

*Over the past few months, one name seems to be on everybody's lips in Segura – well, other than Zemress. Seemingly out of nowhere, **Ximen i Suerta i Guerra** bursts onto the entertainment scene in Cerevado, the home of good fortune for those bold enough to risk everything. And his casino, the **Senator's Parador**, makes big promises.*

*Adventure! Excitement! Music and dancers! The best food, the best wine, the best people! Never was there a better way to show your Prosperity than by putting it to the hazard – with a game of Hazard! Impress your friends with your skill at Tric-Trac, Backgammon and Tawla! Not to mention, in the luxurious Imperial Suite – “the room so decadent they tried to ban it” – exotic games from faraway lands, played with an eyebrow-raising big blind.*

*If you're in Cerevado, you can't have missed the effect this place is having. And outside, it's clear Ximen i Suerta is keen to get the word out. Messages are read out in public places. Printed handbills are sent to tavernas in Anozel and Anduz, are slipped under tent-flaps, pinned up on market-stalls – though without their owners' permission or so much as a ring in payment, many are taken down immediately. But however rude this gesture may be, it works.*

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