

THE RISE OF THE BLACK PLAIN

Chapter 613, Chapter 947, Chapter 1371-1380, Chapter 1391-1400, Chapter 1661-1670.

Chapter 613: Changes in Military Exercises



Chapter 613: Changes in Military Exercises

After saying goodbye to his two girlfriends, Minos quickly left the army headquarters, heading towards his mansion.

It was great that he had increased his level, evolved his Physique, and even learned a new technique. However, despite his and his two girlfriends' happiness, they couldn't stop their responsibilities because of this.

Celebrating was good, and they would do it later. But for now, Minos and Abby needed to fulfill their responsibilities so that the local forces would be as well prepared as possible for future threats.

Times were becoming increasingly chaotic, and Minos had even sent an official request for independence to the royal family. Consequently, it would not be long before a full-scale war would start in the vicinity of this territory.

Therefore, he soon raced towards his office, where he had to determine a series of plans, changes, additions, in short, strategies for the Dry City and the Black Plain Army.

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In a few minutes, Minos had walked all the way between that cultivation room inside the headquarters and his office.

He had greeted many soldiers on the way, the ones who were already at the 5th stage of cultivation and could sense that this young man's cultivation level had reached the 6th stage.

Each of these people had great respect for young Stuart. Still, upon seeing his visual changes and feeling the strong fluctuations of their leader, such individuals couldn't help but admire him even more.

After all, Minos was not an ordinary level 50 Spiritual King that they could defeat if they worked together. No, this young man was completely different and was probably already one of the strongest in the region.

With such thoughts in mind, each of those soldiers couldn't help but greet young Stuart as they felt very excited about the future of the Black Plain.

And it was no different for secretary Mia.

"Young master, congratulations on reaching level 50!" She said this while smiling and placing some papers in front of where Minos was sitting.

"Hmm, thank you, Mia." He replied in satisfaction.

It was very gratifying to increase his power. That is, in addition to becoming stronger more attractive, the increase in vitality would make any cultivator feel like they were on cloud nine.

So, even though Minos knew that level 50 was nothing, just standard level in great empires, he was still in a good mood because of it.

Regardless of how insignificant his current level was elsewhere, this didn't change the fact that he had grown stronger and that this was very exciting for him!

Therefore, he was smiling even if the times were not easy.

However, it didn't take long for him to put his satisfaction aside and start talking about other things.

"Mia, I want you to pass on some of my orders to the army later when I go for training."

"OK. What does the young master want me to do?" She politely asked while standing on one side of Minos' desk.

He then continued. "We are going to change the schedule of the army's military exercises."

"Previously, I was going to have one last battle against the army Sergeants, but that won't work out... My strength has increased quite a bit after this breakthrough, and now we have a huge number of Spiritual Generals outside Dry City."

"So, such a thing would no longer be interesting to us." He said as he leaned his back in that chair in which he was.

That made sense.

The last time he had fought his soldiers, he had already had to fight 700 individuals at once... And now, well, the number of opponents would have to increase significantly.

But there was one problem...

Most of the Sergeants who were in Dry City were individuals who had only recently joined the army. In other words, the weakest in this organization.

And to make matters worse, their numbers were only about 1,700 individuals, an insufficient number to fight Minos and still keep the Dry City wall functioning. Thus, the previous plan had become outdated, which no longer corresponded to reality.

Minos had become very strong, and his soldiers had gained responsibility in very distant locations. Therefore, he needed something more compatible with the current times.

"We will keep the military exercises, but the soldiers at the 5th stage will no longer fight me. From now on, every six months, each Sergeant will have to participate in group fights against Spiritual Kings of our organization."

"As for the Spiritual Kings, once a year, at least half of them will have to assemble to fight me." He said with a smile on his face as he looked at the front of his office. "We will start the Lieutenants' military exercises in one year."

Hearing this, Mia suddenly frowned her eyebrows and asked in doubt. "But young master, if we do that, won't our border posts be vulnerable?"

That was indeed a problem...

The army had only 11 Spiritual Kings, counting young Stuart himself, Dillian, and Regina; two were not warriors. So, if everyone else were to take a day off to fight against him, there would be no protectors on the posts.

Consequently, Mia couldn't help but wonder about that.

"Haha, don't worry, in a year, we will have more Spiritual Kings, and I will only do this exercise with those who are in Dry City." He calmly said.

The army already had some people close to the final levels of the 5th stage, as in the examples of Abby and Viola. Hence, it wouldn't take long for more Spiritual Kings to appear in this city.

And as much as the numbers were not significant, the army would not have as many of its Spiritual Kings outside of Dry City in the coming future. That was because Minos intended to use his allies in future battles, which was part of his plan not to expose so much of the Black Plain's power.

So far, the defensive dome was the main threat his territory seemed to have to the outside forces that already knew about the local changes. That could protect the residents from powerful enemies, while these people strengthened themselves in peace.

But besides that, none of Minos' enemies knew that, for example, there were people as strong as Spiritual Kings at level 57 in Dry City.

Furthermore, he didn't intend to show that kind of strength until it was necessary!

For this, he would use his allies, who also did not need to know these essential details... After all, fooling an ally could be just as crucial as deceiving his enemies!

Considering these plans, he knew that it would be possible to carry out such military exercises, even if there were a need for part of the army Lieutenants to be outside this city.

"Oh? I see..."

"Anyway..." He then sighed for a moment before looking in the direction of a ring on one of Mia's hands. "How are things between you and Peter? Have you two enjoyed these past few days?"

"We did, young master. By the way, thank you for letting him leave a little early the Elite Squad training."

Minos was going to send Peter with Lee and Alison to the Snow Kingdom in the next few days. And since this trip could take more than a year, he had allowed each of these people to spend time with their families.

So, Peter and Mia, who were engaged with each other, had taken advantage of this opportunity given by young Stuart.

"Well, enjoy that for another two days. After that, ask him to come and talk to me. I have some directions to give him before his group's trip to the Snow Kingdom." Minos said as he looked at Mia's face.

"OK, young master."

"Give that message to those two as well. They will leave at the very beginning of the day, after talking to me..."

"Lastly, Mia, try to buy as many high-level grade-1 defective weapons as there are in our city. Let's let Seargent Alina recycle as many of these items as possible so that the army has a more stable supply of low-level grade-2 resources..."

Chapter 947 The Return Of Luke

At the same time Abby attended her duties in Dry City, a young blond man, accompanied by a giant winged beast and a human, arrived in Stone Island's capital.

However, this person beside him was nothing ordinary, as this man was a powerful Spiritual Emperor, someone who was already at level 63.

"So, you are coming back here for good?" The gray-haired man asked the young blond next to him. "You will still be able to return with me if you choose."

"I will still have to return to the empire anyway..."

"Mister Holt, thank you for the offer."

"But I believe the Western Empire is not for me." The young blond said this with his head down, feeling bad for having to admit it out loud. "There I am... I am just an ordinary person, without any prestige or expectation of growth..."

"I'd rather live less but live like a king here in the northern Central Continent!"

"Hehehe, I thought you would say something like that..." That Spiritual Emperor laughed but did not continue to force himself on the young man beside him.

The Western Empire was brutal for people of only Black talent, as in the case of that young man. For someone like him, it would be challenging to get a high

enough position for him to at least have a status similar to what he had on Stone Island years ago.

And since that expert knew that for people from this region, it was not at all easy to give up their identities to fight in places as crowded as that empire, he did not blame this young man.

It was a genuine choice, and he had no right to question or force this young man to follow a bloody path.

He might have made a similar decision if he had been in his fellow traveler's place. However, as a native of that empire, Oriel Holt was already used to the cruel lifestyle of that place. PANDA-NOVEL.COM

No, he was not used to it. On the contrary, he was addicted to the idea of significant risks accompanied by possible great benefits.

And with such a different mindset, he could not help but regret that such a young man had chosen the easy way out.

"Well, anyway, I hope you don't regret it, Luke."

"You are still young and have not seen much of this vast world. But believe me, the number of men who regret decisions like yours is not small!"

"One of them even created a great phrase that has been repeated in the Western Empire for hundreds of thousands of years..."

He then looked into the eyes of that young blond man and said. "It is better to suffer through a defeat than regret."

"Anyway, I just hope you're not making that decision considering the girl you claim to like..."

"A man's worst mistake is to set any woman as his goal!"

"I have never met any man who has sacrificed himself for a woman who has been happy or successful. Everyone who follows that path either regrets it, is abandoned, betrayed, or broken psychologically..."

Gulp!

"Don't worry, Mister Holt. I didn't make that decision considering passions."

Luke Nash said this, being sincere with that man. PANDA NOVEL

That was the young man Minos had met about ten years ago when he had come to Stone Island to do business with Elen and some shopping in Old Stone.

At that time, young Luke had tried to challenge Minos but had failed miserably. However, he had not forgotten that, and now, being at level 51, he was back there with several plans in mind...

Although he was in love with Elen and still liked this woman very much, Luke had not decided to return to his state for her.

He honestly did not think he was compatible with the competition of the Western Empire, so he had asked for his liberation to return home.

But still, hearing that man's harsh words, Luke had felt a slight sense of worry in his being.

But who would not feel the same way as he did?

Even cultivators could suffer from their mental traps. So, how could he be sure that he was not making a mistake?

'Anyway, I feel like this is the best decision, so I'll just believe my instincts!' He thought about it as he clenched his fists tightly.

"Well, I wonder how Stone Island is doing after all these years?" He heard Oriel asking this, but he had no way of answering that man.

The Western Empire was simply too far away from the northern region of the Central Continent. Because of this, there was no efficient means of communication for the Nash family to communicate with Luke.

Consequently, Luke Nash knew nothing of what had happened in that region since his departure! ρ□□J□□□□□□

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A few minutes later...

At the Nash family estate, the prominent members of that organization at headquarters were in a large open courtyard, where a sizeable winged beast had just landed.

Among those people were the Nash patriarch, Elen's father, and this woman, who had not gone to the mainland to fight alongside her family's troops.

'Oh? Luke?' Elen thought about it as she saw that person from afar, recognizing this young man who had not changed much since his departure.

'He's at level 51, not bad...' However, just after thinking about it, a smile appeared on her face, with her remembering that she had maintained the difference between their levels, even though she was in the northern region of the Central Continent.

'It seems that meeting Minos on that passage through Dry City was the best thing for my life.'

'Maybe I should pay him a visit soon...' She smiled, also remembering her friend Elena.

But as she watched the newcomers in silence, those two finally got off that big beast and went to greet the people who were waiting for them.

"Luke, you didn't grow up bad!" Richard Nash said this as he patted that young man's right shoulder.

And Martin Nash, Luke's father, was no less pleased than the supreme elder. "Hehehe, looks like you managed to handle the pressure of the empire well, eh?"

"Hmmm." Luke nodded, embarrassed, choosing to leave it to talk about his decision later.

Right after greeting those two old men, he looked in the direction of the beautiful Elen, who had become even more stunning after these years.

Gulp!

'She's already at level 54!' His eyes widened in shock, with him not believing how that woman had achieved such a feat.

He had traveled for many months just to go to the Western Empire and then suffered through the high competition in that state. But Elen... Elen had stayed on the 'quiet' Stone Island!

How could he accept that calmly?

"How did you do that? Elen, what's up with your cultivation level?" He asked in shock, feeling the injustice of the world.

"Well, I worked hard and had some luck..." She said this, laughing in grace.

But Marvin did not leave his son in the dark for long. He made a serious expression and said. "Luke, many things have happened on Stone Island, and in the north of the Central Continent in those years you have been away."

"We had a war on Stone Island, and now the whole region is involved in the Black Plain war of independence."

"Young Minos, that ally of Elen, is now the strongest person in the region."

Upon hearing this quick explanation, Luke's jaw nearly dropped to the floor from the sheer size of the shock he had just experienced at this news.

"It can't be!"

"How can things change so much in such a short time?" He questioned his father in disbelief, feeling as if these people were there to spoil his dreams.

He wanted to spend a few days with his family and then find his former 'rival,' Minos. However, upon hearing such absurdities from those people, he had undergone an abrupt change of reality, capable of making him dumb with surprise.

"So many things have happened?" Oriel asked interestedly, finding Elen's rapid progress and Marvin's words curious.

"Yes, Mr. Holt."

PANDA-NOVEL "But let's talk about it in a more appropriate place..."

After that, those people followed into the Nash estate, with Luke strolling behind those people, with no sign of life on his face.

It was as if his soul had left his body!

'What will I do now?' He asked himself, feeling an immense pressure forming on his shoulders.

THE RISE OF THE BLACK PLAIN

Chapter 1371 Fighting Two Wars At The Same Time 2



When listening to the Terry family patriarch, Minos' grandfather did not think such a man exaggerated since it was indeed unusual. So he thought about how to respond politely and moderately to this individual's questions, which should be more or less the same as those of the other people there.

"I understand your doubts. But Minos is much stronger than we think and will be able to grow up very quickly. At the same time, as I said, I will be advising

him for three years. Then, it won't be as if he will take over all my responsibilities immediately." He seriously said.

"Minos won't be the sect master right away?" One of the few women there asked in doubt.

"He will be, but only with fewer powers. I will gradually pass on my duties to him over these three years." Oswald answered without delay. "First, I will pass smaller responsibilities to him, eventually increasing the complexity of the problems for him to solve."

"But it will only be three years? That's too little!" One of the level 77 individuals there said, not liking the idea that the Coleman family patriarch and sect master would leave in such a short time.

They all knew Oswald's goal since this man had been talking about leaving for the Divine Continent when he 'retired' for over a thousand years. So they knew the meaning of his words, which this white-haired and white-bearded man had said moments ago.

Consequently, they thought they would lose a level 79 expert while being 'left' under a young man's responsibility. Such a person was not even 40 years old and was only a Spiritual Emperor!

That was worrying!

"Three years is more than enough." Minos said his first words to those people, once again speaking without fear, just treating them like ordinary people, as he did with everyone else.

In Minos' opinion, in 3 years, he would be at the peak of the 7th stage, level 69, not far from advancing to the 8th stage. So for him, the challenges of being a sect master would not be so problematic by then, which made him so confident.

But of course, the people there did not know him as well as he knew himself, which naturally generated the reaction they had after his words.

"Is three years enough? You can't even solve your own problems in the northern region. So how will you become a good sect master in that time?" An individual from the Terry family asked.

Another person, this time from the Moss family, the house of Ivory, questioned Emperor Stuart. "Speaking of which, how do you intend to be in charge of two organizations that are in conflict simultaneously? I mean, your situation on the Black Plain doesn't look promising, and ours isn't likely to change much in just three years either."

Oswald made room for Minos to speak as this young man stepped forward. "I will help this sect deal with the problem with the Saints Killing Sect, and only after that will I solve my problems with Abe Vogel."

"You're going to help us?"

"You're only going to solve your problems afterward?"

The people in that place found Minos' answer strange, as it seemed rather odd.

'What kind of leader leaves to solve his state's problems after helping other organizations? Isn't it the norm to put one's own life on track before helping others?' One of the women there wondered.

On the other hand, the patriarch Terry was shocked by the response of that young man who thought he could help them. "What are you going to deal with? Are you out of your mind? How can someone at your level change anything on the battlefield? I don't deny your strength, but you are far from it, Minos."

Minos shook his shoulders and said. "I have my own methods. As for whether you believe it or not, it won't matter. I will do what I have to do, and you will eventually see whether or not I can keep my word."

Jeffrey Terry was a little bothered by the words of that brown-haired young man, but he could not say anything against it. If Minos were to prove himself, he would pay to see it happen!

On the battlefield, it would be much easier for Lance to deal with the young emperor from the north than through mercenaries attacking the Black Plain.

With that said, Oswald then asked. "I want you to give that confidence Minos needs for him to start acting as sect master. We will still have plenty of time before he gains crucial responsibility in the sect, so you will have plenty of time to ask any questions."

"But sect master, I think we should at least put him through the tests for the position of sect master. I think it's unfair to those who have competed for this to simply be surprised by this decision, which favors someone who has never proven himself to the sect." One of Coleman's family elders said this. Although he favored the sect master's decision, he did not want his family to be questioned in the future just because of this.

But then, an individual from the Terry family said in a provocative tone. "That's not the most important point. The point here is Minos clearly wants to use us to solve his problems."

"Tsk!"

"I don't know if you guys have forgotten, but I remember perfectly well the day Minos said he wasn't interested in our organization..." This Terry said, looking at the faces of his colleagues. "I don't know, but to me, it looks like he only decided on vying for that position now that it's convenient for him."

"Are you saying that it wouldn't have been convenient before? What kind of joke is that?" Minos laughed, feeling that person should be a clown.

Before, he had only not accepted it because of his pride. But even then, it would be highly convenient for him to gain the position of future sect master.

Oswald did not let his grandson go any further and talk nonsense, saying the following. "That is not true. Minos had already agreed to become master of the Gray Clouds Sect more than four years ago. It's just that I kept it a secret to avoid trouble."

The patriarch of the Terry family frowned even more upon hearing this, feeling how this old fox was playing against them. 'So everything was already prepared for Minos? It seems Lance was right in some of his plans...'

"In any case, Minos will not be empowered to take our people to the Black Plain until the war against the Saints Killing Sect is over. Then that won't be a concern. As for the rest of us, he won't take any tests since he doesn't have time for that."

"Sigh..."

"Give him some breathing room. With this decision, Minos will be fighting two wars simultaneously." He showed those people a good reason why they should not demand that such a young emperor have to go through stupid trials.

After hearing that, most people there understood that Minos would soon begin to get involved on the battlefield against the Saints Killing Sect. Then, they put aside the idea of taking traditional tests for him.

There was nothing better than evaluating a warrior in a real war!

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At Oswald's words, the people in that hall debated for a few seconds until they agreed to temporarily accept Minos as that man's successor.

The sect master had said he would be in charge of everything crucial for the sect in the short term. On the other hand, Minos would prove himself on the battlefield before he got any benefits. So they were willing to accept it since, as much as Oswald gave them this chance, he could appoint his successor without consulting these people.

In the Gray Clouds Sect, there was a custom for the sect master's successor to go through a series of tests and be approved by the council of high-level elders. That had been followed faithfully by the leaders of this organization since ancient times, something that had long since become a custom in this place.

But there was no obligation for the current sect master to do this, and these people knew that Oswald could impose his will if he wanted to.

That would obviously create problems, but in the short term, nobody could do anything anyway as long as he was around. Because of this, they simply accepted, taking the opportunity to evaluate Minos while Oswald was around, advising him.

In this way, even the patriarch and elders of House Terry, oblivious to Lance's plans, accepted Oswald's request to give Minos a chance.

When he received the consent of those people, Minos was grateful since he had no reason not to do so. And as such, he left that place satisfied with his progress.

But it was not long before Minos met with one of the officials of that sect area, and she took him to prepare himself for the traditional ceremony of the passing of command.

Such an occasion was in the sect rules, which the members of that organization valued too highly to ignore at this time. But this was not complicated since only the organization's upper echelon had to be present or could attend.

The rules of this sect said that three-quarters of the organization's Spiritual Saints or half of the cultivators above level 75 had to be present on such an occasion. Because of this, there was no tremendous need for time for the event to take place!

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Only 8 hours after Minos' arrival in the Gray Clouds Sect, the individuals working to put Lance's plans into practice were taken by surprise by an unexpected announcement.

In the late afternoon in this area of Clouds City, several information points from the headquarters of the leading organization in this area began to spread the news to their most influential members.

"Urgent news!"

"The high-level elders of the sect have just approved the ascension of a new sect master!"

"According to the general command of the sect, Minos Stuart has been appointed by the sect master and approved by the group of strongest elders in our organization." A female voice read the news in sound arrays scattered throughout the areas to which only high-ranking members of this organization had access. "Right now, he is undergoing the Spiritual Baptism of the

Ancestors at the Stone Under the Ancient Pond, about to be made official the new sect master!"

When one of Lance's men heard this, he nearly choked dry, unable to believe that Minos had accomplished such a thing so easily.

Meanwhile, their group had worked so hard for years to achieve nothing...

It was really frustrating!

'How can this be? How could the high-level elders accept such nonsense?'

One of the several Spiritual Saints in Lance's group wondered, not being able to believe it.

'He just arrived in our sect today, and the elders already accept him? Without him even having done anything? There must be some mistake!' Such a person felt indignant, feeling that it was even more imperative that he and his group move to prevent the rise of Minos Stuart.

Thus, he moved from that area to continue with his goals, doing the same as several of the individuals in Lance's faction when they found out about such a thing.

On the other hand, several members of this blond guy's faction did not find out about it right away because they were busy with other things. So they just went ahead with their previous plans without making any changes necessary to reach Minos.

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"... The sect master has just abdicated his position on behalf of Minos Stuart..." Maisie, who was not yet aware of her son's arrival in this sect, heard this information as she left her training area in the core of this sect's headquarters.

After she heard such a thing, Maisie stopped walking and stood motionless for a few seconds, with her mouth and eyes wide open.

'What? How could this be? Why would something like this happen so suddenly?' She wondered, not understanding why Minos and Oswald's plan would be advanced so significantly.

With that in mind, she quickly started running towards where Minos was supposed to be baptized as this sect's leader, the Stone Under the Ancient Pond.

