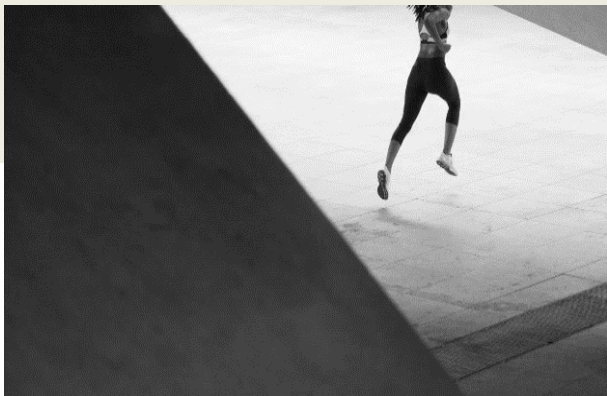


THE DARK TIMES

HEADLINE



Security on the RUN

This publication is sent to you via encrypted pathways, but we would ask that you delete upon reading to maintain the masquerade. If you are unsure how to do so, please contact the Keeper of the Masquerade.



Please present yourself to a court official if you wish to see the Prince. If you have not yet been introduced at court, then failure to present yourself to the Prince will be considered a breach of hospitality.



Tales from a Traveler

Well I have travelled all over this great nation, in fact all over the world. Capitol Cities have a distinct feel all of their own, they take a while to get used too & I have visited many over and over. London has changed recently. Its not the Capitol I remember it has a feel of that of the americas when the camarilla lost control. It has the feel of danger and unrest all under the surface, not even how it was in during the time of the brothers during the 60's

DOMAIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

Laws of the Domain of Glasgow

1) Admittance

All kindred of standing within the Camarilla may enter the Domain of Glasgow under invite. Their host must inform the Scourge and provide a detailed description of their guest.

All kindred who do not have an invite, or are not a member of the Camarilla must contact the Seneschal to ensure proper arrangements are made for their arrival.

Kindred found within the domain without permission shall be apprehended by the Scourge.

Elysium sites
The official sites of Elysium and their current status within the Domain of Glasgow are:
Gallery of Modern Art – Active
Bardowie Castle - Active
Kelvingrove Museum and Art Gallery - Active
The Peoples Palace and Winter Gardens has been retired as an Elysium.

HUNTING FOR TREASURE

Well its coming time for the Final of the treasure hunt, we do hope you have all been keeping scores and solving the puzzles set for you. We would have made it harder but we didn't feel it would have been a fair playing field for all of you.

Remember trophys are available for everyone – participation is worth a trophy..... or you could win a Prize. If you want to take part ask your local Ravnos representative.



From the office of the prince

All residents of and visitors to, the Domain of Glasgow should be aware that two of the domain rules have changed over the last several months.

Following the conclusion of affairs in the previous year, measures that were put in place to enforce unity during a time of turbulence, have been lifted.

Primarily, these below rules of the Domain of Glasgow have been updated to reflect the shift in stability.

7) Ghouls

Kindred are free to create Ghouls as they see fit, but they are responsible for all actions of their own. Should a Ghoul be found to have breached the traditions, their domitor shall be held accountable.

Ghouls shall not be considered to be "of the blood"

