

## The Rise of the Black Plain #Chapter 2231 Deceived - Read

### The Rise of the Black Plain Chapter 2231 Deceived

#### **Chapter 2231 Deceived**

After entering what appeared to be an elevator, the group quickly reached the floating area a few hundred meters above the surface of Examire.

Arriving at one end of this floating area, the group came upon a place where many people were gathered near the elevator they had arrived in.

In front of these people was a platform where some of the elders who were members of this organization were standing. At the same time, from there, the group could see a peak and some stairs leading to the top of it.

They couldn't see anything beyond that peak. The de facto headquarters of the Armhands was on the other side of this floating neighborhood, behind this hill that no one there for the first time would have expected to find in their path.

The people there were silent, while one of the elders on the platform seemed to be explaining something important.

The group surveyed their surroundings, not understanding what was going on and feeling like they had been sent to the wrong place.

"Is it just me, or do we feel like we're in the middle of people who are here to compete to get into this organization?" Ruth commented to her group while Minos and Maximillian narrowed their eyes.

"Let's wait for these people to leave so we can talk to the elders. We may have to wait to take a closer look at this place." Maximilian remarked as he stepped back.

Then, they listened to the words of the level 105 alien speaking on the platform.

"... Today, only 10% of you will have the chance to join the Armhands, Examire's largest alien group. Those of you who are not among the 10% most capable will have to accept your inferiority and wait for a new opportunity at the lowest rank of the group. But even you will have a chance to join Armhands if you survive.

Even the weakest worm has importance and power if it has the virtue to stand the test of time. So don't give up while you're alive. Sooner or later, you can achieve what is necessary to join our universal force!"

Another alien, utterly different in appearance from the one who had just spoken, stepped forward onto the platform and said.

"The first test of selection is the ascent to the Motionless Peaks. There are 2,000 steps on the stairs you see behind us. Contrary to what you might imagine, the difficulty of each step does not increase as you progress.

The first 300 steps are the hardest, and all the deaths that will occur today will come from those steps. The following 700 steps will define those who go to the Dread Barrens. Those who make it through these 1,000 steps will probably pass the first test most of the time. But it is possible that some won't make it to the last step. These will be sent to The Blue Field.

We'll talk again with those who make it to the final step in the Motionless Tips. Good luck with your Armhands entrance exam!"

An overwhelming power fell on the hill in front of Minos' group, causing everyone in the area to swallow their saliva in nervousness as they realized this overwhelming power.

But when the members of that group handed out IDs containing only numbers to the last people who arrived there, suddenly, all those who had already received their IDs began to be attracted to the thing.

The people in Minos' group looked at it curiously for a moment, until one of them received an ID item and began to feel something that made him move toward those stairs.

"Hey! Stop that!" The man shouted as he felt something forcing him to move, even though he tried to resist. "I'm not here for this test!" He complained to the Armhands member handing out the IDs near Minos' group.

That being ignored this native of the Spiritual World and continued his work, soon throwing IDs in the direction of Minos' other companions.

Minos and Maximillian became more serious, sensing that this was no mere misunderstanding.

"Hey, we're just here to visit your group. We got the invitation from an alien who gave it to us here." Maximillian tried to dodge the object thrown in his direction while showing the bone that the level 106 creature they had encountered had given them hours ago.

One of the group members on the platform saw this and went over to Minos' people, along with two other level 104 creatures.

They took the IDs from the hands of the Grandmaster doing his job there and didn't hesitate to tag Minos' people themselves, leaving no room for anyone in the group to deviate from their IDs.

"Hey! What the hell?" One of the Sovereigns in the group shouted as he felt something stick to his clothes and was suddenly pulled toward the stairs.

As everyone in the group was tagged and forced to move toward the stairs, a level 104 alien said. "Now that you've come to our organization don't think about changing your mind."

"Shit!" Minos tried to act as if he was increasing his cultivation by stealing the cultivation base of one of the 10th-stage aliens around him.

One of the Sovereigns of that organization in the area looked at Minos with interest when he felt his cultivation increase by two full levels.

"It's not for nothing that one of us gave you this. With such an impressive ability, we must absorb this talent into our group!" Said one of the individuals on the nearby platform.

An individual who looked similar to the natives of The Adamant Land laughed and said. "Thank the companions who gave you this gift. You'll get some benefits if you survive."

"Thank them?" Maximilian clenched his fists in anger, but he couldn't do anything until he was on the first step of the mountain.

The moment he and the others felt their bodies under the staircase area, they all felt an overwhelming pressure on their bodies, as if some higher being was trying to crush them.

The first inclination anyone would have in that place was not to stop and scream in anger at their situation but to move to escape the overwhelming force trying to destroy them.

However, as the alien from earlier explained, the first few steps in this place were the hardest! Visit [n0\(v\)eLb\(i\)n.com](http://n0(v)eLb(i)n.com) for the best novel reading experience

As they tried to move, everyone in Minos' group felt the horror of becoming immobile, as if they had suddenly lost total control over themselves.

Even Maximilian felt this as he tried to move and realized how ridiculous this place was.

Minos even tried to use his wings, but he couldn't. For some reason, the force behind this overwhelming pressure on them was preventing not only him but everyone on this staircase from using any accessories.

The Sovereign members of the Armhands smiled when they saw them in this predicament, curious to see the top-notch performance of this new team that had the previous item.

That item truly gave them an advantage, as it was a recognition of their potential. However, it would only be valuable once they became Armhands members. Until then, they would have to work hard, or they could go from being enslaved to dying!

They had the option of accepting the previous invitation. But once they entered the headquarters of Armhands or any of the other major local forces, there would be no turning back for them or anyone else. Either they went all the way to the end of the selection test, or they were screwed!

While some of the Armhands, who were there to guide the selection of new members of the group, looked curiously at Minos' team, the first people to die in this selection had their bodies destroyed.

Still on the first step, Minos and his people watched as the bodies of some of the aliens on the same step as they exploded after they couldn't withstand the overwhelming gravity on them.

That made some of these individuals from the Spiritual World even more anxious as they tried to move to the second step.

Maximilian was the first of the group to move and reach the second step. But he immediately understood the trick behind this test.

'Shit! The pressure dropped, but now I'm a bit exhausted!' He looked at his surroundings in shock, seeing how diabolical this test was.

As much as he had moved from the first to the second step and the pressure on him had decreased, the test's difficulty had not decreased!

