

To Inquisitor Petra Melikov,

My name is Valentin Karamov, a Warden, and I am writing to confirm something you may already suspect. I have spoken to a large number of pilgrims of Vigilance of late, and all have reported troubling dreams of a threat to the Empire. I think I may have further insights into the nature of that threat.

Back in the Summer of 377, Gwylío Windstrider of the Navarr condemned Ildis Semyon Davidov for heresy, being a follower of the Path of Anarchy. I have been trying to track Ildis ever since. What I have learned is that he is styling himself as the Prophet of the Firestarter, and is seeking the reincarnation of Mikkal.

As far as I can tell, the Prophet believes that – in this incarnation – Mikkal will be reborn as the Paragon of Chaos, bring about the destruction of the Empire, and the ascension of the souls of all those who follow him. This makes them some kind of apocalypse cult and not afraid of death – but maybe afraid of excommunication.

I am fairly confident that Ildis is currently operating somewhere in Varushka, but I cannot being any more specific than that, I am sorry to report. Equally, I do believe there are Firestarter sects in other nations, but I do not think they have established a foothold in Anvil at this time.

Based on the dreams I have had – and others have told me of – it looks like the Firestarters intend to use the barbarians as their tool of the Empire's destruction and their "ascension". That probably means whatever they plan will directly – and negatively – affect the war effort.

Vardas guide you in defending the Empire from this threat, Inquisitor.

Warden Valentin Torov Karamov
Pilgrim of the Path of Vigilance