

## **Black Plain 2161**

### Chapter 2162 Beginning Of The Secret Hunt

When the Secret Hunt began, the participating groups soon made their way to the spatial distortion on this platform. The Spatial Kingdom where the Secret Hunt took place had a special entrance that gave access to it, but one had to be able to manipulate space to pass through that entrance. Without that, it would be impossible to enter that region of space and participate in the race.

Once the event was underway, several Sages moved forward into the spatial distortion, manipulating the space in front of them and thus entering the Spatial Kingdom where the event would take place.

Meanwhile, the arrays showing the interior of this Spatial Kingdom began to function, indicating the arrival of the first participants in the Secret Hunt.

Sarah's group began to move, each one passing through the distortion until it was the brothers' turn.

"Good luck. We'll try to meet you inside it." Sarah said to Kendrick before disappearing in front of him.

The entrance to the Spatial Kingdom from this event not only depended on the strength of those who tried to pass through it, but it also wouldn't take you to the same place as the others.

Each person who passed through this passage would arrive at different points in the Spatial Kingdom. Knowing this, Sarah's group would try to meet there as soon as possible when they arrived.

Kendrick clenched his fists and used his abilities to the limit of his strength, slicing through the space in front of him and opening a path into the Secret Hunt.

As the audience watched the only Spiritual Saint in this competition enter the Spatial Kingdom, the crowd erupted with the first Spiritual Saint to accomplish such a feat in the history of the Continental Tournament!

"Like father, like son," Vico said as he watched the tournament's main event begin.

The other Gods present had similar thoughts, while some of the high-ranking experts saw Minos' position double with this simple event.

"It seems that Emperor Stuart is betting on his son's performance... Tsk! That shouldn't be allowed. It's quite obvious." Someone complained when they saw the change in the main rankings.

"No one else bet on it, so the tournament organizers must have thought it would be tough to happen."

"It doesn't matter. Emperor Stuart bet on something obvious and won. That should be checked."

Conversations like this spread throughout the arena, and the VIP rooms like the one Minos' party was in.

Watching the start of this final challenge of the competition, Minos had a calm look on his face, but he had noticed an error in his group's accounts.

"The tournament organizers punished me for that bet. I only won 20% of what we expected". He commented to his group.

"That's natural," Hannah said. "The tournament organizers must have realized this was something you knew would happen. They only gave you points for accepting your crystals, and that would give you the right to complain later."

"But that's okay," Ruth said. "Those points moved us up a position, and we're closer to our goal."

"Yeah, it wasn't a high score, but it was better than nothing."

The group wasn't going to complain about that, so those in the room soon turned their attention back to the start of the Secret Hunt when all the participants had arrived at the large Spatial Kingdom where the event was being held.

There, the participants didn't act carelessly when they arrived at their respective locations. This Spatial Kingdom had all kinds of creatures, and it seemed like a small realm independent of this world. If you were careless, the natural beings in this area could kill you!lights

For most of the participants, the first priority was to find their allies, and only then could they begin to accomplish their goals there.

So, upon arriving in the space, Kendrick immediately grabbed his group's tracking device, which everyone except Sarah had, and led them to the same place, her location.

Sarah's device would lead them to Kendrick's location, so as soon as he got the signal to go to his sister, he started moving cautiously, thinking about halving the distance between them.

The others did the same, moving cautiously in search of their allies.

That would be the beginning of the Secret Hunt. This event would soon become hectic as the first natives of the Spatial Kingdom came face to face with the competitors from the Continental Tournament.

Battles for resources and other items would begin in the next few minutes, turning the event into an attraction for spectators who would not bat an eye as they watched in excitement.

Points would be scored in the first few minutes, with a lot of movement in the rankings that would determine the better who would receive the collective vision of the island's high elves.

Minos would pick up a few points and drop others, maintaining his position in 5th place at the start of the Secret Hunt.

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After the first day of the Secret Hunt, the lesser spectators still watched with excitement, enjoying the battles and adventures that many of them would find difficult to experience without risking their lives.

Amidst all this, the most important specialists on Elves Island met for talks, negotiating agreements for the coming months or the distant future after the invasion.

Some thought of a possible victory for the Spiritual World, while others thought more of a protracted war should the forces of that world survive the first few weeks after the invasion.

For many experts, the fate of this world would be decided in the first month of the war against the native aliens of The Adamant Land.

Basically, there were three possibilities:

The end of the Spiritual World's forces as soon as the enemy forces arrived.

The victory of this planet was because of the possible weakness of the alien Gods compared to the Gods of this world, which could happen based on what the forces of this world knew from the aliens that Minos had fought in the North Sea.

Neither side would win in the short term, and the war would last for months or years.

The third possibility was the one that some thought would happen the most, so these individuals were looking for agreements for the months or years of war ahead.

Minos would meet with some experts from the Spiritual World to discuss the matter and make new agreements, including food from his state to meet the needs of other areas of the planet.

That would be the case for the next three days until the final part of the Continental Tournament gradually makes all the experts focus on the end of this very important competition!

Chapter 2163 End Of The Continental Tournament (1)

After weeks on Elves Island, the time had finally come for Minos' party to leave.

After nearly two weeks of competition, the time had come to determine the ultimate winner of the tournament.

Many groups of bettors and competitors had won many things, but the grand prize had yet to be decided. But just today, the last bet of Minos' remaining competitor was decided, and only one bet remained to end the tournament.

The Sky Whales group was in first place, while Minos' group was in second place, with a difference of only 2 points!

As long as they scored in the last bet, the Black Plain Empire group would win the main bet!

Meanwhile, Sista was in fourth place, an excellent position considering that they weren't even one of the top 15 powers in the Spiritual World.