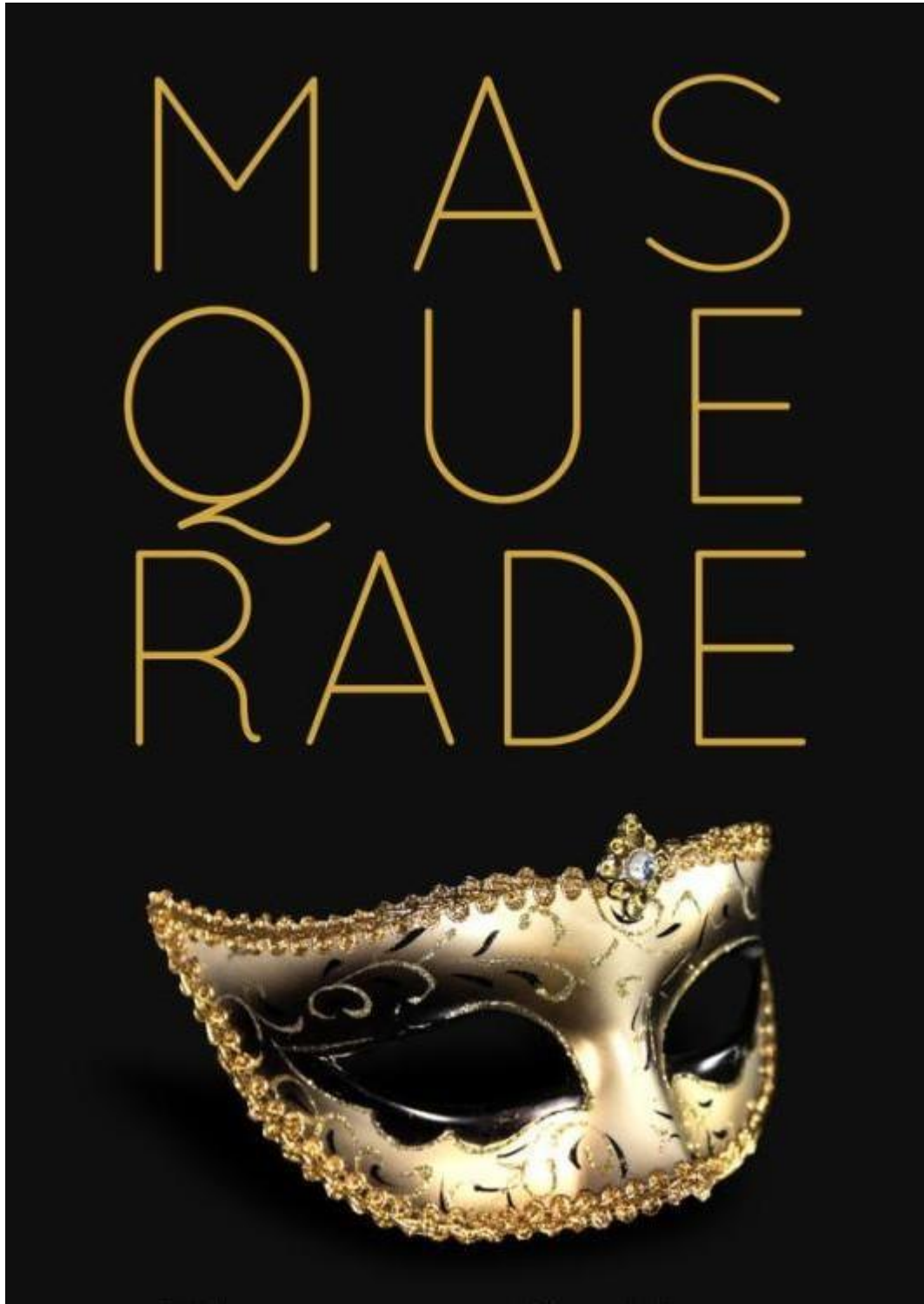
8) Offices of the Domain and the Primogen Council

No kindred who holds office or positions in another's domain, may hold office in the Domain of Glasgow.

Any who are found to hold office in another's Domain, shall be instantly stripped of their office within Glasgow along with any entitlements afforded them by the Prince.

The council of Primogen shall be made up from those kindred selected by their clans. If a clan does not put forward a representative, they shall receive no representation.

Esteban Korsgaard, Prince of Glasgow



Why oh why...

Greetings travellers, Well.... Last week I ended with a poem, tonight I start with a song.

Cause I've done it before,
And I can do it some more,
I've got my eye on the score,
I'm gonna cut through the floor,
It's too late,
It's too soon,

Or is itTick tick tick tick tick tick tick... BOON!

THE MASQUERADE

UN-MASKED

GLASGOW PERMIER GOSSIP COLUMN BY THE

Yes, my little cowl thought you might like my rendition of that particular pop record. You have all gone a little boon crazy now, haven't you? Such dangerous hands you have all been dealt, tut tut tut, such dangerous deals indeed

Deacon and Sir Charles, shocking!

Jack and Giulianna, slanderous!

The new Gangrel and Grey, inconceivable!

All those boons and not one passed by the harpies, it almost feels like they are filthy lies.

On to more pressing matters, Lady Salisbury Prince of Edinburgh and her Senechal finn huxley have been assassinated!!! Can you believe the audacity!! Rumour has it that several figures where seen running from the scene, Hope none of our kindred in Glasgow had anything to do with it. Lucky for the ones involved, Edinburgh's gone dark.

