

The Testament

Second Moot (Albion), 1107 – Opening Edition

Postulations On Pyro-People

By Pillow the Hypothesiser

Didn't Cosaint look nice at the Fayre, standing on the covered stage, smiling and tall in front of all you miserable beggars as he spread his message of optimism and hope? I think there's a message there for all of us: Buy An Umbrella.

Anyway, the truly observant amongst you might have spotted the occasional mobile campfire wandering around during the festivities. Some you might even have been among those eager masses that huddled around them for warmth, prodding them with weapons to stir up the blaze. Seriously guys, just bring a blanket – it's so much easier.

These Fiery visitors were found by Those Who Knows to be a wee bit corrupted (as well as hungry for your tasty magics). What's more, a friendlier emissary of Damp explained to us that the Plane of Fire was growing in power and throwing the others out of balance. Now why would that be, you probably don't ask?

Anyone remember that little hoo-hah at the Gathering last year? The battle to defeat the Ancient Dragons of Evil, Fire, Fate and Time? Well for those who care about scores, we only managed half the job. Fire and Evil got away to we know not where. Hmm, corrupted Ancient of Fire unaccounted for, Plane of Fire being infused with corrupting power. Make the connection, or moo like a cow!

("But what about Evil?" I hear you murmur disinterestedly. Everyone enjoy the new game at the Fayre called 'Spot the Surprisingly Powerful Zombies'..?)

So where does that leave us? (Next Headline: Testament Article Poses Dozens of Irritating Questions. Does Anyone Care?) We have a possible lead on our two missing Ancients. We have corrupted Fire Elementals popping out and trying to steal magics to further feed their Plane. We have Earth Elementals being forced into this

Plane by the expansion of Fire, and not being too happy about it. We have very little idea of how to deal with the problem, and we have the whole happy hierarchy of Creation waiting to descend on us. Here we go again!

Anyway, some other things probably happened as well. The Archers had a tiff from some dryads on the pull; the Armourers invited the Bards to a party, but forgot to put them on the guest list; games were played and sogginess made. And now we all get to enjoy the repercussions. Have fun and/ or die people, but do it with style!

Welcome to Albion

Free peoples of Erdreja,

It is my honour to welcome you to Albion on behalf of his gracious majesty King Edward Pendragon. Please accept our hospitality and take this opportunity for diplomacy and rebuilding after the tribulations of the last year.

This weekend we dedicate a new cathedral to The Trinity that we might better honour our ancestors and remember those murdered by The Conclave in this place. We ask that you accord our faith the same respect that you would have others give your own - but if there are any amongst you who would seek to desecrate this sacred place then they should expect little mercy.

The Pendragon Throne recognises no "common law" and all present are considered to be bound by the laws of Albion; however within your own encampments we respect your right to follow your own laws and culture. A copy of the basis of the laws of Albion will be provided to each faction and guild so that there may be no excuse for ignorance. All should be aware that violence against other factions is considered no more acceptable under our laws than violence against individuals and, whatever your grievances, we ask

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that you restrain from open affray. Should any faction fail to heed this then we ask that all civilised nations join us in holding the transgressors to account.

Finally I must give fair warning that blight still rests upon our land and that the bodies of the slain will rise corrupted unless accorded the appropriate rites. We ask that you remember this and that your incantors are diligent in their protection of the patterns of your dead.

We stand at the beginning of a new age with new challenges ahead of us. Let us all look to the future with wisdom and care lest we doom ourselves to repeat the mistakes of the past.

In the service of the Pendragon.

William Hulce

Lord Regent of Albion

Notice to all Factions – Dryad Threat

Please be aware that reports have recently begun reaching the Archers Guild of strange Dryad activity in the vicinity of several of our Guild houses across the Heartlands, as well as at both the Grand Edrejan Fayre and the recent Moot so graciously hosted by the Jackals Faction. We would like to reassure the peoples of the Heartlands that these are isolated cases and at present no-one has been permanently harmed, and that we will endeavour to ensure that this remains the case.

For your own safety, we would like to advise that any male (of any species) encountering a Dryad acting out of the ordinary to please remain at least four strides distant from the Dryad and/or her hearth tree at all times, and to report the incident to the Archers Guild, with details of the location and species of tree if possible. If, however, you find yourself within reach of the Dryad and still able to move your limbs, we would very much appreciate a small foliar sample for analysis if you happen to have the chance and can still move afterwards; we would recommend scarpering speed for the purposes of retreat.

