

# Welcome to my Ted Talk

**on koben nobles**

where all of the art is done by 2StreetsDown, Azliene, or Pikakus

# What is nobility??? Who is nobility?? Why is nobility??

Nobles are the rank sandwiched between royalty and PEASANTS. They're land ("estate") owners who collect rent from people who live on their land but they don't actually do any landlord work because that's for PEASANTS who are called stewards. But in AA, nobles sometimes own businesses and get involved in industry/decisions made about their land and how to use it. They're usually involved in politics in some way.

How become a noble?? Be or have one of the following:

- rich
- a cool military hero
- a political bigshot
- parents and/or ancestors who were rich and/or cool military heroes
- a royal who hella likes you



Burkhard after he loses all his hair from the stress of the Paul incident, probably

# Ranks

Emperor (or Empress, I Guess...)

Marquess / Marchioness

Earl / Gravina

Burgraf / Burgravin

Baron / Baroness

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Baronet

Knight

Renata....



The Hamburgraf

These titles are hereditary. Your kids' kids' kids will be nobles too! Unless someone like, kills someone or something 🙄 (killing people is not cool and the idea is that nobles are supposed to be cool people)

You did something cool and became a noble, but your kids don't get squat cause you're not *quite* cool enough...

# So wtf happened in this last interval??

<https://www.deviantart.com/2streetsdown/art/Spires-1-Strike-of-Dawn-878321884>

^ READ STREETS' BEAUTIFUL COMICS 1 through 3 and then read the rest of this slide for the **quicknotes** explanation

So you know how Aurea and Atros are fighting right-- well apparently Emperor Artur and Empress Adele had A Plan just for this (???why???we may never know) and so they went to the citadel with their nerd crew to fight the gods

BUT SARAIN CRASHED THE PARTY AND WAS LIKE “Heyyy, could you not?”

So Sarain was messing up all the royals’ plans but

**LO AND BEHOLD, THERE WAS ONE MORE ROYAL!**



Heyyy, could you not?

Sigmund (who had stowed away for the trip despite being told to Stay At Home) swooped in and saved his mom but then kind of effed up so his dad had to save him **WHICH COST HIM (THE EMPEROR OF KOBEN...) HIS LIFE...**

# OK but what does that have to do with the nobles

So the emperor is dead(?) now, which means

IT'S TIME FOR A POWER STRUGGLE™

After Sigmund goes back to Koben, he enters Full Teenage Angst Mode and refuses to talk to anybody (understandably cuz y'know, dad dead, mom in coma, Rough Time)

But that gives the opportunity for a power struggle since Sigmund isn't officially crowned as Emperor yet. It starts with Sigmund appointing his ex-girlfriend **Luciana Kaspar's mom** as the head of the **High Council** because he feels guilty for having been a shite boyfriend, so when she asks for the favor he obliges.



Don't be a bad boyfriend or else you'll have to give your exes political favors

# What is the High Council

Basically the advisors and people who make decisions- think the Cabinet of a government.

This lady (Luciana's mom) is now the head of the High Council, so effectively the most powerful in government after Sigmund who is upset in his room so... he's not doing much governing...



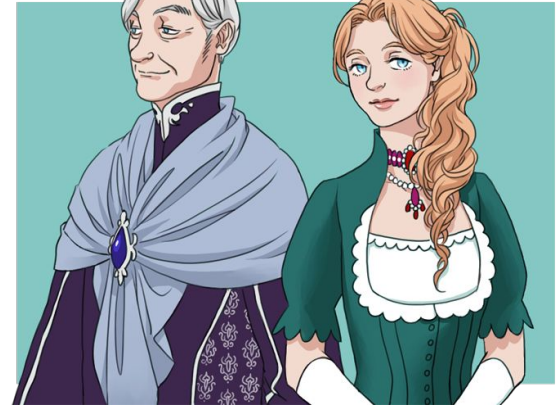
# Three Factions! Here's some background on one!

Remember that one guy, Egon Schiltenbrandt, the Marquess of Alden who tried kidnapping Sigmund? He used to be the second most powerful person in the Empire before Renata, but he flew too close to the sun and tried to (and successfully in one case) kill both of the princes to basically incite a coup.