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On the other hand, even people ignorant of what was happening in the sect's core had noticed that something strange was unfolding.

Kara Carline, currently at level 62, was at her mistress' house. She felt strange after her mistress rushed from this place after receiving an urgent message.

As she thought about what might be going on, this young native of the Kingdom of the End remembered Minos, whom she had heard was visiting the sect once again.

'Confusions always remind me of Minos...' She laughed, imagining that face she had seen not long ago as she had visited the northern region and her family after Sarah's birth.

She had solved her longing for her old friend on that occasion, so despite the urge in her body, she would not seek him out now due to his current circumstances.

"Sigh..."

'He must be full of trouble. Then I'll leave him alone for the time being.' She thought before she went back to considering what she was learning in this place.

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As Kara returned to her studies, the situation was tense at the Terry family headquarters.

Not only had Lance's men found out about the problem that had suddenly arisen, but he was also listening to that urgent information at this very instant.

"... Minos Stuart will be from today..."

While hearing such a thing alongside his subordinates, Lance shook with anger and turned red as a tomato before destroying the array propagating such news to him in his office.

"How can this be? Why would the elders accept such nonsense?" He shouted angrily, not understanding how Minos could have been unanimously approved by the high-level elders, as the urgent announcement had said.

He could not believe that his family members would stab him in the back like that!

So how could he believe it?

"Young master, what are you going to do?" One of the individuals there asked, while his expression was dark as night.

"Tsk!" But Lance said nothing. He just ran from that place in a hurry, heading towards the site of Minos' baptism.

'Wretch! I won't let that happen!'

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After a few moments of running, Lance finally arrived at the place where the ascension ceremony of the new sect master was ending.

At that place, where a lake was located inside the great headquarters of the Gray Clouds Sect, several elders were standing around the underground area that existed there.

The surroundings looked like the interior of a large hollow sphere, with a good portion of its 'ceiling' covered by a type of glass that gave a view into the lake above this area. In the center of this spherical area was a black stone the size of a carriage.

Around this stone was a small artificial pond, where some small fish, different from the large ones in the lake, could be observed by the people in the surrounding area.

The sect master and the three strongest elders were floating on the sides of this small pond while Minos was standing above the stone.

He was wearing a golden cloak, similar to the one Oswald was wearing the first time Minos saw him in the northern region when he and Ruth passed through the Peak of the Mist.

At the same time, a large ring with the symbol of the Gray Clouds Sect was on one of the fingers of Minos' dominant hand. That indicates that he had already been given this organization's leadership position!

Lance saw this and felt a blank in his mind as he stood with the rest of the organization's elders, watching the ceremony coming to an end from the sides of that place.

When he noticed that the critical part of the ceremony was already over, he felt terrible. However, after a minute of standing still, feeling irritated, he shouted.

"I don't accept that!" He stepped forward, leaving the side area of that place, floating closer to where the strongest individuals from the Moss, Terry, and Coleman families were standing next to Oswald.

"Minos can't win that position! He is simply not worthy!" He shouted, giving no chance for others to interrupt him while all the people witnessing this event were watching him.

Among them was Maisie, who had already arrived at this place to see if her ears had not deceived her earlier.

"What can he do for the sect? He is incapable of solving the problems caused by a small fry from Vogel, but to think he is worthy of becoming the leader of our sect?"

"No way!" That blond young man exclaimed. "Not to mention that he doesn't even have the support of the elders! Who here supports this Spiritual Emperor?" Lance looked at the surroundings and questioned the 40 or 50 people there.

Upon hearing this, the many people there felt uncertain, some agreeing that Minos taking over this organization was a significant overreaction. But, in contrast, others did not understand what it was all about.

But Minos did not give time for anyone there to speak up for him and take action against this annoying blond fellow. "Lance, are you by any chance rebelling against the new sect master?"

When those words came out of Minos' mouth, every person there took their attention away from Lance to look at him since he was already acting like he was the master of this sect for a long time.

Even the patriarch Terry who was about to stop Lance, intending to talk to this young man later, looked at Minos in surprise.

But Lance then said. "Tsk! You are not the sect master! You are not worthy! The elders will never agree to that!"

"Oh?" Minos looked around at those individuals who had accepted his ascension as leader of this organization and smiled. "It seems that to Lance, you people don't exist. He pretends that only those who agree with him are worthy of having an opinion."

"That's not what I meant!" Lance said nervously, looking at his surroundings. "I just said that most sect elders will not accept you. Most agree with me and will soon notify the sect management about it!"

Minos then said. "Then they will all be treated as rebels. Just like you..." As he said this, Minos released his Dark Sea, making everyone there feel how abhorrent this soul ability of Emperor Stuart was.

Only Spiritual Saints from level 74 and above could see the surroundings and resist Minos' action when that place went dark. The rest, all of them, fell under the effects of this soul ability. At the same time, Emperor Stuart manipulated them at his own will with the aid of the Infinite Dream.

"Arrest the enemy!" Minos ordered, forcing the low-level Spiritual Saints in the surrounding area to obey his orders.

With those words from this brown-haired individual, all the high-level Spiritual Saints in that spherical area looked at the situation with strangeness. They then noticed many individuals who were favorable to Lance going up to him with clear fighting intent.

Minos did not know who was who in this place. But he had ordered those with the most respect for Lance to do what he told them to do. So Lance's

supporters were those most susceptible and the first to be willing to carry out the orders of the new sect master.

Then a group of three people as strong as Lance began beating him to break his resistance.

Minos had left that individual conscious for him to suffer at the hands of his own supporters but also to feel the difference between them.

This emperor did not want to appear unnecessarily arrogant, but a leader had to establish their dominance!

Why did experts of only one level difference respect certain individuals so much, as in the example of the level 78 elders and Oswald? It was because, on certain occasions over time, this old master of the Gray Clouds Sect had shown that he was not to be messed with!

He was much stronger than his peers of similar levels, so these people had to walk silently in his presence and not cross his limits.

Obviously, there was no super-special treatment expected from them. Still, both parties knew that a certain level of respect and fear was necessary.

Minos wanted to impose this on his subordinates, so he had to expose some of his capabilities so that these people would not raise hopes of equality in their relations with him.

Problem cases like Lance's were great for establishing dominance, so Minos was taking advantage of the opportunity!

With that, in the blink of an eye, the three individuals beat Lance for a few moments, making that young man suffer from the attacks that hurt a lot and the fear generated by Minos' ability.

The patriarch Terry watched this for a few seconds, shocked by Minos' ability, until he realized that the one being beaten was Lance, his descendant.

He then used his skills to rescue the young blond, but without dispelling Minos' soul ability, since he had already recognized this young man as his leader. Thus, he would not be the one to dare disrespect the sect master in front of so many elders.

"Sect master, be merciful to Lance. He is emotional, given all that has happened between you two and his efforts to lead the sect..." This patriarch said as Minos himself deactivated his ability to the relief of all the low-level Spiritual Saints there.

Chapter 1374 The Dominant Minos



When Minos' soul ability was deactivated, all the dark fog that had appeared a few moments ago disappeared from the area as the affected people returned to their senses.

Those who had only suffered from fear of Minos were looking at Emperor Stuart, terrified by this young man's insane ability. As for those who had actually acted against Lance or even felt the urge to act, they were shocked to discover that even at their levels, they were still susceptible.

In just a matter of seconds, they had felt as if Minos was their supreme leader and it was their duty to carry them out. But, at the same time, they had forgotten that they were actually Lance's supporters and felt the urge to act against this young man.

Since everyone there was a Spiritual Saint, these people could not help but be frightened at being manipulated so easily while they were experts.

They had suffered a lot to reach their respective cultivation levels. They thought that past level 70, they would not be so susceptible. But they were sorely mistaken!

Minos had not only controlled them but also shown them that if he wanted, he could make them kill each other without even leaving his place!

And with that, everyone in this situation was too scared to pay attention to anything other than the situation itself.

However, those unaffected by Minos' technique, the mid-level and high-level elders there, as well as Maisie, had only felt the effects of Emperor Stuart's abilities on those other people.

But even without feeling the fear that those weaker colleagues felt, those people were quite in awe of how far Minos had already come.

That was particularly true for Maisie, who knew that she might have been affected in the same way as those people, but that did not happen because of Minos' own decision.

'He's already stronger than me...' She sighed as she realized this in her own skin, feeling a mixture of pride and discontent.

Maisie would instead continue to be stronger than Minos for a while longer than have him overcome her so quickly!

But as a mother, she could not help but feel relieved that he could already be considered an expert.

As for Oswald, he was smiling in satisfaction, feeling that Minos was even better than he expected. 'This boy is really very good.' He closed his eyes and nodded his head as if approvingly

Emperor Stuart.

Anyway, Minos heard the patriarch Terry's question and looked at the unconscious Lance, who had not endured a few seconds of 'friendly' beatings. He said. "Since he has broken the sect's rules, he shall pay for it with three days in jail."

"That is as benevolent as I can be."

Patriarch Terry did not think this was extreme and said nothing to refute Minos. But, opposite that, he called one of the guards nearby and ordered such a person to put Lance in prison for the time ordered by the new sect master.

"You heard the sect master. Lock Lance up in a cell for the next three days."

"Yes, patriarch." That individual, who not coincidentally was from the Terry family, obeyed that person's order, even though he found it all very strange.

But since three days was not much for any of them, he did not bother about it and just did what he was supposed to do.

Meanwhile, Minos observed the people in the surrounding area and smiled.

"Does anyone else think that I can't be the sect master? Are there any others intent on rebelling?"

But after what had just happened, none of these people would ask questions of the sort, even if they did not like Minos.

Minos was the kind of leader who had no mercy, punished people for setting examples and did not like to be tested. These people did not need much to understand this, and so they just shook their heads negatively.

With this, it did not take long before the people there began to greet him, showing their respect for the new sect master.

Maisie did not miss the opportunity and hugged her son in congratulations, pleased that he had finally become sect master.

Minos accepted Maisie's affection, as she occasionally helped him and his family take care of Sarah, something that had greatly lessened the distance between them.

"Congratulations on becoming the sect master, Minos." Maisie said in one of his ears.

"Hmm, thank you."

But he did not stay by his mother's side for long either, having talked to each of the elders who had attended this occasion.

Among those people, he also saw Ivy over there, who quickly arranged with him for them to have dinner any of these days.

...

After a few hours, Minos had assumed the position of sect master and gone to rest beside his wives.

This emperor told them everything that had happened regarding his rapid rise to power in this sect before he had some time to be with his daughter.

But Minos and his family would not rest for long. With the situation on the Black Plain and the possibility of them using this sect against Abe, Emperor Stuart wanted to get to the battlefield as soon as possible.

At dawn, he already intended to leave for that area!

So there was not much fun among the adults of the Stuart family that night, with them just having slept in for the next day.

...

While Minos and his family slept, Lance's men found out about their leader's imprisonment.

Such a thing was unexpected, even more so considering that the patriarch Terry himself had confirmed Minos' order and sent Lance to spend three days alone.

With this, the many supporters of the young master of the Terry family put their plans on hold. They went looking for the patriarch to understand what was happening.

An enemy acting against them was something that everyone expected to happen, always. But one of their greatest allies suddenly acting against their plans was a severe communication problem that would need to be solved before anything else happened.

With that, soon, one of the individuals under Lance's command was already having spiritual tea with the patriarch Terry.

"Patriarch, what's going on?" Such a person asked while having a worried look on his face. "We were about to finish young Lance's plans to prevent the rise of Minos, but then we heard of your action..."

Hearing this, Jeffrey Terry sighed and said. "There was nothing I could do. The sect master had an agreement with Minos for him to become the successor to the position of the sect leader. And that young man from the northern region made promises he won't be able to keep."

"So I had to take a few steps back so that he would harm himself and reheat the dispute for the position of sect master."

"In any case, I couldn't prevent what happened today, so I tried to lessen the trouble for Lance and our family by acting that way."

Hearing all this, that man pondered the matter, understanding this person's motivations.

'That makes sense... But still, I feel awkward about that decision. I would rather act!' That individual thought to himself before discussing the matter in detail with the patriarch.

Chapter 1375 Departure To The Battlefield



The next day, Lance woke up in a solitary confinement cell in the Grey Clouds Sect's headquarters prison.

Awakening from his previous state, this fellow woke up totally sweaty, feeling afraid, as if someone was watching him. At the same time, he felt disoriented from waking up in a different place than he had passed out.

'Where am I? What happened?' He wondered in concern, remembering the terrifying feeling he had felt at the place of Minos' baptism when darkness had surrounded him.

"Where is Minos? That bastard!" He muttered as he rose from the bed he was lying on, remembering his earlier purpose.

But just when Peter reacted in such a way, the guard who brought him to this place realized his young master's current situation and explained. "Young master, calm down. We are in the central prison of the sect."

"Central prison?" That blond young man turned toward the door of his solitary confinement, where the guard in question was positioned.

"Yes, the new sect master, Minos Stuart, punished you with three days of detention after the previous situation." That man explained.

Upon hearing that, Lance made an ugly expression, hearing Minos' title and yet that such a person had punished him. That is, not only had he failed to

hinder Emperor Stuart from ascending within this sect. The elders had sided with such a person after the previous situation, giving legitimacy to the punishment in question.

As such, the young master of the Terry family could not help but become extremely pessimistic as his hatred for Minos grew by a few more folds.

'Bastard!'

'He really did it!' Lance closed his fists, not knowing what to do in that situation.

But then he asked that guard, who was a member of his family. "What about my supporters? What are they doing?"

"Young master, for the moment, the family and our allies are standing by to see what will happen next. According to what has been passed on to me, the sect master Minos Stuart is planning to go to the battlefield against the Saints Killing Sect."

"So..." He paused, hinting that things might happen and maybe they would not have to worry about Minos.

On some occasions, fate itself took care of problems like Minos. So waiting and not doing too much might be the best thing for them now.

Lance understood, but he also found it strange that Minos was putting himself in this precarious position. After all, who would risk going into a high-level battlefield right after securing their own position?

Hell, Minos would have Oswald's support for another three years. Thus, if he simply stayed within this headquarters, his chances of growing without any dangers were immense!

Considering this, Lance could not quite understand his opponent's goal.

'There's something wrong with all this.' His eyes sharpened. 'I can feel it. He'll try to fuck me the same way he did before!'

...

While Lance worried about his faction's position and what might happen to Minos, Emperor Edwardstone was already aware of the power exchange in the Gray Clouds Sect.

Minos' grandfather's sect was affiliated with the Flaming Empire, so naturally, it had some duties connected to the imperial family. Because of this, the information reached the imperial palace as soon as the power exchange occurred in that organization.

Even before the vast majority of the members of the Grey Clouds Sect itself found out about the power exchange in their own organization, the emperor had heard such information.

"Minos has taken command of the Gray Clouds Sect?" This man questioned, not understanding what Minos was doing.

Such a move would complicate everything in his relationship with Minos, the Flaming Empire's relationship with the Black Plain Empire, and the situation of this state's four enemy allies. So, upon hearing from one of his men that Oswald had abdicated his position in favor of Emperor Stuart, Harold was somewhat concerned.

On the other hand, Isabella, who was there talking to him about the previous matter once again, was surprised to find that Minos was not taking it lightly to solve the Abe problem.

"It looks like he will use all his possibilities to stop Abe Vogel..." She commented in a low voice, drawing her father's attention.

Harold ignored the response of the man who confirmed that there was no error in the previous information and asked his daughter. "What are you talking about?"

Isabella then said. "I believe Minos is only doing this to deal with Abe. Otherwise, he probably wouldn't go for the responsibilities and problems related to this sect."

"Abe's terrorist group has been harming the development of the Black Plain, so Minos is more than ever willing to go further to finalize his problems..." She said in a suggestive tone. "This is a good time to do him a favor."

"Favor?" Harold muttered, understanding perfectly well what his dear daughter was talking about. 'This again? She's pushing this idea about me intercepting the Spiritual Sage of the enemy group...'

'But Minos really is overstepping his bounds to find ways to resolve this matter.' He could not help but agree with his daughter, feeling that this was an excellent time to get advantages.

Minos would undeniably pay for getting involved with the Gray Clouds Sect sooner or later, as there were many complications related to this move of his. So this was a sign of how annoyed Emperor Stuart was, indicating a good time to win important favors from the Black Plain.

Harold then fell into a silent state, pondering the possibilities and possible consequences of each of his actions.

On the other hand, Isabella was pleased with how things were developing for her, as everything seemed to be converging in her favor.

'How nice that Minos has taken over the Grey Clouds Sect...' She smiled. 'Now our connection will be better than just temporary secret allies. That will make it easier for my father to accept our future together.'

...

"Cough! Cough!" Minos coughed a few times as he felt a strange sensation as if someone was plotting against him.

"Minos, are you okay?" Oswald asked as he flew ahead of his grandson, escorting this young man to the battlefield of his sect and the Saints Killing Sect.

"Hmm, I just felt something going into my throat. But it's okay..." Minos said as he followed Oswald and another Spiritual Saint from the Gray Clouds Sect, who would accompany him later.

His wives were not there with him since what he wanted to do was dangerous, and they would not be needed as much. So, Gloria, Abby, and Ruth were with Sarah in Clouds City under Patience's gaze.

Minos then continued. "Anyway, let's get on with it. I only want to stay for two days in this place before I return to Dry City."

"Two days?" The other Spiritual Saint asked. "Will that be enough?"

"If you keep an eye on where I hide my weapon, I will resolve this situation gradually over a few weeks. But I can't do anything about it, or I'd be risking my territory."

"Hmm." Oswald saw no problem with that. "That way works too."

...

Chapter 1376 Planning Before The Battle



After some time, Minos, his grandfather, and the Spiritual Saint from earlier arrived in the vicinity of the battlefield between the Grey Clouds Sect and the Saints Killing Sect.

Upon arriving in this border area of the Flaming Empire and the Evergreen Empire, Minos soon noticed many craters around the area and places of burnt wood, where only ash remained in the surroundings. At the same time, one could see small circular areas with completely white, unmarked tents every few tens of kilometers.

Some of these posts were from the Saints Killing Sect, but others were from the enemies, who used this strategy to prevent long-range attacks from their opponents.

Above a particular cultivation level, cultivators could have dangerous abilities that could be used close to the limit. That could be a risk if the cultivator had an affinity for long-range attacks.

Since some attacks could be so fast and so catastrophic that the side that strikes first would win, it was crucial in a war to camouflage oneself as best as possible!

For this, using generic camps, with white tents, no symbols or flags, and neutral uniforms, such as one could see on the people in those places, was the best!

There were even ways to distinguish allies and enemies in situations similar to this. But that would require the person to be pretty close to the location in question, which prevented the problem of a long-range attack that was totally unexpected.

Someone entering the limited area to identify a friend or enemy would necessarily alert the other party. That means the group in a given camp could somehow protect itself from lone wolf attacks.

This battlefield was that way, and Minos soon heard his grandfather's explanation. "To identify our posts, you need to pay attention to the..."

Oswald talked to Minos for some time until they stopped flying when they were almost on top of one of their sect's outposts.

When they reached that point, the old sect master said to Minos. "That is the point where we will separate."

"Uh? Aren't you going to move on?" Minos asked in doubt, not understanding why this man had to go another way at the moment.

Oswald then said. "The sect masters of these two organizations..." He realized his mistake and rephrased it. "The enemy sect master and I cannot face each other unless we have different reasons than just beating each other."

That was a requirement of the emperor to lessen the chances of his state losing one or two level 79 cultivators. So, to confront each other, Oswald and Mortimer Burgess would have to be 'forced' to act. As in the example of their headquarters being attacked, or a member of their force being in danger, etc.

Otherwise, with no extra motivation, one was forbidden to act, at the risk that they would be penalized with lightning punishments if they broke such rules.

Since Oswald did not want to come even close to breaking his agreement with the emperor, he did not want to spend too much time on the battlefield without having good enough motivation at the moment.

That old man with white hair and a beard said. "Then I can't stay in that place for long and will have to return to the sect headquarters."

"I see..." Minos nodded, feeling he had nothing more to talk to his grandfather.

Oswald nodded his head to Minos and smiled just before giving some advice to the level 75 Spiritual Saint who was there to accompany Emperor Stuart on his journey.

After exchanging words for almost a minute, that Spiritual Saint accepted the mission Oswald had given him. He then accompanied Minos to that sect outpost just after they said goodbye to such an old man.

Upon landing at that temporary camp, Minos and his 'traveling companion' were stopped by sect members but soon got permission to use the infrastructure there.

The level 75 individual then asked his new leader. "Sect master, what shall we do?"

Minos looked at this man from the Coleman family, someone who should be there to serve as a bodyguard or 'travel guide,' and said. "I have my plans, but I need help from some of the members of this place. Thus, let's call all of them so I can explain what we will do."

"All of them?" That man frowned his eyebrows. "All right." But as a loyal member of the Coleman family, he would not disobey Oswald's descendant, even more so considering that Minos really was the new sect master.

Emperor Stuart might not really have all the powers his position should give him. But he had enough to order minor things, like what he was doing.

In this way, Minos had no trouble at all, and soon the leaders of that camp were in a tent where this fellow was waiting for them.

There, more than 30 leaders looked at Minos and identified him, but without understanding what his visit meant.

However, as someone so famous, a prodigy, nobody there would disrespect him or try to challenge him.

