

THE DARK TIMES

Sept 2024 | Wednesday | IN 314

Glasgow Court

Prince	- Magnus Burton of Clan Tremere
Seneschal	- Icarus of Clan Ventrue
Primogen	- Giuliana Dunsirn of the Giovanni Anti-Tribu - Mary Graham of Clan Toreador - Heather "Jack" Jackman of Clan Brujah
Whips	- Malcolm Campbell of Clan Toreador, Whip to Heather Jackman
Sheriff	- Rafiq Zev Ben Zion of Clan Assamite
Scourges	- Kenzie Lex of Clan Gangrel - Daniel Rogers of Clan Nosferatu
Keeper of Elysium	- Amelia Howard of Clan Toreador
Harpy	- Leo Clarke of Clan Malkavian

Reminder from the Editor

A reminder to all Kindred who receive this publication that prolonged possession of this publication is done so at your own risk and that the Editor advises destruction of this publication upon reading.

Pour vous illuminer, pour vous livrer la vérité

Announcements from the Prince of Glasgow

1. Clan Malkavian will be represented on the Primogen council by Travis Moon.
2. Kenzie Lex will no longer hold the position of Scourge. The domain thanks her for her service.
3. The Winter Ball will be hosted by our Keeper of Elysium, Amelia Howard. The theme is "Pantheons".

Advertisements

The Southsea Shipping Company is pleased to announce that we can now offer a "last mile" courier service within the Domain parcel delivery. Furthermore, we will also begin to offer an emergency passenger service in the near future for Kindred who find themselves away from safety with dawn approaching, more information will follow once the last details are finalised.

Seeking artistic expert in zoomorphic taxidermy for a special project.
Contact Sir Douglas for details.

Thaumaturgical Security Available

With the recent incursions of Havens both within and outwith our domain, increased security is a priority. As such I am offering to enchant warding circles to protect domain resident's innermost sanctums against intrusion by ghouls. Other wards are available upon request.
Atticus Clark

WANTED: Crash space for a couple of days, the pigs raided my pad (fcking ACAB amirite???) which was totally not cool. Can pay in weed or if you give me a couple weeks I can get some money, probably. I just need a couch or whatever, you'd be doing me a solid and I won't forget it
B. Shaftoe

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Clan Announcement

Kindred,

I am told that 'Skippy's List' had internet traction some years ago. Much as it is tempting to begin an equivalent 'Gus's List' for the family, I shall avoid slipping into wry levity at this time, for this is a serious matter.

I shall not bury the lede:

Feargus Dunsirn will be taking an extended break from kindred society.

He has demonstrated all too well how a lifetime of the Promise can breed in some a contemptuous '*Ah, but you can't 'do' me for it!*' attitude to all around him.

I assure you I can.

And I have.

Enjoy your dreams, or perhaps your nightmares, dear cuz.

I still consider that his death would have been a waste - but that does not mean I have any obligation to tolerate or be sullied by his persistent political inconstancy, or to indulge the ill-planned and self-serving behaviours he has displayed in public and in private. Instead, I pray that others will be able to learn from his example.

For anyone keeping count, my cousin has now claimed in matters of clan allegiance to be variously of the Anti-Tribu, inferred that he is not of the Anti-Tribu, and finally tormented the limits of linguistic negatives with 'Not Not The Anti-Tribu'. In sect matters he has sworn himself fully a member of the Camarilla, then published his membership of solely the Anarch Movement, before publicly declaring himself an Independent - this last shift from stubbornly proud Anarch to dedicated Independent within the space of an evening, quite possibly before most Anarchs knew of the conviction of their latest stalwart comrade.

I will emphasise the following:

Within the clan: the Louvre Treaty makes the expected permanence of one's loyalist or Anti-Tribu allegiances following public declaration of these to be very clear.

In matters of sect: The Camarilla is not some country club that one buys a weekend pass for. To contort the metaphor further - nor is it one where it is considered appropriate to pen insulting reviews using the hotel stationery whilst still expecting room service, or to engage in bar brawls with the staff. Sect loyalty is not something to be wriggled in and out of like changing outfits at a ball.

