



## On Guiliana Dunsirn

Let it be known by all kindred, that her majesty Queen Anne, Prince of London, takes her role in defending the traditions of the Camarilla seriously. These include not just the six Traditions of which we are all familiar, but also the tenets of the Pax Vampirica, respecting Elysia, upholding prestation, and adhering to treatise signed by the Camarilla as a whole.

Let it be known by all kindred, that Guiliana Dunsirn, in violating the responsibilities of her role as Harpy, has been seen to threaten to undermine these traditions.

Let it be known by Guiliana Dunsirn, that until such time as the Harpy of London informs Her Majesty that you have made amends for your recent unacceptable conduct, you will be denied the word of acceptance, nor offered Hospitality, within the Domain of London.

Viscount Falmouth

- Second Seneschal of London
- On behalf of her Majesty, Queen Anne

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Fellow Kindred,

Harpies are often seen as little more than gossip mongers; the kindred who attend salons and parties, swan about in fine dress, and collectively agree what (and who) is in vogue. But the greatest function we serve is

not to simply tell others of the current zeitgeist, but to act as arbiters over disputes between our peers over the boons they owe. We are not, as some think, glorified accountants with the sole job of recording debts in a leatherbound tome. Nor are we appointed by a Prince to serve a domain. Rather, we are recognised and trusted by our peers to adjudicate when there are disputes, and to remind others of their duties and the unwritten rules of prestation.

That role comes with a great deal of implicit trust. It is expected that each of us will have our own interpretations of the rules of this byzantine system of debts and favours, and as each of us will act on those slightly differing understandings, we may all come to differing opinions on things like if debts have or have not been satisfied, or if a favour has incurred a major or a blood boon. As a result, we will never agree on every decision every harpy makes, but we can agree on general principles and will support one another, even if we disagree with them, as long as there are clear and justifiable reasons for them to reach their decisions.

Where a harpy abuses the trust and soft power that comes with their position, it falls to the other harpies to act as a check and balance to their poor judgement. One of the most extreme steps a harpy can take is to declare someone boon broken; signalling to the entirety of kindred society that one specific

Cainite cannot be trusted to uphold their obligations under prestation, and that no members of any of the great sects should offer them aid or do them favours. It is a devastating accusation to level against any kindred, and one that will always come under no small amount of scrutiny. Where such declarations are justified, a harpy will have the full support of her peers, who will ensure every member of every court knows that the offending kindred cannot be trusted.

But where a harpy gets it wrong, she must answer to her peers.

This, sadly, has now happened in Glasgow. The Harpy of the Domain, Guiliana Dunsirn, recently declared the Nosferatu Daniel Rodgers to be boon broken. She had previously declared him to be in danger of this, not because he had failed to respond appropriately when one of his debtors called in a favour owed, but because he owed several debts without being owed debts in return. It is somewhat uncommon, but by no means unheard of, for kindred to owe many debts at the same time. Some do so because they have been the victims of their elders machinations, and now owe their betters as the cost for being outmanoeuvred. Some rise too high too fast, and must pay others to help them stabilise in their new positions. And some are too short sighted to see the value of favours owed centuries down the line, and offer boons for immediate gain. Regardless of the reason, owing debts is never a reason to be declared boon broken. Only failing to fulfil them when they are called in is.

More importantly, it is not for a harpy to set time requirements for a creditor to declare that a debtor has fulfilled their obligations. Our role is to report when there is a concern about someone's trustworthiness to wider society, not to engineer those issues to fulfil our own

vendettas. Guiliana Dunsirn has made this mistake, and declared Daniel boon broken when no kindred had claimed he had not even attempted to fulfil his obligations when requested. Perhaps the most embarrassing part of the whole debacle was when a recently disgraced anarch corrected Guiliana's assertions, and the overwhelming majority of kindred present agreed he was correct. When a harpy is so spectacularly wrong that even those with no standing in your sect are seen to understand its social rules better, it is time to seriously consider ones position.

The role of Harpy can only work so long as all kindred can have faith that we will not abuse the soft power which we are trusted with. Should a harpy abuse her role, it damages not only her position, but also that of all other harpies. We cannot stay silent when there has been such a catastrophic misjudgement from our former peer.

We the undersigned no longer recognise Guiliana Dunsirn as Harpy. We will no longer offer her information on the boons owed or repaid in other domains. We will no longer faithfully record the boons she claims those in her court owes. We will no longer trust her judgement when arbitrating boon disputes. We encourage the kindred of the domain of Glasgow to choose a more worthy successor.

On this, we are united

Vanessa Norton

- Harpy of the Domain of Carlisle

Bethany Trimble

- Harpy of the Domain of Birmingham

Lucretia Reflection

- Harpy of the Domain of Manchester

Margery Houndsworth Stone

- Harpy for the Domain of London

It warms my heart to write in congratulations for the recent appointment of my cousin Rhiannon as Keeper of Elysium of the Domain of Edinburgh. She continues in the long standing tradition of the Toreador being the guardians of art and civility in our sect.