Fourth place in this ranking only carried a monetary prize, which was not as good as what everyone wanted to win in the main bet.

And so the Continental Tournament came to an end as Sarah's group completed the last mission given to them by Minos!

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Inside the Spatial Kingdom where the Secret Hunt was taking place, Sarah, Kendrick, and their four allies were on the run.

They had just gathered a resource that Minos had ordered them to collect and were being chased not only by the local beasts but also by other competitors who were still in this space.

That was the last day of the competition, so the number of competitors in this Spatial Kingdom had dropped a lot, currently standing at just 18 people, counting the 6 people from the group sent by Minos.

Most of those participating in the Secret Hunt had given up or completed their missions and returned to Elves Island. Only the Sky Whale group and one of their allies were still there with Sarah's team on their final mission to eliminate Minos' group.

The Sky Whale Tribe no longer had a chance to score in the event, but they could still prevent their competitors from scoring more points and taking their position!

That was exactly what was happening right now as Sarah's group moved through the magnificent Spatial Kingdom, trying to keep the item they had just collected in their possession.

If they could hold on to it for another seven minutes, their mission would be complete, and the Black Plain Empire would be crowned the winner of the tournament's main bet!

Thus, Sarah's entire group moved to escape their pursuers and the dangerous attacks sent in their direction.

They all had their Soul Avatars active as they moved their forces as far as they could, quickly approaching exhaustion.

But at this moment, it was all worth it. As long as the one with the resources in hand managed to escape, all the sacrifices of the group would be worth it.

However, winning would not be easy! While their group was made up of low, mid, and high-level Sages, their enemies were mostly high-level Sages between levels 87 and 89!

"Sarah and Kendrick, run! We'll stay behind to get in the way of their strongest men!" One of those whom George had chosen to represent Sista shouted at the two siblings.

Seeing the situation getting more and more complicated, Kendrick and Sarah didn't hesitate to move, leaving their allies behind. As much as they didn't like it, they were fully aware that they couldn't withstand a fight with levels 87, 88, and 89 Sky Whales.

Even their allies couldn't hold out for long, so they had to run in order to gain an advantage!

"Kendrick, take this resource with you." Sarah handed her brother an item that looked like a red-orange egg. "I'll stay behind to buy you time."

Kendrick took it and continued forward, focusing everything on his movement technique.lights

Sarah didn't hesitate to take on the enemies who ignored her and Kendrick's four allies, immediately using her innate skill to try to impede her opponents' movement.

She demonstrated her mastery of the mental, defensive, and offensive techniques made famous by the hands of Minos, helping to make the journey more difficult for the enemies.

Even so, two land beasts and a level 86 Sky Whale managed to get past Sarah and make their way toward Kendrick, who was only losing his advantage as he moved.

"Shit!" He saw that there were still three minutes left, but he felt that he would fail this last mission if he didn't fight here and now.

Storing the egg-like object in his spatial ring, he stopped flying and came face to face with his three remaining enemies.

"Hand over what you have, Kendrick Stuart. I'll let you go as soon as you give it to me." Said the level 86 Sky Whale, currently in his humanoid form.

Kendrick showed his spatial ring to the three individuals surrounding him while his aura was at its maximum. "Are you willing to die for it?"

"Die?" The whale laughed.

He respected Kendrick. This young Crown Prince of the Black Plain Empire was very similar to Minos in many ways. But even if this young man were level 77 Emperor Stuart himself, he wouldn't be a threat to this level 86 Sky Whale.

"Try it, boy. If you can threaten my life, your victory will be just."

Kendrick was already ready to fight. Upon hearing the whale's words, he moved in front of his opponent and did something that only his father had demonstrated until that day.

Chaotic Gravity: Black Hole!

Devouring Art: Black Hole!

He immediately fused his two main techniques, using some of the immortal energy in his body as the basic foundation for his fusion.

As a result, a black hole many times more powerful than the one Minos was capable of at level 77 appeared in that normally stable spatial region.

The moment Kendrick performed such a fusion, the whale that flew toward him to attack him suddenly felt his entire being tremble while the two beasts surrounding the young prince sensed terrible omens.

Even the other participants who were fighting a short distance away noticed something terrifying in the direction of where Kendrick had acted while the spatial walls of this Spatial Kingdom trembled.

"Fuck!"

Not only the enemies of Sarah's group said this, but also Kendrick's own teammates in this Spatial Kingdom.

Kendrick himself hadn't expected such a powerful attack, and he felt a bleak sensation growing in front of him from that black hole.

Meanwhile, the space of that cultivation shrine was distorting, as if the black hole was trying to swallow it up!

Those closest to this phenomenon felt an enormous suction force trying to absorb them, and they immediately shifted their focus in fear. Chapter 2164 End Of The Continental Tournament (2)



Seeing what was happening in his organization's Spatial Kingdom, Merritt got up from where he was sitting to watch the end of the event.

He looked at Aurae, but the woman had already gotten up from where she was and left for that region of space.

As much as Kendrick was only a level 77 Spiritual Saint, by pouring the immortal energy he had into his fusion, he had created something capable of threatening the integrity of that Spatial Kingdom!

It wasn't enough to destroy the entire Spatial Kingdom where the Secret Hunt was taking place. Still, it was enough to damage it to the point where the entire structure of that space could be thrown into chaos. That could endanger the lives of all living beings in that place and make it difficult for people to get in and out of there for a long time.

Fixing the Spatial Kingdoms wasn't easy and would require the work of more than one God.

Precisely because it was difficult, Spatial Kingdoms that were damaged were usually abandoned, as it was often easier to build new cultivation sanctuaries than to repair an existing space.

Not only did Aurae move to prevent the worst, but Vico and Maximillian did the same, quickly appearing in the region of space where Kendrick had made his desperate attempt.