253 780 686 701 706

We wish to express our continued support for any unaffected Dryads within all Factions, and to reassure them, their kith and their kin that there appears to be no immediate danger of infection. Nevertheless, until we have identified the precise cause of the aberrant behaviour we would respectfully advise that they keep their distance from any feral Dryads they encounter.

Thank you for your kind attention.

Lorelei

Archers Guild Grandmaster

An Invitation – Gathering of Nations

1107

The Armourers, Archers and Militia guilds would like to extend an invitation to the people of the Heartlands to hold the Gathering of Nations on Igneas, the land populated by the normally reclusive Ionar. Their Ionar are a race of deep dwarves who are masters at forging items of power.

The Ionar are currently troubled by the followers of Vulcan, an ancestor who has possessed their forge and is corrupting it.

In exchange for the aid of the peoples of the Heartlands in ridding them of this menace the Ionar will offer a unique service; they will reforge faction artifacts. With existences reweaving of reality in accordance with the cadre of feast the faction artifacts are vastly powerful aberrations. As such they are beginning to stop working, and this will continue unless steps are taken.

The Ionar are among the few people on Erdreja with the skill to reforge artifacts, and so their co-operation will be essential to ensuring that faction artifacts will survive under the cadre of feast.

Harts Law

Copies of Harts law available from the Militia desk. See High Sheriff, Eclipse for details, in the Harts camp.

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A Celebration for Master Joshua

On Saturday the Alchemists guild held a celebration of the life of Master Joshua, who sadly passed away at the opening ceremony of the Great Erdrejan Fayre. They are also holding further celebrations of his life at the second Moot and the Gathering.

All are welcome to come and join the celebrations in the Alchemists Guild to honour his memory, and stuff their faces.

Merrinhault Crisis Averted

On the 23rd day of this month, the Bards' Guild received information that a ritualist, acting on a misguided belief that he could undo some of the damage caused by the Cataclysm, was attempting to conduct a ritual in the circle on Merrinhault. The ritual circle in question was one which the Mages' Guild had deemed insufficiently stable to return to operational capacity yet and was somewhat unusual in that it supported 8 transport circles on the same island.

The researcher, Anton, believed that he could draw those who had died during the Cataclysm back from the Void and return them to walk amongst the living. In order to do this, he intended to utilise not only the ritual circle on Merrinhault but also each of the transport circles to form a sort of gateway through which to draw the departed back to this plane.

Recognising the potential disaster in the making, a team assembled by the Bards, Mages and Militia travelled to Merrinhault, where they prevented the ritual. Unfortunately, the preparations Anton had made to the circles had tipped the main circle entirely off balance. Initial inspections by the Mages Guild suggest that the Great Erdrejan Faire Circle – always the most stable of the transport circles – is largely undamaged and can be salvaged, but it is unlikely that any of the other circles can be made operational. In any event, the priority for

circle repair will be to attend to those in more populated areas first.

Alchemist Guild Announce Price Fixing Drive

Over the last 10 years the guild has become more and more concerned over the costs of its services and for what their wares have been sold. The guild sees these services and wares sold by others at vastly over inflated prices

After much discussion, the Guild masters have decided it is time to buck the trend and stop the booming inflation affecting the economy of Erdreja.

Therefore, to aid this cause they have announced a maximum selling price of all liquids made in their labs by guild and non-guild members alike. Master Qui Gon stated "The guild masters as a whole believe our services have drifted into the hands of the rich and have left many of the normal people of Erdreja unable to afford to buy our creations. We now have fixed prices, which will still allow a good profit for those who make them but also allow the whole of Erdreja to afford them. Anyone who deliberately sells at higher prices will no longer be welcome to use our laboratory facilities to make their wares, as we believe this will benefit the majority of the people in this realm and if we step on a few ego's I will have no regrets in doing so. We will not be selling bulk to anyone and anyone found trying to do so will not be welcome again in the alchemist guild".

All of the factions will benefit from this not only in the short term with cheaper wares from the guild but in the long run as we struggle to bring the rampant inflation down to a more acceptable level.

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New Incantors Guild Master

Cai-Lin has been made an Incantors Guild Master, taking on the roles of guild Seneschal. She is responsible for the paper work, organisation and administration of the guild. On her appointment she commented 'I aim to ensure there is always someone at the Incantors Guild to welcome you and assist you if possible.'

Baking Competition

The Harts of Albion would remind all readers that the Queen Elspeth Memorial Cake Competition is to be held at this Moot!

If you feel you're a dab hand at baking, why not enter!