Hell, this was a battlefield, so everyone there had what it took to at least not rush in and make a fool of themselves!

Then after most of them arrived to speak with him, they sat down and were silent, waiting to find out what the situation was that had taken them away from their responsibilities.

The level 75 Spiritual Saint then said. "The new sect master, Minos Stuart, has some words for you!"

Upon hearing this, some people stood up in surprise, while others expressed concern or strangeness on their faces.

"What?"

"New sect master?"

"It can't be... The sect master..."

Gulp!

While some thought Oswald had died, Minos stood up and began to speak.

"The old man passed on his function to me, but he is not dead yet... Anyway, I am here as I want this battalion to help me on the battlefield."

The voices of doubt in the surroundings diminished as those people once again focused on Minos.

"I intend to leave for the conflict area in the vicinity of this outpost. I want your group to assist me in directing the enemies toward something I will soon show you."

"This will help us fight more easily on the battlefield and eliminate enemy forces... Maybe our group will even have the opportunity to return home sooner if we do our task well." He explained, trying to encourage these people to do their best later.

Many were in this place for their responsibilities, not because they loved the sect so much that they wanted to risk their lives for it.

They even loved some people who were in the sect and depended on it. But this did not bring a sense of urgency to everyone to the same extent, resulting in not every soldier giving their best on the battlefield.

Since many of them wanted to return to the sect headquarters and enjoy their spoils of war, hearing those sweet words from Minos was very pleasant.

It would not make them crazy to kill themselves for a greater purpose. Still, it was enough for them to focus on Minos' plan and help him more positively than they would have if he had not encouraged them.

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Chapter 1377 Emperor Stuart's Start On The New Battlefield



After talking with the leaders of that outpost for a few minutes, Minos explained what he would need the men of that place to do.

That camp had about a thousand cultivators; over 100 of them were injured, and 200 were fighting on the battlefield.

Considering this, Minos had 700 people at his disposal, 600 if he considered that 100 would have to stay to care for the wounded and individuals returning from the battlefield.

Thus, Minos wanted to use about 600 individuals from this place to push the enemies to meet their end with the black hole.

Since the people in that group of camp leaders had already heard some of the stories and legends regarding Emperor Stuart, they did not doubt if his proposal was possible.

To them, since Minos had been introduced as the sect master by a level 75 Spiritual Saint, he was their leader, and they would not refuse to carry out his orders. But because of this young man's background, these people did not even doubt Emperor Stuart's plan.

With this, Minos could present his plans to the soldiers at that outpost in a short time and then wait for the preparations to be made before leaving for his opponents.

The level 75 Spiritual Saint accompanying him saw that everyone was rushing to follow the orders of the new sect master and asked. "Sect Master, won't it be dangerous to go to the battlefield that now? Knowing the area and the opponents might be the best thing to do now."

"Attacks are too risky."

Minos understood the good intention of that fellow and said. "Unfortunately, I don't have much time for that, and what I will use against the opponents can only be opposed with a higher cultivation level."

"Although that is not easy to overcome..."

Minos was confident in facing the enemy, whoever they were, or whatever level they were. At best, his black hole would work and become stronger. At worst, he would have to escape to the Spatial Kingdom.

In this situation where he had to race against time, Minos could not weaken in the face of his disadvantages!

Would it be better for him to have information about his enemies? Sure, he could easily form more suitable strategies to eliminate each opponent.

But this was a work of ants, grain by grain, building something that could one day make a difference.

However, Minos did not want to wait for that future since his state was already suffering at the hands of Abe at present.

That man understood only half of what Emperor Stuart's plans were. Since he had never seen Minos in action, this person did not know how far the legend went and where the real man behind this figure began.

With the skepticism of someone who was a millennial, he would not believe at first the plans of someone like Minos, much less doubt the rumors entirely.

'Can he do all this?' He wondered, no longer questioning the sect master.

"Sect master, we are ready." One of the camp's leaders said this while troops were already in formation to fly from there.

"Perfect." Minos prepared for battle by quickly wearing his full body armor and holding his medium-level grade-3 sword, which could double his attacks.

So he flew to the front of his battalion, following alongside only a few of the leaders of that group, who were showing him the way.

...

After a few minutes of flying, Minos arrived near where the battles were most intense on this battlefield.

In this area, between the territories of the Gray Clouds Sect and the Saints Killing Sect, but also bordering the Evergreen Empire, all places could have conflicts at any time. But there was a hot area where there were clashes, deaths, in short, a lot of disasters at any time of the day.

The area where the previous camp was located was one of the quieter ones, while the one where Minos had just arrived was a hot spot as burning as hell.

There, flames, ashes, smoke, the smell of blood, cries of pain, sounds of battle, and stifling heat were all part of the normal for this area. That was a horrible place, where to enter safely, one would have to already attack one of the two sides. Otherwise, such a person would probably not stay untouched for five seconds and would run a serious risk of ending up dead just by entering there.

Minos listened to the recommendation of his fellow attack group members, who were also already preparing to enter the area to attack.

He circled the techniques needed for the fusion that formed the black hole while differentiating the enemies from the allies in that chaotic place.

As he and his men made their entrance into this heated conflict, both sides of the conflict noticed this large group getting ready to start fighting.

"Shit!"

"The damn Gray Clouds Sect intends to attack us with everything today!"

"Call for more reinforcements!"

The Saints Killing Sect side identified the attack in question as an intensification of enemy attacks, which needed to be countered at least to the same extent.

Meanwhile, the people fighting in that area who were members of Minos' family sect were strange about the situation.

"Why is this large group joining us? Did anyone here ask for reinforcements?"

"Even if someone had asked, why would so many come?" Another person shouted while launching long-range techniques against distant enemies.

But some people in the area knew Minos beyond the stories circulating about him in the sect and empire.

"Isn't that Minos? What's he doing around here?" Minos' aunt asked as she supported the area's warriors who were suffering the most.

Unlike Maisie, this woman did not have an ability as insane as Oswald's. But she was still a capable warrior who was already at level 70.

However, before any more questions were asked on both sides of the battlefield, everyone within two kilometers of Minos felt a strange sensation as they looked at him.

At that instant, when he and his group entered the hellish battlefield of that area, Minos' black hole was formed from the fusion of the Devouring Art and Chaotic Gravity.

That was not a particularly powerful black hole, being able to devour only Spiritual Emperors at level 65 or weaker without difficulty. But because of this, Minos could produce it and keep it around, manipulating it for the best possible result.

Many 7th-stage fighters were battling in this war between sects. So Minos was not just there to defeat Spiritual Saints, the leaders of the groups in that area. He was there to collect all the lives and cultivations of the enemies!

With that in mind, he began the side-by-side attack with his men, flying quickly against the position where the weaker enemies were.

Meanwhile, his men tried to keep him away from troublesome enemies at this early moment when the black hole would need to grow fat.

In this way, bodies soon began to disappear from the area, with almost everyone there being shocked to see the fantastic effects of Minos' fusion of techniques for the first time.

'I think Gavin will be happy to find out that I initiated his revenge...' Emperor Stuart thought of that Spiritual Saint who was in Dry City right now.

'I will speak with him in the next few days.'

...

Chapter 1378 First Extermination As A Sect Master 1



While Minos worried about remembering to talk about this current situation with Gavin when he returned to Dry City, he continued moving around the battlefield.

He was using his movement technique to evade enemy attacks that came at him after his men in the surrounding area stopped most of them. But not only was he protecting himself with this action, but he was also going for the lives of his weaker enemies there.

The medium and high-level Spiritual Emperors in the surrounding area were fighting at great intensity against their respective enemies. But when they saw Minos entering the battlefield with that scary thing, both sides stepped up the pace of things, fearful for different reasons.

One side simply wanted to get rid of the enemies holding them there, to get away from Minos as quickly as possible. But the other wanted the opposite, to hold these people as long as possible for Emperor Stuart to take their lives.

Both sides had already seen the fate of the first individuals swallowed by Minos' fusion of techniques and were fully aware of what this young man wanted on the battlefield.

"Quickly! Run away while you still can! The damned enemy is here to kill us all!"

"Damned Minos!"

"Bastards!"

"How can they send such a monster against us?" The side that Minos was beginning to oppress began to react with screams of all sorts, simultaneously battling and exchanging blows.

Every blow in that area could make mountains like the Peak of the Mist tremble. With so many Spiritual Emperors and even several Spiritual Saints fighting in the area, such a place looked like a hell.

Land tremors were spreading to various points there. Portions of the ground were detaching from the soil, floating in the air, while jets of magma were coming out of the ground. At the same time, smoke already covered the skies, producing a shadow zone that made everything that much more terrible.

But Minos' black hole and the Dark Sea he had already activated were also present, terrorizing and taking lives as if they were nothing.

Minos swirled the black hole around the battlefield, cleaning the surroundings without even leaving behind any bloodstains or corpses.

He was, of course, only doing this to the enemies of the Grey Clouds Sect while helping his black hole grow in size and power.

Seeing all this, Angelica was impressed with Minos' capabilities, feeling for the first time that her nephew could truly surpass Oswald in the future.

She knew that Minos was an impressive warrior on the battlefield. But seeing and hearing were entirely different things!

After seeing her nephew brutalizing the opponents in that area, causing the black hole to devour dozens of Spiritual Emperors, she could only appreciate the situation alongside her companions.

She was a level 70 cultivator. But her job there was to help 7th-stage warriors. However, with Minos' actions, no one else from that cultivation range on the

enemy side seemed interested in staying there for long. Consequently, gaps appeared for this woman's sect men to take down even more opponents.

"Incredible..." She muttered, drawing the attention of the level 75 elder accompanying Minos.

'Really.' He looked at the battlefield, which had gone from an initial equilibrium to an almost one-sided massacre.

The warriors of the Gray Clouds Sect were killing with greater ease than moments ago. But, at the same time, Minos was using his weapon up his sleeve to devour increasingly stronger enemies.

In this instant, he was already ending the lives of the peak Spiritual Emperors, beginning to endanger the Spiritual Saints in that area.

"Fall back! I said Fall back!"

"The reinforcements won't arrive in time! Run! Run!" The enemy Spiritual Saints tried to flee amidst the desperate Spiritual Emperors in the area.

But the men Minos had brought from the previous camp were finally putting their strategy into action right now.

Until now, they had been protecting Minos while this fellow prepared his black hole to threaten the Spiritual Saints in the area. But now that such a region of space had reached what was necessary to do so, most of them got rid of their position and began to deal with the enemies trying to flee.

Since they were more rested and had the situation in their favor, these people could stop the escapes in the area. So they formed a defensive belt that put the enemies between them and the black hole.

"Scoundrels!"

"How dare you? You think you can kill all of us and be all right? We've already called for reinforcements to come to this place!"

"Get out of our way!"

Some of the more desperate ones used their weak logic to try to get approval from these people so that they would leave the area.

Unfortunately for them, the oppressor side would never listen to the oppressed. As such, without delay, the more than 600 individuals of the Gray Clouds Sect in the area began to push enemies against the black hole.

Minos also started doing that after his weapon up his sleeve reached the level where it would already be tricky for him to control that thing. Then he began using his techniques to pressure Spiritual Saints, fighting in that area to fatten the black hole.

Spatial Sword!

He activated his oldest attack technique, and the space in the surroundings of a few hundred meters from his position froze, with many enemies running out of things to do.

With this move, not only he but his allies attacked in the direction of these people, 'pushing' them towards the end, the event horizon of that region of space.

Swoosh!

Duplicate blades departed from Minos' sword, flying toward the enemies as he danced with that weapon.

"Son of a..." One of those individuals targeted by Minos suffered from this young man's blow, being thrown against that region devoid of light.

When this level 72 Spiritual Saint felt part of his body enter the event horizon, his entire being became distorted, and a split second before his consciousness disappeared.

His body turned into a bundle of subatomic dust and spiritual energy, which soon condensed into the singularity of that thing. That was the complete disappearance of this being from the universe!

More and more enemies were suffering similar fates. And when 20 minutes had passed since Minos arrived, enemy reinforcements approached the area.

But to their misfortune, the last survivor, level 74, had just been devoured by that terrible thing when they got there.

Minos and his companions saw the end of this opponent and the arrival of more enemies, this time in more or less similar numbers to their own.

However, none of Minos' team feared the opponents. All of them, instead, began to hope that these enemies would attack them.

Only then could they continue to help Minos produce that weapon!

"What the fuck is going on here?" One of the enemy leaders wondered in awe, seeing the strange situation of this part of the battlefield and that black hole, which had a terrifying energy inside.

To the misfortune of some of them, they were within Minos' 7th technique range.

Chaotic Gravity: Attraction!

...

Chapter 1379 First Extermination As A Sect Master 2



When Minos activated his 7th technique, indicating with one of his hands in the direction of a group of over 30 Spiritual Emperors in his range, they immediately started flying toward him.

At that instant, those people felt as if they had lost control of their flying ability and began to speed toward the fingers of one of Minos' hands.

"Hey! Hey! Why are you people attacking the enemy?" One of the more foolish of the opposing group shouted as he flew forward, thinking that some of his companions had rushed things.

When he and a few other high-level Spiritual Emperors did so, they fell under Minos' gravitational control, joining their previous companions.

Seeing this, Minos smiled and made those already under his control float into his surroundings, giving the opponent no chance to see what the black hole actually was.

Those people out of his reach could escape if he simply fed these 'hostages' to that region of space. So to gain more 'food,' Minos did not eliminate those opponents all at once.

Instead, he began to devour their energies while the Devouring Art worked as well as ever.

Minos was not connected to the black hole at the moment, so he could freely use his techniques and move around the area. Because of this, he was actively acting alongside his allies, ready for a battle with the enemy.

"Damn it!"

"Who is that?" Some people in the Saints Killing Sect group wondered.

As famous as Minos was, not everyone knew his appearance outside the Gray Clouds Sect, where he had a family.

But some of these people had already studied Minos' background and shouted. "That is the damned Minos Stuart!"

"What?"

"The emperor of the Black Plain?" Surprised voices spread among hundreds of people who had been requisitioned earlier by the individuals who were now part of the black hole there in the area.

On the other hand, while the enemies more or less realized the situation of this place, Minos' men were already beginning to spread out in the surroundings.

That young sect master's orders were clear. Do not let the enemies escape.

So in this situation where more people had arrived at this place, these people quickly moved in search of making more enemies join the black hole!

"Attack!"

"Entertain as many enemies as possible!!! Don't let the damned get away!"

"Ahhh! Kill!"

Realizing the strategy of the members of the Gray Clouds Sect, some of the enemy experts wanted to stay and teach these opponents a lesson. But others wanted to leave there since they did not like Minos' presence in the area.

Minos was supposed to be only a low-level Spiritual Emperor years ago. But he had worked his way to reaching the end of the 7th stage within a few years.

But not only that, everyone clearly sensed how abominable Minos' techniques were, as it was impossible to ignore their quality and uniqueness in person.

'The bastard has a complete fucking set of Golden-grade techniques!' One of the several Spiritual Saints in the vicinity noticed this.

Unfortunately, even if this information was somewhat valuable to the powers of this empire, it was no longer the kind of thing that would make Minos risk his life much. After all, Emperor Stuart was currently already fighting Spiritual Saints, had connections with mid-level Spiritual Saints, and relations with the Gray Clouds Sect.

So even Emperor Edwardstone would have difficulties that would prevent him from acting against Minos, something that made it possible for this fellow to show himself without taking significant risks.

In this situation, the enemies could only be impressed by how lucky Minos was to have those techniques. However, they also regretted he was so talented and had achieved a high mastery level of those techniques.

But to the misfortune of those who wanted to escape, Minos was focused on eliminating as many opponents as possible on this day.

Young Emperor Stuart wanted to solve the Grey Clouds Sect's problems with the Saints Killing Sect in no more than three trips to the Flaming Empire. That was because he could not keep going back and forth between that state and the Black Plain, as that would increase the risk to his domain.

On the other hand, it was his goal to finish with Abe as soon as possible. To do this, he would have to resolve the situation of his family's sect quickly, something that could be cut short by utilizing what he was doing.

Exterminate as many opponents as possible on the battlefield and nurture the black hole!

With that, seeing some individuals wanting to flee the scene, Minos flew at full speed toward them, using his techniques to hinder them.

Infinite Dream!

Invisible beams of light streamed from his eyes. They went toward the enemies as he danced in the air, turning his great sword violently.

Spatial Sword!

Giant blades formed in the air, slicing toward the heads of the strongest people there, people Minos could not kill just like that, but it could hurt those people to some degree.

Just the fact that these people had to worry was already something that bought Emperor Stuart time. So he did not hesitate to do that as he moved around the battlefield.

Indestructible Body!

He circulated more of his enemies' energies flowing from the Devouring Art into his body, feeling much stronger. Then, noticing his strength increasing, he hurled a giant stone that was in the area toward several Spiritual Emperors.

Boom!

Such a stone exploded into countless pieces as it hit a group of 20 high-level Spiritual Emperors, delaying their escape.

"Stay down!" Minos said as he waved his hands in the direction of those people, causing the gravity on them to shift and press them against the ground.

Those people had no strength to counteract this tremendous force of nature. So they just stood there, feeling the terrible pain of having their bones, muscles, and blood vessels suffering from Minos' action.

When this young man stopped paying attention to those individuals on the ground to fight with others, men from the Gray Clouds Sect were already there to hurl them toward the black hole.

At this pace, the battle continued for almost an hour, with many of the enemies ending up like those people stoned by Minos.

They were beaten until they could barely fight, and the weaker people in Minos' group appeared to end their lives.

In this confrontation, something similar happened to those who served as 'batteries' for Minos. He used them while such people had energy but discarded them without looking back once they had been depleted.

In the end, more than 80% of the enemies died this way, being devoured by the black hole in that area.

As for the rest, they died fighting, were one of the three individuals who would flee, or were part of the few individuals who had self-destructed, thinking they would 'win' that way.

Thus, Minos was victorious in his first battle as master of the Grey Clouds Sect, marking the beginning of a new era for that organization!

Chapter 1380 Last Hope



After a few hours since Minos' first battle as master of the Gray Clouds Sect, his results had already been reported from the battlefield to headquarters.

The sect members who had been at Minos' side in that battle greatly appreciated his participation in the confrontation, and many now admired him more than before.

He had dominated the battlefield in the Flaming Empire the first time he had fought as the leader of a local organization, something that meant a great deal to him and the sect.

Many still thought that Minos had his results elevated beyond reality because he almost always fought in the poor northern region. So with this result in the Flaming Empire, those who used this narrative to doubt him would have nothing left to say.

Not only was Emperor Stuart a prominent figure in the northern region, but he also fought and won battles in the Flaming Empire. In addition, he terrorized the enemies who had almost been eliminated.

With that, the news that reached Clouds City regarding Minos was excellent, causing positive and negative commotions in different places in the headquarters of such an organization!

...

"Minos killed over 400 high-level Spiritual Emperors and 30 low-level Spiritual Saints on the battlefield!" One of the Coleman family members said this in one of that family's celebration halls.

There, people were still celebrating the ascension of another 'member' of the family to the position of sect master when the news about the previous Minos' action reached this place.

Earlier the mood was not as festive, as Minos' ascension could still be contested in many different ways. But after a single fight, many of the doubts of the members of this organization would be diminished or obliterated.

With fewer ways for Minos to be questioned, Maisie's family members could not help but celebrate the situation more festively, saying all sorts of positive things about him.

"Haha, he's breaking records. I'm sure he'll shock the whole empire soon." Oswald said, sitting in the leadership position while having Maisie on his right side, this woman who would soon become the matriarch of the Coleman family.

"With Minos in the sect's leadership and Maisie in the family, we will have another great generation!" The supreme elder of that family, level 78, said in a good-natured tone, feeling the favorable winds of fate.

...

On the other hand, at the Moss family headquarters

Ivory was not around to celebrate Minos' situation, as she was on the Black Plain helping the empire's forces deal with Abe's terrorist groups. However, her group of friends and supporters celebrated in that place, for they knew she had a deal with him.

With Minos in charge of the sect, he would soon be able to appoint Ivory to an important position. That would be perfect for her and this family, considering they had no chance of having one of their relatives in the sect leader's chair in the current scenario.

With this, they also had reason to celebrate!

But not only that, the high-level elders of this family, who still had doubts about Minos as the sect leader, were more or less relieved by the recent news.

"It seems that he is everything he talked about..." A woman commented to the strongest elder of that family, level 78.

"Well, those with Coleman blood don't usually lie unnecessarily." Such an individual said, feeling that his belief in Oswald was correct.

He did not like someone from outside the sect becoming a leader, even if such a person had the blood of the family that had dominated that organization for the longest time. But he understood Oswald's logic of trying to place someone without the 'addictions' of the sect members, a person who could bring change to the organization.

Even so, he still had his reservations about Emperor Stuart, especially considering the confidence of that young man in speaking with the strongest elders of this place.

However, hearing how Minos had turned the battlefield around and overwhelmed the opponents, this expert could not help but renew his beliefs in Oswald's decisions. Now he saw Emperor Stuart more favorably.

"Maybe the sect will have a great time on Minos' side..." He muttered as he smiled at that elderly woman, sensing the change in the times.

"But what will happen next?"

...