But when they reached that place, the three Gods were surprised to find a fourth intruder there.

"Minos!" Aurae shouted the name of the man standing next to Kendrick while the entire space around his son's black hole seemed to stand still in time.

The three Gods inside the Spatial Kingdom and those outside this region of space saw the figure of Minos appear to solve the problem. But only the three individuals who moved to solve the problem felt the power emanating from Emperor Stuart!

"Let me fix it. I can completely undo what my son has done. Just give me a minute." Minos said without looking at the three of them.

The three looked at each other and agreed, seeing that Minos was using the most mysterious power: Time!

'Has he mastered the laws of time?' Aurae watched Minos attentively, somewhat impressed, as she felt that time around Kendrick and the black hole was running backward.

Meanwhile, Minos used his abilities to return his son's immortal energy to Kendrick's body, something only he could do.

If any of these Gods tried to deal with the black hole, it would end badly. Immortal energy was extremely powerful. When Kendrick added it to the mixture to form the black hole, it was like throwing liquid oxygen into a fire!

It would be difficult for anyone unfamiliar with immortal energy to control such power.

He acted quickly, while everyone who wasn't within the range of his power saw everything and felt as if time was turning back for those under Minos' power.

When he saw this, the level 100 dragon stood up from where he was, not hesitating to go to that Spatial Kingdom to see Minos' power for himself.

The level 100 whale also moved, quickly arriving at the spot where Minos had entered through the competitors' entrance.

After a little more than a minute of action, Minos completely dissolved Kendrick's Black Hole and the space around that cultivation sanctuary completely returned to its normal state.lights

As Minos' Time power stopped working, everyone under the influence of it began to move and act freely again, noticing the sudden change brought about by Emperor Stuart.

"That was truly magnificent, Minos." The level 100 dragon commented to him as he walked over to the side of the Gods.

"That was Time, right?" Vico looked at the young man before him strangely. "You couldn't use it before, or you didn't want to face me with this power?"

Minos answered sincerely. "I couldn't influence you back then. But now that I've had the chance to cultivate under the Tree of Life, I could have some fun with it." He laughed. "Of course, I wouldn't be able to hurt you, but it would be enough for me to surprise you faster than I did that day."

The Sky Whale heard that and went straight to his point of interest. "Well, let's end this competition. Since His Majesty Stuart intervened in the battle, we must consider it a defeat for his group."

"I did what I did to save this Spatial Kingdom and our competitors. Besides, if I hadn't acted, the event would have ended one way or another with the intervention of one of them." He pointed at Vico, Aurae, and Maximillian.

Everyone fighting in the Spatial Kingdom a few moments ago had stopped and was now looking toward these top experts.

Aurae listened to Emperor Stuart and agreed. "That is true. Minos didn't favor his group. He just did what we wanted to do."

The Sky Whale didn't like that. "That can't be. We're going to end the competition like this and give him the points? The fight has been interrupted!"

Minos said. "There are still 40 seconds left on my bet... I'll get my points if Kendrick has the egg in 37 seconds."

Everyone looked at the clock, which marked the time that Minos had bet that his group would be able to keep the beast egg that Sarah and company had stolen from a tribe in the Secret Hunt.

"That's true." Maximillian agreed as the old level 100 whale turned to look at his juniors at the event.

He called out to them to deal with Kendrick, but the young heir of the Black Plain Empire had already started running the moment his father's voice sounded.

"Shit! The damn humans tricked us!" A level 87 Sky Whale shouted as he moved.

With only 15 seconds left for Minos' bet to pay off, there wasn't much the group of enemies could do against Kendrick.

He used his advantage to his advantage, using the surrounding terrain to evade his opponents. His allies joined in, giving him a chance to complete his father's plans.

After 15 seconds, Kendrick still had the beast's egg, fulfilling his father's mission and giving Minos the last remaining points to take first place.

After a lot of hard work and an unexpected outcome, the competition finally came to an end, and Minos took first place in the competition's main betting ladder.

In this way, the Continental Tournament was finally over!

#### Chapter 2165 Prize Time

With Minos' victory in the Continental Tournament, the Sky Whales were furious that they had lost the grand prize at the last moment of the competition, potentially losing something worth a Divine Medicine.

That was a lot to lose!

The tribe's God glared at Minos, blaming the young man for the outcome. But he wouldn't move against Emperor Stuart today.

All bettors and participants had to agree to the tournament rules before attending the event and participating in competitions or betting. Even if he was angry, he couldn't go against his promises, or else he would be in serious trouble.

He let out a loud 'huff' and turned around, then left the Spatial Kingdom intending to leave the Elves Island and return to his own territory.

Meanwhile, the others who were no longer in the dispute congratulated Minos on his victory and wished him good luck with his prize.

The prize was a collective vision of the main elves of the area, something compelling and capable of finding precious items anywhere in this vast world.

The collective vision of the elves wouldn't be good enough to discover riches in Spatial Kingdoms. Still, anything that was free in the Spiritual World could be sensed by such a thing and indicated to the tournament winner.

There was no guarantee that the place the elves indicated would contain anything like mature Divine Medicine nor that great dangers would not surround such a place. Upon hearing the words of the four remaining Gods, Minos thanked them and smiled with satisfaction at the thought that he could bring someone more powerful to his side.

So he returned to Elves Island along with the rest of the experts who had gone to stop Kendrick's fusion while the competitors were automatically teleported away from where the Secret Hunt had taken place.

Some participants were still hot-tempered because their battles had been forcibly stopped, but no one caused unnecessary trouble. As soon as they reappeared on the platform surrounded by large stands full of spectators, the last few participants lost their fighting spirit.

