

Dear Heilyn,

*I'll bite the blade and say it outright: we went to the Crawling Depths, and I don't think we can help. Not because we didn't have any ideas, but because all the ideas we had, the Empire had already done.*

*We were going to Ossium full of ideas. It's a bloody mithril mine, mate! Imagine the swords and armour you could make by sharing that bounty out, imagine the focusing mirrors for mana sites, imagine the picks for the miners! We were set to find partners, and we show up in Lomaa, and they're already mining the mithril for themselves. The Senate already spread the Prosperity of the seat by giving the local Boyars license to exploit the resources.*

*Alright, thinks we. That mithril's already spoken for, but we can still make some more recommendations. Ossium's dangerous, right? We had to pay for schlecta to guard us as we travelled the roads. What if some of the mithril were to be diverted to local arms manufacturers? We could see the population better equipped to defend themselves, start to hunt down the Druj insurgents and the bandits. We started talking about some kind of barracks to organise people, and one of our guards says, "Oh, you mean like the one in Nearweald?" We talk to them a bit more, and it turns out there's already a thing doing exactly what we thought of.*

*The group of us ended up going round and round in circles trying to come up with even bigger ideas, but in the end we decided that anything we proposed would be too pie-in-the-sky. If we could redirect the entire bounty of the mines then we could do amazing things, but that's a bit unrealistic. Ambition guides us, but Wisdom teaches us to deal with the world as it is, not as we hope it will be. So... could you give us another one?*

*We've had a talk and there's a few others that we reckon wouldn't work. Syrene's Wisdom has just been flooded and remodelled, and they're still working out the kinks in that. The Cerevado Nets are literally only just starting to work. The Great Mine of Briante and the Damatian Cliffs are worryingly close to the bloody Jotun. Other than that, send us anywhere that isn't a war zone. We promise that we'll get you something useful next time.*

*Yours in Virtue,*

*Gethyn Blood-And-Sweat*

*PS, thank Rocio í Fijadoz í Guerra for putting that judgement up, and let us know if there's any movement on getting you and the other Inquisitors into the Inquisitorial Court. We've got a few interested parties looking to sell liao in bulk, but only if you've got the extra seal of approval, so to speak.*