For any who may still be confused:

I recognised, and prioritised, when I worked to craft our terms of peaceful separation that there would be those who wanted 'out' from Venice's control without entering 'in' to *any* other ideological or political group. The Louvre Treaty ensures that those who wish that path for themselves can announce themselves Anti-tribu - can be free of the terms of, and wholly unprotected by, the Promise of 1528 - without being *obliged* to join another sect. I support your right to do this. To those who would seek to be Anti-Tribu but not Camarilla - I would remind you that independence is your own choice, but no Prince of the British Isles is under the slightest of obligations to accept an independent Giovanni Anti-Tribu into their domain. Even one who has joined the Camarilla must petition for residency, just like any other kindred.

The choice to join the Camarilla - to be bound by the Traditions (and both protected and restricted by the Promise *as a Camarilla member*) - is separate from being Anti-Tribu, but it is socially and politically binding. Apostasy is poorly looked upon. There will already be those who distrust you without even knowing you,

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because you have turned your back on Venice - do not compound that distrust by making your subsequent sect membership doubtful.

I trust that this is quite clear, and there will be no need to lay any other companions to rest alongside Feargus.

Prince Laura of Edinburgh has decided that given Feargus' ambiguous loyalties, it would be most prudent to treat him as a Giovanni of Venice, and ship him to that city.

If they execute him, we shall take this as regrettable confirmation that upon questioning they disagreed with this assessment, and mourn our dear cousin. If they welcome him, it will confirm that his engagement in Camarilla politics was as their agent - and consequently we shall expect apology and compensation from Venice to the impacted domains and individuals for his breach of the Promise of 1528.

*Lady Giuliana Dunsirn
Primogen of Glasgow
Former Consigliera of Venice
Capo of the Giovanni Anti-Tribu
Judas Whore, per her beloved cousins*



The Belles of the Ball

Mes amis,

What a delightful success my darling childe's ball at the priory was, with the surprise (to some of you) visit of His Grace the Toreador Justicar to cement the gathering as the place to be. The outfits were, of course, where my eye was drawn ... Lady Giuliana's dress was surpassed only by that of Viola du Bois. Jack's tattoo work was so impeccable that several Toreador asked if I had put needle to her skin (compliments, indeed.) My favourite Gangrel even dressed in colours to match mine, it was delightful.

With this in mind, and as the social season gathers pace, I have mind to open my doors for at least one commission. Whether your poison be an outfit to captivate your onlookers (consider the long coat that Prince Villon wore in Glasgow almost two years hence), perhaps some body modification (in the way the mortals talk of it, metal and ink, not the rumoured powers of a certain Clan of course), or maybe you need a new intricate blade (I definitely make weapons for show.) I do not often advertise for commissions, this is a rare opportunity.

*Deacon
Elder Toreador*



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A dog that normally does not bite suddenly bites someone, and I hear the dog is blamed by some. Some may question why the dog bit, among other questions.

Thoughts by
Dr Sabastian Greene

The German Guns

By Draven Southsea

I have been inspired by the work of Ms Howard and Mr Napier such that I have decided to put pen to paper and write something informed by my experiences in the trenches of France so many years ago and wish to share it now with the Court:

BOOM Boom boom BOOM
BOOM BOOM boom boom
boom BOOM boom Boom
BOOM boom boom boom
BOOM

Have You Herd?

I was surprised to hear recently that upon his coronation, by the Primogen for Clan Giovanni Antitribu, that amongst Leo's first priorities was to rescue the flagging reputation of the court, that Glasgow's standing had to be restored, and he was the Kindred to do it. I mean, I know he's demented, clearly, but even a Malkavian surely wouldn't be so far gone to think that they could "rescue" the reputation of a domain that boasts so many prominent kindred as welcome guests? I mean - what sort of reputation repair do we need, when the most prominent Kindred in Europe are in attendance at our parties? Francois Villon, of Paris, Amadeus Eddelstein, a Justicar, Queen Anne of York, The Viscount to name but a few. All of these kindred choose to attend Glasgow's party. Is that not the biggest over estimation of ones own abilities you have ever seen?