The gravity on each step would be smaller and smaller compared to the previous steps. However, with each step one passed, one would have to make a considerable effort and could not use any accessory items to pass the test.

One would already be so affected by the previous step that the difficulty of the test would not decrease even if the subsequent steps had less pressure on them.

The next people of Minos' group to move realized the same thing, noticing their urgency to reach the top as quickly as possible.

The longer they took on each of the lower steps, the worse their climb to the top of this area would be!

Minos looked at Ruth, concerned for his wife. 'Do you want help?' He asked since she was the weakest of the group in terms of cultivation.

Ruth was having a harder time than everyone else, but she managed to move a little and reach the second level on her own.

'No, my ability will help me climb the steps of this place. You should save yourself the trouble of getting to the end of this test.' She said with a pained expression as she walked towards the third step.

Minos knew how his wife's ability worked, but he still decided to help her a little.

'It won't cost me anything.' He said as he made her cultivation reach level 95 while stealing the cultivation base of one of the aliens who tried to do this test with them.

Those beings became weakened and found it more difficult to move, immediately realizing that a parasite was acting against them.

"This is a fascinating ability." Commented one of the test observers watching Minos' group.

But it wasn't against the rules. Any skill or technique could be used in this test. As long as it was a cultivator's natural ability, something that depended only on them, they could do whatever it took to get to the end of the test.

To be so determined to harm an opponent in order to help an ally right at the beginning of the test was something remarkable that the test observers couldn't help but notice.

"This person is interesting. If he passes this test, he'll probably join Armhands." A level 104 Sovereign commented. "But he'll have a lot of enemies."

The other aliens or natives of Zocarro taking the test looked at Minos and realized that he was the one behind the sudden decrease in their cultivation and the increase in his and Ruth's cultivation.

Some tried to ignore this and other deaths in the first ten steps of the staircase, while others felt that this was a competitor to be eliminated.

That was a selection to determine the future members of the Armhands. The number of places was limited, and eventually, one would fight against the others there to get their place and not have to serve this force as slaves or mere servants. Visit [n0\(v\)eLb\(i\)n.com](http://n0(v)eLb(i)n.com) for the best novel reading experience

In a situation where they would have to rely on opponents to fall, having a strong competitor capable of stealing the powers of others was a problem!

'I must prevent this person from going over 300 steps!' Thought a level 98 individual who was two steps ahead of Minos.

As Minos took his 15th step, sweating and feeling a lot of pain, especially in his legs, red spatial distortions suddenly appeared around him. From these distortions, hands seemed to be attacking him, while the space around him seemed to be distorted by them.

Minos frowned and made several black rings appear around him. Some of them focused on those energy hands, while others appeared on the bodies of those closest to him.

'Are you trying to take me down?' Minos looked at the person who had attacked him as his eyes flashed.

Dragon's Gaze!

Suddenly, a giant golden dragon emerged from Minos' body, its terrifying aura spreading through the surroundings as it charged at the enemy.

At that moment, Minos felt his powers rise a bit and took the opportunity to take two quick steps while moving under the dragon's form.

The creature that first attempted to attack him had little choice but to raise his guard to defend himself, changing his stance when he saw that the enemy was no simple matter.

Then, while Minos was attacking this enemy, another individual attacked him, causing the figure of a huge transparent green insect to appear above him.

Minos felt the creature descend on him with its sharp legs aimed at his body, intending to pierce him mercilessly.

He didn't hesitate to use his most advanced technique, causing everything around him to deteriorate as it approached.

"If you want to play against me, go ahead. Don't regret it later!" He said loudly to his opponents around him before merging Chaotic Gravity with Devouring Art to form black holes in the area.

He had been taken by surprise in this test, and he saw Armhands as his enemies. However, when he encountered those aliens who were attacking him, he turned his anger on those who were attacking.

Then, four black holes appeared above the first 30 steps of that staircase, causing the 587 or so people on that staircase at that time to change their expressions as they looked at those regions of space.

Even the Armhands observers couldn't help but be surprised by this sight, as they noticed a change in the gravity above those stairs caused by the formation of the Minos' black holes.

In an instant, the four regions of space attacked the 40 or so individuals closest to Minos' group, leaving them no chance to defend themselves.

As the black holes absorbed those lives and some of the gravity in the area, Minos' people felt the difficulty of this test temporarily decreased for them.

"Quickly, take advantage of the opportunity Minos has created." Maximilian realized this as he took 15 steps forward in an instant.

With the appearance of the black holes, the gravity near those regions suddenly decreased, giving Minos' companions room to move quickly.

Maximilian was the one who made the most of the opportunity, taking 24 steps before the gravity of the long staircase made things difficult again.

But Ruth also made the most of the opportunity, climbing 14 steps in a few breaths.

Minos didn't let the opportunity pass him by either, quickly reaching the 43rd step.

But he didn't get as far as the Sovereigns in his group because he had to focus some of his attention on controlling the black holes he had just created.

He then focused his powers on dealing with those regions of space that were growing in size and power, controlling the space and time around those black holes in a way he had never done before.

For the first time since he began merging his techniques to form black holes, Minos didn't use his device to detonate these regions of space. He allowed the four regions to merge until the surrounding light changed, with an intense glow coming from the result of the merging of these regions of space.

The observers of this process looked at it and frowned, noticing something with such strong energy that it could even threaten the lives of level 102 beings!



Minos skillfully moved it against the opponents he hadn't been able to affect with the black holes, causing some of the individuals who had tried to act against his group to change their expressions of terror.

"Oh, shit!"

One of the observers felt the need to move, feeling that this was a bit beyond what they should allow.

However, the strongest of them in the area stopped him.

"He's just using his own power. That's within the rules."

"But... But half of the group could die from this attack!"

"That has nothing to do with us. Just keep watching." Said the strongest alien there as a flash appeared on the first 20 steps of that magnificent staircase.

But unlike what would happen in normal places, the detonation of these black holes didn't produce a shock wave or even the usual detonation noise.

One might have expected the whole island to shake from the detonation of Minos' black holes. Still, under the pressure that could make even Sovereigns sweat, the detonation was contained.

Such a detonation would wreak havoc over thousands of square kilometers in the Spiritual World, but there, it only extended about seven steps, not very far on any of them.

Minos' people were not threatened, even though they were only a few meters away from the blast's focus.