And Finally, A few of the little ones have been getting bold, respect your elders or they will crush you. If you try to outsmart Sir Charles again, he will obliterate you. You only got away with it the first time thought luck or he's getting slow. Don't chance it again. You know who you are.

Till the next time, your ever-loving Veil.
XOXO

News & Rumour from Harps around the land

HARPY QUOTES

Glasgow -

Edinburgh -

Dundee – Its been noted Glasgow court has less decorum than to be thought right, you are being watched by Zittern

Oban - we hear building for the future is the new Black

Inverness - Is the level of self love to much or will it work

Aberdeen –

Carlisle – Well its good to have friends in high circles

York - Trust thy neighbor to the east OR NOT!

Manchester – Could the team of 3 new harpies love each other any more.

Birmingham - could the sickly sweet stench from Glasgow be any worse

Norfolk - The Prince is angry like a WEREBADGER

Severn – oh how shall we celebrate the losers to come

London - Well a grand old time we are having.

Anarchs - Hotel Paisley, defiantly not California

Ireland gossip - Well don’t think we are tourist destination.

Europe - It is impressive how the new harpies of Glasgow come from such a grand Lineage.

America - long may the new king live.

Kindred,

I would like to thank the kind and gracious Kindred of Edinburgh for my generous welcome as I visited their beautiful and storied Domain over the past several months. You really are too kind, and I hope that my embassy on behalf of Clan Assamite is reaping some benefits with your good selves.

I would also like to thank Sheriff Douglas for his kind letter of introduction to the Prince of Oban, who I hope to visit early in October. I must say that I am fascinated by a Domain split over numerous islands, especially one so young! I look forward immensely to meeting the various Kindred residing in Oban and hopefully exchanging stories and philosophies with as many of the residents as I possibly can!

Zev Ben-Zion,
Emissary of Clan Assamite to Scotland.

A Lesson in Insults

Recently, a Kindred has graced our unives with paltry gossip and poorly veiled insults in The Dark Times, well we thought it appropriate that we provide this Kindred with a small lesson in the art of insulting, more commonly known in modern times as 'throwing shade', or more historically as 'flyting'. If one is going to try and humiliate, they should atleast do it properly:

A vile, venomous Veil
cowers concealed in cowls
Milksops, mealy-mouthed
for dull, dim and decrepit deceit
Your slander shows scarcity of skill
for this, the flair of flyt
Masters meticulous in their métier,
do deliver a great deal of delight
Assembled for an audience assuredly
for beings of beauteous blackness,
they set standards for something significantly less stale,
to entertain, engross and engage
By brains and blistering bite
And the polished poet postures,
Thrilled by thunderous tribute,
Lounging, luminous in the light

But you, my vile, venomous Veil
cringe, covered by her cowls
Bereft are you, in bone of back
and solid strength of self
Like a recalcitrant, rabid, rampant rat,
flinging your filthy fabrications.
While cached a considerable ways from court
Rather rude for those ready to riposte

We do so hope you've learned something from our demonstration, and we look forward to your next article,

Much love,
Leo Clarke & Claire Voyant

Traditions: An Essay by Leo Clarke and Claire Voyant.

As many of the members of the court may know, we have been under Sir Charles' tutelage to ensure we have a proper understanding of the Traditions, and this piece is to be the culmination of that tutoring.

Masquerade

Starting with possibly the most important of our traditions, The Masquerade. That beautiful illusion we sustain to protect ourselves from mass extinction by the hands of the Kine. As many of you know, we have been conducting work for Elder Grey in her duties as Keeper of the Masquerade which should prove we more than understand the need and ability to protect that illusion.

Domain

As apex predators and stewards among the night, it is imperative that we maintain our own hunting grounds, given the permission of the Prince, of course. It would be anarchy should feedings grounds be a free for all, and that would be the last thing any of us should want. As such, the need for Domain is apparent. A responsible Kindred knows how to maintain their populace such that the Masquerade maintains, and should they prove otherwise, we all know the consequences.

Progeny

A simple tradition, really, but important nonetheless. It is important that we monitor and maintain the number of our kind within our cities, for much like the Kine which we feast, we don't want to face the possibility of overpopulation, and that may be most disastrous for us. An overpopulation of Kindred would deplete resources of Kine at an alarming rate that they would be sure to notice...

