Is that black hole of Minos? It is compelling... But I can beat him without even touching this thing with my body!' She thought, activating her 8th technique also to start fighting.

However, while she was moving, Minos would not stand still waiting for this woman for her to defeat him.

He used the black hole to devour some bodies in one of his spatial rings, which he kept with him to use as nutrients in case of need.

The black hole swallowed those 'nutrients' with no problem, doing so as fast as the speed of light that Adele didn't have time to take her first action before that thing got bigger.

Minos' black hole was a spiritual fusion, which demonstrated two of his techniques in their splendor. However, if he stopped putting his cultivation energies and understanding into it before it 'ate' something, the black hole would disappear as if it were a mere projection.

But when it devoured mass, spiritual energy, and Natural Laws, Minos' spiritual black hole became 'concrete,' independent of its creator's will to continue existing.

Minos could manipulate it if that region of space were under a limit of power. Still, even if he traveled far away or stopped using his forces to maintain it, such a black hole would continue to exist in his absence.

When he gave the energy-rich 'nutrients' and laws, Minos turned his spiritual fusion into something else, creating something so powerful and real that he could stop manipulating it and escape.

But instead of leaving, Minos went inside that region devoid of light, showing everyone his plan.

He would protect himself from Adele inside his black hole, and if she wanted to defeat him, she would have to enter that region of space.

However, if she did that, she would meet her end!



On the other hand, no one could stop the battle after all that was said, so the people there had no alternatives but to wait or give up the challenge.

"Hahaha, it looks like he got us, huh?" The woman who had challenged and beaten Oswald commented aloud.

The one who should have rights over Harold's genes frowned her eyebrows and looked at the queen. "What are we going to do? Are we really going to wait for that big coward?"

"What else can we do but wait?" Hannah said. "Minos is in front of us. There is nowhere for him to run. Meanwhile, if he wants to save his grandfather and Harold, he must beat Adele. Then he will come out and lose to my youngest daughter sooner or later."

"So we will wait?" Adele asked.

"Yes. Keep those two locked up, and neither of you can perform your mating ceremonies. I gave Minos my word, so he has the time he needs to gather the courage necessary to face my daughter."

They were all women who had already lived at least a few hundred years, so waiting for Minos was no big deal, and they all accepted the queen's orders.

On the other hand, the two women coming from a border post in this state and the man from the Eastern Empire were watching the situation together, anxious for a resolution.

That was especially true for the level 80 man, who did not expect to see the downfall of Minos in this place.

He was no longer stronger than Minos, but after watching this fellow grow over the years, this man had acquired some respect for Emperor Stuart.

At the same time, the Flowers Kingdom was not an ally of his empire, so he tended to choose a side opposite to the women of that place. In this case, he wanted to see Minos win and leave that place alongside Harold and Oswald.

'The future will be much more interesting if Minos wins this challenge...'

...

Meanwhile, Minos was already in the Spatial Kingdom, ready to begin seclusion.

He didn't know how to beat Adele in the short term without getting at least a level of advancement. So he had chosen to hide inside the black hole, where the women in that royal palace could not sense his departure to the Spatial Kingdom.

Arriving at this cultivation sanctuary, Minos intended to train and cultivate as much as possible to improve his skills, perhaps enough for him to solve the situation outside of this place.

Amid her thoughts, Sarah saw him coming and ran to him, eager to show her father her skills.

She had focused on cultivating for almost four months and made several advances, reaching level 12.

Minos noticed his daughter's cultivation level and promptly congratulated her before seeing his three wives standing there with strange expressions.

"What happened? Why are you here so early?" Abby asked as Minos looked at her belly, noticing that this part of her body was a little larger than the last time he saw her.

The other two looked inquisitively at Minos until he answered them. "I have found Harold and Oswald. However, to rescue them both, I must defeat someone stronger than I can now."

"That..." Ruth looked at him, not knowing what to say.

"What will we do?" Gloria questioned him.

"I'll cultivate until I reach the strength to beat her." He said before walking with Sarah in his arms to where the giant bones of the Spatial Kingdom were.

His women followed him on this walk, worried about this decision.

"How long do you intend to do this?" Gloria asked.

"What about the Black Plain? Even if you can cultivate it day and night, you won't advance in less than a year and a half." Abby pointed out this, which was their primary concern.

Minos replied. "The Black Plain should be fine. We already have many powerful subordinates and allies and not so many enemies."

"Mortimer doesn't worry you?"

"No. I have placed someone to track him..." Minos' eyes narrowed. "I have the impression that he will realize this and try to hide.

In any case, I have no choice but to do that. From where I left at the moment, there are several Spiritual Demigods."

Gulp!

...

Chapter 1559 The Seclusion Of Minos

"Spiritual Demigods?" Abby and Ruth exclaimed at the same time.

They didn't know so much about the Flowers Kingdom as to imagine that several such strong experts would surround Minos for the sake of a challenge.

They would never have agreed to the idea of him trying to rescue Harold or even Oswald if they had known.

Both these men had lived long enough and were free to make their own decisions. But on the other hand, Minos was a young man with a lot ahead of him and did not have to sacrifice himself for people like those two.