"Congratulations on your victory, Black Plain Empire group." A level 88 Sky Whale said as he turned his back on Sarah's group. "I hope you use your prize wisely. My tribe would do that if we were the winners."

Sarah and Kendrick said nothing to their rivals as they sat smiling, extremely pleased to have accomplished most of the missions their father had passed on to them.

Although not everything had gone according to plan, they had still done well and secured first place for Emperor Stuart!

Soon, they would join their other siblings and allies at the event to celebrate their great victory.

Amidst all this, Ruth and Isabella went to Minos' side as he made his way to the area designated for the winners of the tournament bets.

"Your Majesty Minos Stuart, please, this way." An elf spotted Minos and immediately began to show him the way.

"Congratulations. You did it, Minos." Ruth said to him as she arrived at her husband's side.

Hearing Isabella's congratulations as well, Minos thanked her for her words, support, and confidence just before they reached a place where there was a special kind of teleportation array.

The elf at the head of the group explained. "Only one person from the winning wager group can continue."lights

Minos stepped forward, and the elf continued. "This teleportation array will take you to a special place in my tribe. There, you will meet the seers who will give you your prize."

This glimpse into something valuable was quite complex, but it also had a slight chance of leaking pertinent information. Whenever someone won such a prize, they would later have to fight people interested in it. But this happened because the interested parties knew that sooner or later, such a person would go to a place where there was something valuable. In other words, the fights didn't happen because of a leak from the elves.

The seers who participated in the process couldn't see the vision they created together. That was something only the winner of the main wager could see.

Saying that the elves would give it to Minos was a little different from what actually happened. The elves wouldn't give him the information about the prize, but they would give him a revealing dream that only he could access.

Minos said goodbye to his wives and soon saw his surroundings change as the previous elf sent him to a sacred place on Elves Island, where he would soon find himself surrounded by high-ranking elders.

Coming upon what looked like an altar and several elves dressed as if preparing for a ritual, Minos greeted the elders there, the weakest being a level 97 Demigod and the strongest a level 99.

"Elders, thank you for this opportunity." He said as the male and female elves looked at him.

One of them came right to the point. "Your Majesty Minos Stuart, what will happen in the next few moments is quite simple. My team will do all the work. All you have to do is open your mind and relax.

You'll feel like you've fallen asleep as our powers take effect. Soon, you'll find yourself in a dream. But this will not be an ordinary dream, but a vision. You must pay attention to every possible detail. That's what will lead you to your prize."

"Okay."

"Don't worry about the secrecy of the information you see. Only you will know what it is and where it is, as long as you keep it secret." Another elf explained. "We will only guide you to help you see it a little better. We won't have any idea what it is or where to look."

Minos nodded to indicate that he understood.

"When you're ready, sit in a lotus position in the marked area and do as recommended." An old man of level 99 told Minos as he showed him where to sit.

Following the advice of the elves, Minos soon closed his eyes in his position, almost as if he was going to start meditating.

But he didn't. On the contrary, he used his powers to 'open up' to what the elders of the Elves Tribe were about to do while relaxing the muscles in his entire body.

With Minos in his position, the high-ranking elders of this tribe looked at each other and began to act, each of them sitting down in their appropriate places before beginning to unleash their powers.

Lines of energy and strange inscriptions appeared in the surroundings, quickly connecting to Minos as the powers of these elves seemed to merge perfectly.

Amid this, Minos felt what he had just heard and gradually felt as if he was falling asleep.

#### Chapter 2166 Vision Out Of Control

As Minos slipped into a drowsy state, his eyes moving rapidly and his body muscles twitching, the elves around him watched him carefully as they went about their work.

What happened there did not depend solely on the power of the seers involved. The seers merely directed the vision that the tournament winner would have to show him something of great value for free in this world.

But every other aspect of the vision of the winner of the Continental Tournament depended very much on the individual characteristics of the person having the experience.

Since Minos was very unusual, some of the elves were curious about where this prize would take Emperor Stuart.

'I look forward to the beginning of the war.' Thought one of them. 'I want to see what His Majesty Minos Stuart will present differently... It will probably have something to do with this vision.'

Others were curious about the same thing, looking forward to seeing Minos in action at the beginning of the war. Still, others simply hoped that whatever it was, it would help the Spiritual World.

Amid the elves' thoughts, Minos gradually found himself in a different place, a place not even he, who had traveled the world and had the memories of Henricus Longus, could recognize at first.

'This place...' He thought as he saw an area of black earth that stretched for miles as if that was all there was to the world.



This place was utterly flat at first glance, perhaps indicating the presence of intelligent beings in the area.

But as he tried to walk around, Minos noticed that he was walking much slower than he should have, something strange.

Usually, visions or illusions didn't have the power to make their target feel this way. A mind's limitations were usually associated with itself. If there wasn't something else involved to justify the 'suppression,' then it wasn't logical for one to feel like Emperor Stuart felt now.

'That...' He winced as he looked down at himself.

But as he did so, he saw the giant shadow that had been covering him grow smaller and smaller, drawing his attention to the sky.

As he looked up, he saw what looked like a giant spherical rock falling towards where he was standing.

He was surprised but didn't hesitate to keep moving, even if he was much slower than he should have been.

Just as the rock was about to hit the ground, it suddenly stopped moving as two gigantic creatures emerged from the clouds in the sky, both looking in Minos' direction.

'That... This can't be the Spiritual World! There are no beings that big here!' He thought, imagining that the immortal energy in his being was affecting the vision that was supposed to show him something of great value in his homeworld.

The aliens were the only thing Minos knew that contained immortal energy besides the giant bones. Since it didn't seem to have anything to do with such invaders, Emperor Stuart immediately thought of Panvuter and the ancient races of that great world.

'Could it be...'

He thought when his eyes met those of the two giant beings, and he suddenly saw everything around him change, with images rapidly appearing in his eyes.