Accounting

Another simple tradition, but one which ensures order in our society. Similarly, to the Kine, one must be responsible for their Childe until they prove capable of surviving on their own. Without such rules, our society would be chaos and our existence most likely discovered centuries ago.

Hospitality

Ensuring the survival of our kind should be a priority for any good Kindred, and the Tradition of Hospitality ensures such. One should never turn away a Kindred who comes to you in dire need, unless of course they breach the terms of Hospitality, because like all things in unlife, it is an exchange. We shall ensure safety while in the domain of another, so long as you respect them and their authority.

Destruction

Finally, the most dire of Traditions. The Tradition of Destruction gives the right to our Prince to remove those Kindred who violate the order and sanctity of their Domain and the Traditions. This Tradition also includes the right for the Prince to call upon the Blood Hunt, a terrifying prospect for any Kindred, giving all members of the Camarilla the right to destroy the Hunted on sight.

Now, we can write about the traditions for decades, however that hardly proves we are capable of upholding them, so how about some examples? As previously stated, we have done months of work for Elder Grey in upholding the Masquerade, however in this work we have dealt in protecting the Domains of others and how a breach into another's Domain would be incredibly detrimental.

Hospitality is one which we are unable to prove we can uphold, as we lack a proper domain, however our attendance at the Prince's Anniversary Ball gave us ample insight into how one should receive guests which we may not be on the easiest of terms with.

Progeny and Accounting are two which we will likely be unable to prove our ability to uphold first hand, however our own Sire gave us ample insight into how not to raise a Childe, for if he had raised us correctly, we would not have to write this essay.

Lastly, Destruction. One we hope to never be at the receiving end of, however we have seen the, relatively minor, consequences of going against the order of the Camarilla at the hands of our stern teacher.

Vampire Life and Politics essays – 02. The Office of Scourge. By Millie Howard

I will be continuing my series of essays about court life and our histories, This month I will be focusing on the role of the Scourge and their position within the court. Unlike my first article where I purely researched books on this occasion, I was granted an interview.

The term, scourge, comes from the Italian word "scoriada," and ultimately from the Latin "excoriare" [to flay] and "corium" [skin], often depicted as a whip or lash used for the infliction of punishment. Traditionally the Scourge, much like its menacing counterpart, would assume the physical embodiment this, dealing punishment on behalf of the Prince and the city. This role has grown and evolved throughout the centuries and is often

deeply specialised to its own city, making it very difficult you get a true picture of the position from reading books alone.

For this reason, I was very grateful to be granted an interview by our own D Scourge, Jack.

The first thing that struck me about the position of the Scourge in comparison to my book research is how this role is thoroughly modernised, despite how medieval the title may sound. Rather than the image of the ruthless punisher, the modern Scourge relies on brains as well as brawn, often finding themselves spending 95% of their time investigating. If I am brutally honest is a stark contrast to the image I had conjured in my own mind. I had images of the axe welding barbarian, a force of nature with no guided direction. Instead, I found a careful and pragmatic process was the driving force of this job. The phrase 'forewarned is forearmed' is very relevant in this circumstance considering the size of our fair city and the dangers that can rear their head every so often. By taking this pragmatic approach, the scourge is prepared for any situation and minimalises any compromise to the masquerade. This prepared approach also has other benefits such as reducing the need for long-winded patrols and allows for dedicated missions to be carried out swiftly and efficiently.

The Scourge also has the daunting task of keeping up with the times. With the emergence of new technologies, the very nature of the job has changed. The use of phones, the internet, and surveillance has become more prevalent in our world meaning the Scourge needs to be experienced in new technology and its applications. This has been a double-edged sword for the Scourge. While giving the Scourge new tools in their arsenal, the subjects of the investigation also have access to modern means of subterfuge. Making the job a complex undertaking, definitely not for the foolish or faint-hearted.

But at its very essence, the Scourge's role is to protect the city from entities that shouldn't be there. Trusted to carry out the will of the Prince and eliminate threats, the Scourge is a potent element of the court and the safety of our city.