FABIAN

Anyway, his plot was revealed after Sigmund was rescued, so he was executed and his family/faction were kinda sorta taken down a few pegs.

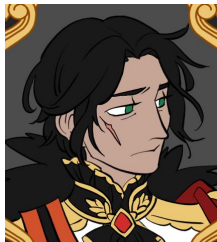


Guy on the left is super dead, his daughter is super in Bratkovice or something

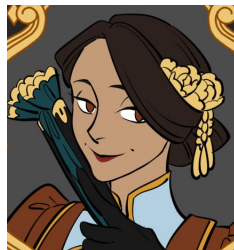
# You keep talking about Factions but wtf are they



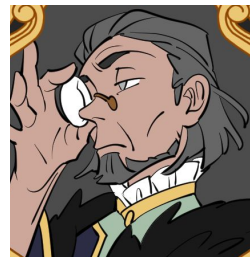
Roman, Sig's uncle  
Standing in for Sig  
as faction head



The man of the hour!



Renata, Luciana and  
Antonia's mom



Ortwin, Egon's  
half-brother

## ROYAL FACTION:

You think the Roenachs should (continue to) be the rulers of the Koben Empire.

You are one of the following:

- Like the royals
- Are a nerd in the Wissen Fellowship
- Like INNOVATION and TECHNOLOGY
- Are really loyal???
- Like the status quo


## KASPAR FACTION:

You think the Kaspars should be the rulers (or main influence of governance) of the Koben Empire.

You are one of the following:

- Believe that they are the OG royals, from Droste (they're descended from 'Old Royalty', pre-Koben)
- Uhh... don't like either the Royals or the Schiltenbrandts
- Don't like the status quo

## SCHILTENBRANDT FACTION:

You think the Schiltenbrandts should be the rulers/main influence of the Koben Empire (but why though ) 

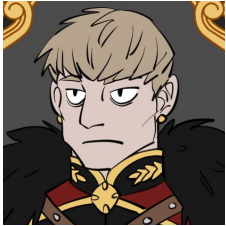
You are one of the following:

- An old noble, but not like, Kaspar level old because that goes Too Far for you
- A business minded person
- Really lucky that Artur didn't kick you to the curb (aka: Bratkowice) already



# So then the Scandal Games happened!

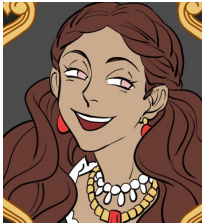
Basically everyone's characters (or NPCs) chose a faction to support. Then we all went about trying to uncover secrets and use them/ the other people to sway power in favor of our respective factions.



This is Hartmut. He has issues.



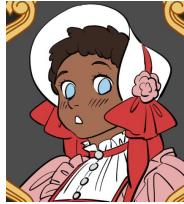
This is Ermentrud. Her issue is Hartmut.



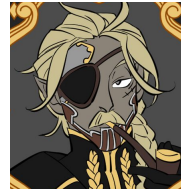
This is Debora. She IS the issue.



This is Susanna. She doesn't know there is an issue.



Rosalie, Sigmund's childhood friend but no longer cuz he did something and spooked tf outta her



This is Pascal, head honcho of the Air Force. He's cool, I just wanted u to look at him

Long story short, Sigmund tried to come out of his shell and was doing better after awhile of angsting, but by then it was too late-- Renata's plan to take over was pretty much set in stone. **Renata gets help from her aunt** and the soldiers who are loyal to her-- she's the **Field Marshal** (AKA head honcho) of the Koben Army:



"ogre in stilettos"

# They kidnap Sigmund and lock him up

and he gets so sad that he commits suicide,  
which makes Renata the Next Best Empress