But the beings between the 10th and 20th steps suffered, and at least 50 people were instantly incinerated, while dozens more suffered minor but significant damage that would significantly hinder them in this race.

However, this was not a friendly place. As some of the injured became weaker, they became more susceptible to the pressure that tried to immobilize and crush them.

In the blink of an eye, as Minos' group reached between the 65th and 76th steps, more than 100 individuals were crushed by the overwhelming pressure on their positions.

The other competitors who survived or were unaffected by Minos' actions changed their opinions of him.

Some wanted to ignore him, while others thought of sabotaging Minos somehow. He was a great opponent for those weaker people who had a chance to fight for the places offered in this selection. But when they saw how monstrous this guy was, some put those thoughts aside.

'It is better to leave his group alone.' One of the many people who remained in this phase of the selection thought to himself.

Minos' group consisted of just over 20 people. What's more, most of them were much stronger than the average contestant. So leaving them alone and concentrating on other, weaker competitors seemed much better to practically everyone there.

Thus, the little more than 300 people remaining in this selection phase soon focused on either simply moving on to the less dangerous area of this large staircase or taking down other opponents on their way.

The first hour of the test would pass, and Minos' group would reach the halfway point of this most dangerous part of the test, arriving between steps 150 and 210.

Maximilian was the most advanced at this point, standing on the 210th step. Meanwhile, the four remaining Sovereigns of Minos' group were between steps 199 and 202, close to other alien Sovereigns participating in the trial.

Minos and most of their group were just behind them, between steps 163 and 182.

Ruth was the furthest back, currently at position 150. But contrary to what one would expect after watching the trial so far, she was the one who was moving faster and faster.

While most of the competitors in this first phase of the selection were moving at the same speed as at the start of the race, Ruth found it easier to move and improved her speed with each step she climbed. Visit [n0\(v\)eLb\(i\)n.com](http://n0(v)eLb(i)n.com) for the best novel reading experience

But how could one expect her to be any different? As someone with a Divine-grade Physique and an innate ability focused on regeneration, she couldn't help but recover from her fatigue with each step she climbed.

Thus, while the number of competitors would continue to dwindle over the next hour, she would soon catch up with the high-level Demigods in her group, closing in on Minos after the gap between them had widened in the early moments of the test.

Two hours into the test, Maximillian was already in the 399th step, while Minos and the rest of his group had just left the death zone of the test.

As they completed the first 300 steps of this test, they better understood the fate of those who failed between steps 301 and 1,000; their lives were not in danger, but they couldn't just walk away.

When they saw the first humans fail this part of the staircase's climbing test, the people of Minos saw them being sucked into rifts in space and taken to distant, unknown regions.

The Dread Barrens was the fate of those who failed between steps 301 and 1,000. Once sent to such a place, the losers would be forced to perform manual labor for a set period of time until they reached the level necessary to retake the selection test.

The Armhands was not a simple group, and once you entered their territory, your freedom was lost until you met certain requirements there!

That was the kind of information that no outsider had, and since most of the losers died or were sent to places wholly controlled by this group, teams like Minos's were constantly falling for the alien organization's tricks.

Unfortunately, there wasn't much they could do now other than continue this selection process!

### **Chapter 2234 End of the First Selection Phase**

After the Dread Barrens, which was the worst fate a survivor could face after failing this first challenge of the Armhands Selection, anyone who failed to climb the stairs between steps 1,001 and 2000 would be sent to the Blue Field.

Minos and his people didn't know the real difference between being sent to these two places, but the difference was brutal.

In the Dread Barrens, one would basically live as a slave, working most of the time and barely having time to rest. As for cultivation, even if one could find the time, it would be a luxury, as the area was particularly low in energy for a demigod or sovereign to make progress there.

The area's requirements weren't low either, and if you didn't put in a lot of effort or weren't very lucky, you might be forced to stay in such a place for the rest of your life!

One would live much better in the Blue Field than someone in the Dread Barrens. Such a place had cultivation conditions for people at the 10th stage, and the services in this glacial region were not as degrading and demanding.

Usually, after being sent there, one would have to work hard for a few decades and achieve what was necessary to retake the Armhands entrance test.

But these two places were somehow connected. If someone in the Dread Barrens didn't want to risk the selection test again, they could work to be sent to the Blue Field, where they could improve their options and then enter Armhands more easily.

But these two places were somehow connected. If someone in the Dread Barrens didn't want to risk the selection test again, they could work to be sent to the Blue Field, where they could improve their options and then enter Armhands more easily.

It was a longer road but less dangerous. If one had talent, luck, and perseverance, sooner or later, this path would lead them to become de facto members of one of Examire's greatest forces!

Minos and his people didn't know these details now, but they would find out in the future.

Of the few more than 20 remaining crew members, 3 would fail between steps 1,102 and 1,230.

Minos, Maximillian, and the other strongest members of the group tried their best to help these individuals. Still, they couldn't fight against the beings of this

malicious and deceitful organization. They could only watch as these three individuals were led to portals that took them to the icy lands of the Blue Field.

After more than 5 hours of testing, the group would reach the final part of this trial, with only a little more than 100 individuals competing to enter this organization.

But none of them had the strength to try and hinder potential future opponents, so in this part of the first selection race, everyone focused what energy they had on finishing the race.

Ruth was at the head of her group when the race was about to end, and she used the fact that she had more energy than the others to help them and give them an extra boost at the end of the race.

In this way, they would reach the 2,000th step, arriving at that point extremely physically and mentally exhausted, with no chance to question the members of the Armhands when they finished the race.

Even when they reached the area at the top of that peak, where the previous pressure didn't affect them, the Minos people didn't say anything to the examiners of that selection waiting for them up there. They just lay down or sat around and tried to breathe better after hours of suffering to climb that gigantic staircase.

Even Ruth, who could regenerate, stopped to rest at the end of this ordeal without the strength to question the aliens who had put her through it.

They were the first to pass the test, but soon, another 50 aliens would arrive at the top of this peak to rest and await the examiners' guidance.

When no one was left on the steps of the giant staircase, the aliens watching this test couldn't help but look at each other, seeing that far fewer contestants had made it to this part of the selection.

They expected that 10% of the contestants would enter the Armhands that day, which would be about the same number of people who passed this first of the three selection tests.

But there were still two elimination phases to go, which meant that the number of people who passed that day would be much lower than they had expected.

"Blame that guy." Said one of the aliens, pointing at Minos, the one responsible for the massive number of deaths on the first 300 steps of this staircase.