Having had the pleasure to speak with our city's Scourge I have a deep appreciation for the role and the energies that go into it. Investigations are meticulous, equipment and vehicles used are tailored for every situation, actions are balanced and reasoned with it all being enacted by a deeply dedicated individual. When I asked Jack if there was anything about their role that they would like people to know about or understand, rather than taking an opportunity to self-promote or bemoan an aspect of their job, they instead requested that people understand the importance of calling ahead when you go to a new city and bringing a letter of introduction with you. This shows the dedication that Jack has to this post.

Millie Howard

FROM THE PRINCE

The veil? Really? That's the name you went with?
That's too cliché even for me, but I guess there's no accounting for taste.

Oh well I guess I'll just watch this unfold. At least watch from a comfy position with popcorn.

Esteban Korsgaard, Prince of Glasgow

HARPY ARTICLE

What a delightful court we had this last month. Prince Esteban was away on important business, and it just goes to show that we were all mostly well-behaved, with a few exceptions which I am more than happy to gossip about in person.

It is the season of Halloween, when we cast of our usual masks and put on completely new ones. I, for one, am greatly looking forward a change in image to Lady Julie's party, to the extent that I am even considering going without ink for the whole evening. Or maybe some delightful prison tattoos to match the redneck theme. That said, in putting on a new mask entirely, I am going to leave the public muck raking to my eminently qualified colleagues and instead show another side of my face here. I want to talk about Boons, my darlings.

Some talk of Harpies as accountants of prestation, and in many ways we are. To carry that image forward I would like to pen a little essay on a subject near and dear to my heart: that of Boons as an investment. Now, this is a somewhat traditionalist view - not every Harpy will agree on this, and some take an even more hard line than I do, but that is where the fun lies.

Consider the Boon as an investment, rather than an IOU. Are they truly gone when the person who owes you is dead? Scattered like burning bank notes? I disagree. You had made an investment by offering services to

another Kindred, you simply had not cashed in your investment. I would argue that if someone is found to destroy your investment you are due compensation. If I kill someone who owes a powerful Vampire a boon, I fully expect for them to come knocking at my door and ask for compensation.

If you fail to compensate for their investment, I would argue that perhaps you should be viewed as the kind of Kindred who does not hold the system of prestation at the heart of everything. Our entire economy, our civilized society, depends on the system of boons being held as sacrosanct. If you do not hold this system with the reverence that it demands, then Harpies will talk, and they will judge.

Of course, there are those amongst us who are above such compensation. If your investment is destroyed by a Prince, then maybe they were not a wise investment in the first place. I certainly wouldn't come looking for compensation from a strong Prince, or one acting with their authority. The same applies, in reality, to Archons and their Masters.

Take a little thought on this, my friends. There is a reason why our society revolves around Boons. It has not been unknown for the clever amongst us to seek out the powerful and place themselves in their debt, such public Boons make a wonderful insurance policy. I certainly wouldn't like to suddenly end up in debt to Queen Anne, for example, were I to snuff out one of her investments. And thus, through our social power the power of the Camarilla is maintained - as one of our most powerful once said, "vincam etiam ab inferis."

- Deacon, in this case, "simply" a Harpy.

Short skirts and shorter tempers

Well, my darlings - my thanks for showing that you can all be comparatively well-behaved on Elysium, and that Sir Charles was not required to use his axe.

Perhaps there was some unexpected - some might say less than subtle - behaviour from certain luminaries of the court - but having to write a 'Dear Diary: Tonight nothing much of interest happened' would be dreadfully dull, don't you think?

The least said the better of a certain wagging tongue. Your attempts to create dissent do not merit the oxygen of wider publicity, but we had hoped for more loyalty to your fellows. Shame.

Rumours swirled surrounding Keeper Grey's outfit. Personally, I rather enjoyed seeing the young lady's increased confidence - but it seems a sweepstake has now been opened regarding the reasons for her choice, and perhaps whom she was dressed as. I am told that one can add a minor boon to the pool to submit a guess - and the winner will be awarded the pooled boons. So far, we have heard guesses that she was pranked by being told that it was a costumed event, choosing to present as the Whore of Babylon; or alternatively that she was displaying Anarch tendencies. I shall not be participating in the sport myself, but I shall be speaking to those competing to better understand how they intend to determine the winner...

The Scourge's ill-temper was noted by some - but I found Jack's choice to sit at my feet and quietly demonstrate her dexterity a rather entertaining change of perspective - and I assure you that my Achilles' tendons were quite unharmed by the sharp breeze, on this occasion at least. There's always another night and another opportunity, isn't there?