Categories are:

- Cakes
- Pie / tart / flan
- Best decorated cake

Absolutely no scones.

All entries should be made with a mind to taste as well as appearance. The current world situation will not be accepted as an excuse for poor taste quality.

See Lady Katerina Grimmer for details if interested.

Any poisoning will be severely frowned upon and referred to the Lord Provost's office.

Bardic Competition – Saturday night

For the attention of all Bards

An open-fire bardic competition will be held in the Harts camp on the second night of the Moot, to start at 7pm.

Stories, songs, instrument playing, dancing, or any other bardic talent is welcome. Entrants should remember that bardic privilege does not apply in Albion.

Entrance is 1 silver, the winner will be given the pot.

For further details, speak to the High Bard of Albion, Thenni.

Absent Masterbard

For months now, the Bards' Guild have not heard from Mistress Angharad. Initially it was thought that she would surface in the dueeness of time, wont as she was to unexplained absences. However, it has now been decided that we can no longer await her return, and so will be nominating a new guildmaster to take her place.

Letters

Opinions on The Mercenary Alliance

Received from an Anonymous Source

An assassination attempt on Styx Cruentatus, ex master of the Scouts guild was foiled on Saturday night of the first Moot. Members of the Royal Household of Teutonia found and destroyed the assassin within the Jackals camp. The would-be assassin was identified as a member of the Wild Elves, part of the Unicorns faction who are rumoured responsible for murder and assassination attempts for a number of sides during the Cadre war. The assassin's weapon was "Daughter Saphis", the dagger gifted to Saphis of the Mercenary Alliance on her creation as unliving. The message to be delivered was a ritually created poison from the Lions.

Following this, the Lions stood against the lawful resolution and removal of the Mercenary Alliance from the world. Six factions stood against them. The Lions then sent their crown prince to vie for a peaceful gathering charter to those factions. One can only assume this is 'peace' proving you don't try to disagree with any of the moralistic posturing of their faction.

Saphis swore loyalty to her guild, then used her vampiric powers to beguile and send a guild member into the Tarantulas to prepare for an attack against notable leaders of that faction.

Unicorn assassin, Lions poison, MA dagger. And they say they don't want a war.

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Great Erdrejan Fayre

Dear Sir/ Madam,

On behalf of his gracious majesty King Edward Pendragon and the Harts of Albion I would just like to take this opportunity to publicly express our gratitude to the guilds of Erdreja, and in particular the Guild of Bards, for their respective roles in the creation and hosting of the first Great Erdrejan Fayre. Not only was the event met with great enthusiasm amongst our people but the pleasant atmosphere of the Fayre marked a welcome change from the dubious contrivances of Orcus and Spittle in years past. Whilst it is sad that some present were unable to restrain themselves from visiting violence upon other factions I hope this will not cause you to consider your efforts any less of a success, and we look forward to the prospect of a bigger and better Fayre next year.

In the service of the Pendragon

William Hulce
Lord Regent of Albion

Editorial Commentary

It will no doubt have come to the attention of many, that some of the articles and letters which have seen print in the Testament, both in this edition and in others, have put forward what can only be described as opinion, rather than fact. The question of what to print and what to withdraw has ever been a sticky one. While we have, in the past, withdrawn articles which we have felt to be blatantly inflammatory or, on at least one occasion, an attempt to use this publication to progress a terrorist agenda, we are always very cautious about doing same. After all, might it not be considered as much a form of bias to refuse to print an opinion as to allow its opposite number be circulated? Accordingly, we would ask that any who feel slighted by opinions expressed in these pages to formulate a written rebuttal of same, that their side of the argument might be afforded equal chance to be read.

Guild/Faction Relations

Dear people of Erdreja, Testament Readers.

In the last few years, there have been certain difference of opinion between Bards of the Dragon faction and those of the Guild. These covered, among other things the criteria for awarding the title of Bard.

For my part, I made certain sweeping statements, derogatory to the guild, which I am now pleased to retract. For I consider one of the duties of a bard be to learn. I thought one thing, I learned better, I was wrong.

I am now proud to say that the Bards guild is a true veritable mine of lore, learning and scholarly spirit. That among its members are some of the most talented people I have had the pleasure to know. in particular one man, a true legend in name and deed - Cosaint.

While I cannot speak for all Dragon Bards, I hope this Gesture will help bring closer co-operation and greater mutual respect between Dragon and Guild Bards

I remain,

Padraig Ap Taran
High Bard of Cymrija