On the other hand, the command center of the Terry family was somewhat disappointed with the information that had just arrived.

"The sect master, Minos Stuart, went to the battlefield and led a battalion to destroy an enemy group that numbered over 800 Spiritual Emperors and 90 Spiritual Saints."

"Most of them were devoured by the sect master's fusion, which can be used as a weapon later." A man read this information to the strongest members of this force, who were in a large meeting room.

Hearing all this, the patriarch Terry had a strange look on his face, not knowing whether to be happy for the sect or sad for his family.

Lance was still in prison, but Minos had already acted so quickly and decisively that it was difficult to even for him to say anything negative about Maisie's son.

He wanted his family to have a sect master, preferably in his generation. But the truth was that he could not guarantee victory for the Gray Clouds Sect

against the Saints Killing Sect. Furthermore, seeing Minos' potential, he could not help but hesitate, feeling this young man could do such a thing.

After all, as much as Minos was only one individual, he had the dreaded black hole, something that he had already left in one of the outposts of the Gray Clouds Sect before he left the battlefield.

The people in this sect already knew this. With this information, these men of the Terry family knew that if it continued to develop, the thought of a victory in the war would not be an exaggeration!

Since several people from this family had already fallen into the hands of the enemies, the leadership of this force could not help but hesitate between winning the war with Minos and taking risks with Lance.

'It seems fate is on your opponent's side, Lance...' The patriarch thought to himself as he closed his eyes.

But then, one of Lance's most ardent supporters there made a suggestion, knowing what was on the minds of his colleagues. "Before we decide anything definite, I would like at least some envoy of ours to go and study that black hole."

"As reported, Minos left such a thing in one of our camps without any protection. So I want to see if we can take control of that thing."

"If we can, we won't have to give up our recommendation for the position of sect master so quickly!" Such a person finished, showing his colleagues this ambitious but also shameless plan.

Since everyone there was already too old to care about their petty actions, they agreed after some conversation, giving Lance another spark of hope.



Gavin did not want to show himself. But since he had promised Minos that he would help protect this territory, he could only make himself available now.

With that, there was a risk that he would end up drawing Mortimer's attention to his presence in Dry City, which would undeniably make that man focus on those areas.

Mortimer had a technique to steal Gavin's third eye and implant it in himself. Since this was the core of a powerful variant bloodline, this procedure could even help him approach level 80!

Considering this, Gavin already knew that showing himself would attract the forces of that person, which would be a problem for him, who would have to die for that transplant to work.

On the other hand, this situation could happen because Minos was trying to end the conflict between the Saints Killing Sect and the Gray Clouds Sect. Thus, if that sovereign were successful, he would not only weaken the enemies of this red-haired fellow but also get support from the members of that organization to deal with Mortimer.

This scenario would be more or less similar to the current one, with the difference that the enemy would know where he was, but with 'controlled' risks. So even though he was unhappy, Gavin felt he could handle the situation and was there under Abby's command.

'Regardless of the outcome of the war Minos is fighting, we will continue to face the Saints Killing Sect until one of us is destroyed...' He thought while the people in the vicinity of the underground tunnel they were in were also quiet.

While Gavin was considering his situation and the future problem the Black Plain would face because of him, Abby was preparing her group.

"The enemies should have 100 to 200 people on their side, more than two-thirds of them high-level Spiritual Emperors, more than half of what's left, low-level Spiritual Saints. The rest should be mid-level Spiritual Saints, and maybe there are one or two high-level ones." She reminded her allies of this information the Black Plain Army had because of the recurring conflicts against such a terrorist group.

Everyone heard that, but no one despaired beyond the level of fear they really should have at this point.

The enemy group was stronger than theirs, even though they had the numbers in their favor. To get a sense, on the Black Plain group's side were more than 2,000 cultivators, all above level 60. But even with those numbers, their forces were at a distinct disadvantage.

After all, even if everything went right and they had the chance to eliminate the enemies, doing so was more complicated than it seemed. That is, a stronger enemy could escape the formation of the weaker ones and quickly kill several of them.

That was how one could defeat a large group of opponents.

Hence, the risks that these people would face were naturally high, and almost everyone there had a certain level of fear of what was about to happen.

But they were not desperate!

Some were like this because they had already become accustomed to being at a disadvantage against opponents due to the conflicts that Minos had led them into over the years. But others simply had confidence in their highest-level techniques.

Most of these people had good techniques, which were not so easy to have even outside the northern region.

That was because copies of techniques could be destroyed easily, and usually, the only ones who had the original scrolls were noble powers of this world. In other words, few had access to good-quality techniques.

On the other hand, few could afford to buy copies of techniques or find such things in enemies' spatial rings. And usually, they could not steal them because those who bought them typically had good powers on their side.

Since Spiritual Saints were as common in the Western Empire as Spiritual Kings in the northern region before Minos, few of these mercenaries, usually humble individuals, had good techniques.

They had no chance of even heard of people with Golden-grade techniques since even individuals like Harold rarely had more than one of them. As for those of Silver grade, those were possible to get, but most 8th-stage mercenaries would usually have one or two of them.

What was left were the Black-grade ones, the most common techniques in the Spiritual World that defined the fighting proficiency of cultivators throughout such a world.

The situation was so drastic that most people judged someone's strength by considering they had techniques of this quality. That is, when sensing the power of a cultivator, many would compare such an individual to someone using Black-grade techniques.

With that, Minos' forces, which relied on several individuals with Silver-grade techniques, had a bit of hope against the enemy mercenaries.

Given this reality, gleams of hope and will to win could be seen in the eyes of the people in Abby's group, even as she quoted what the army expected from their opponents.

...

In another part of the Black Plain Empire's capital area...

Gloria was with her group in another underground area as she talked about strategies and preparing for the conflict.

"Our group is one of the strongest. So it's our job to stop the opposing group's medium and high-level Spiritual Saints." She said as she looked at some of the people from the Spiritual Church that Vogel's post had sent as reinforcements.

The Spiritual Church post in the capital of Vogel had a very high enmity with Abe's terrorist group. So, as the enemy was not focusing so much on that area, that post sent people to support Dry City.

There were no mid-level Spiritual Saints in that group. Still, there were a few hundred peak Spiritual Emperors, people with similar techniques who used to train together.

They also had good techniques, so this group was even better than the Black Plain Army soldiers. Since there were Some Spiritual Saints there, it could be considered the strongest group left by Minos to deal with Abe.

"We will use our 7th technique together to disrupt the enemies, while the Spiritual Saints will try beside me to immobilize the stronger opponents." Gloria looked from one side of the place she was standing, considering the similar characteristics of her group's techniques.

There was a possibility of combining techniques to improve their effects. So people with affinities could use this as an alternative to strengthen themselves in team confrontations.

The Church had legions that specialized in identical techniques, so Gloria wisely wanted to use that as an advantage to destabilize enemies when they were attacked!

"OK!" Almost all the experts there agreed with her. Among them, Louise, level 70, a member of the Spiritual Church from the Vogel outpost that Minos had brought into Gloria's faction during his first time there.

This woman had grown over the years because of Minos' support. Thus, in this moment of need, she had come forward to support Dry City alongside other members of Gloria's faction.

With this, Minos' city was prepared to face Abe with representatives from each of this territory's allied powers.

And so, while everyone was preparing, Abe received the message he had been waiting for!

...

Chapter 1392 Hating Enemies



Abe was currently in the vicinity of Dry City, about 40 kilometers from the core of the Black Plain Empire.

At the place where he and his mercenaries were waiting for the signal indicating that Minos was fighting the Flaming Empire, 150 people were hiding in a secret tunnel.

Such a place had been built by people from this terrorist group over the past months due to one of Abe's alternative plans for Dry City.

That former crown prince of Vogel had several plans in mind to overthrow Minos and complete his revenge against those who contributed to his downfall years ago.

Among these plans was to invade Dry City underground, infiltrating Minos' headquarters and causing chaos in such a place.

But his plans had been changed due to the communication from the Saints Killing Sect, which had shown Abe a new possibility.

So this fellow who was using multiple strategies, just like his opponent, was currently inside the tunnel under construction, waiting for the message from his men in the Flaming Empire.

In that place that was so big that four adult humans could walk side by side, dozens of people were doing their daily activities.

Some were cultivating, others guarding the entrances and exits of the tunnel. In contrast, others ate, meditated, and did various activities while waiting for their moment to act.

Abe was one of these meditating ones, who, when the message he had been waiting for came, was startled by the shouts of the person responsible for receiving such communications.

"Minos Stuart is fighting in the Flaming Empire!"

"Get ready, everyone! The enemy leader is not in Dry City!" A woman's voice reached the farthest reaches of that tunnel, alerting the 150 people there of this fact they had been expecting for weeks!

Abe looked in the direction of that woman and smiled not long before he stood up and began to prepare to go to war.

"Get ready! We're leaving in 5 minutes!" He said for all the people there to hear him, eager to get his hands dirty with the blood of Minos' friends and family.

'You bastard, today you will pay! I will deal with one of those wives of yours so you can feel the weight of defeat!' Abe thought about this as he laughed, wondering how Minos would look if he lost one of these women.

His goal was simple. Do as much damage to the Black Plain as possible. To do this, he had to affect Minos' mindset somehow, which would be easier to accomplish by targeting one of those women.

So this guy from the Vogel family was targeting one of the most critical people in Minos' life, not just the local forces!

Shortly after the previous shouts, all 150 individuals in that secret tunnel were armed and ready for battle.

Then, they set off toward their opponents, returning to the surface!

...

On the outer sides of Dry City's belt of cities, the soldiers watching their surroundings had just noticed a change on the horizon.

"Alert!"

"Enemies ahead!" One of them fired the sound arrays, sending signals to alert everyone to the onset of the enemy attack.

When the signals were repeated throughout that urban area, the many soldiers and allies hiding underground in the Dry City and belt of cities came out to the surface within minutes.

Both sides hid underground but had no means of attacking the opponent through their secret tunnels. These places served only as temporary hiding

places. Once it was time to fight, both sides would show everything they had, as was happening at the present moment.

So, soon legions began to form in the skies above Dry City's area of influence, with Abby, Ruth, and Gloria leading their respective groups.

In one were the envoys from the Spiritual Church. In another were most of the members from the Gray Clouds Sect, and those coming from the Vogel area in the third group.

This group in question had the most people with angry faces since many had suffered a lot in different ways because of Abe's actions.

For example, there were nobles in Vogel who were beginning to develop and have meaningful relationships with royalty that could give them a great future. But by the time they were experiencing such opportunities, Abe had destroyed their dreams by leading that family toward its own demise.

Because of this, families thriving before House Vogel's fall had totally lost their advantages, as since Minos took over Vogel, the strongest had been more privileged.

Before, the royal family distributed power as it wished, favoring its interests only. But now, the Assembly of Vogel distributed power proportionally to the number of specialists, which favored the strongest, although it gave openings to lesser powers.

So in a much more complex scenario for them to develop, these people who disliked Minos, but hated Abe much more, were there full of hate to confront such a person.

They wanted revenge so badly that they would agree to help Minos if it meant harming Abe!

And soon, this fellow from the old Vogel kingdom saw the hateful expressions of the opposing group amid the long-range attacks of the Dry City forces.

Many cannons were being fired in the direction of the enemy group, which was flying towards the core of that city.

But they had enough to protect themselves for the moment, so even someone at Abe's level could get a little distracted in this early combat without incurring significant risks.

'Those damn traitors are here...' Abe saw faces he knew from his time as Crown Prince of Vogel, remembering how many of them were his supporters in the past but were now fighting against him.

"Good! Good that the traitors are here to pay for their crimes!" He said aloud, showing his people these enemies who needed to die along with the people of Minos.

While these people of Vogel were estranged, looking hatefully at each other, Gloria and her harem sisters were adjusting their plans considering the opposing force.

'Two level 78 enemies; five level 77; seven level 75; and seventeen low-level Spiritual Saints...' Gloria pondered as she noted the strength of her opponents.

With her Golden-grade techniques, she could take on some of the strongest of these individuals, but she would have a tough time and probably would not be able to beat them on her own. Thus, upon noticing the number of high-level opponents, this level 71 redhead could not help but realize that this would be a difficult battle.

'But maybe that individual can do a lot of damage...' She looked in the direction of Gavin, who she knew was one of the strongest in the Black Plain.

Such a person did not have Golden-grade techniques like the core members of the Stuart family. But he had a compelling bloodline ability.

It was not for nothing that his visual bloodline was called Eyes of Destruction!

It really could destroy and threaten the world!

Considering this, Gloria was hopeful that such an individual would lessen the burden of the situation for her and her allies.

And just like that, the battle began!

...

Chapter 1393 Battle 1



Boom!

Swoosh!

"Ahhhhhh!"

Sounds of battle spread through the skies of Dry City as the two sides in the conflict began their battle.

On one side, 150 individuals were attacking the other, with about 2,000 people, most of whom gathered in large groups to face their opponents.

As for Abe's side, most of these mercenaries did not even know each other until weeks ago. So they were naturally fighting individually.

"Tsk!"

"Worms, I'll show you that numbers don't matter. At the end of the day, only those with the strength themselves will be able to excel!" One of the more

arrogant individuals in Abe's group shouted as he attacked the group in front of him.

He activated his Soul Avatar, causing a crystalline 'shadow' to appear on top of his body, growing many meters upwards and sideways.

Then, this 'shadow,' which had similar contours to his, put its hands together and attacked with one of its offensive techniques.

Then, strong spiritual waves broke from the space between its hands into the group of dozens of Spiritual Emperors in formation a few dozen meters away from it.

'Die, worms!'

But as this level 75 opponent attacked the forces of Dry City, the members of the Spiritual Church present there began to act.

Seraphim Avatar!

Each of those low-level Spiritual Saints activated their 8th technique, causing 'shadows' similar to the opponent's to appear, except that they had large wings on their bodies.

"Seraph Scream!" They shouted together as they flew over the area in a formation that their actions would add up without negatively affecting each other.

Just like that, a powerful sound wave broke from the various Seraph Avatars, making the air seem to be vibrating like ocean waves towards that Western Empire expert.

After sensing that, such an individual could not change the direction of his attack and felt that he would be hit by something powerful. 'Bloody worms! Banding together like cowards!' He clenched his fists and pressed his teeth

together as he looked toward the powerful spiritual 'waves' coming against his avatar.

Dimensional Slash!

Swooish!

One of the high-level Spiritual Saints on that battlefield made a horizontal movement toward the enemy 'waves' about to hit his ally.

His attack departed from the blade of his weapon, making a beam of spiritual energy fly horizontally toward that sound attack. Then, it made a tear in space, making the heavens tremble like a cut fabric.

"Seraphim's Wings!" The group of Church Spiritual Saints promptly changed their strategy, making their wings cover their bodies entirely as they huddled close together.

Gloria then made her offensive move against that person!

Seraphim Avatar: Angelic Domain!

She felt her body 'shrinking' as powerful energy concentrated inside her. Then, after contracting all of herself and going into a fetal position, she 'opened up' fully, causing such energy to expand into a semitransparent sphere tens of meters in radius.

When such a thing appeared on the battlefield, this woman's enemies immediately felt as if the Natural Laws had suddenly weakened in their surroundings.

It was as if something was suppressing them!

Divine Light!

Gloria did not stop there and promptly activated one of her offensive techniques. Such a move caused her avatar to bring its hands to the height of its forehead and then golden beams of energy to depart from there.

As this happened, where the golden beams of light passed, the air boiled while the elements and gases in the atmosphere burned, leaving behind the characteristic smell of combustion.

Sssss!

"Holy cr..." That high-level Spiritual Saint felt the power of Gloria's attack and raised his defenses, promptly setting aside his weaker allies and enemies to pay attention to this woman.

Gloria might only be someone at level 71, but this man felt that if he did not take care of himself, he might be bothered by this woman!

That would not be enough for his life to be at risk in one blow, but he noticed that she could threaten the life of a level 76 Spiritual Saint. Since the difference between him and someone of that level was not great, he could be injured, which could eventually spell calamity for him!

Ancestral Shield!

Vuup!

...

Clang!

"Ahhhhhh!"

Shouts came from one of the soldier groups of the Black Plain Army, where 50 soldiers were at this instant facing a level 73 Spiritual Saint.

The opponent's avatar was powerful, and he could easily inflict mental and physical injuries on those people. So they had to fight at an absolute disadvantage in this place, and any distraction could mean the end of them!

However, they were not helpless!

"Diabolic Shield Formation!" Eduard, level 64, shouted as he led his companions, each using medium-level grade-3 arrays to form a giant shield around the group.

They may be weaker in level than their opponents, but every member of Minos' forces was armed to the teeth!

They all had weapons and armor of the highest level they could use according to their limitations. But, at the same time, they all had one defensive and one offensive array, both of which were medium-level grade-3 ones.

Fighting a battle consisted not only of using one's own skills, talent, and understanding of spiritual techniques. It also consisted of how many crystals one had, that is, of the items in one's possession.

The enemies of Minos could be much richer, individually speaking, than the members of this fellow's forces. But Emperor Stuart had access to a fortune that none of those people could ever imagine!

With that, upon being pressured, Minos decided to show some of the financial might of the Black Plain Empire by arming all of his allies and soldiers with items of the highest level that they could use.

And with that, even though level 60 to 64 individuals were fighting against level 70 to 73 people, they were enduring, defending themselves, and counterattacking!

"Attack!" Elena Neel, level 64, shouted with all the force in her lungs as an army group, focused on attacking, activated their medium-level grade-3 arrays toward two level 73 opponents.

"Demon's Eye Formation!"

A gigantic eye condensed in the middle of the formation of 50 soldiers led by Elena, while dark mist spread in its surroundings.

It flashed in the direction of the Spiritual Saints, emitting trembling sensations to many in the surrounding area.

"What the hell is that?"

"That... That doesn't look common!" Even the mid-level Spiritual Saints in the surroundings felt bad sensations coming from such a thing, as they saw part of Minos' earnings from the God of Death's inheritance.

Minos had collected several items in that inheritance that did not need to be destroyed because of the Goddess of Life's mission. Among those artifacts were the blueprints of this offensive array, which could be combined to form something compelling.

Because of such a thing, one side of Abby had to see something of that evil cultivator's group helping her cause by eliminating the first enemies of this battle!

Zum!

The space shook in the surroundings of those two Spiritual Saints, and then, as if invisible teeth had 'fallen' on them, the two were shredded in a matter of seconds.

Even their soul avatars were completely obliterated, leaving not a single remnant behind!

...



"Unbelievable!" The Spiritual Sage watching the area from afar, opened his eyes in surprise, seeing something so shocking on the battlefield.

'That spiritual array formation is not common!' He sensed how complex that creation from one of the God of Death's array masters was. 'How did they achieve such a thing?'

But his curiosity was limited to asking himself questions and trying to understand how Minos achieved so many impressive things without appearing to have any significant support.

This Spiritual Sage had been watching Minos for months. He had seen the ways of this young man's forces, the development of local cities, and the techniques used by this empire's high-level members. Thus, he had a good idea of how rich Emperor Stuart and this state were.

Because of this, such a person was quite impressed with the wealth that Minos had obtained in a way that was so hard to identify that even he could not understand.

'Is that fate?' He wondered. 'It is said that very talented people are sometimes favored by the Natural Laws as if they were children of heaven...'

'Could this be the case? Is he so lucky that he comes into contact with valuable things for no reason?' He looked at the battlefield, where at the moment, thousands of hexagonal mirrors had purple chains going from one side to the other, attacking and saving people.

In that part of the battlefield in the skies above Dry City, Abby was floating on Emlyn's back, this level 66 Nine-tailed Fox.

"Au! Au!"

Emlyn howled with much of her strength, creating jets of spiritual energy in the direction of groups of high-level Spiritual Emperors.

Some individuals of that strength range were still on the battlefield, supporting the Spiritual Saints fighting against the groups of local forces.

Abe knew that Minos used the strategy of collective fighting to defeat higher-level enemies. So he was not only attacking the local forces with his experts. But also with individuals capable of distracting the many enemy groups while the specialists acted for the sake of their objectives.

Hence, several of these individuals were still around the battlefield, fighting with all their might against opponents like that Nine-tailed Fox, who, from time to time, acted against them.

But the focus of almost everyone there, not just the strongest, was to limit or take down the 8th-stage opponents, the ones who really had a chance of causing havoc in Dry City.

"Kill her!" Abe shouted to his experts, seeing Ruth fighting a low-level Spiritual Saint far away from other relevant allies.

When he heard that, the strongest Spiritual Saint in that group saw that level 67 woman and identified the enemy leader's wife. Since he had already lost several subordinates to Minos' forces and almost lost his body to the black hole, he did not hesitate to act!

Even though she was such a weaker opponent than him, acting would not be wrong since her death could destabilize the mind of a powerful enemy.

'You will be the sacrifice for me to regain my honor!' He thought as he activated his Spiritual Avatar and attacked in the direction of the black-haired woman, who was beside a Feathered Serpent.

When the people in the surrounding area saw that, several local leaders shook with bad feelings, afraid that someone so important to Minos would get hurt on the battlefield.

Someone like Minos could not be angered. He was the worst kind of individual to get angry at, someone incapable of forgetting and forgiving.

Knowing this, these people were not only afraid because it would be a shame for something to happen to glorious Ruth but because Minos' revenge would bring pain to everyone.