Glasgow appears ever-popular, with some new faces hoping for residency, a social call from a member of the Anarch Movement (whose name I didn't catch, but whose ignorance regarding letters of introduction has given me fuel for other articles) - and the kindred of Carlisle treating us as fledgling daycare (night care?) once again. Darlings - please don't do this - at least not unless you also bring Mr Burton a cake to apologise for the inconvenience. It won't actually improve opinions towards you, but it would at least mean we could look forward to his ever-more-frustrated attempts to research some stale baked goods - since clearly the more invisible the threat, the more nefarious it must be.

However - now is scarcely the time for sweetness.

As we go to press, rumours of grave news have reached me - and I fear that condolences must very soon be expressed. Not wishing to propagate rumours before the matter is confirmed, I shall merely say: brace yourselves for a wind of change from the East.

Lady Giuliana Dunsirn

For the Harpies of Glasgow

An Introduction to Introductions

Recently at court, I heard someone questioning what a letter of introduction was, and why such a thing was required.

I shall endeavour to answer this over the coming months in a series of short articles covering the following topics - please contact me for pre-publication copies of the future entries.

- What is a letter of introduction?
- How and when should a letter of introduction be presented?
- How to write a letter of introduction - and how that might vary for a friend or a rival
- How much should you charge, or expect to pay, for a letter of introduction being written?
- How to interpret a letter of introduction: double-meanings and discreet warnings

What is a letter of introduction?

At its most simplistic, a letter of introduction is exactly what you might expect - an introduction written by a mutual acquaintance, a kindred of reputation, who is prepared to recommend you. Instead of that person introducing you directly, you present this letter on your arrival in a domain.

Neonates may wish to compare the need for such a letter to mortal reliance on a good reference from a previous employer, or even a passport for travel abroad - evidence that one's behaviour has not been criminal, and that one's presence will ideally be of benefit to the domain.

It may be asked why such letters remain necessary, in the age of video-conferencing and other such instant communication.

The answer, to an extent, is simply tradition. We have always done it this way, so why should we change?

But it goes deeper than mere habit - just because such technology is now available does not mean all kindred would choose to use it, and with good reason. Hunters, or tech-savvy kindred, might be able to snoop on such 'private conversations'. The timing of such a conversation may be inconvenient to the reputable and busy kindred concerned, in a way that a letter would not be - and I need not mention that some kindred, whether by clan or mere personal idiosyncrasy, have their own issues with cameras.

And unless recorded (which comes with its own digital storage security concerns), the results of such a conversation remain thoroughly subject to the interpretation of the kindred concerned - whereas a letter may be referred back to in the future.

Yes, theoretically such a letter could be a forgery - although my darlings, you are naive if you think that further checks do not occur after introductions are made. The consequences of falsely claiming to have been introduced, both from the receiving domain and the supposed author, would be wildly more damaging than arriving without an introduction at all.

I shall leave you to speculate on how such a hypothetical scenario might be discovered and play out.

Until next time,

Lady Giuliana Dunsirn
For the Harpies of Glasgow

The harpies quite expertly referenced 'weregild' in last month's DT. It is an old concept, but it survives in some post-pagan literature.

Skaði, donned her battle armour and bashed on the gates of Asgard. She was a Jotun, a giantess. Picture a garou in full battle form banging on the door of court.

They did not turn her away, they did not slam the door in her face, they did not unleash a hail of arrows at her. For she was screaming about weregild, and she had a point. Asgard had just killed her father, Þjazi. Óðinn, their king at this time, agreed to take her into the kingdom under hospitality, and to hear her case. When a king hears a legal case it is as much politics as law, but I will summarise - she was in the right and had the strength of arms to back it up.

The next matter was the weight of the weregild. There is no set amount. It was always a complex negotiation - if negotiations totally failed then the offended party was free to take bloody revenge.

As this is a legend, her demand was not a weight of gold or silver. Her first demand was that they make her, a giantess who loved her father deeply, laugh in her time of mourning.

This is where Loki enters the tale. "Hold my mead, I've got this. I need a goat, and some rope", they said, dropping their trousers. Before long, at one end of the rope was the goat. At the other end of the rope was Loki's nutsack. History does not record who won the tug of war, or whether the god used a safeword, but Skaði laughed at a god near-castrating themselves for her amusement.