First, he saw a gigantic battlefield with countless strange creatures. Then he saw flames and chaos, followed by a meteor shower and what looked like eggs. Soon after, he saw an explosion of such huge proportions that he couldn't estimate its power. All he could say was that it could easily kill Gods!

The last thing he saw was a rock of unknown size breaking into many pieces, many of which disappeared from his sight, leaving only one. lights

On that last piece of rock, something caught his eye.

Gulp!

Minos felt something in his being changed as he realized something was calling him.

He opened his eyes and found himself back at the spot where the elves had started their award ceremony, where those individuals looked pale, extremely tired, some even unconscious.

Something seemed to have happened while his eyes were closed, and Minos quickly pushed aside the strange sight he had seen to focus his attention on the still-conscious beings around him.

"What happened?"

A level 99 elf, so weakened that he seemed to have lost half his life force, took a deep breath and said. "I don't know what kind of technique you've cultivated, but this is really out of this world. We lost control of your vision six months ago when the Continental Tournament ended. Fortunately, you woke up before some of us perished due to the great exhaustion of our energy!"

"What?" Minos exclaimed in shock, feeling as if only a few seconds had passed for him. But six full months had passed.

While he was surprised, the still-conscious elves were relieved that he had finally awakened. Strangely enough, the ritual they had performed since the beginning of the Continental Tournament behaved strangely for the first time.

Not only had the vision of the tournament champion lasted much longer than it should have, but somehow, Minos had forced all the elders to keep using their powers to keep the vision going, even after some of them had used up all their energy and lost consciousness.

If Minos hadn't finally woken up, those elders would have started to die in the next few days!

The situation had gotten out of hand, and Aurae was there to monitor everything. When she saw Minos wake up, she appeared inside the altar where he was getting up.

"What happened? Can you tell me what you saw? I promise that I will never reveal this information to anyone." Aurae said slightly nervously as Minos' eyes turned to her.

Minos tried to figure it out for himself, aware that something was calling him somewhere far away from where he was now, but not knowing exactly what it was.

He mixed the truth with a little lie. "I saw the end of the world. I saw my prize, but also something I didn't expect."

Minos shuddered at the thought of what he had felt while Aurae realized it.

Something that could make someone like Minos tremble couldn't be easy!

"I see..." She clenched her fists, imagining that the end of the world was about the fate of the world. "What will you do now?"

"I need to return to my state and take care of some things. After that, I'll try to get my prize and then prepare for the war."

"Sigh... Do that." Since nothing worse had happened, she let him go, thinking it would be best to let Minos finish his plans for the war that was already a few years away from starting!

#### Chapter 2167 Back To The Empire

After leaving Aurae and the other elves, Minos returned to the city where the Continental Tournament had taken place.

After months, his party was still waiting for him, so it was time for him to reunite with his children and wives and finally return to the Black Plain Empire.

It would only take him a few minutes to cross the area between his current location and the city where his family still resided.

Arriving there, he went to the building that had been assigned to his group. He noticed that the surrounding area was tranquil.

But that was to be expected. After all, the tournament had been over for months, and almost all of the participating groups had already returned to their states to make final preparations for the arrival of the aliens.

Even some who had been interested to see what Minos would do after receiving his prize gave up after the second month, feeling that something was wrong and that it might not be worth the wait.

Only Julian and Callie had stayed with the group that had come with Minos from the Black Plain Empire.

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Arriving at the place where his family was, Minos found Julian and Callie waiting for him.

"You're still here, huh?" He said, surprising the two, who were already starting to worry.

Callie looked at Minos, and a smile broke out on her face. "So?" She asked with great trepidation, wondering if she would really get the chance to reach level 100.

Julian looked at Minos silently and gave the young man room to speak.

Minos said. "You will accompany me to the Black Plain Empire. I'll see what I can do, and if I succeed, I'll give you the chance to do what we agreed."

"If you succeed?" Julian wondered what kind of problems Minos had in mind.

In other situations, there would be a lot of competition against Minos for this prize, and there would definitely be high-profile fights.

But in the middle of the Ice Age, with the day of the aliens' arrival drawing nearer, few would risk themselves against him. So maybe Minos had another problem in mind, something that worried Julian.

Minos smiled. "Yes, my vision was a bit complicated. That's why it took so long. But there is a chance. I will try it soon after I pass through my state, so it would be best if she came with my group.

If I'm successful, she could go into seclusion in a few months to move up a level."

Callie didn't care if there was a risk of this going wrong. At least she had a chance, so she quickly agreed. "All right. I'm ready to leave with your group whenever you want."

Minos looked at Julian and asked. "Will you come with us?"

"No, I'm going to join the Council Elders to make our final preparations for the war." Julian sighed.

"Then this is goodbye for now. I hope to see you on the battlefield." Minos said as he shook hands with such a man.

"Me too. I hope you succeed and Callie gets the chance. That would be worth a lot to the Spiritual World."

With that, Julian soon left while Minos and Callie made their way to the Black Plain Empire's spaceship, which his group quickly boarded to continue their journey home.

Seeing his family again, Minos reassured everyone of his delay before giving his soldiers permission to fly the ship back to Dry City.

...lights

A few weeks later...

After a long journey, Minos' party finally landed at the army headquarters in Dry City!

The journey back from Elves Island had been a little more dangerous than the journey out, which was natural, considering that the chaotic phenomena caused by the Ice Age were getting worse by the day.

When their party landed in Dry City, the Stuart family was fully reunited, with Minos reuniting with Gloria and Abby after months apart.

"Congratulations on your victory. That will give us even better options for starting the war of worlds." Abby told her husband as she hugged him.