I honestly believe he has shown himself to be incapable of the role of Harpy and demonstrated why that Harpies should not, and are not anointed

by Elders at Court. He was chosen, and immediately fell flat. As one great politico of the modern era, Malcolm Tucker, put it about a PM picking his cabinet - fucking up after twelve months is your mistake, fucking up after a week is *his* mistake. It's clear it is a position above his station. This is not his fault, but that of the misguided attempt by a newcomer to the Camarilla, who is apparently not clear on our ways.

I of course, regret to resign my position as Whip to Lady Guilliana. At first I relished the opportunity to work with someone who was as shrewd as she appeared, only to be met with the blunt reality, squandering the opportunity to collaborate with the fastest growing, most prominent new Kindred blocks in the city.

Going forward I will encourage any enterprising Kindred to consider who they do business with, and who they chose to handle any mediation around their negotiations; is it wise to have someone so junior that is so clearly reliant on their Elder Sponsor, someone who has a track record of betraying trusts, being the person that the entire Court looks to to decide such important society matters? Perhaps in Snib's Cave, but it shouldn't be for a Traditional Camarilla Domain.

As ever, dear reader. I will of course keep my eyes open, watching for what's *out there*.

Calvin Pope

The Illusion of Reputation

In recent nights, matters of one's reputation have come barreling to the forefront of our society, and I do believe many have forgotten the importance of such matters.

Many Kindred prefer to cultivate their public image to be that of a fearsome predator; Of someone not to be fucked with. An understandable reputation to foster - If you *truly are* the predator you seem to be. Of course, there are many Kindred who would foster this reputation as a cover, a personal masquerade. Take, for example, a Scourge. The individual who fills this position should be one, if not respected, feared by others, someone who can distribute swift and decisive action. Most of their duties *can* be done by reputation - by the implied threat of their existence. However if that image is put to scrutiny and falters...

Well, would you trust, or fear, a Scourge who cannot win a fight they started? Or who frequently neglects their duties, paying for others to do them?

On a grander scale, the reputation of a city carries with it many benefits and drawbacks. Its residents painted with broad strokes and thick coats. I shall use Glasgow as an example.

Our city's reputation has rather drastically diminished in recent years - Despite the sterling reputations of some of its members. Our city used to be known as the home of fearsome Kindred who could face impossible odds; home to some of the most respected Elders in all of Britain.

These nights it is known as a Domain where its Elders coddle the young and a single threat requires the attention of the entire Court; It is where the problem children get sent to either die or prove themselves useful; Where even allegedly reputable members throw tantrums at one another in public forum.

Our city should not be a daycare for the Kindred of Britain.

Some may look at the fact that many Esteemed Elders choose to make their homes here, and many more visit to attend the many grand events our Elders host. This is not thanks to Glasgow's *sterling* reputation as a Bastion of the Camarilla, but thanks to the reputations of its various members and the

oddities we hold.

Our city should not be seen as a tourist attraction.

Many of you will recall I made promise to work to repair the reputation of our city. For those of you less politically savvy, this is what I meant.

I know our city is not what its reputation makes it appear to be. I know our city is better than that.

I hope you all do as well.

Leo Clarke
Harpy of Glasgow

Reports from Egypt show widespread rioting and civil unrest in the south of the country that seems to be spreading north towards Cairo and Alexandria.

Stores and homes have been looted and set in fire in Aswan, while religious centres of worship have been set aflame with no regard to belief or denomination.

Police and National Guard soldiers were swamped at Sohag and again at Asyut, with scores of casualties on both sides.

As yet, none know who the rioters are or what they want, only that they will not be dissuaded in their long march to the capital. It can't be too long before the government mobilise the military to protect Cairo and stop the mob in their tracks.