With that, dozens of soldiers started flying towards her, ready to give their lives and save Minos' sweet wife from the giant spiritual hand falling on her.

"Impossible! You are too weak!" The level 78 Spiritual Saint arrogantly said while having one of his hands pressing against the air.

"Sister!" Talia, level 68, who was also in Dry City to fight alongside Minos' forces, screamed as she saw her sister being brutally attacked by the more powerful enemy.

"Bastard Abe!" A nobleman from Vogel shouted as he charged toward that fellow, along with several other individuals from Minos' forces, trying to get the enemy to stop the attack.

But then, while Ruth seemed in a no-win situation, a terrifying sensation broke out from one of the individuals on the battlefield, drawing the attention of even the Spiritual Sage, who was watching the battle.

When Gavin finally began to use his unique lineage, red energy began to spread from the surroundings, departing from his Spiritual Avatar.

Then the large head of the avatar glowed at the height of his forehead until a large red eye appeared there, shining the skies below Dry City.

Zum!

With such a glow, the space in Gavin's surroundings shook as if the space-time fabric was wrinkling until a 'space switch' took place in that area.

In the blink of an eye, Ruth and the Feathered Serpent at her side disappeared from where they were, appearing at the spot where Gavin was standing earlier. At the same time, this red-headed fellow appeared below where the enemy avatar's hand was falling.

"Come to be destroyed!" He shouted at the sight of that powerful attack as he put his hands up and directed large fractions of his energies to the center of his forehead.

By the time the enemy realized what was happening, it was too late for the level 78 Spiritual Saint to do anything about Gavin's movement.

Even though he felt it would not be advisable to touch the enemy's Spiritual Avatar, he could not stop his movement. So, his own avatar's hand crashed into the opponent's.

At that decisive moment, everyone paid attention in their direction, even Abe, who was in a mortal fight against enemies, seeing that person's prowess.

'Who is this? Where the hell did Minos get this guy from?' Abe wondered as he saw the red eye on Gavin's forehead glow once again.

When the shock finally happened, causing shock-generated energy waves to destabilize the flight of hundreds of people in the local skies, Gavin's act took effect.

He suffered immensely in this blow, but his innate ability did not fail him, triggering a powerful reaction.

Destruction!

The enemy's Spiritual Avatar managed to push Gavin back a few meters during the initial shock. But while he was at a disadvantage, this red-headed man made the semi-transparent being attacking him tremble as cracks appeared in that giant hand.

Along with those cracks, such a being stopped pressing Gavin so hard, while screams emerged from the position of that level 78 Spiritual Saint's physical body.

"Ahhhhhhhhhh!" He expressed the pain of having his soul hurt by a high-level attack made by a skill specialized in complex mental attacks.

"Ahhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhh!"

But Gavin also felt the weight of the enemy's hand, suffering several injuries to his soul, given that he had his avatar attacked by another, but also to his physique.

When he was 'slapped' by the enemy's spiritual hand, this fellow held on for a short time until he had his body thrown toward the ground.

As his Spiritual Avatar disappeared, he crashed into a four-story building in a part of Dry City, destroying that place completely!

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Chapter 1395 Battle 3



When Gavin hit his back on the ground, he felt a terrible pain in his body, as if every bone had broken at that moment.

Meanwhile, the ruins of the building below him were falling, devastated by receiving this individual's body.

"Ahhhhhhhh!" He continued screaming in pain on the ground, ignoring the few people in the surroundings of that building, looking at him as if he were a monster.

But that was just the natural thing to happen. A level 71 Spiritual Saint like Gavin usually had such a hard body that in a collision between them and a stony mountain, it would be easier to destroy the mountain than the body!

Even Spiritual Emperors could destroy mountains with their powers. So it would not be an expert so much stronger than it that it would be fragile to die from such a 'simple' collision.

But it was undeniable that the pain felt in such a situation was not small!

And with that, Gavin suffered while his opponent in the skies forgot about his existence because of his own problems.

"Ahhhhhhhh!" Such a level 78 Spiritual Saint trembled in pain as he stopped paying attention to the battlefield. 'Bastard!'

'Who was that vermin? How did someone so slippery appear in this place?' Such a person wondered, but his spiritual 'pain' headache was so intense that he could not even scan the battlefield in search of the fallen opponent.

Secret Flame Technique!

Sssss!

A level 73 Spiritual Saint from the Dry City group, someone from the Flaming Empire, activated his offensive technique toward the strongest opponent of his group.

When he did so, the skies combusted as if they had turned into a great boiling cauldron.

Such a thing immediately began to affect the confused opponent, who barely kept up with the battles in the surrounding area.

'He's vulnerable right now, so even someone of my level can hurt him...' This Gray Clouds Sect expert thought to himself as he raised his hands and made the surrounding flames grow stronger.

"Stop him!" Abe shouted to the other high-level Spiritual Saints in the surroundings, feeling that this battle would not have a good outcome if he lost his strongest men.

He might have the resources to hire mercenaries from the Western Empire. Still, it was not easy to bring people from that state, and over time, it would become more difficult for him to do such a thing. After all, rumors would spread no matter how many guilds and mercenaries there were in that empire!

So to avoid running the risk of one day having no one to turn to, this guy did not want to lose his mercenaries until all the possibilities were used!

With that, the other high-level Spirit Saints, who knew that if that man fell, they would be next, began to scramble to free themselves from the enemy formations.

"Die, you insects!" One of them shouted. At the same time, he displayed all his prowess, causing the many spiritual 'bonds' around his body to begin to crack while the enemies trying to restrain him suffered.

"Stand firm!" Mirya, level 64, shouted as she joined that group of individuals trying to suppress the enemy.

Besides her, Ivory was at the center of their formation, holding the main array of this restraint method they were using.

Unfortunately, even though there was a lot of power there, that level 77 individual managed to break free at the end after using almost 80% of his powers at once.

Boom!

The many arrays in those people's hands exploded just before that man looked at his enemies and swiftly attacked, trying to claim all those lives.

"Die, you bastards!" He shouted in hatred as he attacked in the direction of those people, seeing that the remnant of his attacks could help the level 78 ally suffering a few hundred meters away.

With that, gigantic blades of energy departed from this individual's avatar weapon, destroying whatever was in his path, cultivators, and defensive artifacts.

Swooish!

Clash!

"Ahhhhhhhh!"

Vuup!

"Ahhhhhhhhhhhhhhhh!"

Arms were snatched away like sheets of paper being cut. Yet, at the same time, some people met their end without even expressing physical pain.

One of the people closest to Minos on this battlefield met their end this way!

When trying to defend herself against the enemy's 'mad' attack, Mirya had no luck, and her defenses could not stop such a person's powerful purple blade.

Such a thing struck the center of her body vertically, slicing it in two halves without leaving her express pain on her face.

When that happened, the two halves of Mirya's body fell from the skies, causing blood to splatter the streets below where she was fighting earlier.

"Ahhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhh!"

"Ahhhhhhhhhh!" Citizens hiding in the rubble, or whole buildings in those areas, screamed in terror as they saw the gruesome end of yet another local expert.

"Ahhhhhhhh! Mother! NOOOOOO! MOTHER!" Viola saw this from across the battlefield and screamed in terror, seeing the end of the most important person in her life happen right before her.

When she saw that and flew towards her mother, Viola, level 61, left the offensive formation of her group, weakening it, unwittingly making things easier for the enemy.

"Viola, no!" Grace, level 61, also in that group, shouted upon seeing her army mate's inconsequential action.

But it was too late. By the time Viola left the formation, the level 77 enemy had managed to find a way to escape the many attacks coming his way.

At that moment, he activated one of his most powerful mental attacks, causing a pulse to explode in the center of the area where hundreds of individuals were trying to restrain him.

Then, many low-level Spiritual Emperors using offensive arrays in that group were attacked mercilessly, with several dying without leaving a trace behind.

But like Mirya's group, some suffered only severe blows, losing parts of their bodies while fainting from the severe pain.

Thus, what would be remembered in the future as a rain of bodies began in the skies of Dry City, with many soldiers and allies of Minos falling, but also some terrorists from Abe's group.

Simultaneous to this, several of the high-level enemies acted to save their level 78 ally, even if they had to suffer greatly to do so.

Getting rid of so many opponents that were using medium-level grade-3 arrays was no trivial task. Thus, each of these individuals had sacrificed large portions of their strength to help the strongest mercenary in the group.

With this, while trying to save such a person from the sea of flames, they naturally got seriously injured, creating opportunities for the most clever individuals in Minos' forces.

Invisible Hands!

Giant skeletal hands appeared in the surroundings of one of the level 77 Spiritual Saints who had escaped his opponents, squeezing such a person as if to squeeze an orange.

"That's the time to die!" The user of that technique shouted in pure hatred, feeling that he should kill the person who had knocked Ivory out!

No one knew if she was alive or dead. Still, in this instant, Ivory was lying in a part of the battlefield, with part of her body severed by the previous purple blades!


As someone sent by Lance to protect this woman, that level 72 Spiritual Saint acted with everything he could to finish off such an enemy!

While all that happened, Dillian flew over the battlefield searching for the most needed experts.

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Chapter 1396 Battle 4





Dillian and his team of doctors were also on the battlefield. Still, they were operating around the less dangerous corners of the area, constantly stopping by the fallen bodies on the ground.

Grade-3 doctors, like the ones around the battlefield, could help the wounded with less trouble get back into the fight quickly. But not only that. It was important to get the treatment done as quickly as possible to ensure a faster recovery or at least the survival of the members of the local forces.

So Dillian and his grade-3 colleagues flew over the area, searching for bodies still alive while trying not to get involved in the fighting.

Dillian saw many bodies below where he was flying over, looking for people to help, regretting what he saw.

Not only was it terrible to see parts of this city destroyed by war, but seeing people he knew brutally killed was something terrible.

"Mirya..." He lamented as he saw the state of that person who had been with the Black Plain since the first years of Minos there, even before the War of Independence.

But this man's lament was not only because this woman was a companion who helped the Black Plain to develop. It was also because she was Minos' friend and one of the few people who had access to this ruler.

Minos would be extremely sad and furious when he found out about such a thing, so Dillian could only deeply regret the situation of that woman, who he could no longer help.

But he could not stay focused on the dead and soon went back to looking for other people who could receive his help.

He then saw Viola's body lying face down on the ground, in one of the rubble not far from Mirya's remains.

Dillian clenched his fists and flew quickly to this woman, hoping to save at least her.

'Come on! Be strong! Don't die without a fight!' He shouted in his mind as he landed beside her and began to check this woman's condition.

But even though he was a doctor who was at level 65, near the peak of low-level grade-3 classification, this man with a black mustache could do nothing against a soulless body!

When trying to figure out the problem with Viola, this doctor could not identify her soul, something that only corpses demonstrated!

'She's already dead...' He profoundly sighed as he felt a tightness in his chest upon discovering that mother and daughter had died on this battlefield.

"Damn it!"

"How did this happen?" He shouted in a fury as the sounds of battles made themselves present in the area he was in, as well as the sounds of pain and cries of the innocents watching the area.

When Viola went to her mother in despair, such a green-haired woman ended up hindering her group, which was restraining a high-level Spiritual Saint. As a result of her actions, that individual attacked such people with a powerful mental attack, which victimized not only her but several individuals in such a group.

In this way, before she could even get close to her mother to cry for her loss, Viola had had her soul obliterated by the enemy attack.

"Ahhhhhhhh!" A shout caught Dillian's attention, indicating a person still alive near where he was standing.

With that, such a man soon left Viola's body behind, focusing on rescuing someone who could still be helped.

When he arrived at where those cries were coming from, this man immediately came across two people—a low-level Spiritual Emperor from the army and Ivory, who was unconscious.

He came across this and hesitated, not knowing who he should help first.

Dillian could not save both of them simultaneously since he did not have the skills to do so. Thus, as he had to choose, he made an ugly expression and regretted this situation once again.

"Forgive me, but I must see her condition first." He said in a low voice, embarrassed but certain that trying to save an allied Spiritual Saint was more important than a Spiritual Emperor of his own organization.

He then began to check on that woman's situation while the individual in the Black Plain Army uniform cried in pain on their side.

Dillian then verified that, although badly wounded, her soul weakened, and missing one of her legs, Ivory could still be saved!

So he quickly began to use his abilities to heal her body, first stopping the bleeding while trying to 'nourish' her soul a little.

He would not do all the procedures necessary to heal her right now since she would probably need days to do it. Furthermore, Spiritual Saints could rebuild parts of their bodies when fully rested. That way, there was no sense in him exhausting himself to recover that lost limb.

But once she awoke, this doctor would quickly make Ivory swallow some pills for her to quickly regain her strength.

They needed to keep fighting, so doctors like Dillian would use pills made by the army alchemists to boost these wounded allies.

That did not do well for cultivators since resting and not using such resources after serious injuries were ideal. But in a moment of need, they had no alternative but to use all available possibilities!

Thus, Dillian soon did the preliminary work with Ivory, luckily having managed to attract another doctor to his location to help the agonizing soldier there.

When Ivory awoke from her unconscious state with Dillian's help, this man made her swallow the said pills, which quickly began to take effect.

"Uh?" She looked bewilderedly at Dillian, seeing rays of light behind this man in the skies of Dry City.

At the same time that her vision was a little blurred, the sounds of battles seemed to generate a powerful earache and headache in this woman. "What's happening?" She asked, not quite understanding where she was.

"Ivory, you are in the middle of a battle in Dry City. Our men need you!" Dillian said to her, holding the shoulders of this beautiful blonde woman, who was dirty with blood and dirt at the moment.

She looked at him strangely for a few moments but soon began to remember what had happened before she lost consciousness.

Ivory then looked at one of her legs and saw the consequence of the blow she had suffered earlier.

Gulp!

Her heart beat faster as, for the first time, she had lost part of her body in battle!

Pa!

But then, Dillian slapped her in the face, bringing this woman back to reality. "Wake up! Time to fight!" He shouted at her, pointing to the skies, where

bodies were falling all the time while battles that would go down in history were taking place in that area.

This woman saw this and remembered her purpose in this place, to fight and defend Dry City!

So, after a few seconds, she flew back to the battlefield in the local skies while Dillian went back to looking for people to help in this chaotic place full of ills.

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Chapter 1397 Battle 5



As Ivory returned to the battlefield in the skies of Dry City, more than half of Abe's group had already been eliminated in the last 30 minutes of combat.

Most of the more than 80 mercenaries killed until now were Spiritual Emperors. But more than a dozen Spiritual Saints, including a level 77 one, had died in this confrontation.

On the other hand, the group defending Dry City had significantly suffered to achieve these results, with over 300 individuals perishing to eliminate so few opponents.

Many soldiers from the Black Plain Army were among the fatalities of the confrontation. Still, there were also individuals from other areas of the northern region and even from Vogel and the Flaming Empire among the dead.

In addition to those who had lost their lives up to the present moment, there were hundreds of severely wounded individuals lying in the surroundings of

the Black Plain and satellite cities. They were in agony or passed out while waiting for help from local doctors.

But there were no wounded to that condition on the enemy group. After all, when any of them were in this state, members of the local forces would not miss the opportunity to attack them with force and end these lives quickly.

But even though the numbers of both sides had fallen to about half of their original, the battles continued in the skies of Dry City.

Amongst those fighting, Abe was still standing, although quite tired and with several wounds all over his body.

The Spiritual Sage of the Eastern Empire was there to prevent this individual's death, but that did not mean he would prevent every kind of confrontation that Abe would go through. And in this way, this former Vogel heir was naturally quite wounded and weakened after facing so many individuals who hated him strongly.

On the other hand, Abby, Ruth, and Gloria were still fighting, the first two quite tired, given their levels. At the same time, the Matriarch of the Spiritual Church still had sparks of strength to actively use in battle.

But they had all gained wounds, battle marks to remind themselves of the risks they took on this fateful day.

Abe and his men had tried to act against each of them, tried to press them in a way that risked their lives, as was Abe's goal.

But acting against them was not easy given how strong they were, but also the conviction of Minos' allies that they could not let the worst happen to these women.

So, even though he tried a little bit of everything, Abe could not cause more than danger to those women. Unfortunately for him, he has reached this point of the battle without knowing how to eliminate at least one of them.

His strongest cultivators could not kill any of them now. That was because they had suffered a lot after Gavin's attack, which caused several of them to risk themselves for the sake of the level 78 individual. That had ended many members of Minos' forces but also weakened many of the stronger cultivators in Abe's group.

As a result, some level 77 Spiritual Saints had perished, leaving only two left at this moment, alongside that level 78 individual who was highly injured.

'That person we didn't expect did all this! It was because of him that my plans were so messed up!' Abe complained in his mind, looking in the direction where Gavin was standing next to the Dry City allies.

Gavin had received similar treatment to Ivory, been awakened by a doctor, and ingested several pills to get him back on his feet.

Because of this, even with several broken and fractured bones, this individual fought alongside his comrades!

Unfortunately for Abe, his group underestimated the usefulness of doctors and alchemists, so his most seriously injured were suffering from their conditions, while Minos' side had such an alternative.

"You'll regret this, you bastard!" Abe shouted in Gavin's direction, having already identified this individual as someone from the Saints Killing Sect.

"You're from that organization, right? Your eyes are just like those bastards' eyes." Abe yelled as he looked at the circular patterns around Gavin's eyes.

Abe did not know what the third eye on Gavin's forehead was. Still, the eyes with circular patterns around the pupils were a mark of the lineage of one of

the families of that sect. In this way, this terrorist knew a method of threatening his opponent.

"I'll give you back everything you've caused us today, you worm! I'll make that sect hunt you down! You must be on the run, huh? Hahaha."

Gavin ignored that, already knowing he would end up attracting such people one way or another, turning his attention to the enemies still fighting.

'We're starting to run out of energy...' He pondered this as he saw that those still fighting on the Dry City side were getting increasingly tired.

As much as the enemies were also wearing out and had their low points, their side would be more vulnerable if they ran out of spiritual energy. After all, most of them were just Spiritual Emperors, while the opposing side had more Spiritual Saints than 7th-stage cultivators on their side at the moment.

Knowing this situation, Gavin was beginning to get nervous, feeling that the situation in Dry City could get even worse as this conflict developed!

Minos' wives were also aware of this, seeing how the opponents seemed to be saving themselves to expend their final energies when the battle was 'already' decided.

"What are we going to do?" Abby asked, feeling powerless to fight, given that she had the lowest cultivation of all Minos' wives.

Ruth was also almost out of fighting condition and looked to Gloria, hoping that such a woman had some way of creating the advantage they needed.

The Dry City group was slowly taking the upper hand in this conflict. Still, they were in danger of running out of energy before that happened. So they needed to find a way to get a victory before their time was up!

"I don't know," Gloria replied. "Besides using the Spiritual Kings in Dry City, we don't have much else at our disposal."

They had plenty of Spiritual Kings at their disposal to participate in this conflict. But if these people entered the battlefield, the risk of many dying would not be small. That was why they had not been used so far so that the state would not lose future Spiritual Emperors who were about to be 'born.'

But in this decisive situation, Gloria could only think of this alternative as she saw that the opponents were preparing to move in a few moments.

"You will not be able to survive today!" Abe said, full of malice in his voice, preparing to make his group's last move before their retreat.

With that comment of his, his group began to show the last strength they had. At the same time, the opposing side could no longer demonstrate its prowess efficiently.

"Initiate the emergency plan!" Gloria shouted in a sound array, giving the orders for the peak Spiritual Kings to move to help the main forces at this decisive moment.

But then, when thousands of individuals were showing themselves on the outskirts of Dry City, and enemy Spiritual Saints were acting against Minos' wives, a shadow appeared on the battlefield!

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Chapter 1398 End Of The Battle



When a large shadow appeared in the skies of Dry City, everyone on the battlefield felt cold in their souls at the sensation emitted by what had just been released.

In that place above where most people were fighting, a large dark region devoid of light had emerged from the hands of a brown-haired man.

"Minos!" Abe saw his enemy from afar as he opened his mouth and eyes wide, cursing his luck while wondering why such a person was there.

Fortunately for the survivors on that battlefield, by the time the message from Abe's mercenaries reached this fellow, Minos had already finished fighting in the Flaming Empire. At that moment, he was running toward Dry City, using the teleportation ports on his way between that empire and this one.

Thus, Minos had arrived a few moments ago in Dry City and promptly picked up one of the black holes in his headquarters before coming to the battlefield.

He realized that his city was still under attack due to the alerts ringing in the headquarters, which made him follow such a strategy, picking up one of the Black Hole Bombs in one of the cultivation rooms in that place.

When he released the black hole of such a device in that area, a significant space of darkness immediately appeared in the skies, along with the creepy feeling that such a fusion of techniques had.

In this way, he reached the present moment when everyone on the battlefield in the local skies felt the terror of the black hole that Minos had developed to deal with Abe.

But only the enemies were slowly beginning to feel the torment of that thing, as Minos used Chaotic Gravity to take the lives of those individuals.

That black hole was already too powerful for someone at Minos' level to manipulate beyond changing its position and protecting himself from it. So he was not manipulating it now, just standing nearby while using his techniques on the surrounding enemies.

The allies and forces of this sovereign saw his arrival and finally let out sighs of relief, knowing that with Minos there, it would all be over.