"Yes, of course." Minos looked at her. "Anyway, let's meet back at our house. I need to talk to you about a few things before I leave to take care of some business."

"Oh? All right." Abby said as she made room for Gloria while she went to talk to her son, Kendrick, who had taken a chance and had a lot of fun at the Continental Tournament.

Gloria had already congratulated Sarah on her accomplishments in that competition, while the rest of the family who had remained in the Black Plain Empire took the opportunity to talk to the two young people.

Everyone was very proud of Sarah and Kendrick's performance.

Many had doubted Minos' words decades ago when he said he wouldn't enter the Continental Tournament as a competitor because he wanted to be a gambler and train his children to compete.

But his words proved more accurate than even the most optimistic of his men at the time hoped.

With that in mind, some of the top men couldn't help but see Kendrick and Sarah differently, while they even saw Hollie, Rowan, and Lily differently.

'Hollie has the same ability as His Imperial Majesty and His Highness. She'll probably become as strong as them in the future.' Dillian thought, imagining that the Stuart family would have another member capable of using the black hole and Minos' techniques on the same level as him.

Hollie had an innate ability similar to her father's, even more compatible with Minos than Kendrick.

As for Lily and Rowan, Lily had the most different innate power of anyone in her family, Flaming Titan, a variant ability derived from the powers of Minos and Isabella.

Rowan had inherited the ability that was a mixture of Ruth's and Maisie's abilities. This ability made his body so strong that his mere presence was enough to intimidate people of his level, and a look from him could knock out weak-minded people. His regeneration was as fast as his mother's, which made him a born warrior.

Maisie and Oswald looked at Rowan and saw the heir to their abilities in this young man.

'Unfortunately, this young man won't be able to fight in the coming war. He could make a great difference on the battlefield if he were already a Spiritual Sage.' Oswald thought to himself, aware of the power of an heir to his abilities.

Cases like Rowan's were not uncommon. Children could often inherit the powers of anyone in the family.

Anyway, soon, all the crew members of the empire spaceship went their separate ways. Callie was led to where she could wait for Minos, and he went to his palace to talk to the most important people.

He wanted to talk to the core of his family about all that had happened, get some rest, go to the Spatial Kingdom to analyze his people's progress, and then search for what he felt was his calling.

He only intended to deliver Callie's Divine Medicine after all that to disguise the fact that it came from his Spatial Kingdom.

Anyway, he would soon continue with these plans and let his family know what had happened in the last few months and what he intended to do from now on.

Now, there wasn't much time left, and it was time for all the specialists of the empire to concentrate on getting as strong as possible for the arrival of the aliens!

#### Chapter 2168 Destination Found

Upon his return to Dry City, Minos rested for only a week. During that time, he caught up on everything he had experienced on Elves Island, including what he had done before the start of the Continental Tournament.

During these days, he also returned to his Spatial Kingdom to check on his groups' progress and to help a number of individuals undergo qualitative evolution through immortal energy.

The empire's technological progress was very advanced, having improved dramatically since the addition of Voyager to its studies and experiments.

The Black Plain Empire was still far behind the Mechanic Empire in many respects. Still, Minos' group was gradually developing armor, weapons, and other artifacts similar to those of the aliens from The Adamant Land.

Meanwhile, the experiments with the immortal energy techniques developed based on the methods of the Ancient Folk were going well, and the special battalion created to test such techniques after Minos was much stronger than it had been months ago.



New problems had arisen, causing the group to improve their methods even more.

Finally, Willow and Aarav were approaching the most important moment of their meditations, both very close to reaching level 100.

From what Minos had seen in his Spatial Kingdom, they should advance in another year at most, and their advances should be very close together, a sign of their advanced age.

That reassured Minos but also Henry, who was still serving as the Spatial Kingdom's 'gatekeeper' at the Black Plain Army's new headquarters.

Minos had been talking to Henry during those days, informing the God of what had happened at the Continental Tournament but also of Emperor Stuart's current plans and how much longer he would be stuck in his position as 'Gatekeeper.'

And so the day came for Minos to leave his state once again!

...

After leaving his family in Dry City and instructing everyone to go to the Spatial Kingdom to cultivate as soon as possible, Minos went to the thing that was calling him.

Ever since he woke up from his vision on Elves Island, he'd felt something calling him, almost as if he were a tracker connected to something.

As soon as he was done with his affairs in his empire, he decided to go right after it so that he would also have a justification for giving Callie the Divine Medicine.

This woman was nervously waiting for him in Dry City, having offered to go with Minos on this new journey.

But Emperor Stuart refused the ice woman's offer, knowing that the place he was going to had no Divine Medicine for him to harvest, but something strange that even he didn't understand.

Minos couldn't use his spatial abilities to travel through the Spiritual World at the moment, as the chaos of the Ice Age might get in his way. So he headed southwest at high speed, using only his movement technique and his senses to choose the path ahead.

Considering how he planned to travel, it would take him weeks to reach his destination, which was far from the core of the Black Plain Empire.

Days of travel would pass, and Minos would leave the Central Continent. Still, the signal he had been following would remain weak, indicating that he still had a long way to go to reach his destination.

...lights

Three weeks after Minos left Dry City...

Minos was standing on a flying island between the borders of the Ancestral Sea and the South Sea, at an extreme point in the Spiritual World where almost no life existed.

Below him was a rough patch of sea, from which he could see icebergs here and there, extreme storms on the horizon, and lots and lots of rain.

The winds were strong in that area, and the whole sky was covered with gray clouds, occasionally lit by lightning.

On the small floating island where he was now, Minos had a fire before him as he sat on a dead tree trunk.

His surroundings were desolate; natural phenomena had already ravaged the top of this small island, and all its beauty had been destroyed.