I have no doubt that the Lady will go from strength to strength in the upkeep and improvement of Elysia in Edinburgh, as well as to recommend her as a source of erudite, academic discussion with few equals.

Deacon.

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### From the desk of the Harpy

My darlings,

I had much drafted to say to you all - of court happenings, of standing, of the insatiable curiosity of harpies, and of the many ways in which a boon may be answered, from burning bridges to building public respect. Perhaps I shall offer that publication in private to those who seek to read it.

But I would be no harpy if I did not listen, and respond to, the opinions of my fellows in the salons - even, and perhaps especially, when I am the target of their critique.

Last court, I allowed pride, impatience and temper to get the better of me. It was not the behaviour that I, or any other, expect of an elder. The higher we rise, the greater the expectations of society upon each of us - and I fell short of those expectations.

Our court is not some back-room Anarch dive bar, where yelling, sulking and jeering is acceptable. I am more than old enough to know this, and should have shown you a better example.

I apologise without reservation for that, and will endeavour to correct for my shortcomings in future. Time is the ultimate enemy and ally of all of us - and I deliver into time's patient hands whether it will prove to be 'So you say' or 'I told you so'. I do maintain my own beliefs when it comes to Daniel Rodgers, but in this instance, actions speak louder than words.

He utilised the only harpy-recognised debt which was owed to him - by demanding that Sir Charles write publicly to indicate he had repaid a boon; and in return for which he did publicly acknowledge (albeit so quietly that those not utilising powers of the blood on Elysium could be forgiven for being unable to hear him) that Sir Charles was no longer indebted to him - as it had been agreed between them that he would do: publically and before the end of that court.

As such - I acted prematurely to speak, minutes before that end of court, to say that his (in)actions would prove him Boonbroken.

It was foolish and naive of me to trust the words of one who had repeatedly just insisted publicly to me - before the neutral witness that he had demanded, before an Archon, Elders, and court officers - that he had absolutely nothing to announce or record. I assure you, such a grievous presumption as to the honesty of another kindred will not be shown by me again. Mea culpa. Mea maxima culpa.

As for my fellow Harpy Juliet - I have repeatedly sung her praises in multiple courts and salons over recent months, and continue to see great potential in one who has risen so rapidly and recently from the ranks. In our society, the support of those who have already proven themselves is vital - and it would be imprudent of me to throw away such prior patronage and investment in a single moment of temper and frustration. She had no way of knowing that an Anarch would be so rude as to eavesdrop on her private conversation with her Primogen, or utilise the information gathered to showboat and disrupt court. A painful lesson for her, I am sure - but not one that also required a public tongue-lashing from me to strike home. I shall make appropriate recompense to her in private.

I shall save any further essays on propriety, or jibes at the behaviour of others, for another time. As Harpy, I should endeavour to spread the news, not be the news, and I once again beg forgiveness for my mis-steps in this matter.

Lady Giuliana Dunsirn  
Harpy

My fellow Kindred,

I can't say I'm sad to hear of the recent deliciousness in the Court of Glasgow. I still feel a warm buzz of excitement when I think about it, and frequently burst out laughing in public. I have always been a fan of cringe comedy, with Ricky Gervais in 'The Office' now rivalled by Guiliana Dunsirn in 'The Harpy'!

Can we have her checked for demonic possession or MK Ultra mind control please? It has to be something like that, yes? It couldn't be as simple as tunnel vision from a Kindred who constantly, and very vocally, professes her skill and knowledge as Harpy and Elder, to all who will listen, weaponizing her position in a personal vendetta against a certain Nosferatu that caused her THE most humiliating series of interactions in recent memory?

I mean, how deliciously ridiculous of her. After stripping all standing and status from the poor Scourge, she couldn't seem to help herself, obviously jumping the gun to declare poor Daniel boon broken when he in absolutely no way was. Embarrassing as that misstep was, she then barks commands in open Court to the Malkavian Elder and Harpy, Juliet in an ill-conceived fit of pique to summon her like a dog to kneel at her feet. As pathetic a display of temper as it is disgusting. I hope Clan Malkavian have something to say about this behaviour towards one of their Elders.

And then the four piece combo of outright public humiliation to finish her off... Up and coming Anarch firebrand Calvin Pope absolutely destroys dear Guiliana in the finest tradition of the Ancient Greek Assembly, shouting her down with facts and reason that destroyed her childish emotional outbursts... Up and coming Ventrue stalwart Theodore Harrison spoke up for Daniel and agreed with Calvin Pope on the correct way of things, utterly blowing her desperate arguments and attempts at justification out of the water... Prince Magnus so annoyed at the behaviour of Guiliana and her loud mortification at the hands of an Anarch and her status-less Nosferatu prey that he publicly called in his Keeper of Elysium to bring

the Court to order... And the knock out blow of said Keeper of Elysium's impassioned plea to cut the shit and grow up resulting in the offer of apology Boons from poor Guiliana that were dismissively refused by dear Millie... Twice...