"Now I can rest..." Emlyn lay on one of the streets below the battlefield, all wounded, with several cuts on her large body.

Meanwhile, Kyla had done well on the battlefield and was already at her mother's side, licking the wounds of this great Nine-tailed Fox. "Big brother will take care of everything, mother." She said in her spiritual voice.

On the other hand, Abby and Ruth retreated, returning along with almost all members of Minos' forces fighting in this place after seeing him.

Minos was so powerful next to his black hole that all the enemies had forgotten about their previous opponents to try to protect themselves from the local leader.

They were tired, and it would not be easy to deal with even these surviving opponents. So it would not be in this situation they would divide their attention.

Therefore, every Spiritual Emperor and Spiritual Saint allied with Minos felt a great relief after his arrival, many relaxing and beginning to feel the weight of their injuries.

"Ouch!" Gavin made an ugly expression as he sat in a semi-destroyed plaza on the outskirts of one of the satellite cities of Dry City while watching in Minos' direction.

At that moment, Emperor Stuart was drawing all of his enemies toward the black hole as his Devouring Art sucked their energies out.

Due to how decisive the action of these techniques was, almost all the survivors suffered as they flew towards that area devoid of illumination.

Only the strongest Spiritual Saints were somewhat managing to resist the effects of these techniques, flying more slowly towards the final destination that Minos intended these enemies to have.

'Damn it! Damn it! Damn it!' Abe saw his plans go down the drain and felt hate, once again in this situation where he would depend on outside help.

"Abe, the next time we see each other like this, you will meet your end!" Minos shouted at that opponent, as some of his opponents lost their lives as the black hole behind him swallowed them.

Minos had no hope of eliminating this nuisance today, so he was leaving his expectations for the subsequent encounter with that opponent.

"We'll see who dies first, you bastard!" Abe shouted just before a hand emerged from a spatial crack and saved him from Minos' clutches.

The Spiritual Sage coming from the Eastern Empire also saved two of the strongest Spiritual Saints in Abe's group before leaving the rest for Minos.

For another day, he had ensured that the conflicts in this area would continue to cover his group's searches through the region!

'Next time, what will he have?' This expert looked in Gavin's direction, sensing that this card up Minos' sleeve had been responsible for today's 'victory.'

Then, who would be next?

He did not know, but he left the area to continue watching Abe from afar, leaving behind Minos' unfortunate enemies, who would soon meet their own end.

Each of them was then mercilessly devoured by the third black hole in this city, which had attained enough power to put itself even threatening Spiritual Sages.

Unfortunately, Minos was far from the level needed to control such a thing to the point where he could threaten the enemy Spiritual Sage.

In the end, he stored such a thing in the previous array, which could not hold it for long if he continued 'fattening up' such a region of space.

Minos then turned his attention to the surroundings of the battlefield, seeing several destroyed spots around that large metropolis. At the same time, cries of pain and weeping could be heard from different corners of the capital and belt of cities, showing this fellow how terrible today had been.

Bodies could be seen over tens of square kilometers, many totally destroyed, to the point that only a few internal organs were left. But in addition to the pieces of bodies over the large area, several whole corpses could be seen here and there.

Minos saw this, and even though he did not first identify those he knew best, this fellow knew that the news would not be easy today.

With such calamity and looks of mourning and lamentation in the eyes of the survivors, it was not difficult to predict that important people had perished in the face of this terrible enemy.

He then saw Gloria approaching him while the rest of his women were receiving help from local doctors on the capital's outskirts.

"I'm sorry for the delay." He said to his wife. "I got here as fast as I could."

Gloria knew there was no way she could blame Minos for anything and hugged him tightly, feeling safe being close to her man. "I'm glad you're here. I don't know what would have happened if you hadn't arrived at that instant."

The same thing that was in Gloria's mind was in the heads of thousands of Spiritual Kings who had been saved from fighting in this place moments ago.

Minos could imagine that and sighed, knowing that things had been quite challenging.

He then asked. "Do you know what we lost today?"

...

Chapter 1399 The Prize Of War



"We lost more than I can recognize..." Gloria replied as she flew with her husband to Abby and Ruth. "But Mirya is dead." She said since she had seen from afar when the enemy blow had sliced that woman.

Upon hearing that, Minos stopped, and his expression became still, with him looking at his wife's face as if asking if this was serious.

She then said, knowing that Mirya was an important companion to Minos. "A high-level Spiritual Saint under the restrictions created by her group became desperate to help our level 78 opponent. In doing so, he managed to free himself from the restraints holding him down and killed most of our men and allies in that group."

"That's how she was killed."

Minos heard this, feeling terrible that one of the people close to him had perished, even more so considering his relationship with that woman.

Mirya was one of the women Minos had known the longest and had had many experiences with her over the years. So to find out that this person he had been with days ago had suddenly died was extraordinarily shocking and heavy for him.

"Damn it!"

"How did that happen?" He clenched his fists in anger, feeling it was his fault.

Minos did not love Mirya, as he loved his wives. But he had a particular affection for that woman and others with whom he often connected.

In that way, losing Mirya was not like losing an ordinary soldier but like losing an important family member!

"It's not your fault, darling!" Gloria hugged him while also feeling bad. "The enemy has been terrorizing our forces. He wants to destroy our way of life and make us doubt our paths. But we are doing our best!"

Minos knew this and remained silent, feeling the warmth of his wife's body as he mourned Mirya's demise.

But that would not be his only loss of the day. Soon after meeting with Ruth and Abby, Minos heard from these women about Viola, Angela, and other soldiers he had recruited over the years. Unfortunately, several of them had died on this terrible day, and their deaths had already been reported to Dillian and these women.

So they told the most famous names they knew to Minos, giving him a flood of bad news.

After finding out about all their losses, Minos fell into a state of contemplation, trying to process everything that had happened.

'Damn, so many people died!' He tried to understand how his plan had failed. Even mid-level Spiritual Emperors had perished when they fought in formations that were supposed to give their enemies a lot of trouble.

'Did I risk too much?' He wondered as he looked up at the orange sky of Dry City on this lousy late afternoon.

But Minos knew that he would get the support of the Gray Clouds Sect in the short term, or he would have to put up with Abe's offenses for a few years.

But putting up with that guy's terrorist attacks for years would be terrible for local development, considering the threats from higher-level forces that might look down on this place in the future.

As one became stronger and wealthier, it was only natural that others of the same or similar status would begin to watch them. And with that would come dangers and tests, things that served to tell outside forces whether that place was to be taken or respected.

If right now the Black Plain Empire was prevented from developing at its best pace, perhaps that state would not be prepared for the challenges of the future!

That was what bothered Minos, so he could not help but conclude that he needed to continue with his strategy of bringing the forces of the Grey Clouds Sect to the Black Plain.

'I only lack one more battle in that state, and I will be able to make the main attack on the enemy headquarters.' He concluded such a thing as he considered the black holes he had already developed in that area in a conflict between the Saints Killing Sect and the Gray Clouds Sect.

'The damned Abe probably won't be able to act against me for a few weeks after today. So I have to make that last attack, preferably in the next few days, so as not to risk another day like this.' He clenched his fists, imagining when he could eliminate his enemy.

Thus, that day of battles ended in Dry City, with the main survivors returning to the interior of this great capital city. At the same time, low-level soldiers began to clean up the affected areas.

The citizens in the safe areas were also cleared to return to the streets, many heading out into the affected areas to see the destruction wrought by the previous conflict.

After this day, they would return to their daily activities, participating in the local economic life, repairing what was destroyed, and trying to overcome possible losses.

As for those killed in battle, they would soon have their funeral, with the deserved honors of someone who died fighting.

Death was everyone's final destination, a sad reality for those who were left behind and would never see certain people again.

But dying in battle was war's thankless prize, the way to immortalize oneself in the annals of a state's history.

Many of the survivors of this conflict would eventually be forgotten, but people like Mirya and Viola will long be remembered!

That was the way of living to honor their warriors, as Minos and his family would do with those who gave their lives for the future of the Black Plain Empire.

Anyway, with the retreat of all involved, it did not take long for the local leadership to discover what losses they had to overcome on this day of attack!

...

While Minos was being updated on the numbers and identities of the dead for Abe Vogel's terrorists, Elen Nash's cousin, Luke Nash, level 62, was living in the Western Empire.

But as someone his age, who was not relevant in his sect, this fellow occasionally went on missions as a mercenary in this state, something that had once again led him to one of these guilds on this day.

But upon entering the building of one of the guilds that he knew best in the city where the Elemental Sect was, this fellow faced a somewhat unusual situation.

When looking at the mission mural in the central hall of this place, this blond man from Stone Island found several posters about the same kind of mission. One mission that was demanding for high-level Spiritual Emperors and Spiritual Saints of any level.

But what caught his attention was not the demands of this mission but the fact that it was supposed to be done far away from the empire, in the northern region of the Central Continent!

'Whose mission will this be? Is it Minos' thing?' Luke wondered, remembering that his family was deeply connected to this fellow from the Black Plain.

Since he had not received news from his home in ages, he was curious and decided to ask for help.

"Senior Holt? Hello? Are you there?" He said into his short-range instant communication array.

After a few seconds, a voice came from the device in Luke's hands. "What is it, Luke? Is something wrong?"

"Sort of. I want help communicating with my family in the northern region..."

Chapter 1400 Unexpected Communication



Three weeks later...

After Abe's previous attack, the Black Plain Empire accounted for all its losses and held a large funeral in memory of those lost.

Afterward, the local forces continued their usual activities, returning to training and defending important posts against Abe's terrorist group.

That happened even though the enemy did not attack during this period since there was no way for the local forces to know in advance when the subsequent attacks would take place, and it would be better to be safe than sorry.

But while Minos' forces were trying to return to their routine, this sovereign had gone again to the Flaming Empire and finished preparing for the attack against the enemy headquarters.

He intended to attack the headquarters of the Saints Killing Sect with full force soon. So he had already made all the preparations before leaving that state last time.

Minos had taken advantage of the low moment in the terrorist forces on the Black Plain to make such a move, acting when his state was assured that it would not suffer. With that, he had made it back without any problems, and now he was just waiting for the best time to act for one last time in that state.

His next trip would take much longer since he would be attacking a place he did not even know. Thus, he needed to do something to ensure the safety of his city and people before he left, which was preventing him from acting at the moment.

So he had been leading his life on the Black Plain until someone from the Nash family communicated with him!

...

Dry City Mausoleum, the core of the capital of the Black Plain Empire...

In this place built to honor the warriors of the empire, especially the soldiers of the Black Plain Army, Minos was at this moment sitting in front of two tombs.

If one were to see him in that area that looked like a large corridor in the basement of the mausoleum, one would see several imperial guards standing nearby. Each of them was dressed in silver armor, which had the symbol of a golden tree on their right chest.

They held their swords in their grips as they looked around, on guard because the feeling of the place was rather frightening.

Minos had helped build this place during the Black Plain's rise and enlarged it after all the trials his state had gone through. Because of the evolution of his killing intent to the Dark Sea and the fact that he visited this place often, this construction had gained some of the characteristics of this ability.

Minos constantly visited his dead since the formation of the Black Plain as an independent state, both to remember and renew his revenge promises.

He always visited the graves of Pyke, Dumas, Lack, and more recently Virtus, and now Angela, Mirya, and Viola.

Minos had even ordered the construction of a tomb for his father.

Unfortunately, Albert had sacrificed himself, and there was nothing to put in that place.

In any case, this emperor did not forget his dead and made it a point to visit the graves of those closest to him every time he had the opportunity.

Because of this, his revenge and the strange sensations of the mausoleum remained intense.

That's why his guards were partially on alert at the moment, while the darkness of this young man's soul skill strengthened this place and intensified his will.

'There will come a day when you can take revenge on your opponents in the other world...' Minos looked at Mirya's name, which was next to a portrait of what she looked like in her prime, something all the tombs in this place had.

As he thought about it, the darkness in the surroundings seemed to tremble as if something might happen at any moment. But that was all, and it caused only an uncomfortable feeling in those besides Minos.

But even though this place was scary, a low-level army soldier suddenly ran down that long dark corridor, lit only by a few torches.

"Your Majesty! Your Majesty!" He shouted as he saw Minos from afar, alerting all the imperial guards to draw their weapons in his direction.

Minos turned to see who was disturbing him and saw that young man slowing down his speed in fear. Still, such a person continued on his way while making a calm gesture to those Spiritual Emperors.

Gavin, who was also with Minos and the guards there, was the only calm one besides this sovereign, as he really liked the atmosphere of this place.

He was not a guard of Minos, but he often walked with this emperor in his spare time when they had time to talk.

He then looked at that level 45 young man carrying a communicator in one of his hands and asked. "What do you want? Who is contacting His Majesty?"

The young man saw that fellow, who was supposedly the second strongest of the empire's forces, and swallowed his saliva. He then said. "Senior, the supreme elder of the Nash family, Richard Nash, is on the other end of the line, asking to speak to His Majesty."

Minos heard this and remembered the face of Elen's father, soon becoming curious about what that man wanted with him. It should be important since

Richard had chosen to use an expensive medium-level grade-3 communicator that such an emperor had given to that family.

He continued to sit in front of Mirya and Viola's tombs but showed one of his hands to the young man, indicating that he could approach.

The imperial guards returned to their waiting positions while Gavin stood watching that young Spiritual General, still next to Minos but full of curiosity.

"Hmm, thank you." Minos said to that young man as he took the device in his hands and brought it to one of his ears while holding another near his mouth.

"Richard? Are you still there?" He asked as he kept his eyes closed.

"Your Majesty, I am here." The gruff voice of Elen's father came near one of Minos' ears, coming from that device that had an array capable of maintaining instant communication between Stone Island and the Black Plain.

"What's the problem? Has something come up in your area?" He asked, soon after being answered. "No, Your Majesty. Actually, this connection is not related to the situation in our region, but something that has just come to my attention related to Luke."

"Luke?" Minos made a strange expression and opened his eyes, remembering that fellow he faced on his first passage through Stone Island.

"What about him? I heard he's in the Western Empire..."

"Hmm, he's in the Elemental Sect of that empire... Anyway, Your Majesty, we recently received a letter from Luke. In it, he communicates to us regarding some missions he has been in contact with in a guild of that empire."

"According to him, these missions are recruiting high-level Spiritual Emperors and Spiritual Saints to come and do something in our region." Richard said in a suggestive tone.

"Oh?" Minos understood it was about Abe since his forces had already figured out those men came from the Western Empire, the home of old Grant.

But then, this unexpected communication gave him ideas of what to do against the enemy!

...

Chapter 1661 Unbelievable



When Minos pulled that out, a popping sound came from that sarcophagus, as the partition in the middle of it suddenly widened the space between the parts of it.

Minos stepped back from it, slowly watching the flaps of that funerary urn open as strange energy spread from within it to the surroundings.

The flaps of the item made of a special kind of stone became further and further away from them, slowly showing what was inside.

But while this was happening, white smoke was coming out from inside that sarcophagus, making Minos frown and narrow his eyes, finding it all very strange.

'What's in it? Why did that man tell me that I should hurry?' He thought about what had happened months ago when he left Dry City to come to this place.

Amidst his chaotic thoughts, Minos gradually began to see what was in there, an extremely old but surprisingly preserved body.

'Is that Maximillian Flamen?' He wondered as he saw the body of that tall, strong man with hair as black as night.

If asked, Minos would say in that instant that such a body looked like that of a person of the present time who had just laid down to go to sleep.

Nothing about him would make one think this was a corpse from millions of years ago, as should be the case with this man.

As Minos thought about this, amazed at the innate ability that man had in life, he suddenly felt a headache, and the feeling that had brought him to this place changed significantly.

He felt like spitting, and a taste of blood came to his mouth.

Amid this, his connection with that sarcophagus slowly diminished, as if he was losing what he had acquired when he left Dry City.

Then Minos spat on the ground a mouthful of blood and several dark dots that looked like small stones.

When these dark dots touched the ground, they immediately turned into small traces of dark mist, which followed the path of that preserved body.

Afterward, Minos was still feeling a little bad, but he heard a noise coming from Maximillian Flamen's chest and looked at that body with wide eyes.

"It can't be..." He muttered as he saw the chest of that being moving while his fingers made involuntary movements.

Amid this moment of Minos' absolute shock, the door of that place, named after the sarcophagus due to the ancient burial method of the Spiritual Church, opened.

"Wretched human! I will slowly devour you to punish you for your insolence!" The level 99 Demigod chasing Minos moments ago shouted angrily, feeling

several bruises all over its body from the attacks of that remnant left by one of the Supreme Pontiffs of the Spiritual Church.

Minos heard this, but he didn't have time to react when that great creature attacked in his direction, moving so fast that it reached the side of its target in a single breath.

Just as the fist of that great being was about to hit Minos and break a dozen of this young man's bones, suddenly, a hand appeared in front of the brown-haired young man's body.

"How insolent. When I wake up, a beast dares to act grandly in front of this senior?"

Gulp!

Minos heard the voice he had heard months ago after placing his blood on the Seraphim Ancient Sarcophagus map, feeling shocked that he couldn't say anything at the moment.

In front of him, a being from millions of years ago had risen from its grave and was speaking!

This went against everything Minos knew!

Not even Henricus Longus could imagine that there was a possibility that someone could last so long in this Spiritual World!

But the reality was one and could not be confused. The person in front of Minos was Maximillian Flamen, a peak Spiritual Demigod from the time of Pope Maximus, someone who should long be dead but was standing upright, with his heart beating and as strong as he should be.

That level 99 beast realized this clearly as it felt its hand being stopped by a mere human while it felt a chilling sensation in its aura, noting the power of this opponent.

'Level 99? Where did this person come from? I didn't sense him moments ago.' It thought as it put aside that level 77 human to look into the black eyes of this Demigod in front of it.

"Who are you? Why are you in my way?" This creature brandished, not fearing this opponent who was only one step away from reaching level 100, as strong as it was, but with the advantage of having both physical and spiritual power, something it did not have.

Maximillian Flamen was a freak among humans. Besides being very talented, his innate regenerative ability was so strong that his body had developed to a level similar to the bodies of beasts of the same level as him.

Because of this, his physical structure could withstand a move by this creature, even without using his soul power!

The beast shouted. "I am only after this weak human. I don't want to get involved with you."

"Humph! This one in front of you is Maximillian Flamen, beast, the future Supreme Pontiff of the Spiritual Church." That man with long black hair said this with his eyes closed. "Get out of this place while you can, or I will finish you for trespassing on this sacred place!"

"Human! We have no grudge between us! Are you really going to go that way?" That beast shouted, twice as angry at not being able to fulfill its words against Minos.

"Are you still here?" Maximillian activated one of his techniques, causing dark feathers to appear in the surroundings, forming a sphere pattern before plummeting toward that beast.

"Shit!" The beast realized that, unlike the previous soul remnant's attacks, these attacks could mortally wound it!

With that in mind, it quickly moved out of that place while being chased by those deadly dangerous feathers.

At the end of the day, Minos was only a level 77 cultivator. It was not worth it for it to engage in a deadly battle against someone who seemed to be stronger than it.

While it was running away, Minos was looking frightened at Maximillian, still not believing that this man was alive.

"How is that possible?" He asked.

Maximillian looked at Minos and said. "Young man, what is your name? Are you the one who freed me from this time array? What year is it?"

...

Chapter 1662 Promise



Minos was silent for a moment, looking at the being before him, trying to identify if this was a dream or if he was dead.

He couldn't help but be shocked to see someone who should have been dead for hundreds of thousands of years breathing in front of him as if that was normal.

"How is it possible? How can you be alive after so long?" He asked.

That black-haired man looked at the young man before him, figuring he had probably slept longer than expected. "So long, huh? Am I supposed to be dead now? What happened to Maximus?"

"But of course. Your rival Maximus became Supreme Pontiff, reached level 100, and left this world millions of years ago!" Minos said. "Then you shouldn't be here."

Upon hearing that, Maximillian closed his eyes, understanding that his plans had all gone wrong. "I see... So no one came to me then." He said, disappointed, but not so much that he was angry.

In fact, he was happy. After so long sleeping, waking up was very good!

Maximillian was a monster. He was a little below Maximus, but he was unmatched in many different ways. One of them, his innate ability to regenerate and maintain his body's quality, was incredible.

This ability, which was already at Divine grade, could put him into a deep sleep and slow down the aging speed of his cells during his sleep.

Not only this, this man had obtained a rare high-level grade-4 array capable of slowing down the passage of time, something he had used in conjunction with his ability inside that sarcophagus.

Because of this, while millions of years had passed for the people of the Spiritual World since his disappearance, he had slept for only 5,000 years!

He knew that this reality could happen, but back there, he had gone to sleep thinking someone would wake him up early enough to still beat Maximus.

Unfortunately, things had not turned out as he had planned!

He asked. "What happened after that? Does the Church still exist? Why is a young man like you in the Seraphim Ancient Sarcophagus? Don't tell me that place was lost until today?"

"Yes, I just found this place by following your map," Minos said, still looking strangely at that man. "The Church still exists, but it never found your map. I found it a few decades ago..."

He walked through that place he had sacrificed so much to find in the past, looking at the surroundings as he thought about Minos' words.

"What happened to my faction, young man?"