'I feel like I'm getting closer to the place that's calling me.' Minos thought as he looked southwest. 'That must be at the bottom of the sea... I'll probably have to dig up the seabed to get to it.'

But as he thought about where exactly the thing calling him was, he couldn't help but wonder what it was all about.

The images he had seen in his vision were not clear. He didn't think the vision had shown him the future but the past. But that was beyond reason. After all, the elves would never try to show the past to the winner of the Continental Tournament.

So he wasn't quite sure that the vision was about the past, about Panvuter. His previous thought connected the vision with that great ancient world because that made sense to him. But other things made him doubt it, which only confused him.

The fact that he didn't know what was calling him and what he would find also bothered him.

In any case, he had learned that this world hid deeper stories than anyone could imagine. He honestly didn't doubt anything else and was just curious to know what this vision would give him.

The vision had obviously escaped the control of the elves, but it served to find something of great value. Minos still believed he would find such a thing, so he was more excited than worried.

"Time to move on." After finishing his meal, something he didn't need at his level but which he used to recover the energy he had used during his journey.

It was also frigid all over the Spiritual World now, so eating something warm was very pleasant for people like Minos.

When he finished eating and decided to continue his journey, he put a new layer of warm clothes on his body before he set off in a southeasterly direction, gradually lowering his altitude.

As he had expected, the place he was heading for was at the bottom of the sea, which he would soon enter, even considering the icy waters that would try to freeze him.

In a few more days of travel, Minos would arrive at the place where he would have to dig not far from a great spiritual root.

Where would that lead him? He didn't know, but he was about to find out!

#### Chapter 2169 Prehistoric Egg

After Minos started digging into the seabed, he took his time, breaking huge boulders in his path. His goal was to reach the underground of this area, where he believed his object of interest lay.

He would have to be careful with his digging, as there were several roots on the surface of the seabed due to the presence of the great spirit root in that area.

Even amid the Ice Age, the spiritual roots still had extreme properties that would cause anyone careless enough to touch them to catch fire from the high temperature of the root's branches or even explode from the immense amount of spiritual energy inside.

But Minos had virtually perfect control over his abilities because he also had a very powerful body, both because of his inheritance from the Dragon God and his Divine-grade Physique.

While using his Soul Avatar, Minos gradually approached something that would far surpass the value of a Divine Medicine.

As he gave one of his last sword strokes to open the path before him, Minos saw a light source coming from the deepest part of the place he had excavated.

Not only that, but he felt a distinct energy emanating from the depths of the area and suddenly spreading to the entire surroundings as if an expert had just appeared there.

Minos made his last move to remove the remaining layer of rock and sand from above his object of interest.

However, as he did so, he saw and felt the spiritual root of this area move against him while a branch of the root partially enveloped what looked like a large orange-golden egg.

"Oh?" Minos opened his mouth as he saw the lava-colored branches of that spiritual root chasing after him as if he were the supreme enemy of that living being.

Spiritual roots were living beings. No one knew for sure whether they were rational or not, but it was a fact that these subterranean organisms were alive.

But when he saw and felt the movement of that root, Minos realized that it was acting rationally to prevent him from taking that egg full of immortal energy and natural laws condensed within it.

He quickly understood why. 'It looks like you were secretly using that thing, huh?'

Minos dodged the first branches of the spiritual root that tried to attack him like snakes and spears. But he soon stopped moving by activating his most advanced techniques, infused with immortal energy.

As powerful and mysterious as spiritual roots were, they were not warriors and rarely moved. Fighting an intelligent, combat-oriented creature would not be easy. But when it tried to attack Minos, this root went very wrong.

Not only could Minos steal the cultivation of opponents of practically any nature, but he could also fuse almost all of his techniques, use his supreme weapon, and even use immortal energy. With a Divine Physique and a body as strong as a dragon's, it wouldn't be easy for the temperature or speed of those roots to hurt him.

The moment Minos activated Nullification, the branches of the spiritual root that tried to attack him began to disintegrate as if they were decomposing.

At the same time, the weight of gravity on the spiritual root increased many times over, slowing it down.

Several powerful blades formed around Minos while a golden dragon emerged from his body to protect him.

Within seconds of the spiritual root's attack, Minos saw the underground being in that area struggling as it tried to attack him while he felt his connection to the giant egg disappears.lights

He looked at the egg and scanned it, seeing that it seemed to be petrified, which made a lot of sense considering how much time had passed since the end of Panvuter.

Standing in front of the egg, Minos was certain that it belonged to the world of Fah'um of Dunov, a remnant of Panvuter!

Considering the millions of years that had passed, it was obvious it couldn't be alive.

But it was still extremely interesting to Minos, and he quickly bound it to himself with his energy, making the large egg float toward him.

As he did so, he felt the spiritual root of this area becoming more aggressive, but he didn't care and quickly collected the large prehistoric egg.

With it in his possession, Minos had no reason to stay in the area and soon began his escape to the surface of the sea, where the spiritual root attacking him could never reach him.

Spiritual roots had several weaknesses. One of them was that they couldn't move very far from where they lived underground. That meant that anyone who had the problem Minos had today would only have to fly into the sky or onto the surface of the sea to escape the reach of one of them.

Minos had stored the large egg in one of his spatial rings, so it was easy for him to move and get out of reach of this unexpected enemy.

Seconds after moving, he reached the sea's surface, where he changed his clothes and tried to warm up a bit from the freezing climate of the surroundings.

But he didn't decide to return to the Black Plain Empire right away. It would take him weeks to make his way back to his capital, but his curiosity about what he had just collected was too great.

He searched for an uninhabited floating island in that sea area and soon began to fly towards it at high speed.

After a few minutes, he would land on a relatively quiet and small island where there were no living creatures other than himself.

