

AND THEN **THUNDER.**





Now.

I have moved the families of those who were killed by the assassins to one of the outer provinces.

It's a small vineyard village to the north. It's known for both its beauty and isolation, which gives it a higher likelihood of escaping any future violence should our nation's current state suddenly transition to war.

And I've made sure the families are well provided for. They have been given a generous stipend from your great house.



When you say family, you mean...

Immediate. Fathers and mothers. Sons and daughters.

I want that extended if they so choose.

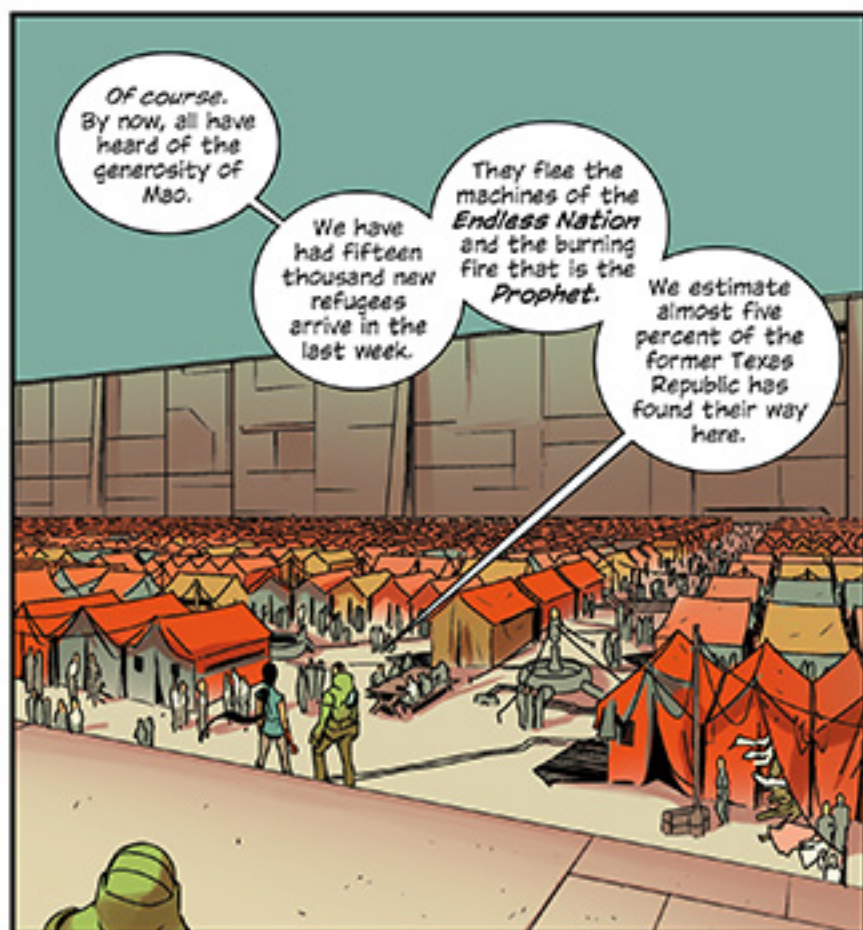
They died for me, First Dragon. See that they are provided with all that they are due.

Of course, Premier.



Sigh.

It seems there are more every day.



Of course. By now, all have heard of the generosity of Mao.

We have had fifteen thousand new refugees arrive in the last week.

They flee the machines of the **Endless Nation** and the burning fire that is the **Prophet**.

We estimate almost five percent of the former Texas Republic has found their way here.



Our doctors and engineers have done good work keeping disease and waste from choking the city.

For now, we keep them fed, but soon, Empress...

You will have hard choices to make.