"I don't know for sure. But a group of people in the Church wished to find your map. As to what they wanted, I am not sure."

"And what do you want?" He looked at Minos curiously.

Emperor Stuart said as he introduced himself, "My name is Minos Stuart. I am the ruler of the Black Plain Empire, a rising state of the Central Continent at present.

In the beginning, my state and I were fragile. But we evolved and came to the attention of the major factions of the Church when my wife, a member of that organization, created her own group.

This brought pressures that, unfortunately, I cannot handle at the moment... The Church today is as strong or stronger than it was in your time. Because of this, I decided to use the map I found decades ago by pure coincidence.

I came here hoping to find out what some Church groups and enemies of the Church saw on this map. If it had no value to me, I would sell that information to the one who would pay the most and protect my state."

"And if it did?" That man asked, understanding the story of Minos and with several questions in mind.

After millions of years, he needed to be updated on the current configuration of the Central Continent and the Spiritual World. But he wouldn't ask about things like what the Black Plain Empire was for the moment.

Minos answered him. "I would follow the most appropriate path and not sell such a thing."

That man laughed, seeing the expression on Minos' face.

"Young man, are you in doubt whether this has value?" He asked, but without using his powerful aura to oppress Minos. "That map brought to me, that is very valuable, certainly. But the place where you are currently is extremely rich.

Did you know that there is a preserved seraph feather here? With that feather, you can create a high-level grade-4 weapon, even if you are not a talented blacksmith. But there is much more here. As long as you take risks on the challenges left by the elders, you can obtain resources and riches unmatched in this place.

Even without me, this map would still have a value comparable to a Spatial Kingdom!"

He sighed. "It's just that I couldn't use it to my advantage back then because I lacked some strength, and due to severe injuries I sustained, I needed to sleep for quite a while to recover.

I just didn't expect that no one would wake me up."

Minos looked silently at that man, understanding such a thing but uncertain whether Maximillian would allow him to take something from there or whether he would have the ability to take something. After all, he was only a Spiritual Saint...

Certainly, the island's location would be worth a lot, and he was already thinking of marking that place for future use before he realized Maximillian was alive. But now he didn't know if he would have that alternative.

"I understand the value of this place. But will the senior allow me to do anything? I heard your goal was to take some of the good stuff here to fight Maximus."

Maximillian smiled and turned his back to Minos, walking down the corridors of this place. "That is true. But Maximus is dead. The current situation is different from that of my time.

Speaking of which, how strong is the current Supreme Pontiff? Do you know how old he is?"

"He is at the same level as the senior. But his remaining time in the Spiritual World is not much."

"Good!" Maximillian smiled. 'I will see him in person. If he is talented, I will let him go into seclusion and kill him. After that, I will take control of the Church.'

"Very well, young Minos, after your meritorious deeds, you deserve an award. Freeing me was magnificent, even more so considering how long it's been."

Maximillian said as he walked towards something he wanted to take, even though he no longer had the same plans when he found this place.

"As such, not only will I let you enter this place in the future when you are strong enough to try to gain something for yourself, I will protect you from those who pressured you to come to this place!

I will not allow Spiritual Demigods to act against you within the Central Continent until you are strong enough to protect yourself!

I promise you that!"

...

Chapter 1663 God's Trident



"Uh?" Minos opened his mouth in surprise, not expecting to get protection from this person.

That man laughed out loud and said. "Don't worry, young man. I will not do this with hostile intentions against your empire. In fact, I promise not to interfere with your things.

By the way, where is this so-called Black Plain?" He asked, looking ahead to where the tomb of a God was.

Minos answered. "My state is in the northern part of the continent. After the rise of Maximus and your long sleep, many things happened, and that region weakened.

There was a great migration of the powerful populations from that area away to others, particularly the southern and western regions. Because of this, these regions remained the strongest for millions of years, and the northern region became a weak and underdeveloped place.

In my time, things have been improving, but currently, I am the strongest native of the region."

"Is that true? I didn't expect things to change so much in that area."

Maximillian was surprised, the northern region was one of the strongest in the Central Continent in the remote past due to its proximity to Elves Island. "In any case, it is normal for cycles of strengthening and weakening to happen.

The world depends on it. In the same way that all beings eventually die one day, even spiritual roots have their life cycles, weakening and strengthening.

There are phenomena that even I do not understand behind this... Anyway, let me introduce you to someone." He looked at the golden sarcophagus in front of him, where a 2-meter tall trident stood above the resting place of someone important to the Church.

"Minos Stuart, I present Pope Uranos, the first God of the Spiritual Church." He said as he walked toward that man's legendary weapon. "The legendary blacksmith, creator of the most highly ranked weapon in the history of the Spiritual World, the Trident of God!"

Minos saw that golden weapon, which emitted an unmistakably powerful spiritual fluctuation.

As he placed his hands around that weapon, Maximillian said to Minos. "This weapon cannot be classified. It is stronger than a high-level grade-4 weapon, so if there were a higher classification, it would be grade-5.

But we can't say that since no other blacksmith has reached level 100 to help rank this item. Hence, it can only be considered the peak of what we have.

That is the most powerful weapon in the world!"

As he spoke, his powerful spiritual energy began to surge violently in the surroundings as his Soul Avatar appeared to Minos.

Immediately upon sensing those powerful spiritual fluctuations, Minos stepped back as he saw six black wings appearing on the back of that soul projection.

Along with those wings, a black crown was on his head, while the armor on that spiritual body looked as real as the one Minos had on his body.

As the cultivator grew stronger, their avatar became more and more realistic, becoming more like their real form, something necessary to expose a cultivator's ultimate power.

Minos saw that and remembered the giant body in his Spatial Kingdom.

'Are we descendants of race 99? Or several of the 101 extraordinary races?' He clenched his fists, understanding why humans relied so heavily on the avatar and why this was their strongest form.

As he thought about this, Maximillian made great force, making the surroundings shake, but with nothing in that building showing it was breaking in the face of this man's powers.

"Aaaagh!" He shouted as he felt the weight of that divine weapon, possibly the greatest creation in this world.

But after sleeping for 5,000 years, his body had become stronger, and at the peak of level 99, there weren't many restrictions in that place to prevent him from acquiring that weapon.

The one he stole was a God, but God had not been in this world for millions of years. Even his remnant was not powerful enough to make this man suffer.

But not only that, it was not such a God's intention that his divine weapon should stay in this dark place forever and ever. On the contrary, he was hoping that someone worthy would find it and use it someday.

After sensing the powerful soul of this man, the remnant did not make Maximillian's situation any more difficult than it should be.

Amidst this, he looked at Minos from inside that sarcophagus, the one responsible for the name of this area.

'This young man... Sigh, too bad he's still too weak.' The soul fragment of that God slowly faded away, lamenting, for Minos had been born at the wrong time.

Finally, after a few minutes, Maximillian stopped screaming and finally got the recognition of that weapon, feeling less weight to hold it while noticing its extreme power.

Weapons above grade-3 had their own characteristics. That trident, in particular, could summon part of the sea and use its power in favor of its user!

Maximillian smiled upon feeling that, as his spirit soared and he gave a long victorious shout!

"Hahaha, now I can finally pursue my goals!" He said aloud as Minos watched him return to his original human size.

"Young Minos, my work here is done." He said, looking down at his trident.

"What do you intend to do now? For that matter, where are we? This place must have changed position after my arrival."

"We are in the central part of the Ancestral Sea," Minos replied, imagining the chaos this man would bring to the Central Continent with so much power and that weapon in his hands.

'Never mind. That's none of my business. If he keeps his promise, I'll be fine!' He then said. "Since I am not strong enough to take anything from this place, I want to return to my empire. Unfortunately, that beast destroyed my yacht earlier, so I don't know how to get back..."

"Hmmm, I'll go with you. In return, I want you to update me on the current situation on the continent and the Church.

You said your wife is part of the Church, yes? Then you should know enough to bring me up to date."

"I will do my best." Minos quickly agreed, feeling this would indeed be better for him.

"All right, let's get out of this place." He walked toward the exit of the Seraphim Ancient Sarcophagus, not daring to open a spatial crack at that place, as that would be very disrespectful.

Minos followed him silently, listening to some of that man's doubts.

"Young Minos, tell me about the Evergreen Empire..."

As they walked out of that building, they were surprised by two souls waiting for them!

...

Chapter 1664 Minos' Position



As they exited the rectangular building where some of the Spiritual Church's top experts rested, Minos and Maximillian came across two individuals standing outside.

One was the level 99 Demigod, who had run away from there earlier, and the other was the man investigating Minos at the behest of Vico Travisani.

After passing through the City of a Thousand Races, that man had received tips from sea beings who had seen Minos fleeing to the central area of the Ancestral Sea. Following those hints, he had once again noticed the spiritual fluctuations of the young emperor of the Black Plain and came to this place.

He had just arrived there when the level 99 being was about to flee. But upon meeting such a beast, this level 97 man had shown no fear and immediately made a deal with it.

The two wanted to meet the same person, and together, they might have a better chance of getting what they wanted.

The beast wasn't sure if they could beat that human, but its new companion could quickly finish Minos as long as it distracted it for a few fractions of a second. That's why it was there even though it had run away earlier!

"Hmm? Are you still here, beast?" Maximillian looked at that creature in its humanoid form, ignoring the mere level 97 Demigod.

Meanwhile, Minos was watching that person watching him intently, wondering that he must have left traces behind even though he had been careful.

'Damn it! Someone knows I came to this place!' He thought as he clenched his fists.

But Minos identified where that person was coming from by his armor. "Senior Maximillian, this human belongs to the Eastern Empire, an enemy of the Spiritual Church in the present times. He is here to kidnap or kill me because I came here to free you."

"Oh?" Maximillian looked at that human, the first enemy of his Church he had encountered since he fell asleep in that place.

Meanwhile, that level 97 Demigod was extremely shocked by Minos' company, finally believing that beast's words.

'Where did this person come from? Does he belong to the Church? Impossible, I know all the elders of the cursed Spiritual Church, and there is no one like him in that organization!' That man from Vico couldn't understand Maximillian's origin.

There shouldn't be anyone else at level 99 in the Spiritual Church. In fact, in the entire Central Continent, there were only three people at that level.

As much as there were a larger number of level 98 cultivators who could advance to the next level at any time, this man knew the status of each of these experts.

It was not possible that the black-haired, relatively young-looking man was one of these elders, even more so considering where they were!

He then said. "Elder, I don't know where you come from, but this young man has committed a terrible crime." He decided to speak before anything else happened. "He has found a lost item from the Spiritual Church, something that high-level grade-4 seers think would initiate a time of chaos on the continent.

Please don't stand in our way. Our issues are only against him, someone trying to destroy peace on the continent with his petty actions."

Maximillian laughed upon hearing that, imagining that his plans would succeed. Otherwise, the seers would not have predicted the chaos upon the continent.

"It looks like fate is on my side anyway, haha." He commented aloud, liking that very much.

His interest was to command the Spiritual Church. But not only that, he wanted to start expanding the Church to the rest of the continent, something the organization had given up doing even before his time to avoid bloody wars across the continent.

But this man wanted to have this whole world under his dominion and to do this, he first had to conquer the continent he came from!

Those two noticed the strangeness in Maximillian's behavior and frowned.

"Chaos? A little chaos is good for you!" He said to those two as he moved his trident forward, showing those two that supreme weapon.

The two put on their combat positions as they glared at that weapon, noting how special it was.

'What the fuck is that? What's up with that weapon?' The level 97 man wondered, feeling an incredible power coming from that golden trident.

'He didn't have that earlier...' The beast looked at that and felt a little afraid.

Maximillian seemed so strong moments ago, even without that weapon. But with it, he should be much more powerful!

Maximillian looked at Emperor Stuart, temporarily ignoring those two. "Young Minos, what do you think I should do? You are the leader of a state, right? So what would you do in my place?"

"Senior Maximillian, if I were you, I would kill this level 97 man. He will be your enemy one way or another. Allowing him to escape would be a mistake as he would pass this information on to the strongest person on the mainland.

As for this beast, I would turn it into my mount. It is very powerful and can help you in marine actions." Minos replied with sincerity.

"Wretched Stuart!" That man from the Eastern Empire cursed at Minos, seeing how low this fellow was.

"You are a blood-addicted little bastard, Minos! We thought we could be friends, but you want the whole continent for yourself!" He shouted. "Senior, I don't know who you are, but this wretch is not a good thing! Don't believe him. He has for countless times deceived people and then taken over the lands of his deceived ones!"

Maximillian looked at Minos and heard this emperor speaking. "That is true, but the elder of the Travisani family ignores that these people have always been my enemies, senior. I have never acted against an ally out of pure interest.

In any case, I just took advantage of a few opportunities that arose, no big deal."

Maximillian would not feel that Minos was his competitor and that this young man would turn against him one day. That would be absurd to think since this young man was only a Spiritual Saint, and he was already at the absolute peak of the Spiritual World.

If one day Minos became a level 99 Demigod, by this time, he would be a God!

So he ignored that man's protests and decided to act.

Maximillian pointed his trident in that man's direction and made his Soul Avatar appear, showing the unmistakable wings to that man from the Travisani family.

When he saw that, he turned even paler with fear, noticing that the Church had someone so strong hiding and that Minos Stuart really was acting in concert with that organization.

'Shit! I have to warn the...'

Chapter 1665 Dark Angel



Unfortunately for this man, just as he was thinking of doing something to alert his leader, the golden trident flashed across his body as Maximillian appeared beside him, smiling.

The level 99 beast saw that and realized its thoughts of returning to this place for revenge had been futile.

"Tsk! If you were so weak, why did you come here?" This creature looked at the level 97 human, who now had bulging eyes, dying at Maximillian's hands.

Angel's Domain!

While holding his opponent's body, Maximillian activated the domain ability of his soul technique, causing a sphere of darkness to appear in the surroundings, covering up the area where they all stood.

As he felt himself within Maximillian's Dark Angel domain, Darren suddenly noticed his strength diminishing, as a pull seemed to hinder him in trying to get away from that man.

Minos felt none of it as he watched the decisive action of that level 99 Demigod, who was as strong or stronger than Henricus Longus when that God had not yet reached level 100.

'Maximillian is a monster.' He cautiously looked at this man's dark avatar as he wondered how terrifying his time must have been. 'If he's that good, imagine how strong Maximus must not have been?

Maximus beat Maximillian before he became a level 100 cultivator, so his power was far superior to this man's.'

Amidst this, Maximillian looked in the direction of that beast and said. "I allowed you to leave, but you chose to stay. Now I will not allow you to leave as you wish."

"What do you want? I will never become your mount!" As it felt pressure on itself, Darren said, afraid of Maximillian's trident.

Darren could feel if that injured it, its body would not recover even with 50,000 years of seclusion!

If it were injured, the only way for it to recover would be to advance to level 100!

But advancing to that level wasn't easy, even when one was in its best state...

So it wanted to avoid that!

Maximillian laughed and said. "Indeed, a beast of your level could not accept a humiliation of that level.

Young Minos is a bit emotional and has suggested something out of reality. But he is not entirely wrong, beast. If you want to survive, you will have to serve me.

I do not order you to become my mount. Just follow my words and rules. I won't limit you too much, but occasionally, I will give you missions to be accomplished at sea."

Darren gave that being an ugly look, feeling humiliated.

"What's up, beast? What's it going to be? Would you rather die here or become my subordinate?" Maximillian released the body of the level 97 man and focused all his attention on Darren while aiming his trident at that creature's chest.

"What alternative do I have? Of course, I will accept!" That beast lowered its spirit, feeling the mistake it had made.

But at the peak of level 99, it couldn't risk its thousands of years of cultivation now. All it could do was step back and obey that man as it ran after its advancement to level 100.

'I will obey you for the moment, human. But once I become a God, I will devour your body!' It thought as Maximillian also lowered his spirits, smiling at getting such a strong helper so easily.

If this beast were a level 99 human cultivator, he would have had difficulty overpowering it. That was because humans were focused on soul power, something more challenging to fight against than physical power, the focus of these creatures like Darren.

So it was easier for a human to dominate a beast at their level than against a human.

Of course, if the human let the beast get too close to them, this would also mean a significant risk of it mortally wounding them due to the physical capacity of these beings, something ordinary humans could not compare to.

But Maximillian was physically and spiritually extraordinary, so he could dominate this being at his level with relative ease.

The God's Trident in his hands had also helped him to frighten that creature, which, even though weaker, could have given this man now on Minos' side a little more trouble.

"Haha, beast, what's your name? You won't regret joining me!" Maximillian exclaimed as he landed beside Minos, just a few feet from that being. "On my side, you can conquer this entire world!"

"My name is Darren. As for conquering this world, I doubt we can do that, even if we combine our forces." It said, a little depressed as it looked at Minos angrily, for a mere Spiritual Saint had put it in this situation. "There are many level 99 elders among the strongest tribes in the world today.

Since there is no God in our world, the battle for supremacy will be bloody like never before in history."

"Perfect. I awakened at just the right time!" Maximillian thanked Minos once again, patting this young man on the back.

He then sealed his agreement with Darren with a single handshake.

Level 99 Demigods didn't need spiritual judges to seal their agreements. They had cultivation comprehensions so high that they could use the heavens as a witness to their commitments and validate an Invisible Contract with a mere handshake!

After confirming such a thing, Maximillian looked at Darren and asked. "By the way, why were you after a level 77 young man? How did you end up against each other?"

"It tried to devour me," Minos said.

Darren sighed. "This human seemed very talented. Even though he is only a Spiritual Saint, he can manipulate space."

"Oh? Is that true?" Maximillian liked what he heard, finding it interesting to meet someone so unique just after waking up.

"Yes, I have subtle space control. But it needs to develop a lot to compete with the powers of real Spiritual Sages." Minos didn't hide it.

"That's good. When you grow up, I'll give you some services." Maximillian commented before opening a spatial crack and looking at Darren. "Come along with me. I have some business to take care of, but I want you to accompany me for now. I will release you after that."

"OK."

"All right, let's go to the northern region!" He said as he took Minos by one of his shoulders, intending to update himself on the continent's affairs in that young man's empire.

And so the three disappeared from that island. At the same time, beings from the area would not dare to approach that place, afraid of what had made high-level Spiritual Demigods fight in that area.

Even a level 98 elder, the strongest one around, would not dare to go out and observe that place, feeling that it might die like the level 97 elder who had disappeared moments ago.





Meanwhile, in the Black Plain Empire...

Dry City was still in a tense atmosphere with the presence of the Travisani family men locally.

The Crown Prince and his two guards had not been causing a stir in the city. In fact, they rarely left where they were living locally. But even when they walked the local streets, they didn't get into trouble, nor did they cause trouble.

But even living peacefully in this place, they made everyone in this city live their days in tension, fearful of what might happen in the future.

Most of the population was confident in Minos, but these were Demigods, people at the peak of the world!

So the doubts they had in themselves were not small. Daily, they wondered where the empire would reach, whether Minos would still be their sovereign leader and whether the opportunities would be the same.

They would not leave this place since there was no better and safer one for them. Even with the threat of Demigods, for them, the empire's situation was at least better than any other state in this vast world.

In any other state, there would be less risk of powerful enemies upsetting the order of things. But in any other domain, there would be much more competition, the opportunities for weak and low-talented people would be less, and dangers would be everywhere.

In the Black Plain Empire, as long as one used the official roads, traveling was very safe because all the beasts in that state were subordinates of the emperor and only acted within areas he allowed.

But elsewhere in the Spiritual World, one could never be that safe traveling because the state did not dominate all the beasts in its territory, which led to a lot of insecurity for weak people traveling.

So even though the current Black Plain had many uncertainties, this place was still the best in the world for the natives of this region and also those migrants coming from Rosser, Albano, Vogel, Blackrock, and the Flaming Empire.

That alone was why the local development and growth continued despite threats as great as those three.

They could see the reason for this and were naturally impressed with what Minos had built in this place.

"As weak and undeveloped as this territory is, it is impressive." Vico's heir commented to his men as he ate and watched this city from the top of the Four Seasons Hotel seat.

Those two men looked at the surroundings of this beautiful city and could not disagree.

"If this place were on the same level as our state, the name of this Minos Stuart would be etched in the history of the Spiritual World." The level 97 man said, agreeing with his superior.

"Unfortunately for him, that will never happen." The other, level 98, said, looking at the First Prince. "Your Highness should not give this place so much thought.

As much as he has built something amazing, it will only sustain itself if he stays here and continues to develop. But that certainly won't happen, so this place could become impoverished again in a decade or two."

"That makes sense, but..."

As the Crown Prince went on speaking, suddenly, a spatial crack opened up above Dry City in a position he could see from his room.

Not only did he notice this, but the other two High-level Demigods noticed this, realizing someone was coming.

So when Minos appeared coming out of that wormhole, they immediately moved.

"Minos!"

"Haha, he's finally here!"

But before they could reach Minos, Darren, and Maximillian appeared behind Emperor Stuart.

After departing the Ancestral Sea through a wormhole made by Maximillian, they reached the Black Plain Empire in an area near the capital of the Brown area. From there, Minos created a wormhole of his own and directed his group to Dry City.

When they arrived there, Maximillian and Darren looked around with interest, seeing the home of this young prodigy. But both soon noticed powerful auras in the surroundings, forces beyond what Minos had said existed in his territories.

