

*To Victor de Rondell,*

*I commend you on making it to the final stage of this competition, and once again thank Vincenzo di Sarvos for his support in this project*

*The first person to send the correct one-word answer to Vincenzo will be considered the winner and receive the prize of a piece from my collection of historical and magical curiosities*

*My advice all the same is to not rush yourself. I hope that this little trilogy of puzzles has brought as much pleasure in the solving as it did in the devising*

*~Flavia of Crystal Hall, deceased*

*Numbers become words*

*Words become sentences*

*Sentences become words*

*Words become letters*

*Letters spell a single word*

1) 22-8 31-6 48-22 29-10 29-7 29-8 7-4 3-28 12-12

2) 22-8 35-11 5-5 18-1 3-3

3) 47-8 22-8 1-13 25-2

4) 22-3 2-36 5-7 15-17, 33-10 16-7 1-3 42-29

5) 18-1 28-11 10-7 5-6 22-3 39-11

6) 18-1 12-2 29-10 32-4 23-7 27-8 37-8 42-5 32-5 18-2

7) 28-11 10-7, 10-7 10-5 10-12

*(A little trivia: this is a puzzle of my own devising, from some time ago. I had to revise it slightly after the Spring Equinox of 381YE - I forget why.)*

*To Aristeia Starchaser*

*By the will of SINOKENON*

*Also named APEX*

*And THRONE OF THE SUN*

*Upon the recommendation of BELISARI ANKRA ASCENDANT*

*I - THE FIFTH ARBITER OF THE TURNING MIRROR*

*Intend to attend your camp at 17:30 on SATURDAY of the  
AUTUMN EQUINOX*

*To speak on matters concerning a CURSE*

*Also of EMPEROR NICOVAR*

*As well as ISABELLA, EXEMPLAR OF COURAGE*

*And the THORNDANCE STRIDING*

*It is understood that there are SIX ITEMS*

*And requested that arrangements be made to PRESENT them at  
this time*

*UNTIL then*

*May THE WHEEL OF LIGHT lead you onwards*

*THE FIFTH ARBITER OF THE TURNING MIRROR*

*To Idris Summercrow*

*By the will of SINOKENON*

*Also named APEX*

*And THRONE OF THE SUN*

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*THE FIFTH ARBITER OF THE TURNING MIRROR*

*To Elke Sun-Mad,*

*I commend you on solving the ritual cypher, and thank Vincenzo di Sarvos for his support in this project.*

*That first round was complex, but arguably simple once you knew what you were doing. This next challenge may not match it in terms of depth, but I have chosen to include it for the breadth of knowledge and thinking required.*

*~Flavia of Crystal Hall, deceased*

*Below are 20 words and phrases, which can be separated into 5 sets of equal size. Each set has a simple, unifying factor.*

*In addition, within each set there is an odd-one-out.*

*For example, a set might be: Lashonar, Leviathan, Sadogua, Sung.*

*All 4 are eternal, but only Leviathan is not of the Night Realm.*

*Identify the 5 odd-ones-out and send them to Vincenzo di Sarvos, Tassato Regario.*

*There is one intended solution, but alternative interpretations will be considered. You may wish to include a short, succinct explanation for each selection.*

<i>Ahras</i>	<i>Boast scars</i>	<i>Bill</i>
<i>Fate</i>	<i>Frederick</i>	<i>Free liberty</i>
<i>Izrune</i>	<i>Kala</i>	<i>Nicovar</i>
<i>Present of lore</i>	<i>Prime</i>	<i>Richilde</i>
<i>Royalty</i>	<i>Searching the shore</i>	<i>Teleri</i>
<i>Thread of time</i>	<i>Twin remark</i>	<i>Varkula</i>
<i>Vigilante</i>	<i>Wand</i>	

*(N.B. The competition is still ongoing - this is the second of three puzzles - though some received the final instalment in Autumn.*

*I hope to keep responding to solutions for a season or two after someone has "won", though can make no promises. -Vincenzo)*

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**PID: 10135.2**

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*We wish to recognise your Tribute to the Court's efforts to restore their bindings upon the accursed Alders-Baart family.*

*The ritual's continued interdiction by your Conclave is unfortunate, and makes your assistance all the more significant.*

*Only two of the items we sought have been returned to us, and the curse upon the Sarcophan family cannot be restored to its full potency. Nevertheless, you are worthy of some token of thanks. 4 doses of Heart's Blood are enclosed.*

*Ever Bound,*

*The Chained Hands*

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**PID: 10444.2**

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*We wish to recognise your Tribute to the Court's efforts to restore their bindings upon the accursed Alders-Baart family.*

*The ritual's continued interdiction by your Conclave is unfortunate, and makes your assistance all the more significant.*

*Only two of the items we sought have been returned to us, and the curse upon the Sarcophan family cannot be restored to its full potency. Nevertheless, you are worthy of some token of thanks. 4 doses of Heart's Blood are enclosed.*

*Ever Bound,*

*The Chained Hands*

*To Razin i Muhajim i Guerra,*

*I commend you on making it to the final stage of this competition, and once again thank Vincenzo di Sarvos for his support in this project*

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*(A little trivia: this is a puzzle of my own devising, from some time ago. I had to revise it slightly after the Spring Equinox of 381YE - I forget why.)*

*To Enchantress Pellinore Goldvein,*

*I commend you on making it to the final stage of this competition, and once again thank Vincenzo di Sarvos for his support in this project*

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*(N.B. You differed from Flavia's intended answers on two points: she meant Teleri as the odd-one-out, as the others all died before stepping down, meanwhile Urizen was set apart for not being a founding member of the Empire.*

*However, I judged your response to be perfectly reasonable! -Vincenzo)*



*Hello dear,*

*A pleasure to be doing business with you. Us “Bittersweet Brewers” weren’t sure how our offer of a dedicated trader in Anvil would go down, and touched beyond words to hear the Marches did a whip-round to the tune of a hundred thrones! (Or so say the cousins of mine who paid you a visit - may be they’ve been putting the pig in a doublet, so to speak) I’m only sorry we can’t offer more - we’re not a big operation, and can’t be letting the fields go fallow while the whole town mucks about with liquorice.*

*Just so as we’re all clear on things, I thought I’d write you to set down the terms of our arrangement proper:*

- ❖ *Every season you can buy from us either
  - 5 doses for 5 crowns
  - or 15 doses for 1 throne, 5 crowns
  - or 40 doses for 4 Thrones*
- ❖ *As well as selling our stuff at a reasonable rate you’ll keep up a good word against any folk looking to tar us with a rotten brush*
- ❖ *We’re looking to keep this up for a year, and reserve the right to retire once that’s up*
- ❖ *This isn’t any imperial position or anything like that, so you’re free to make a senator of yourself, but if we don’t like how things are going we won’t need any synod business to cut you off either*

*Any issues bob me one of those winged messengers, to Brewton, in Ashbrook, in Upwold.*

*Sure we’ll muddle through.*

*Prosperity to you,  
Sweet Anna*

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