Nal-voyant 07/15/2021

It's ok Sig isn't really gone



Nal-voyant 07/15/2021

Streets would never hurt tai



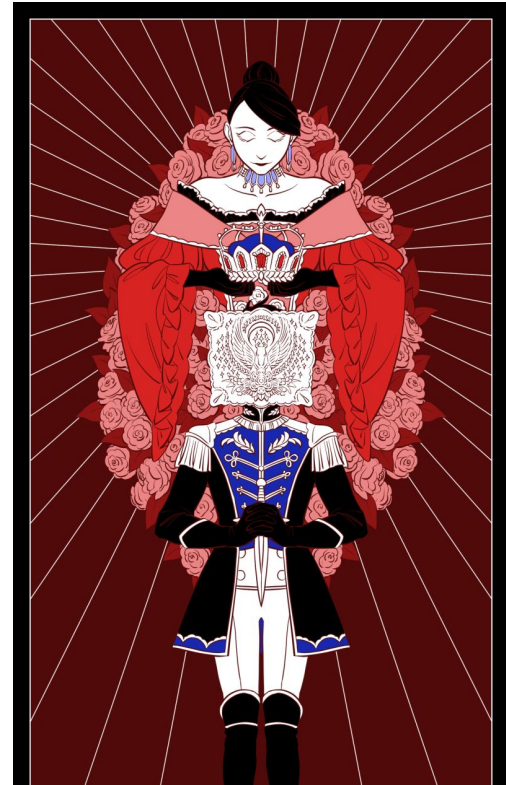
Azliene 07/15/2021

Streets would fucking stab us for breakfast



2FeetUnder 07/15/2021

aren't i always hurting tai



taierd of ded princes 07/15/2021



# WAIT. HAVE YOU HEARD OF PAUL LOTTING THO?

This is **Paul Lotting**, a famous concert pianist in Koben and our **Oppa**. Our fandom calls ourselves the **Plotters**, and he is perfect in every way.

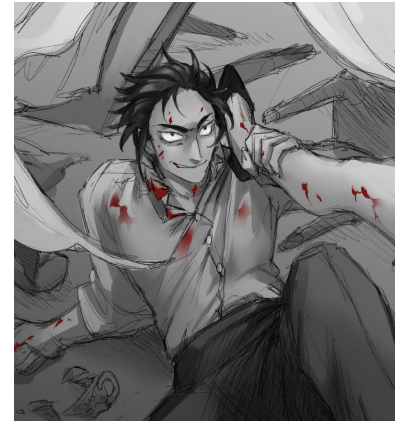
He not only comes with amazing visuals, musical skill, AND acting skill, but he ALSO is a fully equipped ASSASSIN who escaped CERTAIN DEATH through the sheer power of *our* fandom.

Can YOUR kpop star try (~~and fail~~) to kill his enemies?! Didn't think so.

Join the Plotters today!\*

\*he's currently MIA after a botched attempt at killing Tao's henchwoman, player character Lily)

"P.Lotting  
Baronet of Shady"



He gave it his best shot ok



You may not like it,  
But this is peak  
performance

# OK anyway, so then Renata becomes Empress

We are all SAD that Sigmund is dead, we're about to have a **FUNERAL** and then Renata's **CORONATION** and we're SAD but then THIS HAPPENS:

<https://www.deviantart.com/2streetsdown/art/The-Empress-Dilemma-886094277>



# THEN THIS HAPPENS

Part 1:

<https://www.deviantart.com/2streetsdown/art/The-Prince-s-Dilemma-887254395>

Part 2:

<https://www.deviantart.com/2streetsdown/art/The-Prince-s-Choice-887265245>

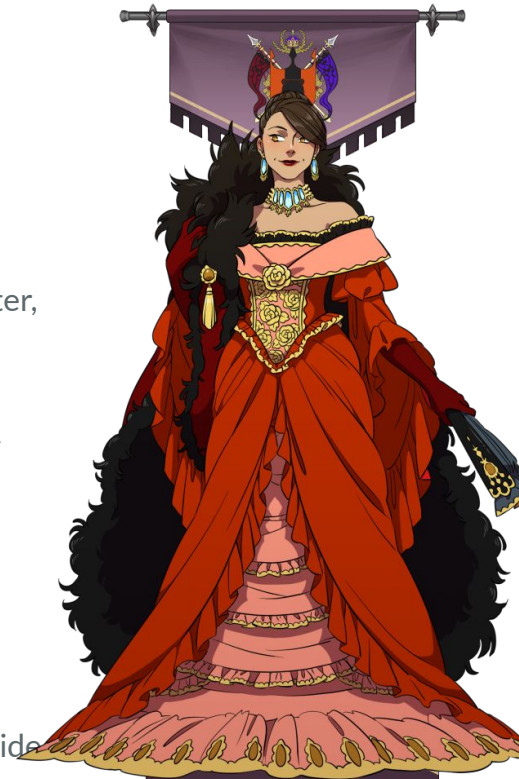


# So basically...



NAME  
LUCIANA KASPAR  
RACE  
HUMAN  
AGE  
21  
CLASS  
MAGE  
OCCUPATION  
CROWN PRINCESS

- Renata is still the Empress of Koben (FOR NOW...🙄🙄) because Sigmund is a cute peasant boy on a shounen adventure now
- Babysitters for hire along the route between Koben and Iadlain should apply on the AA discord- please include resume, cover letter, and letter of reference.
  - Dark elves preferred, large cup size a bonus
  - No Kaspar faction allowed
  - Must have at least 18 years of experience of Participating in Society
  - I'm just kidding (kind of)
- Luciana is the Crown Princess and is torn about her role in how things turned out
- Head of the Imperial Guard Remis is probably fired...? Retiring?? Cause like... /gestures at Sig getting kidnapped
- There are rumors that Sig's death wasn't suicide but rather an inside job. #ConspiracyTheories
- Also Renata has three Legendary Treasures from the Citadel that supposedly grant her Cool Powers: Mantle of the Sovereign, Horn of the Herald, and Helm of the Hunter (don't ask me what they do, IDK either lol)



NAME  
Renata Kaspar  
RACE  
Human  
AGE  
43  
CLASS  
Ranger  
OCCUPATION  
Empress of Koben

THE END!

# Optional Reading: Other Nobles\*

presented in order of submission to scandal makers

\*some characters are not actually nobles but just closely related

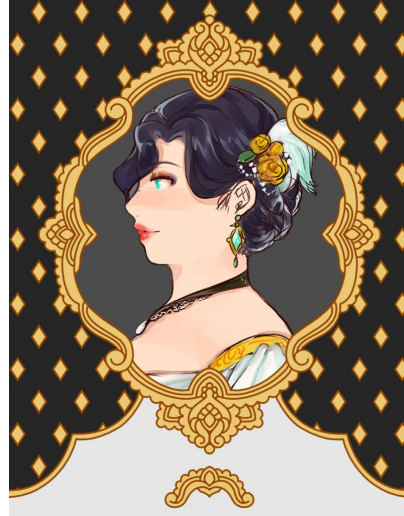


taiwonton

**Balthazar Siegel**  
Earl of Helder

Royal Faction

Member of the High Council(?) Formerly Schiltenbrandt faction, but was a close friend of the princes and switched to Royal. Has mostly disappeared from public eye after Sigmund's "death".



Pikakus

**Vienna Voeglin**  
(nee Zimmerman)

Royal Faction

Married to Daelan Voeglin, the fifth son of an Earl. Stuck between her husband's Royalist Faction ties and her family's rising Kaspar ties. A schemer with her siblings' best interests at heart.



djoghurt

**Clotaire Lever**  
Steward of Lutzelsee

Royal(?) Faction

Son of a Baron who had his title stripped. Later saved Prince Sigmund from critical injuries, and won a stewardship. Lost ground in the scandal games, but was recently approached by the new Empress...



Azliene

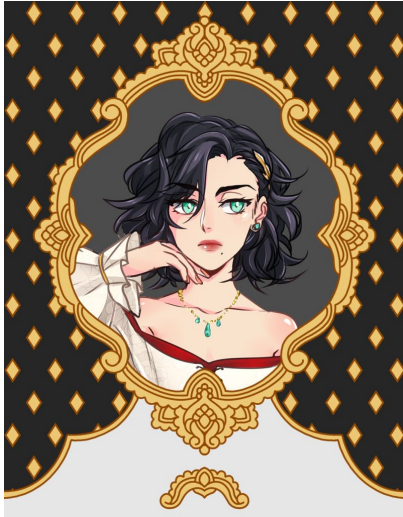
**Aeron Rotherzog**  
Earl of Erzthal

Royal Faction

Member of the High Council. A distant relative of the Roenachs and former Viceroy of Valsk/General in the Army. Not handling Sigmund's "death" well, and demands answers/justice.