"Young Minos, it seems you have some visitors," Maximillian commented as he looked in the direction of where the three Demigods would appear 3 seconds after his speech.

Minos frowned his eyebrows and soon felt three powerful auras from people he did not know.

Then he saw the faces of those men already looking strangely at him.

"Who are you?" The level 98 man stood before the prince and questioned those two.

Even if he were to count all the level 99 experts, it would not be difficult for this man to name several of their names and characteristics. Hence, seeing two of these peak experts next to Minos, that man was surprised, not knowing either of them.

Sea beasts were rarer to be seen on land, so those of that origin were harder to know. Hence, those people not recognizing Darren was no big deal. But not knowing anything about that man, a human, was clearly a problem they could not ignore.

They had been to the Divine Continent dozens of times and received regular reports on the status of the local powers, especially their leaders. But suddenly, someone at level 99 whom they didn't know had appeared in front of them next to Minos Stuart.

This immediately worried the two guards of the Crown Prince of the Eastern Empire!

Darren remained silent, not daring to say anything for the moment, while Maximillian looked at those three curiously. But since he was in Minos' territory, he decided not to interfere until the other side acted, just as he had promised.

'Let's see how he handles this situation...'

Minos then said. "I am the one asking who you are. You are on my territory without my permission, unlike my fellow visitors. Therefore, you should identify yourselves!"

The Crown Prince of Vico narrowed his eyes at the sudden appearance of two Demigods at the same level as his father. Still, he gathered his courage and stepped forward.

"Minos Stuart, I am Janus Travisani, First Prince of the Eastern Empire. I am here on behalf of my father, Vico Travisani, to accompany you to our state. He wishes to see you urgently."

"Oh? The Travisani family, huh?" Minos saw that he would have trouble with that family from today on, even if that Demigod's death were not related to him in the future. "Well, I refuse to go to your state now. But, who knows, in 30 or 40 years, I might make that trip."

"Minos, you misunderstand. We are not here to..." Janus was about to speak, but the level 97 man interrupted him.

Chapter 1667 The New Reality Of The Black Plain Empire



"It seems they want to take you by force, young Minos," Maximillian said, realizing this young man's situation.

This Demigod looked into the eyes of that level 93 young man and questioned. "Is that because of young Minos's recent trip?"

'Don't answer, Your Highness.' One of those guards advised Janus.

Maximillian moved a little closer to those three and made his mighty aura appear for all the millions of inhabitants in that city to notice his presence.

'Level 99?'

'Incredible!'

'This time, we will surely be destroyed!'

'What's going on? Why are so many experts searching for our city?'

"Is this the end?"

Citizens around Dry City began to worry, fearful, as they sensed Maximillian's terrifying aura.

Meanwhile, the strongest in the government and Minos' family were already moving toward the location of those people, sensing that he was among the compelling individuals.

"Why are there two level 99 cultivators next to Minos?" Maisie asked her mother as she flew alongside Dillian and some elders from the Gray Clouds Sect.

"I don't know, but it shouldn't be simple." Patience said, worried about the problems her grandson constantly brought.

Meanwhile, each of the high-level Spiritual Saints in the surrounding area had worried expressions, gradually seeing Minos standing next to a spiritual beast in front of three Demigods being oppressed by a single man.

"Answer, or I fear I will not be able to allow you to return from whence you came, even if one of you is a prince!" Maximillian said, causing those three to break into a cold sweat, fearing this man with a golden trident in one of his hands.

Janus was the weakest and most fearful for his life, and right after being oppressed for a few moments, he opened his mouth. "Fine! Okay, I speak!

We are here because of Minos' recent disappearance. We suspect that he found the map of the Seraphim Ancient Sarcophagus and would unleash on that island a great evil upon the continent.

We wanted to stop and punish him for getting involved in something so dangerous to the mainland!"

"So it's related to me after all..." Maximillian lessened the pressure on those three but still maintained something to keep them from running away.

As he was thinking, Janus' two bodyguards had similar thoughts in mind.

'That man is as strong as His Majesty!'

The prince himself was thinking about this, wondering where this man had come from and why he was helping Minos.

Maximillian looked at Minos and asked in his mind. 'They belong to the same force as that man I killed, right? Are they powerful on the continent?'

Minos nodded his head, indicating that it would not be good to kill them there without considering the pros and cons first.

"Very well, I will not harm you now, but you will accompany me for the next few days. Moreover, even if I release you later, understand that acting against this young man's empire will harm you. Minos is my friend, and I will not allow Demigods to act against him while he is so weak."

Maximillian uttered, putting smiles on the faces of many people in the area while those three turned pale.

"From now on, the Black Plain Empire has Maximillian Flamen's protection!"

No one in the surroundings, not even those three, could easily associate this man's name with the historical figure millions of years ago. So that merely gave him a name, something that for some time no one would know of his true origin.

However, one thing was obvious to all those people in Dry City. One way or another, Minos had allied himself with a powerful cultivator, and now his state had the protection of a fearsome level 99 Demigod!

This was an incredible breakthrough, and even those three from the Eastern Empire couldn't help but think twice more about their plans against Minos.

A single level 99 Spiritual Demigod passing through the Central Continent was the equivalent of a 33.3% increase in the number of experts of that level. Even the other three at that level would have to be careful when acting and certainly could not casually target the domains protected by such a person.

But Maximillian was not alone. He had Darren by his side, which immediately made those three feel that even if Vico were there, they would still have to leave Minos free for at least some time longer.

'Damn it! How did he get this?' Janus wondered, staring uglily at Minos as this emperor smiled and waved to his subordinates and relatives.

These people were even more shocked than Janus and his bodyguards since they didn't know what exactly Minos could accomplish on this trip he was making earlier.

As such, this return of his was shocking!

"Senior Maximillian, please release His Highness Janus. Otherwise, I fear that the strongest person on the continent will be involved in a way you may not want..." The level 98 man said, trying to obtain at least the freedom of his young master.

Maximillian heard such a phrase, 'the strongest person on the continent,' and smiled. "I am looking forward to meeting him. But for the moment, I doubt he will come to me. So don't try to play games with me. I can make them suffer in many different ways."

Gulp!

'Let's hold off for now, old Falto.' The level 97 man said in the mental connection with his leader, not liking to oppose that person who seemed to have the support of that level 99 beast.

Then, as they stood in silence, Maximillian turned his attention to Minos and said. "Young man, I will stay in your city for a few days until you update me.

Unfortunately, this fish must not know much about the land situation, and these three are unreliable sources of information."

"The senior is welcome in my city to stay as long as he wants..." Minos smiled, making a gesture of thanks. "In any case, I will have my men gather all the information you need. In the meantime, my family and I can answer your simpler questions."

He then nodded toward the group of the strongest in this city, introducing them to Maximillian.

After Maximillian told Darren to observe those three, he soon followed Minos' group to the imperial palace, where not long after, this fellow introduced him to everyone.

"Folks, this is Maximillian Flamen, Pope Maximus' rival. I found him in the Seraphim Ancient Sarcophagus minutes ago!" Minos said, shocking everyone on his property.

...



"What?"

"Maximillian Flamen?"

"Impossible! He died millions of years ago!"

The people to whom Minos revealed this information were shocked, unable to believe what their leader had just said.

Maximillian was not bothered by the statements of those people, feeling that it was reasonable to doubt this unique achievement in history.

He had been born with a Physique that had blessed him with a variant ability, different from that of his parents and family members. Since he had had no children, this ability had never again appeared in the Spiritual World, and his case was the only one in all known history!

Time arrays, such as the one he had used, even existed and could be developed by some of the most talented high-level grade-4 array masters. But they would not work in the same way that his array had worked for him.

Without adding his innate ability into the equation, the most a person could live extra using one of these arrays would be tens of thousands of years.

As much as that would be a lot, it wouldn't be of much use to most people, which is why this type of device doesn't exist in abundance in the Spiritual World.

To live a few thousand more years would be incredible, but the person who stayed within an area controlled by one of these arrays would not have more time to live. On the contrary, they would have less!

They could live to a later age, but their life would not stop within that area of array influence. But, at the same time, the time lost within it would be spent sleeping, something that could not be considered life.

So his case was unique and could not be replicated, hence the agitation of people in Minos' surroundings!

"How is that possible, Minos?" Maisie asked, looking at that handsome black-haired man, shocked.

"It's complicated... But it is a fact that I found him in the Seraphim Ancient Sarcophagus, and he was the one who created that map." Minos said, bitterly smiling. "And considering his level and techniques, it would be impossible for him not to be who I said he is..."

Anyway, as strange as it is, that's the reality. Questioning it won't get us anywhere other than wasting our time.

This is Maximillian Flamen, a level 99 Demigod. That's all that matters."

Maximillian liked Minos' positioning, seeing that such a young man knew how to adapt to circumstances, even when they were shocking.

'This boy has a future...' He thought as people in the surrounding area held their questions and doubts about how this person was still breathing.

Minos said. "Senior Maximillian is here, and now he can be considered our greatest ally. You heard him earlier. He will protect the Black Plain. So thank him for this stand."

After those words from their sovereign, those people were quick to thank Maximillian, introducing themselves while making themselves available to him, even though they were still so weak.

"You aren't so bad. You won't be able to help me for now, but I will remember your words." He said. "But focus your forces on improving young Minos' state. He has done me a great favor, so I wish the best for this place.

In the future, you may be able to benefit from it, so remain steadfast."

The people there smiled, happy to be on the favorable side of such a powerful man.

Then Maximillian began with his questions. "Well, now that we have met, tell me about the continent. What is the current configuration of these lands like? What are the relevant powers?"

One of the Gray Clouds Sect men then brought up a spirit map in front of that man and began to speak.

"The Central Continent currently has 13 states, most of them are in the western region, the territory that the Church has not been present since the senior's time.

Of those 13 states, the Church has as its declared enemies two empires, both from the western region.

The strongest man on the continent is the leader of one of those states."

As that person spoke, the map changed little by little to a better understanding of that Demigod.

Parts stood out, changing color or increasing or decreasing in size. At the same time, names and small drawings appeared to indicate allied and enemy forces, the presence of relevant groups, etc.

Now and then, other people in that part of the imperial palace would speak, adding information relevant to that man.

Minos would participate in this for a while, also talking a bit about the Black Plain Empire, the Spiritual Church, and the Evergreen Empire.

He didn't hide the previous situations related to this man's map, talking about the Blood Triangle Pirates, the Demigod who had come to Dry City, and also the pressures of the major factions of the Church on his and Gloria's group.

That man listened to everything Minos and his people had to say, interested in the current reality of the continent.

The Central Continent today seemed a bit weaker than in his time.

To give you an idea of the difference in strength, currently, there were only 3 level 99 Demigods native to the area. But in Maximus and Maximillian's time, there were 8 people at that level!

The western region had the same number of experts of that level that existed today. Still, all the other regions had better numbers than today.

Based on this, Maximillian could imagine that not only fewer peak Demigods existed today, the overall number of Demigods in the entire continent should be lower than back then.

On the one hand, this could be considered good since he wanted to conquer this continent. But on the other hand, it was bad as it could mean that the local forces had fallen behind compared to those in the Divine Continent.

Not only peak experts decide things on a war!

This man put this information in his heart for the future and kept updating himself in Dry City.

For the moment, he would only listen to Minos and his staff talking about more general things. But soon, the local government personnel and Church post would bring more detailed information for him to analyze.

Meanwhile, the situation that had happened on the island of the Seraphim Ancient Sarcophagus would soon come to the attention of the Travisani family.

Suddenly, one of the strongest on the continent had been wiped out, having shown no signs of struggle before perishing from this world!

Due to such circumstances, before long, the Travisani family would be on alert for the onset of chaos on the Central Continent!

Chapter 1669 Beginning Of An Age Of Terror



In the Eastern Empire...

Vico Travisani was at the moment settling matters involving his state, the Western Empire, and the Spiritual Church, somewhat customarily, when one of his men arrived agitated at his place about the imperial palace.

"Your Majesty, I bring terrible news!" That level 95 Demigod said while having a solemn expression that was hard to ignore.

Vico immediately put aside the advisors he had with him and looked into the eyes of that subordinate.

He said nothing, and the subordinate soon told what the terrible problem was.

"Elder Daniel is dead! He was killed while traveling through the Ancestral Sea!" That person said all at once, while everyone in that area suddenly changed their expressions.

They all opened their eyes and moved their mouths to form ugly expressions while the tension in the surroundings rose to a scale that low-level Demigods would go berserk just by being there.

Luckily, the weakest one there was level 94 and could withstand the pressure from these men.

Gulp!

"How?"

Someone asked before the emperor voiced his thoughts because the death of a level 97 man was not something that often happened, even considering the entire Spiritual World.

Only a few people were at the final part of the 10th stage. At the same time, most of these people spent their time searching for cultivation items or meditating in their organizations' headquarters.

So confrontations between beings of such great power were rare, which made deaths among these people very infrequent.

Everyone grew old, and eventually, one day, they would die. But such strong experts knew the situation of these individuals around this vast world and knew that Daniel was far from reaching his time limit.

In other words, someone powerful had killed him, probably a level 99 Demigod.

"I don't know, but his body was near the central area of the Ancestral Sea..." That man said as he remembered a piece of information Daniel had sent days

ago. "It seems there was a level 99 elder awakening from its sleep in that area. Maybe Daniel was unlucky and..."

"That's impossible!" Vico exclaimed, shocking everyone with the tone of his voice, capable of making even a level 98 man there tremble. "No level 99 Demigod would act against someone like Daniel without great reason and without giving him a chance.

Besides, Daniel would undoubtedly use my name, which makes it even more unlikely that this was a pure chance encounter with a newly awakened elder."

"But who could be behind it? As far as I know, Daniel didn't have many powerful enemies. Plus, most of them are in the headquarters around Evergreen." One of the strongest in that place said, releasing that information.

"Yes, my men are keeping an eye on the positions of Daniel's enemies in the Evergreen Empire, and they are all stationed at their posts."

"The Western Empire doesn't have many people who would seek his death either..."

Some of those elders commented on the matter, trying to find a likely culprit.

"As far as I know, Daniel was searching for Minos Stuart, right? Did he encounter a problem on his way? That young man would not be able to cause trouble for the elder, but the Seraphim Ancient Sarcophagus was a place where even a God had been buried! It is not simple!"

"But that place has been lost for millions of years... Anything of high rank in that place has already lost some of its properties." Another elder commented.

"Besides, Daniel would be no fool to break into the Church mausoleum casually!"

"The First Elder is correct," Vico said, agreeing with the number two in his state. "Something else must have happened. It must not have been because

of this Minos or some ancient mechanism on that island. That must have been something from some level 99 specialist."

The old man standing to the right of Vico, who had just commented before his boss, remembered the time he had joined this fellow and said. "The prophet back there had said that chaos would be unleashed on the mainland... Did Minos reach that island and unleash the evil that had been predicted?"

Vico became more serious as he heard this, thinking it was possible.

As much as Minos was weak, and he didn't believe in mechanisms capable of easily taking Daniel's life, he didn't doubt that something in that place could release the evil predicted by that prophet.

And this could perhaps explain the unexpected death of a high-level Demigod!

With that in mind, he said not only to the people there but all the Demigods of his forces in the Eastern Empire.

"Everyone be on alert. Starting today, we are in preparation for war!

The Age of Fear has just ended. Now the Age of Terror begins!" He said, using the designations of that ancient prophet, who had told him about relevant things that had not only helped him prepare for calamity in the future but had also given him information that had brought him to his present position.

"Gather all the men together and initiate contact with the powers of the western region. I want them all to prepare for what is about to begin!"

Men hundreds of kilometers away from the empire's capital heard this and swallowed their saliva. Although this was the moment most of them had been preparing for over the last few thousand years, it was also the approaching end for many of them!

In the midst of this, one of Vico's closest asked. "Even the Western Empire?"

Vico replied. "Connect me with Emperor Quinn. I want to meet with him urgently to arrange a temporary peace agreement!"

With that said, everyone who had not yet understood the gravity of the matter immediately swallowed their saliva, hearing such words that had never before been spoken by that man.

In the past 10,000 years, not once had Emperor Travisani even considered making a deal to end the war between his state and the historical enemy of this domain!

Some of those Demigods who heard him had been born in the middle of the war, and upon hearing such a thing, they realized why the elders were so tense when talking about the terrible future that awaited the continent.

With this, the continent would soon face sudden changes in its reality!

Chapter 1670 Visitors



While Vico was preparing for the chaotic future of the Central Continent and Maximillian was updating himself on the situation on his continent, a group of people was arriving on the Black Plain.

After weeks of traveling carefully, without using wormholes that could leave traces challenging to erase, they passed through Cromwell in their carriages.

If Minos were near them in that city they had just entered, he would readily identify the people related to the Goddess of Life he had met in Veora Kingdom.

After his words weeks ago, these people had decided to come to the Black Plain Empire to meet Minos and try to search for information about their ancestor's heritage.

Now in this state, they were learning a little about Emperor Stuart's domain, noticing a somewhat different reality than one might hear outside this area.

There were different rumors regarding Minos' figure and the empire he had built. Some said he was an abomination, others that he was just a talented cultivator among low-level people.

As for his state, this place was usually seen as poor and failing but less bad than it had been before this man's meteoric rise.

These were the rumors, and naturally, they continued many inaccuracies in themselves.

Having passed through Vogel and now in Cromwell, these people had seen and heard different things, more accurate news, but also rumors more favorable to Minos.

There was a cult of the emperor figure in this state, where people, as much as they believed in the Spiritual Church and the spirit of the seraphim, revered the figure of Minos much more.

To hundreds of millions of people in this empire, Minos was a legendary figure who had broken paradigms and would one day still achieve feats to etch his name in the history of the Central Continent.

He was an angel of death to some but a father figure to many others.

Many loved him without even knowing him. When his name was mentioned, passion could be seen in any city in the empire, whether in Vogel, a newly conquered area, or in the inner areas.

Having seen this and noted the quality above what they expected in the innermost area of the empire, those three young nobles could not help but admire this man's accomplishments.

They wanted to take from him what he had gotten from the Goddess of Life, but they couldn't help but understand that Minos hadn't gotten his inheritance from her by luck.

He was very good at what he did!

And so, as they moved along without trying to attract attention from the people in that city, they talked about the person they would soon meet...

"It seems that the empire is currently experiencing a difficult situation... Many Spiritual Sages of high-level powers allied with the Church are interfering in the local situation."

"Will Minos withstand the current pressures?"

"The population thinks so." The level 80 young man said to his lineage companions.

"But it's a surprise how they live under so much pressure... The people of this state are genuinely confident in their leader." The protector of this family, level 85, said as he saw the outskirts of the city they were passing through.

Even though their group was basically made up of high-level cultivators, several of them Spiritual Sages, the people in that city where the strongest were Saints did not show much fear towards them.

This was obviously not because the local powers could handle threats of this level but because of the constant passage of groups like this through cities in the empire in recent years.

Not only were the powers influenced by the major factions of the Church getting involved with the Black Plain Empire, but powers from all over the

continent had also been allowing their organizations to send people to this place.

So the number of Spiritual Sages passing through the region without hiding had increased considerably, and the local population had, in a way, already adapted to the new circumstances of this state.

Noting this, that man couldn't help but point out this fact that demonstrated the local stability in the face of threats at their level.

'If the population and less relevant subordinates act calmly before us, those higher in the local hierarchy will definitely not fear us.' That man thought, feeling that his group would have to be careful.

'Edgar didn't lie. We have to be careful. We can't act violently in this place without incurring great risks!'

"Let's continue our journey to Dry City. But be careful in your words and attitudes. Let's try a peaceful approach with this emperor."

The three had seen and heard enough not to be surprised by this advice and immediately agreed with the words of this subordinate.

...

Meanwhile, on Stone Island...

To the northwest of that territory, Lorelei Stone, currently at level 69, was standing next to members of the Black Plain Army, welcoming someone powerful.

The level 84 shark sent by Minos had finished its journey between that city where it and Emperor Stuart had formed an agreement a few days ago and the beginning of the Black Plain Empire.

The people of this island had already been notified about this shark on Minos' account and were waiting for it on the northwest side of this territory to guide this creature.

Lorelei was no longer so strong, considering the level of the current Black Plain Empire. Still, as the strongest of the family that looked after this area for Minos, she was there to receive this creature.

The shark saw these subordinates of Minos for the first time and once again considered how weak this human's strengths were.

Luckily he had a Spatial Kingdom, so he could still fulfill his promises to this shark.

Because of this, this level 84 creature did not make it difficult and greeted everyone, Spiritual Saints and Spiritual Emperors waiting for it at that meeting point.

After the initial introductions, it asked. "Minos sent me here for me to take the first group that will explore the northeast of the Ancestral Sea. Which of you will come with me?"

Lorelei then said, standing not far from the pier where the ships they would use on this trip were, "All of us, senior. Not all of us will participate in the underwater exploration. Still, we will be with the group to provide support and maintain communication with forces on the mainland.

We also intend to build an underwater base for humans, so even Spiritual Emperors will participate in this journey."

"Very well, I will let you lead the way as I sail below your ships, escorting you."

With that said, it wouldn't be long before this group would depart, beginning the marine exploration of the Black Plain Empire!