With even a base attempt at apology refused and the implication that Boons from Guiliana are worthless, will others now 'dump their stock' in the failed Dunsirn Elder, if she will still be considered as such at the time of reading, or call in everything owed to try to get some value from her?

With her utterly atrocious handling of her grudge against Daniel of Clan Nosferatu, her public humiliation at the hands of an Anarch, her irritation of the Prince of Glasgow and his Keeper of Elysium, and the public backing of a nobody and his Anarch champion against her by the majority of the Glasgow Court, I don't believe that poor Guiliana will remain as respected as she currently is and will be considered a Harpy no more. Will she have less regard among polite society than her Nosferatu nemesis? Probably not, but nothing would surprise me at this point. Will Calvin Pope have more standing in the Camarilla than Guiliana? Probably not, but nothing would surprise me at this point.

And what about dear Guiliana's bosom buddy? Where was her White Knight Deacon? Standing by her side, no doubt, and yet utterly quiet. Nothing said in her defense. Nothing said to rein her in when she was so obviously destroying herself for no good reason. Nothing said to shut down her Anarch interlocutor. Not surprising really if you recall Deacon proved himself a coward at a recent Court when the Anarch Calvin Pope offered the chance of gentlemanly violence to Deacon, twice, and was fobbed off with pathetic excuses and hundred-yard-hero face saving from the arrogant paper tiger of a Toreador. Will we see Deacon stand forth to defend his friend's honour at the next Glasgow Court? Or will we see him talk a lot about how dangerous he is as he desperately swerves actually proving it as usual?

This episode will be studied by Kindred Academics for centuries I am sure, as they try to figure out just

what the hell was she thinking? But I, for one, am utterly thrilled with this latest season of 'Desperate Housewives of Glasgow' and can't wait to see what happens in the next episode! I will leave the lofty analysis to others. I am only interested in the absolute cringe comedy of our bumbling odd couple as they talk shit and embarrass themselves even further.

Eloise Kane,  
Harpy of Norfolk.

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Kindred of Glasgow, I must reiterate the announcement I gave at the last Court for those of you who were not present. A Sabbat plot has been uncovered which aims to impoverish us all. Thus far, Primogen Jack has discovered one dominated accountant, and it would be foolish to assume that only one is out there. I was able to extract the thoughts from this mortal's head and this revealed the names of several businesses targeted by our enemies. If you value your businesses, please do not hesitate to contact me or Primogen Jack. We feel that it would be irresponsible to release the full list, but for the price of a Trivial Boon, we can check to see whether any of your businesses appear on the list. Note that this Trivial Boon will be owed to Primogen Jack regardless of who you contact.

Primogen Moon

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### **Help Wanted - Codebreaker**

I require the assistance of someone with knowledge of languages and cyphers.

Prestation or exchange of services offered.

- *Atticus Clark*

To The Lady Nathaira,

Congratulations on your victory in our bet.

I proposed the challenge after you denigrated my craft and implied anyone could do it. My understanding of the subsequent challenge was a contest of critique, a test to see who could provide the most helpful and salient critique that would lead to an improvement in our dear seneschal's work. It is evident that you had a different understanding of the nature of the game and used that ambiguity to secure your victory.

To put it simply, I was under the impression we had agreed to a footrace, only to arrive at the racetrack and find you standing at the side of the track with a sign proclaiming that "Running is Dumb".

If your goal was to prove that there was no value to my craft and that you are perfectly capable of providing a meritous critique of another persons work, I feel you have failed. While providing encouragement is a vital part of encouraging artistry, without critique an artist's work will never improve.

However, you do not strike me as someone who would fail in such an obvious fashion, therefore I can only assume you baited me into this challenge and intentionally framed the challenge in such a way that you would win because the prize was of such value.

But my lady, if an evening of my company was of such value, you merely had to ask. I look forward to spending an evening as your guest and am certain you will prove to be an excellent host.

Kind Regards,

Chris Napier

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### **Seeking**

Experienced agriculturalist for land-based management project. Payment negotiable. For further information contact Sir Douglas.

## Looking back at 28 Days Later

It can be challenging as time goes on to remember just how significant certain media can be. One of the most well known modern examples of this would be the sitcom Seinfeld. For many modern viewers, Seinfeld can come off as just another sitcom, a very well regarded one certainly, but ultimately one of a long line of shows like Friends, How I met your mother, the Big Bang theory or any other of the dozens of urban sitcoms about 20 somethings with shockingly large apartments.