She also wished to take a husband among the gods. She had known them all of 5 minutes, so this was social climbing. Óðinn agreed, but said she may only pick her match according to their feet. The bachelors of Asgard were lined up behind a curtain, only their feet showing. Skaði would very much like you to know that she is not into feet, and thinks this was a bit cruel, but she agreed to it. The fairest feet belonged to Njörðr, not Baldr, but the Vanir are well known for their beauty. Njörðr himself fathered Frey and Freya with his sister.

Thankfully, one can be married but agree to live separately. Njörðr loves the bay, the seaside, the roar of the sea. Skaði spent a lot of time shooting seagulls with her bow, screaming at them to shut the fuck up. Skaði loves the mountains, the freezing cold, crossing land on skis. Njörðr could not sleep for the howl of the wolves. They care for each other deeply, they just can not live in the same environment.

To return to another DT article from last month - the 'price' of an infraction is not a menu, but a reflection of what the offended party needed to be made whole that time. When The Prince is the offended party, I imagine the price of placating him will increase with additional offenses, especially if someone tries to factor in boons as the 'cost of business'.

1: credit to "mulysa eht"
Bela Lugosi's dead

2: credit "Dr Grimm"

Discipline: When to Question, When to Accept and When to Move On.

Kindred,

My attention has been brought to an instance of not only questioning a punishment but also that it was 'unfair' and that 'something should be done about it' even after it has been concluded. This will not do.

Now I am a hard, but fair, Sheriff so for the benefit of those who may not know better and those new to the city please find below a breakdown of accepted protocol concerning these matters.

When to Question:
All instances of Law Breaking will be looked into fairly and after a thorough investigation judgement will be passed. During this time if any witnesses or evidence is brought to light all shall be heard and the discipline tempered accordingly. If the perpetration of a high crime is the subject The Prince shall be informed as only they can preside over such heinous matters.

When to Accept:
After the above investigation and collation of the facts the time for questions is over. Judgement shall be made and punishment carried out.

When to Move On:
After punishment is concluded, all parties are expected to move on with their nights as normal. At this point as far as the Officers and Court is concerned any dues have been paid and that is the matter concluded. As long as the Kindred remains within the city bounds they are treated with no further persecutions for the crime as they have paid their dues.

Now that said yes indeed grudges can and are often held between parties for many reasons with such feuds raging long after punishment is concluded but that is for the private unlife and nightly amusement of those involved to keep the evenings...interesting.

For the month of October any accepted Glasgow Kindred may feel free to bring any questions to me directly about above matters and we shall discuss any thoughts you may have. To be clear after this time of allowance has passed if such questioning conversations continue to be heard it shall bring stiff penalties for those responsible.

As always our Traditions and Domain Laws remain Sacrosanct,

Sheriff Douglas.



Gangs of New York – or Old Glasgow

DAVID WILLIAMS – STREET CORISPNDENT



War – War never changes

Gang war is always dangerous and especially in Glasgow the history of it is splattered with blood, death, torture and loss of freedom and of self. Recently people have lost the ability to feel free, they are only happy going about their lives knowing the destination is safe. Mostly they only go out if they have too.

Police are reporting record levels of thefts and break ins. Assaults can not be far behind as its surely the next level. Hospital administrators are not looking forward to what comes next. Lets hope the current gang violence doesn't escalate to how things were before with razor blades and ice cream.

Glasgow had seemed to almost evolved beyond this and I am full of shame for the citizens of Glasgow. We survive 2 yrs of the world trying to kill us only to find the gangs that must have felt a newfound freedom during them time feel pressure from the people on the street and the newfound police presence.

How will Glasgow cope with this new normal...



OUT OF CHARACTER

Storyteller Announcements

STs – OCTOBER 2022

So as we embrace the new modern technologies, as we have One Drive we have created a character folder for every player & will continue to do so. In your character folder several things exist, your GV consent form, A character summary and an Orders Template.

Please send us your emergency contact details.

We would like you to check we have an accurate consent form on record for you, if not work with us to get it up to date. Also getting the Character Summary upto date will help as this is lots of character background info that allows us to know things about your character. These are individual, let us know and we will give you the link to yours, also anything you already have on record for your character can be put here. Only yourself and the STs have access to this folder. This will also allow future STs to quickly get upto speed with your characters in the future.