Lank Emmet
Harpy of San Sebastián

Portentous Prognostications from The Oracle of Edinburgh

Dear readers,

It has been noted that I have performed quite a number of readings for Glasgow of late. And while I do find the escapades of the Glaswegians to be entertaining, I am first and foremost the Oracle of Edinburgh, so I have opted to share a reading for the noble Court to which I belong. A local neonate with whom I have already shared this reading told me that it was, to use the modern parlance “cap”, and I hope that you find it similarly capital.



The first card we draw represents the situation as it stands. Here, I drew the Eight of Cups. This Card shows eight neatly-stacked cups with a prominently absent ninth cup. It represents a near-perfect situation, with only one flaw. Nobody could deny that the havens of Edinburgh have suffered the same unpleasantness experienced in every other

Domain save for Aberdeen. Yet, save for that one flaw, Edinburgh is a paradise for Kindred, flourishing under the wise rulership of Prince Laura Dunsirn. But what does the future hold?

Well, dear reader, next we come to the most advantageous aspect of the future. Here, I drew Justice. The meaning of this Card should be obvious even to the uninitiated. Those who would violate our havens and endanger our sacred



Masquerade shall be hunted down and made examples of by our righteous Sherriff and Scourges, restoring the capital city to pristine perfection.



But what of the least advantageous aspect? Here, we see the Six of Swords. This is most often depicted as a man in a boat with a woman and child, sailing from choppy seas to calm waters. I see two meanings here. One being that Edinburgh may experience an influx of refugees as Kindred whose havens have been threatened elsewhere in the UK seek refuge within Edinburgh, having caught wind of its flawless reputation. Alternatively, some of the more cowardly Kindred within Edinburgh may lose their nerve and flee the Domain, fearing that their havens shall suffer further violation, despite the fact that the situation will be completely resolved post-haste.

Yet there are two more Cards to draw. Next, we see the Knight of Wands in the reversed position. He charges forward, stave in hand, his steed rearing far above the ancient pyramids that seem so small in the distance. But the Card is inverted. Unlike certain other Domains, the noble Kindred of Edinburgh shall not go charging about with more zeal than sense.



No, we shall be as the mighty pyramids of Egypt, standing tall and proud for thousands upon thousands of years, as every new challenge falls feebly to wither into the desert sands at our feet.

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Finally, we draw the Page of Cups. This cheerful young man holds a golden goblet, no doubt the one missing from the Eight of Cups. He smiles warmly as a fish pops out of it – a surprise, but a pleasant one. The domain will continue to flourish under the guidance of Prince Laura Dunsirn and the next big story in Edinburgh will be one of joy and wonder.

So there, you have it, a noble and prosperous Domain, admired and respected across the land, marred only by temporary circumstance which will swiftly be swept aside, just as every other upset through the ages. The Domain shall endure like the mighty pyramids of Egypt, but unlike those dusty tombs, the glory days are far from over, and new wonders are just over the horizon.

