

Dark Times

UK Edition

May 2018

From the Princes Desk By Prince Regent Levi Tius

Firstly, I would like to commend those who attended my April court for keeping your senses amidst such drastic changes. I understand there were those more bothered than others but change is so often an unwelcome guest in our society I was certain action would be required to keep order within the room. I was very pleasantly surprised when this was not required. The highest praise goes to my friend, Esteemed Elder Angus McDonald; without his calm words and commanding presence a different story might have been told.

With that out of the way, here come more changes. Glasgow has long had a less than stellar reputation amongst the other domains which I want to rectify. Indeed, I believe we should be proud to reside here and cause others to hold envy in their breast. One thing I have noticed is our adherence to protocol and courtly etiquette has been severely lacking. There is no deference to one's elders, however feigned, and there have been incidents such as Neonates storming ones' way to the Princes desk without having been invited. There are two logical conclusions you can take from this, either you have no respect for the court and Prince of Glasgow or you don't hold the Camarilla hierarchy in high esteem generally. In many other courts such boorish behaviour would be met with swift punishment and so it shall be in Glasgow. I cannot take action on your behalf in some instances, if you are an Ancilla getting lip from a Neonate with no reprisal if it up to you to correct. If you don't perhaps you don't deserve the rank... I CAN however change things from my end of the hierarchy and so here is an official decree –

1 - Any whom approach the desk of the Prince who is not an Elder, Court official, or have an invitation will be punished.

I understand many of you will have business or issues you want to raise and thus I will have my seneschal spend a period of each court away from myself so you can approach them. He will pass on anything he decides is noteworthy and you will be called as appropriate. There are benefits and rewards for those who bring pertinent, actionable information to light; more so if you have taken initiative and resolved it yourself. Those who sit on issues until they become serious will be punished.

Lastly a note on domains, historically these have been granted to abstract concepts such as 'Medical' and 'Media' etc. These are so wide in practise as to be unpoliceable, one simply cannot claim and maintain every small medical practice within the domain for example. To that end domains will revert to what they are historically – areas of land where you are granted authority by myself. You must choose wisely according to what is situated there if you wish to control mortal functions.

2 - As of this month all ongoing granted domains have been revoked, any which you previously had will need to be re-negotiated.

3 – Clan Nosferatu will be granted the Domain of the sewers.

4 – Alexander Barker of Clan Ventrule will be granted the Domain bounded by Bridge gate, Clyde Street, and Saltmarket.

Domains can be earned through hard work, a willingness to better Glasgow, and demonstrating that you can be trusted with such a responsibility.

- Levi Tius, Prince Regent of Glasgow.

Mentoring Failure By Esteemed Elder James Rathbone

It is with heavy heart that I announce Alexander Leslie, Prince of Aberdeen is no longer my Mentor for he has failed in this task. It was honourable for Prince Leslie to take me under his wing however as time has proven it must now come to an end. All interactions now return to one of a professional basis.

A Prestigious Lineage

Us Brit's are renowned the world over for our sense of FairPlay and conducting ourselves like gentleman. Part of that I think is our ability to wait our turn, the notion of forming a que, forming a line in an orderly fashion. This ensures we do no have anarchy, it ensures that it is not just the tyrant and the despots that are seen to, that eventually we are all catered to. It's not the only line that can bring stability to society.

A que, or a line as about colonial friends might say, bring a splash of order to the night to night events of our unlivs. But the line I want to discuss, one's lineage, is the golden thread that runs through the cloth of our society. Tradition and ceremony, out ways have been good for centuries, some of them millenia, who are we to think we know better?

What is our link to this illustrious past? Well our ancestry of course. And while in life I could attest to being related to Henry VIII I had never and will never discuss with him the intrigues of court. However I keenly remember being introduced to the court of London in 1905 as a newly minted neonate to the Monarch of the Barones of Avalon. A being who had sat in the throne since the time of Christ. There is a true and real link to our

past.

I am not of the line of Mithras, I do not had that honour. But I see the power and nobility he represents and I am rightly in awe of it.

My own lineage, my pedigree if you will, the blood that runs through my veins, my own personal golden thread is just illustrious.

I am -

Charles Augustus Aldworth,
Childe of Vannevar Thomas,
Childe of Quincy Cullen,
Childe of Titus Venturus Camillus,
Childe of Tinia,
Childe of Ventrue.

Vannevar Thomas was the Prince of San Francisco for almost a hundred years, entrusted by Karsh, the Warlord of the Camarilla to defend our most western territories from an eastern threat. Falling only when the Sabbat swarmed the city in the mid nineties. One of the last vestiges of the Camarilla in that troubled state. His grand sire, known more commonly as Camilla, overseen the transition of the Roman Republic to the Roman Empire. He was Prince of Rome and leader of the eternal senate. He also put a stop to diabolic practices in forgotten North African Hell Holes.