"What are we going to do? Will we continue with our plans with only these remaining competitors?" Asked one of the people at level 104.

"If we do that, it's possible that less than 10 people will actually join our organization today... That's below acceptable". The leader of the observers commented. "Let's proceed with the second phase of the selection as planned. Depending on the results, we can change the third test."

They agreed, knowing that after this survival test, designed to eliminate the weakest and highlight the jewels to be polished, the second test would be less risky and have fewer eliminations.

Then, the leader of the observers looked at the beings from different species and worlds and explained what would happen next.

"Congratulations on your success in climbing the Motionless Tips. As a reward for your success, you will all receive a Tonic of Purification potion and have three hours to rest.

Once you've recovered, we'll move on to the next part of our selection. But don't worry, your chances of dying from now on are quite low, and even if you fail, you won't be sent to places as bad as the Dread Barrens or the Blue Field.

However, your performance will play an essential role in your possible positions in Armhands after the selection is over. Not all of you joining our organization will have the same rights and duties, so don't underestimate the next test, even if the risks are not great."

Another alien from the Sovereign Stage stepped forward and signaled for the Armhands Grandmasters to distribute the prize resources of the winners of the first part of the selection test.

In an instant, everyone had strange potions in their hands, which the competing aliens from Minos' group quickly consumed without hesitation.

Minos' people were hesitant to consume those potions. But in just three hours, they wouldn't be able to recover from their current condition without special resources.

With a strange force preventing them from accessing their spatial rings, the group had no choice but to take the risk and continue to consume the Tonic of Purification.

Whether it would do them any good or harm them, they would find out in the next few hours!The most uptodate novels are published on n0velbj)n((.))co/m

### **Chapter 2235 Second Selection Phase: Nightmare**

After the time for the group of survivors to rest in the selection was over, all of the remaining survivors were at their strongest, having recovered 100% of their previous condition.

Minos' group still had some doubts about what they had ingested and whether it would somehow harm them in the future. But it was a fact that they had all recovered very well after consuming the Tonic of Purification.

When their three hours of rest were up, they gathered together and looked at their surroundings in silence, waiting for what would happen next.

They could try to question one of the aliens behind this selection, but each of them knew that this would not lead to a positive position for themselves. After what they had seen during the initial phase of this selection, they couldn't help but fear that they would cause even greater problems for themselves if they insisted that they shouldn't be there.

The only way forward for them was to overcome this challenge and understand what cards they could use to deal with the challenge before them.

But each of them couldn't help but look at the examiners of this selection as if they were great enemies. They were not the only ones who felt this way. Even those who had come to this place to participate in the selection looked at the Armhand members with hostility.

But how could they not? Anyone who looked at this force from the outside would think it was just a large local organization that allowed people of all kinds to join its ranks. But in reality, this was a den of creatures willing to sacrifice and use the naive fools who came to them yearly.

Armhands hadn't forced them to go there, but once on the island, you could only choose to die or become a part of Armhands!

That was completely different from the positive rumors about this organization, which naturally made even the aliens who were there for the selection feel cheated.

The examiners of this selection didn't mind the stares of these beings between levels 94 and 101. When the rest period was over, one of them caught the eye of the remaining contestants and said.

"All right, your rest is over. Now, we're going to start the next phase of this selection. This stage doesn't test your physical strength but rather your mental strength.

I don't want to explain too much about this selection phase, as it may be quite different for each of you. In short, you will have to drink another portion which, when combined with the Tonic of Purification, will put the person who consumes it in sequence into a deep sleep.

Those who wake up within the first two hours of the test will move on to the next phase. Those who fail will be sent to the Speckled Bear Wilds and will have five years to prepare to take the test again."

No one questioned the alien, and Minos' staff realized that there was indeed something in the potion they had been forced to consume in order to recover in time for this test.

Soon, the Grandmasters of Armhands over there were distributing another type of potion to the remaining group in this selection.

One of the examiners took the group to one of the mountain peaks that divided the Armhands' headquarters, from where the group could see the organization's large built-up area on the opposite side of the mountain they had just climbed.

This floating neighborhood was quite large, and there was room not only for a mountain but also for a headquarters the size of a city of 70,000 people, with buildings, small forests, lakes and rivers, and all the infrastructure of a city.



The group didn't look around much, and soon, another examiner directed them to sit in the marked areas above the peak where they would take the exam.

"You may begin." A level of 104 was announced before the aliens sitting on the edge of the peak began to consume the new potion they had received.

The sooner they started, the sooner they could complete this selection phase and perhaps become members of the Armhands. So most of them drank this other potion without much hesitation.

Minos looked at the people in his group and nodded before he drank it himself. New n0vel chapters are published on

He didn't know what it meant to be sent to the Speckled Bear Wilds for five years. But if someone who was sent to such a place would have to take the test again someday, then it would be better for him to pass the selection now than in five years.

Everyone in her group understood the same as Minos and continued the test, quickly consuming their potions and closing their eyes to begin their meditations.

Immediately after consuming the resource designed by Armhands, Ruth felt as if she had suddenly started falling from an unspecified point from which she was falling faster and faster without seeing an end where she would land.

As she felt the sensation of falling so realistically that she broke out in a cold sweat and feared for her life, she slowly saw the figure of a golden dragon emerge from inside her body.

"Ruth Miles, you have come farther than I expected." The voice of the dragon she had seen in the Ancient Dragon Spatial Kingdom next to Minos sounded from the golden figure as she felt the majestic aura of a level 100 being.

As she paid attention to that being with her eyes wide open, her surroundings changed, and she felt that she was no longer falling.

"I didn't expect you to get any further than me..." The dragon shifted as black and red lines began to cover its body.

When the dragon opened its mouth and let out an evil laugh, Ruth suddenly realized something wasn't right.

'That can't be that God.' She became more serious as she took in the volcanic surroundings of the area where the thing had taken her.

"Who would know? Who would have thought that a fool would reach a higher realm than the one I've lived in all my life?" The dragon asked as a negative aura emanated from its being, growing darker and darker in front of Ruth.

"Ruth, stand still and let this God take over your body!" It shouted as it moved forward to attack her.

"Shit!" Ruth moved, realizing what this test would be about.

While she was facing the dragon that had allowed her to raise her talent to Golden-grade, everyone else in this trial was facing their own demons in the illusions they had been forced to fall into.