Thinking about that situation, the two became somewhat regretful.

As for Gloria, she didn't imagine that demigods would surround Minos, but something like that wasn't out of the question.

The women of the Flowers Kingdom were quite decisive about what they wanted. So with the arrival of someone with such good genes, it was unsurprising that they were acting this way.

"And how long are we talking about?" Gloria asked him.

"I don't know." He said, looking at those bones. "I want to try something new. If it works out, maybe I can cut down a little on time needed."

"Are you going to use them somehow? But you've never done anything like this before." Ruth said, a little worried.

But he said. "I feel my connection with them increasing since I went through my last qualitative evolution... But I never spent much time trying to connect with these things because I lacked time.

Well, now I have enough time to cultivate and try to understand something new."

He left Sarah with his wives and jumped toward the second skeleton in the Spatial Kingdom, the one he had most recently gotten.

He stopped on top of what was supposed to be the skull of that creature and then immediately sat down in a lotus position.

As he did so, Minos circled his cultivation technique to begin cultivating. But amid his usual breathing routine, he activated his innate ability, trying to steal the thing's cultivation levels.

In doing so, he felt like an ant trying to lift an elephant, but he could feel those bones full of power reacting to him, giving off signals of their connection to him.

'I don't know where this will lead me, but I hope it gives results!' He closed his eyes, intending to cultivate for a few months until he took a break to train his combat techniques.

Meanwhile, Sarah saw her father starting to train seriously and felt she could not weaken. "I won't stand still!" She said as she sat down near those bones and began cultivating the same technique as her father.

The three women of Minos saw this and couldn't help but smile at her attitude before they themselves turned their attention to their own needs.

Abby and Ruth were still at level 70, while Gloria had advanced only a few months ago, so she was far from a breakthrough.

But still, all three of them could cultivate and achieve advancement together with their husband since he seemed to be searching for something that would not come fast enough for any of them not to advance in this seclusion.

Thinking of strengthening themselves so they could help him somehow, even the pregnant Abby, who could still cultivate to level 72 before stopping to wait for Minos' child, quickly went to cultivate as well.

Unlike Sarah, who could only endure a few hours of continuous cultivation, they could cultivate for months at a time!

The other individuals in the Spatial Kingdom watched Minos' arrival with concern, knowing he shouldn't be around so soon.

But not only that, he didn't seem at all happy to come to this place, which meant that the situation in the Flowers Kingdom was not yet resolved.

'This is bad. Some problem has happened!' A low-level Spiritual Saint from the Gray Clouds Sect thought to himself, thinking of the problems they would have in case of a failure of Minos in this state of women.

At the same time, Emlyn was standing on top of the other giant Spatial Kingdom skeleton alongside several other beasts, Kyla among them.

"I wonder what happened, mom?"

"I don't know, but this is no time for you to worry about it," Emlyn told her daughter. "Go back to cultivating and try to absorb the essence of that skeleton. If we get something from it, we'll all become mighty!"

"I know, but..."

"No buts. You're only at level 67 and can't help Minos in any way! Go cultivate!" The fox with eight tails said this to her cub, causing Kyla to shut up and go back to meditating over those bones.

For beasts, it was easier to feel how impressive those bones were and connect with them. That's why, ever since these bones arrived in the Spatial Kingdom, beasts have been using them to get stronger.

Minos knew what these beasts were capable of and was trying to use this as inspiration, using, of course, something that only he could feel since he was the only one with the ability to do this.

...

While Minos was trying hard to suck the strength from those gigantic bones, a few months passed.

In the meantime, the queen and the upper echelon of the Flowers Kingdom stopped watching Minos' black hole 24 hours a day.

They turned their attention to their daily business, leaving that region of space under observation.

But not only the most powerful in that state had gone that way. The very princess who had challenged Minos was cultivating elsewhere, leaving a subordinate to keep an eye on that black hole.

She wouldn't waste her time waiting for her opponent, who probably thought he could surpass her in cultivation speed and thus become stronger.

Adele had realized this months ago and stopped watching that place 24 hours a day.

Hence, the only ones watching that lightless region of space were a few eunuchs and low-level women, among them Ella, who was angrier than ever at Minos.

But she wanted to see when he would give up this silly little show and lose to the Crown Princess. Thus, she was still standing there, anxiously waiting for him.

Besides these people, the two women at the border post, who had followed Minos on his entire trip through the Flowers Kingdom, had finally been released from their activities and returned to their post.

Only the envoy of the Eastern Empire continued to observe that place until the present day when someone sent by Emperor Travisani arrived at his position.

"You may leave. I will take over your duties from now on." A level 85 man said this to that level 80 Spiritual Sage, ending that man's journey as an observer of Minos.

He readily accepted this, looking back one last time, curious how long Minos would wait. But soon after, he opened a wormhole away from there, setting off toward his home state.

'Good luck...' Those were his words, spoken only in his mind before he disappeared from the area.

While a new envoy took over the responsibilities of that old acquaintance of Minos, the black hole of that emperor continued to spin, unchanged.