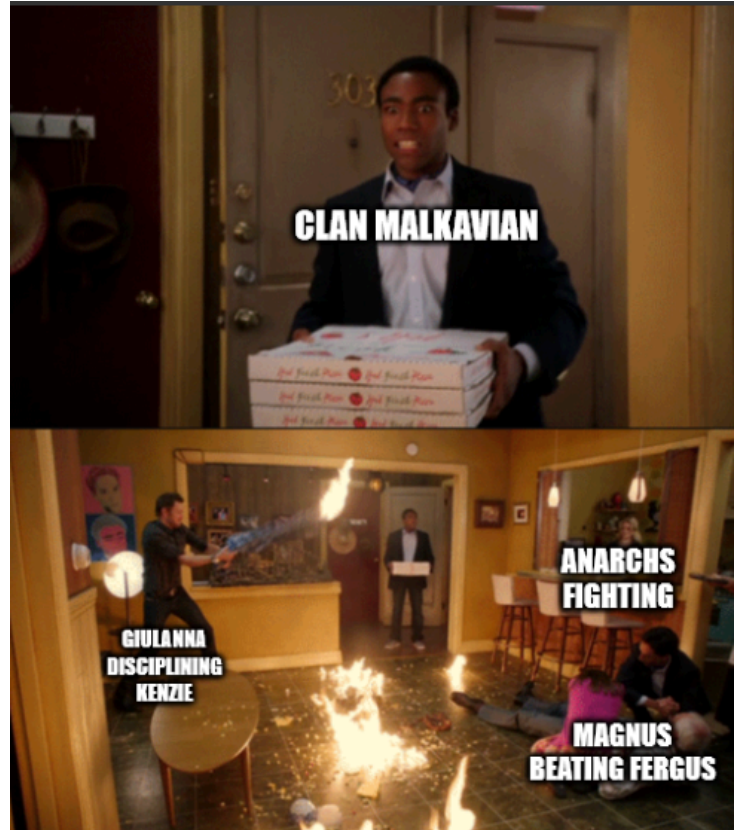
*Yours faithfully,
Eamon Grant, the Oracle of Edinburgh*

The Veil



The Veil

A Kindred from Glasgow is Visiting your domain	
It's a hound of the Sheriff	
It's Travis Moon	



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ST Announcements

So I want to take a minute to remind people of one of the more difficult parts of the game. You *can* be put into torpor in downtimes. There are some pretty basic reasons for this. Your main interactions with the world & NPCs happen in downtime. If we removed this option then not only would it put combat based characters at a major advantage but would also make the ability to plan and get help from NPCs impossible. This is part of why you build backgrounds in orders. It's one of the main reasons to build up your Haven(s) and why we ask you to have your backgrounds filled out on your sheet.

The biggest threat to your PC is not the STs; It's the dice and the other PCs in the game. The more information they have over you, the more power they have. Knowing how and where you feed means they can poison you. Knowing where you sleep means they can launch day time attacks. It's why you build up ghouls and retainers. It's why you spend so much time working out traps and security quirks. You are all equally able to have contingency plans in place on your character sheet in case of torpor as well so if you've never thought about it, I'd recommend thinking about it.

We are predominantly a social larp but it doesn't make the threat of PC death any less real and sometimes... usually it comes unexpectedly.

We will try to run potential torpor actions as a linear but the simple fact is that, it's not always an option. GV takes a significant amount of time and effort to run. We have work, we have kids, and sometimes people just get sick. We don't always have the time to give for it as much as we do wish that we did. Unfortunately, unless you are willing to give us a salary, we are always going to be limited in what we can realistically do with our free time.

Secondly, if you have ghouls: they require a dedicated order point to upkeep. If you do not spend that order point your PC is not taking the time to visit them or to feed them. Your PC will risk an attention-starved crazed ghouling the streets of Glasgow to find you. This can lead to a masquerade breach which as the PC responsible for them, you are held accountable at court for it.

I understand that this may not be accurately conveyed in the house rule on the website but working on the house rules is an AGM motion that we'll consider closer to the time. For now, the issue is that there are quite a lot of you including your ghouling upkeep as a note in your orders, which we can't accept as an action. There are no notes in your orders that we can accept as actions taken except for in character chats.

I am in the process of arranging things for the mechanics EGM, it is a bit of a slow process which I'll aim to have tied up in the next month or two.

Lastly the Winter Ball, there is a facebook event tied to the facebook group where I will be posting information then cross posting to the discord.

Tickets are £30 which covers food and a contribution to the room cost.

Tickets must be booked by the 13th of October by sending the cost to the GVLarp account, emailing us at storytellers@gvlarp.com to confirm and let us know your dietary requirements.

For those of us who have never seen a winter ball, this event happens in place of the game in November on the same date. The dress code is in costume but the effort you put into that costume is entirely up to yourself. All that we ask is that it's appropriate to wear in public really.