THE CITY OF MANY NATIONS: THE TANGIER INTERNATIONAL ZONE, 1952

Tangier, the gateway to Africa and the Mediterranean, is a cosmopolitan and multicultural gem on the southern side of the Strait of Gibraltar. For thirty years, an uneasy truce between would-be conquerors of this city has held, and power has been shared by diplomats representing several powers in what is officially called the Tangier International Zone. Recently, however, the situation has grown dire. Native Tanjawis have always felt ignored by an administration that they view as corrupt, incompetent, and unrepresentative of Tangier's population. Many have taken note of the anti-colonial movements spreading across North Africa and are organizing to demand their freedom. Conversely, the newer residents, Western intellectuals, are fighting for the city to retain its internationalist, Bohemian culture, with or without a pseudo-colonial administration. On the other hand, old rivalries in the region pose a continued threat to Tangier. The Sultan of Morocco, while nominally a French subject, has begun to encourage nationalists, who call for reunification with Morocco. All the while, tensions between Francoist Spain and other western nations remain high, and the threat that this mutual animosity could grow into a larger conflict remains ever-present. To address the growing problems our city faces, a committee has been convened. This group of international dignitaries, would-be independence leaders, cultural leaders, and businessmen has been given the authority to determine the future of Tangier. The task is yours to weather the growing storm... or help usher it in.

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