Tinia was worshipped as an Etruscan Sky god. Was one of the first of our kind to set foot on the the soil known in these nights as Italy and sired many prominent Kindred of Ancient Rome. I can claim that I am full bloodied noble, the bluest of blood runs in these veins, I am leadership manifest. I have an awfully big act to follow, and I must walk in these very oversized boots to step out from the shadow of my ancestors. Time will tell if I can do them justice.

I hope I have made my point abundantly clear?



Carry on Oceans Triple Fast and Fornication

By Adrian Mole, DT crime writer

It was like a heist movie written by a 13 year old boy who aimed for serious and gritty and got spoof classic all by accident. The HSBC in Norwich town centre was held up just before closing, hostages were taken and the high street was closed off by police as they tried to coax the gunmen to give themselves up. It was reported that the bank had already secured the lions shares of their takings and the stick up was largely for nought, however several patrons of the bank and staff were still in harm's way.

Fearing for their safety because of the desperation of the robbers the police acquiesced to some of their demands and provided a helicopter for the wood be Barrow gang for them to escape with some hostages.

The police have been heavily criticised for his move as it is was argued would lead to a rise in more such attacks. This led to the police going back on their offer but the gunmen were already in the air. Cue police chase in the air. Choppers banked and rolled through the streets of Norwich and terrified onlookers wondered what was to happen next...to be answered by two great fire balls. The fully fuelled helicopters lost control and both crashed into the main NCP car park in Norwich town centre, killing all involved as well as, as yet, an unknown number of people in the car park.

The authorities have said that the building is far too badly damaged and is likely to be demolished. It is extremely dangerous and the investigation is ongoing, but slowly as the threat to the investigators.

Bloodhawk & Quiet Removals

By Ancilla Henry Randall

There have been so many new faces to the domain that I thought it might be worthwhile to make people aware of some of the services I provide. First we have Quiet Removals. A service to make problems disappear.

So maybe you have just snacked on the Pizza boy and due to his poor heart he died, or maybe your ghoul, drunk on his new power, has accidentally ripped out a street sign and beaten someone to death with it. Maybe your problem doesn't involve death at all and you find the street walkers and pushers in your neighbourhood such a drag or had some tool in the planning department block your plan to a new night club close to your haven to attract the right clientele to you or maybe someone just had you arrested and you know who to call on your one phone call.

All these and any manner of other problems you could of course solve yourself. You could hunt down family and loved

ones, coworkers and the like and make sure no one asks questions, you could move the body a little and have his death declared accidental and all that, but when it comes down to it, don't you have better things to do with your nights? One phone call to Quiet Removals and we can begin to remove your problems, whatever shape or size they come in. We already have crime scene cleaners that can remove (or add) the required forensic evidence from the scene of a crime (or make up an entirely new scene if needed). We have industrial incinerators and specialised vehicles designed to hide away bodies (or kindred caught up by the sunrise). We have people who know how to pick bits of brain out of your beloved rug without bleaching the colours and people who can get your liqueur license approved. Because of all this something which might be major drag for yourself is but a minor service from us.



And before you get all worried, we are hundred 100% discrete. No information learned during your job is available for sale not even the fact that you have hired us. The same is true for the second business we built on the success of Cain Removals and that is the Blood Hawk.

Sure you know how to feed yourself. It was the main thing your sire taught you (or you had to learn quickly without your sire's help). You have routines, safe guards, checks and now getting the blood you need is no longer the thrill of the hunt, but the same boring chore you run through night after night after night. If you even let of a little bit the signs of the demon in you start to rise, reminding you that you will be doing this until the night you die. Or so you thought.

With Bloodhawk, all the sustenance you might require is only a phone call away. Maybe you want to have a little party? Maybe you want to have a little stash in case the Brujah you ridiculed did actually follow through with his threat and flattened your legs with a hammer? Maybe you want to taste the difference between the rare AB negative and the common O positive? We can also fulfill most specialised requests. Maybe you would like Blood from someone suffering from a serious viral infection, maybe you want to relive the 90ies and see what AIDS tastes like and maybe you want to try some blood which has all but been obliterated by stage 3 Leukemia. More common you might wish to have blood from people who had a few drinks or recreational drugs, or people who were really frightened or happy when their

blood was taken. Whatever floats your boat, we won't judge, and we won't tell but we will deliver.

And yes, we can happily provide the blood in any temperature with any common drinking vessel to yourselves or some representatives at a neutral location or any Elysium. The choice is yours.

The Room Where It Happened

By *Ancilla Primrose Thassalo*

Previously in the Glasgow Court...