But inside the Spatial Kingdom, things were somewhat different!

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#### Chapter 1560 Surprising Results

After months since he began his seclusion, Minos had finally managed to bring a tiny fraction of the powers of those bones to the light.

It was nothing beyond comprehension or absurdly fantastic for him to have advanced a level in less than a year. Still, it was enough to benefit him and his people significantly.

After months of using his innate ability daily for much of the time he was cultivating, Minos had managed to subtly steal some of the powers of those bones and increase the level of his and other souls there!

He had managed to do the same thing he had been doing since he had advanced to the 8th stage, steal a target's cultivation and transfer those powers to other people.

But there was a crucial difference in this situation within the Spatial Kingdom. What Minos had achieved so far was not enough to make someone level up easily, as he did in normal circumstances. That was enough only for him to make the people in his surroundings, himself included, feel more capable regarding spiritual energy absorption.

He was stimulating them, so they could cultivate as if they were a little stronger than they should be. The result? Everyone's cultivation was faster than ever!



But after managing to do this for the first ten times, Minos and his people realized it wasn't just that. Besides them having the ability to cultivate and even improve their comprehension faster as he used his innate ability to help them, something different than before was happening.

That is, previously, a person with a decreased level and another with a level increased by Minos' ability would return to normal after a while, depending on how each used their abilities. However, what Minos had been doing with those bones had not been happening in the same way. Whenever he stopped using his abilities, no matter how much time passed, people and himself did not have their levels return to normal!

He was managing to give definite advances to those affected by his Physique!

Because of this, after months inside the Spatial Kingdom, if one were to enter there at the moment, one would see that practically all the beings there, beasts and humans, were training near him.

Only then could they benefit from what Minos was doing. Hence, in that ample space, practically two hundred people were in the vicinity of 100 meters away from him.

Minos continued meditating even though he had several discoveries in that period, not interested in stopping and looking for a meal or rest.

All he had in mind was to end his seclusion as quickly as possible to return to his state and have a few more years of peace before deciding what to do about the map in his hands.

While he was seriously cultivating, Abby and Ruth advanced to level 71. On the other hand, Sarah reached level 25, and Kyla managed to advance to level 68.

Several members of the Elite Squad and the Gray Clouds Sect, even low-level elders, had made advances in these months.

Even those who had previously been apprehensive about Minos' anticipated return were now grateful that he had been pressed into service by the women of the Flowers Kingdom!

...

Somewhere in the Flaming Empire...

A group of three tall, strong, and beautiful Flowers Kingdom women was flying over the surroundings as they looked at the terrain earnestly.

"I don't think he's far away." A level 81 woman said, while her two companions, one level 80 and one at the same level as her, were searching for the tracks of their target.

After almost a year of investigating Mortimer's whereabouts, these women sent by the noblewoman who lost to Minos earlier were getting close to their target.

They were merely searching for Mortimer's location, so they didn't intend to do anything against him other than mark him.

But while they were finding this man's tracks, he was aware that someone was in pursuit of him, sensing this with the constant hints of his, or rather Gavin's, innate ability.

Because of this man's movements, these women's work had been greatly hindered.

But still, they were stronger and better equipped than Mortimer, and this man couldn't help but shiver, feeling that he was the target of someone closer and closer to him.

This man's life had been a disaster since his defeat by Minos. His cultivation was damaged so much that he could no longer improve himself.

But not only that, parts of his body had been lost forever, and even using good items created by his subordinates, a mechanical arm and leg, no matter how good they were, would not compare to one made of flesh, with the spiritual element present.

He no longer had the right to have this and could only humiliate himself, living as a cripple, even though he was a powerful Spiritual Sage in a place dominated by Saints.

Now, being pursued, this already somewhat disturbed man couldn't help but tremble in fear and hide even more vigorously.

'Damn it! When is this going to stop? Why don't these bastards attack me soon?' He wondered again, thinking his opponents might want to drive him mad or even force him to kill himself.

Being constantly persecuted while desolate, with incurable physical and spiritual after-effects, was enough to disturb even one of the most lucid minds!

A disturbed mind would mess up so badly as to even self-harm, and currently, this former sect master could only imagine that his enemies wished this for him.

'Damn Minos! I hope wherever you are, you suffer, you worm! You deserve disgrace!' He pressed his teeth together but without the courage to go after revenge.

Mortimer no longer wanted to hear from Minos or the Black Plain. He didn't even know that, at the present moment, the Stuart Emperor could not defend his territory.

The trauma of this fellow was great, and he feared that if he met Minos, this emperor would kill him!

To him, Minos would not make the same mistake twice, so he wanted distance, even though he hated that person so much that he cursed him daily.

Anyway, he moved to the interior of his floating island, the safest place he had to hide.

The three women realized this and finally identified exactly where Minos' target was!

"What do we do now?" One of them asked, feeling this was the end of their mission.

"One of you stays here to keep watch over him." The strongest of the three said. "I will return to the kingdom to notify Miss Shannon of this. She can finally be free of her responsibilities to Minos."

With those words, she opened a wormhole and set off toward her home state to discover Minos' situation.