

# The Testament

**Great Erdrejan Fayre, 1109 – Closing Edition**

## **Message from the Guild**

There are times when there are just no words to encompass all that has happened. There are times when no matter what you say, it will just never be enough to encompass the hurt, sorrow and grief that people are feeling. So what do you say? Do you say life goes on?

It does. There are still threats to be faced. The Akari still continue their advance. Entropy still attempts to subvert the other Pillars and the Yellow Sign still threatens the Underdark and makes its incursions on the world above.

Life goes on, but that doesn't mean what people so often take it to mean. Life goes on doesn't mean that we should cast off our sorrows and plough forward. Life goes on doesn't mean that those who are gone from us should be forgotten. Life goes on doesn't mean that we shouldn't take a moment to regret what is lost. Life isn't just survival and there is no point if we forget how to live.

That being the case, with the exception of the warning the Tarantulas have provided of what will be faced at the second Moot, we will not be running any articles. Instead, we will make a request.

Take a moment to remember those who have past. Take a moment to cast your mind over shared times and experiences. No words we could write could do justice to the losses of this weekend, so that is all we ask. Take a moment to raise a glass, and a moment to shed a tear.

Take a moment to live.

## **The Yellow sign marches on Duanrahel**

War scouts of the Tarantulan Armies have reported that in the last 24 hours, the yellow sign has pulled back its armies from all other fronts and appears to be marching them in the direction of Duanrahel, the only surface city of the Tarantulan nation.

What is it the yellow sign seeks here and why is Duanrahel, so important to it? It is the second time that the yellow sign has attempted to capture an ancient seat of power. Until recent events, it was assumed that the yellow signs failed strike on Telantiwar was an attempt to secure the key concealed there, but there is nothing related to Lyander's tomb in Duanrahel. So perhaps it is for another unknown reason that the yellow sign marches there?

Valsharess Naxos D'Fey is adamant that the city will not fall to the yellow sign and has decided to host the forthcoming Moot at Duanrahel, so the other nations of the Heartlands can gain a full appreciation of the peril that the yellow sign represents. The Tarantulas are a law abiding nation and ask that whilst on their lands you do not break their only law; "Don't get caught" Breaking the law is punishable by death and a swift enactment of justice can be expected.

Duanrahel began life as a small unremarkable Elven town with nothing to distinguish it from any other, until it was chosen by Shaol Mistrivven and Tallia Aryvandaar in 1557 First Founding to be the site of their colleges of incantation. Ever since Lord Larethian had struck down Rulien Silvanost in the chambers of the white council using the powers of the first ancestor Lolthiriel, Shaol Mistrivven had worked ceaselessly to codify this new magic into a system that could be readily practiced and taught.

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His development completed, he and his wife, Tallia choose Duanrahel to be the site of their three colleges, the suns, stars and moon; each dedicated to teaching different philosophies of incantation.

In 1690 First Founding, Duanrahel was first named as a city, as the massive interest in faith based magic, swelled the population and temples to Lolthiriel began to appear on every corner of the growing city. Clan Aryvandaar were the first clan of the Illythiiri to make the growing city their home and from there they began their explorations of the Underdark.

The later part of the First Founding saw growing friction between the mages of Morias and the incantors of Duanrahel, which eventually degenerated into the start of the Sundering war. By 2602 First Founding, the Incantors or Dark Elves as they became known, were pushed back towards Duanrahel, where Clan Eclavadraar lead by Ergosal began to fortify the city against the forthcoming assault. The Dark Elves began their preparations for a retreat into the Underdark, but in order to buy themselves time Clans Cancarneyar, Kerithrion and Aryvandaar launched a daring assault on the first city of Morias, which lead to its almost complete destruction and the theft of a portion of the white tree, which was borne back to Duanrahel and eventually planted in the city of Telantiwar.

Seeking revenge, the forces of the Elves lead by Lord Larethian attacked with renewed fury against the gradually emptying city and finally laid siege to the walls in 2789 First Founding. Every member of Clan Eclavadraar gave their lives defending the city, as great magics were unleashed shattering the great peak at the city's heart, forever sealing the entrances into the Underdark and ending the Sundering war.

The ruined city witnesses in 55 Second Founding the parting between the Dark Elves and the Ice elves, as the Ice Elves return to the surface to seek out their homelands in the frozen north. They sign two scrolls of alliance before parting. Aside from the occasional traveller seeking passage to and from the Underdark, the city remained abandoned and untouched for many centuries until it sank beneath the waves that rose during the cataclysm of water in 500AF. The city rested in its watery grave until the upheavals of the recent cataclysm of fire forced it to rise above the ocean's surface as a small island midway between Caledonia and Norsca. The island was claimed by the Tarantulas as an important part of their heritage, but in truth Duanrahel as the home of Incantation is an important part of everybody's heritage.