In particular, Minos now faced a golden dragon, an old man with blond hair, a man with black hair and a black trident, a giant, and a creature with six wings on its back.

"Oh, fuck!" He said as he was surrounded by Henricus Longus, the God of Death, Fah'um of Dunov, the seraph, and the dragon that Ruth faced in her own nightmare!

### **Chapter 2236 The Trick Behind the Nightmare**

"Minos, all your power is ours." Henricus Longus said as he stared thirstily at the brown-haired young man surrounded by him and the other beings on what looked like a floating island in the Spiritual World.

"It is time for you to return all we have lent you." The God of Death said as he licked his lips, a horrible sensation emanating from his being.

Fah'um of Dunov looked down at the body of the small being and said. "You are now in a world like Panvuter. It is time for me to take your body and return to life, Minos. These wings of the Ailuravens will show their true power at my command!"

Minos looked strangely at the beings who had brought him to this point in his journey as he felt their powerful auras.

"Oh, fuck!"

He realized that he would be screwed if he had to deal with all of them. But as he kept his guard up, waiting to do something, he couldn't help but understand what this test was all about.

'Is this some kind of debt I owe them?' He asked himself. 'In my subconscious, I feel like I've only gotten this far because of them?'

But as he thought for a moment, he changed his expression, gaining a little courage to face these beings, feeling that this was all absurdity.

'Nonsense! I'm certainly grateful for the opportunities they've given me, but I've worked hard to achieve my victories!

Even with the same opportunities I had, others in my place could have made many mistakes and ended up dying! If I'm so strong today, it's because I committed myself to becoming stronger, fighting the right battles, and thinking of the greater good!' He thought to himself because he couldn't believe he might owe these people some debt.

He had honored them in every possible way, respected them, and used their powers or abilities to the best of his ability.

The only one there who might have something to question him about was the God of Death, whose legacy he had destroyed and used part of it to strengthen his murderous intent, something that had given him the ability: Dark Sea.

'That is from the damn potions I was forced to take!' He clenched his fists as he looked at the creatures that were already moving to attack him.

The retracted wings on his back moved, and then he flew to dodge the attacks of these beings, who were at a completely different level than they were in life.

Fah'um of Dunov was much weaker than he should have been, while the God of Death was over level 100, something he hadn't reached in his life.

As he dodged the first attacks of these imaginary creatures, Minos shouted at them. "I won't allow these people's memories to be tainted by a damned illusion! If you want to test my mental strength, damn potion, use your real form!"

"Idiot! You think it's not really us?" The God of Death asked. "You will pay me back for destroying my inheritance because of the slut of the Goddess of Life, Minos!"

"We gave you everything, and now you have the potential to reach levels higher than ours... This can't go on, brat!" The figure of Henricus Longus shouted as he attacked Minos, using his innate ability to stop time in the area.

Minos frowned and said. "Knowing about my past doesn't make you any more real, potion. I know this isn't real. The damned members of the Armhands cause it!"

"Then deal with it, young human!" Said the seraph who had given Minos the weapon that had killed several Gods of the Mechanic Empire. It attacked him with its great seraphic wings.

Minos clenched his fists and moved his wings, facing the seraph head-on while directing his energy to the tattoo on one of his wrists.

"Your mistake is thinking I'm alone," Minos said as the part of the seraph that was in his tattoo awoke and quickly took shape beside him.

At the same time, Minos used the Dragon's Gaze evolution, causing a huge golden dragon to emerge from his body, while the rest of this being that had been watching this young man's journey awoke in such a fighting form.

"Oh? That seems to be a rather strange situation, young Minos." The dragon said when he saw himself in this place. "I didn't expect to meet so many historical personalities from our world. You really have come a long way."

"That is only an illusion." The seraph beside Minos commented upon seeing his representation in this place. "But I must admit, it does bother me a little."

This real seraph looked at the creature representing him and smiled negatively while a terrible aura emanated from his body.

"This test may be interesting for Minos' maturation, but don't you dare use it on me." With these words, the real seraph that had just appeared beside Minos destroyed the creature that resembled him with a mere glance.

He looked at Minos and said. "This is my help for today, but you must finish this test on your own. It will be good for you."

With these words, the serath disappeared as quickly as he had appeared next to him.

"Once again dependent on the powers of others, eh, Minos?" Henricus Longus said as he looked at the young man and moved towards him with a sword. "When will you learn that this is the way of the weak?"

"Tsk!" Minos clenched his fists in anger and moved toward the elder so quickly that the old man couldn't keep up.

"I'm sorry, elder, but I have to destroy this impostor!" Minos muttered to himself, aware that a true remnant of Henricus Longus existed within his body.

Meanwhile, the level 100 dragon began to fight its evil version inside this illusion.

Just as Minos was about to reach the neck of the false Henricus Longus and kill him, the false Fah'um of Dunov acted and charged Emperor Stuart with full force. Visit [n0\(v\)eLb\(i\)n.com](http://n0(v)eLb(i)n.com) for the best novel reading experience

Seeing this, Minos changed his movement before making a huge wrist telescope appear on the spot.

Then, looking through the lens of the thing, he activated his mental ability, the only one besides his skills and the wings on his back that he felt he could count on.

Infinite Dream!

A bright beam of light shot out of Minos' eyes and passed through the lens of the device, which was a telescope and a special weapon.

When it hit him, the giant suffered for a moment.

"The real Fah'um of Dunov would have just ignored that!" Minos said as he moved against the God of Death, the enemy closest to him.

As he attacked this black-haired individual, Minos didn't hesitate to use his Dark Sea, showing this man a power even more terrifying than his own.

"I have killed at least ten times as many people as the real God of Death. You dare to appear before me in his form?" Minos said as he used his wings to attack that one, weakening him and confusing him with the Dark Sea.

These individuals were strong together, but when he got help and realized that he not only could not be fooled by these imitations but that he only had to defeat them to meet this challenge, Minos reacted accordingly!

### **Chapter 2237 First to Succeed**

"You want to keep me in this illusion by using those who made me the warrior I am today? That will not hold me!" Minos said as he pierced the body of the false God of Death with his golden wings.

Unleashing a power greater than level 100, the imaginary being in front of him slowly disappeared, while Minos felt like a key had been turned in his mind.

After killing that illusory enemy, he felt as if a chain restricting him had suddenly disappeared while his movements and powers became stronger.