# Optional Reading: Other Nobles

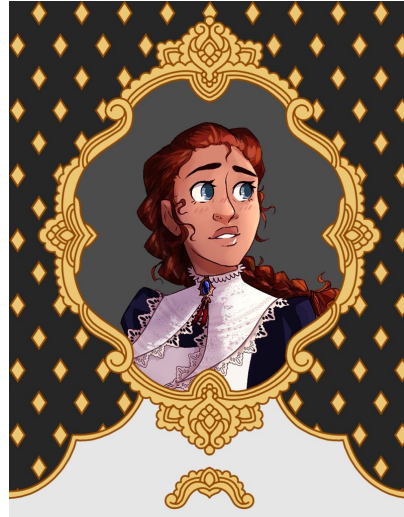


taiwonton

Elizabeth "Elise" Zimmerman  
Daughter of the Burgraf of Edelstein

Kaspar(?) Faction

A former friend of both Luciana and Sigmund, jilted by the latter. Has a tentative understanding/courtship with Clotaire that her siblings encouraged, but her parents do not approve of.

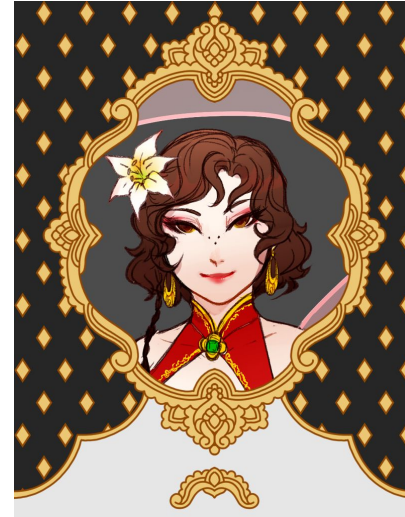


MangaAnimelover

Silaya "Aya" Nairavfund  
Maid to Princess Luciana  
Former Valet to Prince Sigmund

Royal Faction

Sigmund's former valet. Was immediately transferred to serve as Princess Luciana's maid after the power swap, and kept in the dark about Sigmund's kidnapping.



Pikakus

Lily Zhao  
Baroness of Shaedich  
Field Marshal Tao's Personal Secretary

Kaspar Faction

The assassin Paul Lotting attempted to kill-- she preempted him and captured him instead. While he escaped from captivity, she received his title, land, and house after the power swap. Does Tao's dirty work.



faithom

Klaus Zimmerman  
Heir to the Burgraviate of Edelstein

Kaspar Faction

A notorious womanizer who has, for better or worse, caught the attentions of the new Princess, Antonia. Assistant to the Navy Admiral and an avid baker, 'rejects' noble society despite reaping the benefits of his status.

# Optional Reading: Other Nobles



taiwonton

Lars Siegel  
Acting Earl of Heldar

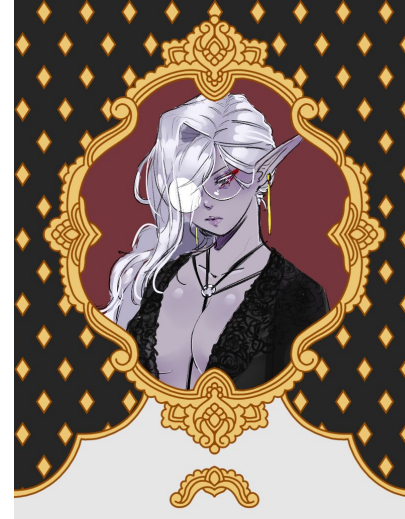
Kaspar(?) Faction



mai--flower

Audrey Lockwood  
Burgravin of Chalturne

Royal Faction



und34dmuffin

Katherine Overture

-

Royal Faction



lirinium

Noah Thelrin  
Imperial Guard

(?) Faction

A friend of Luciana's now serving the new Princess as an Imperial Guard. Former Koben Army officer. Had no clear faction allegiances, so his brother Balthazar has suddenly left most duties as Earl to him for now.

# Here is a link to ALL the Koben Nobles including NPCS

[https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1mX0m\\_KBR6U9b6oIUqBlvxhvcsAFw2P6PP7goedxdzpc/edit#gid=0](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1mX0m_KBR6U9b6oIUqBlvxhvcsAFw2P6PP7goedxdzpc/edit#gid=0)

Good luck parsing that lol