There, he would summon the large egg from his space ring to investigate the true value of this prehistoric remnant.

When he used his glowing eyes, he would notice some important characteristics of that being when it was still alive, clues from the past, but also a possibility within his grasp.

He had grown up a lot in the past few years and had come into contact with many innovative technologies and information that could shake the Spiritual World.

Considering all this, some possibilities that would be laughable to others didn't seem so impossible to the current Minos.

Finally, thinking about how advantageous it would be for him to be alive, Minos came up with the absurd idea of turning back time for this rest until he came back to life!

With this in mind, he would spend the next two months using his power over time to try to somehow alter the ancient egg he had found buried at the bottom of the sea!

Chapter 2170 Three Years

After two months of working hard to bring the egg back to life, Minos made some progress, reversing more than 2,000 years in the egg's time.

Unfortunately, he would have to undo a few million years to get the egg back to the way it was when it still had a metabolism.

At that rate, it would take him more than a thousand years to achieve what he thought was necessary to return the egg to a living state, something completely beyond his means.

Minos was only in his second century of life. How could he commit to something that would cost him more than 10 centuries of hard work?

That means he wouldn't just have to put the egg aside for 10 centuries. He would have to give up his cultivation and focus solely on reversing the egg's time by more than a thousand years to get any results!

That wasn't too bad considering that his life expectancy was currently much longer than 20,000 years, but it was a totally impossible mission, considering that in 5 or 6 years, aliens would invade this world, and their strongest enemies would be interested in his head.

It was possible that Minos would eventually get stronger and achieve a better time conversion, but until then, it would also take a long time for him to focus on the egg at the moment.

With these discoveries over these two months, Minos finally gave up what he had been doing this morning, concluding that it would be better to leave the egg project for the future.

But these two months were by no means wasted. Not only had he learned more about the limits of his ability to control time, but he had also noticed many peculiarities about Panvuter through this egg.

The egg wasn't like the giant skeletons that littered the Spiritual World. It was much more like the corpse of Fah'um of Dunov than the giant skeletons corroded by time.

But even compared to that great corpse, which made Minos' entire spatial realm evolve, this egg seemed to have immortal energy and natural laws that were much more accessible than the corpse.

Minos realized this during his time working on the egg and came to the conclusion that since this egg had not formed a body and consciousness before its death, it had stored energy and natural laws in a way that was much easier for someone to absorb such essences!

With this in mind, Minos felt he could use this egg instead of the giant skeletons to feed his people for the next few years before the aliens arrived.



Considering the size of the egg and the amount of immortal energy that Minos realized he could absorb from it, he felt he could use it for the next few years and still keep enough in the egg to try to revive it in the future.

So, at the end of his time on the floating island in the middle of the sea, he stored the egg in a high-level spatial ring and set off for the Black Plain Empire.

With that matter settled for the time being, he would now hand over the Divine Medicine to Callie, and then it would be time for him to go into seclusion with the rest of the family to prepare for the arrival of the aliens!

...

In the blink of an eye, three years have passed since Minos left Elves Island after the Continental Tournament.

In that time, the Spiritual World saw the Ice Age intensify, with many places on the planet becoming completely uninhabitable.

Millions of creatures from various races perished, and the powers from the weakest to the strongest in the world remained as inactive as possible.

The biggest movement in the Spiritual World at the moment was the movement of food resources, which some states slowly began to use in their alliances.

With losses from the freezing of crops and the slaughter of animals, the world's food problems were slowly coming to a head.

The crisis had not yet reached the point where people were banding together to steal food in transit, but the situation was getting worse by the day.

Meanwhile, the powers of the world, with the exception of the Black Plain Empire, had almost completely stopped advancing their technological levels. Now, almost everyone was focused on only three things.

Surviving the Ice Age, producing the most advanced items in their possession on a large scale, and finally cultivating to the highest level possible within the time the world had left before the aliens arrived.

As a result, it had become increasingly difficult to find experts above level 80 in practically the entire Spiritual World, as most of them were cultivating in the Spatial Kingdom.

Meanwhile, the few who were doing something else were hard at work producing items or enforcing the laws of their respective territories.

The Black Plain Empire was the only one still researching how to make better items, using Voyager primarily for their research.

However, the empire had already begun mass production of many artifacts to prepare the army's soldiers for the time when they would have to protect the Stuart Family's territory.

Meanwhile, the Empire's strongest was in the Spatial Kingdom of Minos, where Willow was finishing her level 100 advance!

After years of hard work, Willow was about to become a god, the third to reach that level in the Spatial Kingdom of Minos.

A month ago, Aarav had completed his advancement and replaced Henry in the new headquarters of the Black Plain Army shortly after shocking the world alongside Minos. No one expected new gods to appear, so Aarav's appearance at level 100 surprised and delighted many people.

Many were also shocked by Minos' real power, but with practically 4 Gods deeply connected to him, he managed to continue in his position without risking his Spatial Kingdom in the meantime.

Anyway, just like that, Willow left Minos' Spatial Kingdom this afternoon, full of energy and vitality after overcoming her bottleneck and undergoing the potentially life-saving change that had previously come very close to ending her life.

...

"Thank you, Minos; I'll never forget the opportunity you gave me," Willow said to Emperor Stuart as she appeared next to him at the exit of the Spatial Kingdom in the area of the former Dry City.

Ali Aarav immediately approached them and congratulated her for being the first human of this generation to reach the 11th stage.

Minos looked at Willow and said. "Now you'll have to join forces with Henry and Aarav to take care of the entrance to the Spatial Kingdom. I don't care how you do your splitting. Just make sure there is a God here 100% of the time."

The two Gods looked at each other, indicating they would discuss it later.

"What now?" Willow asked. "What happened while I was in seclusion? How much time do we have before the war?"