He flapped his wings and flew towards Henricus Longus, this time forming the Divine Sword, feeling that he could use more of his powers after killing the false God of Death.

"This disrespect will end soon!" Minos dodged his opponent's attack attempts, who was using Time to try to prevent him from reaching it.

But Minos also had some control over Time and wasn't completely limited by the ability of the false Henricus Longus.

He used his Godslayer sword and attacked the enemy, using the third and strongest move created by this fusion of the techniques of the real Henricus Longus.

The enemy tried to dodge the attacks, but it was useless. The more he dodged, the more blades would chase him, and the eventual moment of collision would be worse for him.

"Let me show you the true Space and Time Avatar!" Minos controlled the area, causing not only time to pass at a different speed but also the space of this illusion to behave strangely.

The blades chasing the fake Henricus Longus changed their trajectory, surprising this illusion created by the combination of resources Minos absorbed.

While he dealt with his opponents in his own mind, a dark substance began to leave his skin, attracting the attention of the observers of this selection test.

"It looks like he's going to wake up soon." One of the Armhand aliens commented, only 10 minutes into this challenge.

"Impossible! Nobody passes this test in less than 30 minutes!" One of the level 104 men overseeing this selection shouted in disagreement, not believing that Minos would do such a thing.

But another was more reasonable and commented. "The hallucinogenic residue from the potions he drank is already leaving his body. He will succeed in the next few minutes."

"It seems this person's mental strength is stronger than his own body." The chief observer of this selection commented when he saw that Minos was mentally and physically different from everyone else.

This exam tested the mentality and determination of the candidates. It didn't matter if one had a high or low talent or a strong or weak body. If they didn't have strong enough mental solidity, they would not only fail to reach the peak, but they would also be someone who was extremely unreliable.

Being trustworthy wasn't about not planning behind other people's backs but about having the skills and confidence in yourself to do your best and perform in a trustworthy way. ReAd latest chapters at [n0v\(e\)lbin.co/m](http://n0v(e)lbin.co/m) Only

When forming a team, no one would want to be around a negligent, easily manipulated partner with traumas to resolve.

This test allowed someone to recognize and deal with their demons. The deeper the traumas and misgivings one had about oneself, the harder it would be to overcome their opponents in their illusion and the longer they would be tortured.

The faster one could break out of the illusion, the greater their determination, self-confidence, and clarity about who they were.

The greater these qualities, the better their future prospects and the more reliable their ability to overcome challenges.

Minos was the first to show signs of completing the test and would soon succeed in defeating Henricus Longus as the two dragons in his illusion disappeared.

"Now it's up to you..." The real level 100 dragon said to Minos as he went back to watching this young man from inside himself with the remaining fragment he had left in Emperor Stuart.

Standing alone in his illusion in front of the false Fah'um of Dunov, Minos saw the giant scratching his face in confusion, feeling the pain of the mental attack amplified by the telescope.

Now, this false Fah'um of Dunov was much weaker than before, while Minos seemed stronger than ever, feeling his powers reach a level of stability beyond anything he had ever felt.

'It looks like that test did me some good.' He thought as he realized he had internal problems to solve and could improve himself by dealing with them.

"Child, you have come further than I thought." Said the false Fah'um of Dunov. "It looks like I won't be able to take over your body... You were better than I ever imagined." A smile appeared on the giant's face as the red and black lines disappeared from his body.

"Will you disappear?" Minos asked, holding the Divine Sword in one hand and his wings spread wide on his back.

At that moment, he looked like an angel of destruction capable of destroying everything in his path.

"Hmm, thank you, Minos. Not only have you completed an important mission by going through this experience. It is also a liberation for us." He said this while glowing an increasingly white color. "Even though what you faced wasn't really us, rest assured that we felt your victory and evolution. Now, you are ready to surpass all of us completely!"

"Ancestor..." Minos murmured as he saw the smile at the corners of the giant's mouth.



"Reach the pinnacle, Minos! Become the strongest and bring some of Panvuter's ancient glory to your world! If you can become a Supreme, everything will be different!"

With these words, the figure of Fah'um of Dunov exploded like glass, ending the illusion Minos had been in for the last 22 minutes.

In the midst of this, Minos' aura rapidly strengthened while the old binds that had existed on his body disappeared.

His mental and spiritual stability was at its best, while his aura closed the gap between level 94 and level 95.

When Minos opened his eyes after passing the selection test, his cultivation had stabilized at the beginning of level 95!

His breakthrough had come six months earlier than he had expected, which made him smile with satisfaction at this bonus in the midst of the difficult situation he had fallen into.

As he stood up and looked at the horizon, he clenched his fists, feeling different than he had all his life.

'Isabella, just wait. I'll end this war sooner than anyone expects!'

### **Chapter 2238 End of the Second Trial**

As soon as Minos stood up, the strongest alien observing this trial approached him and quickly drew his attention.

"What's your name, kid?" The level 105 alien asked, a being 2.3 meters tall, with brown fur over most of his body, a bear's head, and hands and legs similar to those of humans, but with large claws on them.

Minos looked at this being, whom he considered an enemy after being forced to participate in this selection test.

He wouldn't deny the benefits of passing the two trials, which would help him to greatly strengthen his cultivation base in just a few hours. However, it wouldn't change the fact that he was forced to take this test and even risked his life.

Several people died in the first test or were sent to places where who knew if they would come out alive. Some of Minos' companions were sent to The Blue Field.

Still, Minos knew his precarious position. He was only a level 95 Demigod, while the being in front of him was a level 105 Sovereign.

"Minos Stuart." He said to the alien.

"Where do you come from, Minos boy? Your abilities are not ordinary."

"I come from a place we call the Spiritual World. That planet is very far away, and I can't tell you how to get there myself. My group and I came to Zocarro by accident a few years ago." Minos was sincere, not wanting to make his group's situation in this place even more difficult.

"I see... You're smart, boy. Keep it up, and one day, you'll have the chance to be free again and even go in search of your companions." The alien understood very well what was going through Minos' mind, as he himself had once been in the position of this strange creature.

"The Armhands are a powerful old Examire guild. The traditions of our organization are perhaps older than your own world, so don't get carried away by momentary feelings. One day, you'll be in my position, and you'll understand what we do. Visit [n0\(v\)eLb\(i\)n.com](http://n0(v)eLb(i)n.com) for the best novel reading experience

Don't think too much about the 'injustice' you've been forced into for now. It will probably be your greatest blessing." He turned away from Minos, thinking about returning to the side of his people.