I am not certain there is a knife in existence that could have cut the tension of last month's court. However, it would appear there is and his name is Elder Angus MacDonald, for without this force of nature, who knows what would have transpired.

The court itself, held in Elder Brown's establishment did not take place in an Elysium and it would appear that this will be the norm in the coming months. Given the amount of 'incidents' that tend to take place in the Glasgow court, this seems like a wise move and conveniently brings a curtailment to freedom of speech unless such a person feels very confident in their abilities. If this was not change enough, members of the court entered to find the new Prince already in place with his trusted Primogen at his side and were instantly informed as to the events that had transpired. Unsurprisingly, not everyone was happy. However, all it took was one word from the top table and Elder MacDonald saw to the displeased parties. No, not in *that* way, not the *usual* Elder MacDonald way if legend is to be believed. But with diplomacy and tact, with words of honey. Of course I don't actually know what he said, but it must have been something miraculous to calm the oncoming storm.

When the initial heightened emotions passed the court fell into its usual routine of gossip and games that no one understands. With one important change; precedence. All were expected to reintroduce themselves to the prince in order of rank and it would appear that a couple of people got a little ahead of themselves. Some people clearly think more highly of themselves than others do and they would do well to remember that although you might hold an official title, a neonate is still a neonate and you should wait your turn. Everyone should certainly reacquaint themselves with the hierarchy of the court as you can be sure in future that you are not getting anywhere near the Prince or the top table without first going through Seneschal Fletcher and your Elders.

I dare someone to try, go on, I dare you.

This would normally be the moment where I delve into brief but illuminating details of the newest arrivals to court but quite frankly, compared to all the other excitement none of them really had much of a chance to make an impression. There was Lilith, Clyde, Marie and Keris of clan Malkavian, there was Pat, another member of La Familia but sadly not the prodigal son we

have all been waiting for, and a couple of old faces such as Ancilla Tobias Weaver of clan Toreador. For anyone wanting to know anything about these new arrivals please do get in touch, but frankly I'm not going to waste any more line space on them when there are more interesting things to discuss.

The one exception that I am willing to make to this is Elder Barker of Clan Ventre to whom I wish the very best of luck in bringing the members of his clan within the city under his wing. I am sure all the current Ventre will look to Barker as the very best example of the clan, and follow his lead in support of the new Prince Tius. Elder Barker has an excellent track record of assisting Prince Tius, what with him being in the same coterie as him prior to leaving for a spell, along with Elder Brown and a few others whose names are unknown to me but probably not all that important. I am sure that close friendship with the Prince will only serve to promote the interests of Clan Ventre within the domain, after all, who else is capable?

Speaking of which, I was tasked this month with collating a team to investigate the on-going issues with the homeless population within the city. Imagine my surprise when one of the people I approach to join this team informed me that they had already been asked by the Elder to assist? How in sync we are elder, I trust you were okay with my arranging the other members? After all, you did give me the perfect incentive to pass on did you not? A Minor boon from Elder Who? Strange how most did not seem to be terribly incentivised by such a prospect of a boon from an Elder no one really cares for. Now if Elder MacDonald or Fletcher had come with the same reward I am sure I wouldn't have had to put as much work into gathering a team and thus less time investigating the matter at hand. Not to worry though Elder, you will be delighted to know that a great many people assisted me with this task this month, almost everyone in the court actually. I'll be sure to note that down.

Sadly my duties to the domain pulled me away from the court much sooner than I would have liked, but no matter, I am sure nothing of any interest or consequence happened after I left.

Missing Superstars

By US Dark Times Reporter, Rebecca Jones

In the past two months there have been at least five cases of celebrities going missing and reappearing with no memory of where they have been or what happened to them. The first to disappear was Barbara Streisand who went missing from her home in the United States in April and turned up in London, United Kingdom a few days later. This is not the usual behaviour of the normally shy and reclusive Ms Streisand, whose agents inform us is safe and well and suffering no adverse effects from her disappearance. One source, close to Ms Streisand has said that since her return the Yentil star often slips into a daydream like stupor and mutters 'he was ever so charming'. When questioned on who 'he' is Ms Streisand refuses seems confused and disorientated.

It could have been argued that this might have been a publicity stunt arranged in advance of Ms Streisand's long awaited

tour, if not for the fact that a few weeks later three WWE superstars also briefly went missing prior the company's flagship pay per view, Wrestlemania. The event, which took place in New Orleans, was almost called off when two of its 'Champions' and the daughter of the CEO went missing, however all were found safe and well the day before the event, albeit a little dazed and confused. Sources within the company have intimated that at rehearsal the champions seemed a little more enhanced than usual, and often fell into a similar dreamlike stupor as Ms Streisand. Despite concerns regarding their health all superstars were even more determined to perform at the event and according to an insider had an almost 'fanatical like devotion' to do the best they could.

