

The following letter was delivered to you upon arrival at Anvil.

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*Jared of the Suns of Courors, Lepidean Librarian:*

*Greetings - I am Phillip Pride. I came to these shores a year ago and have dwelled here since, living as Virtuous a life as I can in the lands of Dawn. I and those brothers and sisters who fought for our freedom in Marracossa have called ourselves the Free Folk since arriving in the Empire.*

*I write to you from the road - I and every other member of this family of circumstance are travelling now to visit each Nation of the Empire to learn all we can of the Way and share all that we have in return. Our Pride guides us and, unless the weather chooses otherwise, we expect to pass into the Marches at the season's turn.*

*I am writing to you because in the seasons past I had spoken with scholars from the Lepidean University who asked many questions of me and all those they could find of the Free Folk dwelling in Astolat. As I have walked and spoken with other Free Folk I have learned that they have been elsewhere and have asked questions there too. I have been told that this was to understand the Speaker for the Dead - this is news that has heartened us greatly and, hearing the words of the Synod's Judgements as we have travelled we are heartened still!*

*But we still walk without our 'Little Speaker' - I was lucky enough to be present at the Listening in the year past. The willing of shared experience and Pride the miracle set within my heart was a certainty of purpose that made it unimaginable that it should not be shared with the whole world. In such throes we gave the effigy to the people of Dawn so it might be experienced by all.*

*That the effigy has been lost amidst the tumult of Anvil is the source of great pain for me - as one who has let this beacon of Pride be lost - and for my kin.*

*We have heard that the Militia have begun to seek the 'Little Speaker' - those who travelled to Anvil ahead of our pilgrimage say that 'Asher Holt' is leading this search.*

*Forgive me for asking this of you without being able to offer aught but thanks in return - but we understand that those who hold such positions as yours are Wise and Virtuous to be recognized and elected. Would you turn such Wisdom and Virtue to aid us in recovering this bundle of cloth and branches?*

*Travel will make me and my fellows hard to reach - but whatever you decide, please accept both my own thanks - and the thanks of every one of my brothers and sisters: for we whose voice has long been denied, that our words are carried to all corners of the Empire is truly amazing.*

*Live with Virtue.*

*- Phillip Pride*