"Can I really save my companions? Can you tell me where they were sent?" Minos asked.

The brown creature stopped and looked at him sideways. "Falling into hell can be the end or a chance. That doesn't depend on hell itself but on the people who reach it.

You will certainly have the opportunity to catch up with your companions. But if you ever see them again, it will be because of their determination and the success of both sides. Armhands cannot stop destiny, Minos boy.

What must be, will be."

Minos looked at the man seriously, sensing something strange in such words. But he asked his last question as he pushed the strange feeling aside.

"Why deceive groups like mine? Why force people to take your test?"

The man only laughed at Minos' question as he motioned for the human to follow him to the side where the other examiners were.

"Wait for the end of the exam next to us. In just over an hour and a half, this selection phase will be over, and we'll have this year's group of successful candidates." The strongest alien in the area said.

"Normally, we would make you compete a bit more. However, today's final test will only decide your positions when you enter the Armhands. Minos, welcome to my organization. From today on, you are my junior."

The others looked at Minos but said nothing. As powerful as Emperor Stuart was, reaching their level would take him a long time.

Most of them couldn't kill Minos because of the wings on his back, but they didn't know that. But even if they didn't, they would never lose to this young man in a confrontation right now.

It would be a long time before he was strong enough to influence them, so even though he was very talented and promising, no one tried to get close to him at the moment.

The power hierarchy of the Armhands was very well organized, and even talented individuals like Minos didn't have much influence until they reached a certain level of requirements and good positions within the guild.

Sovereigns or the strongest could move around freely, but Grandmasters like Minos didn't have the same opportunities. In other words, it would be a while before he had a chance to do anything relevant and leave this headquarters, even with all his good achievements.

Thus, these observers would remain silent for the next few minutes, and when the test was one hour and fifteen minutes old, the second person who managed to get rid of the nightmare he was in would wake up.

This test didn't depend on the person's cultivation level at all but rather on how fragile their minds were. No matter how strong their cultivation and body were, if their minds didn't reflect the same power level, they wouldn't be able to wake up in time.

Therefore, the first ones to awaken after Minos wouldn't necessarily be the strongest ones there but rather those who were mentally well-conditioned.

Ruth would pass the test in the last 20 minutes before the end of the 2-hour time limit, while Maximillian and the other group members would narrowly pass when there were between 10 and 5 minutes to go.

Of the just over 60 people who began this test, 43 would manage to come out of their states within the 2-hour period, with another five members of Minos' group failing their tests.

With this result, less than 15 people from the group that left the Spiritual World would be able to pass the second test of this selection and would eventually be sent to the Speckled Bear Wilds, where they would spend the next five years preparing for this test.

When the time was up, the alien in charge of this test stood in front of the 43 individuals who had passed this test and congratulated them on their success.

"Well done. You are the best of this selection and now the newest member of the Armhands. Forget about your comrades who failed this test. They'll have another chance in five years and be back on your side before you know it.

For those who failed the previous test, it will be harder to see them again, but it's not impossible. Don't give up yet.

Now, you'll go through the last part of this selection before receiving your new assignments.

Get ready. That is the beginning of your new life!"

## **Chapter 2239 A Little About Armhands**

After the words of the level 105 alien, the group of 43 people descended the Motionless Tips and reached the part where Armhands' headquarters were actually located.

There was a large wall around the organization's headquarters, which was strange considering that they were already at the top of a floating island that this organization completely dominated.

Why would they have a wall inside their own territory? Getting there would be impossible for anyone who didn't use the path Minos and his people had used. What's more, there were powerful guards on the outskirts of this floating neighborhood, which was enough to ward off malicious people who had nothing to do with the Armhands.

However, this 15-meter-high, 8-meter-thick wall was not enough to prevent people from entering this headquarters!

"What's this for?" asked a level 99 Gorgon, one of the two remaining Gorgons in Minos' group.

One of the two robots still in the group muttered. "Isn't it obvious? This wall is to prevent the weaker members of the Armhands from leaving..."

That was true. Even those who passed the guild entrance exam had no freedom until they reached certain requirements and hierarchy in the organization. Until they became actual contributing members, people like them lived there as if they were in prison!

"Shit..." One of Minos' companions muttered at the thought that their situation was far from improving.

"Let's not think about it too much right now," Minos said to his companions. "Let's understand this place and figure out how to get out of here."

The rest of his staff agreed, and they soon fell silent until the group reached one of the entrances to the wall.

There, the selectors soon gained access to the group, and they passed through those walls without leaving the area for long.

All 43 individuals observed their surroundings, especially the passage they had entered, aware that they were now stuck in that place.

Meanwhile, one of the examiners introduced them to the place. "This is the common entrance to the guild. The weakest members of the Armhands usually live and work here.

The guild is divided into three sections: the Outer Sect, the Inner Sect, and the Council. In short, external members are not free to leave these walls without special permission and are merely subordinates of the internal members.

Internal members are free to come and go; they have groups under their command but only follow the rules of the strongest in the organization. These are the board members, the real bosses of our organization, the ones who can do whatever they want, who have all the privileges, and who are closest to our goals.

As of today, you will be an external member. If you're lucky in the final test of this selection, you might have a better position from the start. That might make it easier for you to become internal members.

But I warn you that cultivation isn't everything. Some outer members are stronger than this black-haired guy." The foreigner pointed in Maximilian's direction. "Being an inner member is not just a sign of higher cultivation than the outer members. It's a sign of contribution. It's a sign of your value to the group.

Outer members are easily replaced. They are discarded. But inner members have value. There are reports of council members acting to avenge the defeats of internal members, but no one has ever bothered to avenge the defeats of external members."

The staff heard this and said nothing, already expecting that things wouldn't be easy when they started in this place. And how would it be different? That was an organization that forced people to join them!

"Anyway, everything you'll need as an external member is in this area. It's not wrong to think of the headquarters of our force as a city, but the neighborhoods of this small place are very different and controlled.

As long as you are an external member, you won't be able to access the inner part of the city, let alone its core, where the Council is located. Each part of the city is independent of the other, so you will have little access to many people who are higher up than you. But that doesn't mean that you are all equal here."

They started walking again, soon leaving the side of the wall and arriving at an area where they could easily see the three levels of this capital city.

