

*To Edward Watcher of King's Stoke*

*Duly Selected Symposiarch Winter Solstice, 380YE*

*Virtue guide you, Symposiarch. I have been asked to write to you on behalf of my Chapter. I regret to inform you that Magister Ishmael, with whom you have had much discussion, has taken ill - a fungal infection of some calamitous art has befallen him, driven (in my own opinion) by the scourge of The Rotlord that has, until recently, plagued our dear homeland of Reikos. Brother Jeremiah has been taking on some of his duties in the meantime - principally those relating to the reconstruction of our chapterhouse, which I am glad to inform you has been progressing quite speedily.*

*As a result, however, neither Ishmael nor Jeremiah are in any real position to attend the Symposium which you have so diligently been organising - and thus we will, alas, be unable to witness the fruits of our mutual Ambition in that regard. Nevertheless, I am sure your efforts will make the occasion a successful one, and hopefully one that will start a conversation to have meaningful impact - if not for Doctrine itself, then for the Synod's understanding of the Way.*

*Matters of the Symposium aside, there is another matter, one upon which I would beg your advice.*

*As we ourselves have been rebuilding our ancestral chapterhouse in Reikos, so have others. Recently, I have been at Bassail's Stand, where a most unusual circumstance has developed. As they were assessing the damage caused by the abominations of Spring, they uncovered what appeared to be a secret catacomb, its broken door sealed with an ancient seal. Expecting nothing more than simple stonework and the bones of their ancestors, they called upon my Sodality, the Seekers and Finders of Most Beneficent Relics, to see if there was anything of interest before they took advantage of the stone for their building efforts.*

As I was close by, in our own chapterhouse in Longshire, I was most pleased to attend, bringing with me Brother Jeremiah, whose advice on the nature, spiritual and magical properties of relics I hold in high regard. I am sure you, like I, would leap at the chance to bring whatever sacred relics or objects of interest out into the open, where their significance can be shared as an example to all. Yet after some cursory explorations of the site, and closer examinations of the seal, Jeremiah had me exercise caution - for in his eyes, this was a matter in which Wisdom should be exercised.

In his estimations, much of the seal is illegible, and certainly any enchantment that once it held is gone. Indeed, I should add that the seal itself is broken and the tunnel beyond mostly collapsed: but what Jeremiah identified upon the seal has caused us to pause our excavations and write to you for direction and guidance. Upon the seal, Jeremiah has identified the rune *Irremais* for Wisdom, surmounting an Imperial horse and the grasping eye sigil that is used to denote the Wanderer.

He is of the distinct impression that the place was surely sealed by some long-lost Cardinal, or perhaps even a Throne - someone, in any case, who clearly desired it to remain closed. Thus, as you are an individual whose judgement is clearly valued by the Assembly of Nine, I ask you: should we proceed to breach the entrance proper and make our way within?

If I receive a letter from you speaking in favour of the work, we shall set to without delay! I imagine we shall have made the majority of progress (if we are not fully concluded) by Spring, and the people of Bassail's Stand will be glad of what stone they can quarry from the surrounding area, meaning that no additional expenditure would be required.

*If the find is of sufficient import to attract the attention of the Sentinel Gate at this Solstice or the Spring Equinox - I believe Yael spoke of such things the last time we met - we shall leave the matter to your investigations directly. If Bassail's Stand is not visited by the Sentinel Gate, my sodality and I will examine the site ourselves with all due Vigilance, treat all recovered relics with proper procedure, and forward a report to whomever you wish.*

*If we receive no letter, we shall restore the seal with our best efforts, backfill the tunnel with earth and have the site consecrated as a tomb of relics.*

*Jeremiah has posited that, as this is a matter of Wisdom, it may be prudent for you to seek the attentions of Cardinal Agnetha de Rondell - or if both of you feel that such a matter is not for you to weigh in on, then we shall of course pay attention to any judgement set forth by our National Assembly. We should surely not turn down the influx of support that a mention by that august body would provide, but rest assured that our Prosperity need not rely on such a plea - we seek from you Virtuous advice, not the marching orders of a nation.*

*Yours in Ambition,*

*Indus Tideborn*

*Seeker and Finder of Beneficent Relics*

*Temporarily resident at Bassail's Stand, Longshire, Reikos*