



*To the Imperial Necromancer, Ser Claudia Lovelorn*

*Greetings, I trust that you fare well.*

*I am the Boyar of a Vale close to Korotny in Karov. The reason I am contacting you is due to a coven of necromancers that have been operating in the town in recent months. Known as the Seers of the Black Gate, they claim that their leader, Jezda the Harbinger, can act as an intermediary between the living and the dead. This has caused consternation and unrest: some say that Jezda truly speaks with the voices of their loved ones and others say that the Seers are using parlour tricks and making off with the money and possessions of grief-stricken relatives! I hired a Winter mage who told me that he didn't think what they were doing was Winter Magic, and they might be sorcerers! I went to the magistrates and they said this is a matter for the Conclave to determine, and asked me to contact you. They said that 'a conjunction' can take you and to where they reside, Piotr's Lodgings in Korotny at 3pm on the Saturday of the Winter Solstice, but I'm not sure what that means.*

*In any case, I beseech your aid in this matter, great necromancer!*

*Yours, Gavril, Boyar of Silvergorge Vale*

ADDENDUM:

GREETINGS, IMPERIAL NECROMANCER.

APOLOGIES FOR INTRUDING UPON YOUR CORRESPONDENCE.

I AM AWARE GAVRIL'S CONCERNS MAY APPEAR PROVINCIAL AND PERHAPS, IRRELEVANT. THAT WOULD USUALLY BE THE CORRECT ASSUMPTION. IN THIS CASE HOWEVER, I BELIEVE THAT HE HAS STUMBLED ACROSS SOMETHING WORTHY OF YOUR ATTENTION. I HAVE ALSO BEEN INVESTIGATING THE SEERS OF THE BLACK GATE, AND I AM CONCERNED THAT THEY ARE TRUCKING WITH FORBIDDEN POWERS: WHETHER THE PARTICULAR SCOURGES OF OUR OWN LAND, OR THE **SHADOW COURTIER**S, OR THE **WASTEWALKER**, I DO NOT KNOW.

I DO KNOW THAT JEZDA THE HARBINGER JOURNEYED TO ANVIL LAST SUMMIT. I DO NOT KNOW WHY.

YOURS IN VIGILANCE,

**ANASTASYA, A WARDEN OF VARUSHKA**