At the highest part, where the most noble and refined buildings were, was the core of the city, a place surrounded by a river where some bridges connected it to the inner part of the city, a much larger but less refined place.

The city's inner area was a simpler border with the outer area, separated by metal fences and several sorting stations.

The outer area was quite large, with most of it on the side where Minos and his people now stood.

As much as the members of the Armhands used the outer and inner nomenclature, the positions in this city didn't follow it to the letter. This headquarters had an elliptical shape, with the city's core and the inner area at one of the ellipse foci, while most of the outer area was around the other foci of the ellipse.

Then, as the group entered this outer area of the city, another alien soon changed the subject and said. "You will learn more about the divisions of our guild. For now, don't forget what we have already told you. Now it's time to complete your entry into Armhands." The most updatel novels are published on novelbjn((.))co/m

They led the group into a building on a busy street in the area, where they would register as members of the organization.

"Is this the new recruit group?" A level 105 female alien asked the leader of the screening group.

"Hmmm, they're going through the talent and aptitude analysis."

That was the last phase of the selection test, which was usually eliminatory, but it wouldn't be on this day.

"But they'll all be joining us. More aliens than we expected died in the first test... So I'm going to accept them all." Said the level 105 alien who had talked to Minos earlier.

"Are you sure about that? They'll be under your care from today on." The alien woman at the registration desk warned her friend. "This will go on your record."

The brown-furred man smiled and said. "I have confidence in this group. They won't be an embarrassment to my record."

"I hope you're right... Anyway, if that's what you want, we'll do it the way you suggested." She walked through the entrance hall of this building and soon faced the people from the group of candidates.

"Come with me. I'll sign you in, and we'll finish this selection."

### **Chapter 2240 Registering in Armhands**

Armhands did not divide its members based on cultivation alone. However, since none of these 43 people had ever done anything for the guild, the woman who would register them divided them according to their levels for registration.

Soon after they arrived at a room in the back of the building, she told Maximillian to go with her to a glass room where special items could be seen.

Entering the room with the woman, Maximillian felt something strange but could do nothing about it. Before he could react, he felt something penetrate one of his hands.

Looking at his right hand, he only saw what looked like the tail of a small parasite before it entered his body and made him desperate.

"Shit!" He said as he felt the thing move towards his vital areas.

"Don't fight it." The woman said as she used a fraction of her aura to make Maximillian pay attention to her and not the worm that had just entered his body.

"This is the Fleshdrain. It is a biomechanical parasite capable of collecting your information, transmitting it to our headquarters, tracking you, and much more. When it finishes what it's doing to you now, it will change shape and lodge itself in your forehead." She said as she pointed to his bare head, where there was no hair at all, while there was a snake mark over her one eye.

"Every member of the Armhands has one of these. Those with the black mark are outer members. Those with the black and red mark, like mine, are inner members. The Council members have colorless marks."



'Do they?' Maximilian doubted but said nothing, feeling he could only accept the situation.

"I won't hide it from you, alien. This parasite will harm you if you become a traitor or don't contribute to the guild. But it can also benefit you if you are a valuable group member. If your contributions are high and you find yourself in a desperate situation, the parasite may even sacrifice itself to save you from a problem that you could not save yourself from on your own.

Don't think of it as just a dangerous sign for you. It's a secret weapon, an ace up your sleeve that you can use if you're smart."

"I see. I'll keep that in mind, ma'am."

"Don't call me that. I'm an Officer. You should call me that." She said as she looked Maximilian in the eye with her one big eye.

"All right, Officer."

"So, alien, what's your name?"

"Maximilian..."

She quickly collected Maximilian's basic information until the Fleshdrain in the man's body began to emit the primary information about him.

She saw all the talent data, age, innate abilities, types of techniques, and, in short, all sorts of useful things to define this man's strength and potential. The source of this content no/v(ell)bi((n))

When she finished registering Maximilian, she didn't say anything relevant. She just told him to wait in a room next to the one where the rest of the newly approved guild members were waiting.

Amidst this, the parasite did what she said it would and soon formed a mark on Maximilian's forehead resembling a snake tattoo.

That was painful to him, enough to make him momentarily horrified.

...

After a few minutes, it was Minos' turn to register, leaving only Ruth to complete the process of officially joining the organization.

He went through the same thing as the 41 people who came before him, having to accept that a parasite was entering his body, even against his will.

After answering a few questions from the one-eyed woman, she saw the data emitted by the parasite and couldn't help but look at Minos differently than the others.

"Are you really from the same place as those other people from the Spiritual World?" She didn't believe what Minos had told her because she saw information about this guy's body that contradicted the data of the more than ten people from the Spiritual World who had passed by before him.

Minos looked like an aberration compared to those individuals. His skeleton was integrated with the wings on his back, so he no longer looked like an ordinary human. At the same time, the way Minos had cultivated immortal energy and then benefited from the wings on his back had made his essence very different from that of Spiritual World humans.

His talent was far greater than even the most talented and strongest of the group, while all of his other characteristics differed from those of his fellow mortals.

"Yes, I was born and raised in the Spiritual World," Minos replied, feeling the discomfort caused by the parasite in his body.

"Are you just a warrior?" She asked him as she turned her eyes to his dice, where she could see a hexagonal graph of how strong his skills were for each type of thing.

Normally, you would have balanced dice, with one skill being slightly stronger than the others. But Minos' graph looked like a triangle with a strong focus on combat areas.

"Yes, I've been a warrior all my life."

She then used what looked like a stamp and marked Minos' analysis, giving him the designation that would benefit him the most.

As she handed him his identification, she looked at him momentarily, sensing that she would hear from him in the future. "When you become a Sovereign, come to me. I'll help you."

"That..." He hesitated when he heard that but soon felt a sharp pain in his forehead and brought his hands to that part of his body.

"Go on. Don't think too much about it now."

"Can't you help me now?" He asked.

"No, you have nothing to offer me now." She laughed but said something of value to him. "Some of your doubts will be resolved very quickly, Minos."

You should go. Your new boss will now introduce you to some of the rules and conventions of our organization. Follow his instructions, and you'll soon have a good understanding of your actual situation." She said as she used her aura to help him leave the glass room before calling Ruth, the last of the 43 new Armhands members to register with the guild today.

With Ruth's test and the mark she would receive in the next few moments, the entire group of 43 would soon return with the furry level 105 alien who had commanded their selection.

From that day forward, they would be members of the Armhands!