Only one more week after this it was rumoured that Taylor Swift had joined the ranks of the missing celebrities, however given Ms Swift's reputation it has been ruled by many that this was indeed a publicity stunt. One of the differences being that Ms Swift's agents claim that the country star turned pop star was only missing one night after a brief visit to Scotland, unlike the other celebrities who were missing for a number of days. According to her agents Ms Swift claims she has no memory of where she was that night or who she was with, other than there was a lot of music, a lot of wine and a very handsome man. Again, given Ms Swift's past, no one is really all that surprised by this.

A Proclamation

By Prince Karl Von Pitt

Let it be known that the Samedi known as Hector is persona non grata. I hereby declare a blood hunt on the elder, sheriff of Dundee and if he is ever to be seen inside the boundaries of Inverness again his blood is forfeit. His crimes are sustained breaches of Hospitality and Domain. I will no longer accept such disrespect and a lesson must be learnt. I will give anyone a major boon to anyone who can remove him from Dundee and bring him to me.

Fresh Appeal for Ten Year Old Horror

By A Concerned Advocate for Law and Order

It's almost ten years since the brutal and savage murder of Sergeant Kenneth Murphy and PC David Richardson as they responded to a disturbance at Springburn train station. A gang of youths had been targeting the expensive and scandal ridden CCTV cameras around the city. The cameras were exorbitantly expensive and were difficult to maintain - a factor enterprising youths sought to capitalise on costing the city millions in costs for the privatised scheme.

Sgt Murphy and PC Richardson arrived on the scene and caught the gang in the act. Moving quickly to intervene most of the gang ran, however the ring leader stood his ground and

took on the officers with the power tools he had brought to dismantle the camera housing - and in a scene from something like a Horror film disembowled and eviscerated the two officers in front of stunned and horrified onlookers. Showered in gore and blood he fled the scene and was never picked up again. Tonight we appeal for fresh witnesses and ask if you have any information or were in the area of Springburn train station on the night of 22/06/2008 please can come forward.

The cameras were marred with scandal, one such being that the data recording method was flawed and often times the footage was corrupted or even lost. Because of this the footage itself can not be used to bring justice. However there were plenty of loose ends that were never tied off. One such loose end being the identity of this man. The police identified this man as a witness, and are extremely keen to speak to him.



What the Harpies have to say...

Ann Jacques (York): I had a splendid time in Norfolk, enjoying the Hospitality of Prince Lytton and the hospitality of the Viscount. I must seek out the recipe for that mead.

Sarah Miles (Birmingham): if you've got any favours over our dear Prince Banbury call them in quick. It is rumoured that Malkavian Primogen Harvey Gorntein has called for a vote of no confidence in our executive. If successful in his attempt our prince will be undone by her own democratic dream.

Lucretia Reflection (Manchester): nice party. A bit pathetic and desperate. But the most interesting thing in the whole night I think was I do not believe I've ever seen a kindred's hair turn grey throughout the night. What's that all about?

Lady Salisbury (London): If he wasn't so determined for leadership I'd worry he was after my job. Let's all support him so we harpies are safe in our own positions.

Carl (Norfolk): I have pictures of Felicity Gordon raking through the rubble of the NCP car park. Why would she be doing that? Could it be because she knows she needs to get to the Gangrel before we do? Seriously, don't trade with her, she'll bury you!

Ryan Harding (Severn): I wonder if that's what all the prestation was for? To conduct a great ritual to convince Lord Mithras that legitimising a warlock was a good idea?

Katie Redding (Dundee): What a pleasure it was to meet so many wonderful new faces. That Doyle, newly of Glasgow. Welcome in my haven any day.

Dougal Douglas (Aberdeen): He's probably the biggest southern dandy of them all, but what a laugh! Although I must apologise to the Sheriff of New Orleans. It was all meant in fun and I hope she enjoyed the rest of the evening.

Morag McDonald (Inverness): conspicuously absent.

Dianne Duncan (Carlisle): As a Caitiff to be invited to the Viscounts party was a great honour. It's been a tremendous month and the Venttrue leadership has really added a sense of legitimacy to this 'mongrel' domain.

Far (Edinburgh): after a short convalescence I have returned. And what a month. A rather rough party from a prominent, finally dead Venttrue. Although I have to admit it was a joy. Although that was nothing to compare to the soirée of the Prince of New Orleans, Amadeus Edelstein. I really hope that the Glasgow court can make use of such distinguished Kindred like John Carter. At least you'll be safe from the Sabbat or the next while!