In short, people may find it funny, but they might be baffled for why it has the reputation it has.

What they are missing is the context Seinfeld came out in. Sitcoms at the time tended to build themselves around either family homes or workplaces. They would often descend into mawkish glurge when they needed to tug at the emotional heartstrings. The characters would be, while flawed, always eventually revealed to be kind hearted, decent people who improved and were improved by the people around them.

Seinfeld existed in opposition to that. The characters in Seinfeld were bad people, who were never redeemed. They were not united by a family unit or a workplace, but rather were an assemblage of friends who were just as likely to spend their time betraying and sniping at each other as they were to work together. The sentimentality that pervades earlier sitcoms was rejected with the famous rule "No hugging, No learning."

To modern viewers, this does not seem revolutionary. But at the time of its release, it marked Seinfeld out as utterly unlike anything else on television.

Looking back at 28 days later, anticipating the release of upcoming sequel 28 years later, I found myself struck by the same feelings. Danny Boyle's low budget slice of high tension does not look revolutionary at this point in time. The fast zombies, handheld cheap digital camerawork, the droning post rock score, all of these are now standard for the horror genre. They are not revolutionary ideas anymore. Even the overwhelming grim atmosphere is now de rigueur in a post walking dead landscape.

But when placed in context, 28 days later is one of the key turning points in modern horror cinema. Consider where horror was in 2002: In terms of zombie movies, the only other major release was the first Resident Evil movie, a live action video game adaptation that somehow made the characters less realistic. Cabin Fever announced the arrival of Eli Roth, one of the worst filmmakers in the industry, despite being a classist, unscary slog it manages to be his best movie. Halloween Resurrection and Swimfan represent a desperate scraping of the final dregs of the 80s slasher movie barrel. Of course, the always popular wild animal horror genre received Crocodile 2: Death Swamp and Shark Attack 3: Megalodon, along with Killer Bees! (exclamation mark included in title) and Eight Legged Freaks. That last one is actually a pretty good horror comedy.

It's into this context that we get 28 days later. We spend the majority of our time with Jim, played by Cillian Murphy in his breakthrough role, a bicycle courier who after an accident that leaves him in a coma, managed to sleep through the apocalypse. Shot on cheap digital cameras, with a minimal budget, it shows just how much can be achieved through clever filmmaking. The scenes of an abandoned London, the vast empty motorways of Britain, all of them were achieved not through expensive CGI or complicated arrangement, but by guerrilla filmmaking, shots taken at the precise right moment to present the aftermath of disaster.

Watching the opening scene, with Jim exploring the abandoned London may not feel revolutionary now, but in it's original context, it provided an appetizer for a new tone in horror, one that felt real, one that felt serious. If you watch that scene today, you will have seen it dozens of times or more. Because people have been mimicking it for the last 23 years.

I'm not going to provide a recap of the plot, which is very simple. But the appeal of the movie lies in the tone, an all pervading sense of doom that runs throughout the file. With a long awaited sequel final being released, it is a great time to catch up

-Chris Napier

## Through the lens of a young neonate,

### Status

I realise that I am still very young and have only been a released child for 6 Months. I understand that my status is that of a Neonate, however I felt I had to speak. I do not think one should look at status as a means to determine worth, I believe we should all look at each other and decide ourselves who has value and who has dignity and respect. In this form of individual ranking, I have a status chart of my own which I would like to share based on my own individual interactions- these are Kindred I respect & value in my time at court so far.

From the top

Daniel, Jemima, Travis, Sir Charles, Prince Magnus are my top and have the highest status for me. Simply because I have very honourable interactions with them so far.

Calvin, Robin, Chris, Cole, Jack, some Toreador.

Guilianna for recording my boons so thoroughly.

The rest I can't remember... my apologies.

I do uphold the values and principles of the Camarilla and I do not denounce the current status of our current court members. I hope you understand my train of thought. We all have our own circles of close allies each with their different values that we hold over them, our separate 'more personal' status list.

### Prestation

Considering current events, I feel obliged to use my own form of prestation, the barter system which I believe is older and more traditional than the recording of boons, like for like, tit for tat, a straight swap, unregistered. I have a bitter taste of the boon system now that I have seen how it can be used as a tool to belittle, humiliate and cause more division at court in Elysium than is necessary. I question whether I want to be part of it now.

Anon.

Emergency transport and discreet shipping or transport services available at reasonable rates.

Contact Draven Southsea for details.

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### Have You Herd?

...the one about the Nobody and the Anarch? It's hilarious. The pompous elder harpy was dragged down to their level and the Keeper had to give them all a telling off!

That's right, the Madame Harpy, that nurses Glasgow's boon trade on a necrotic tit, shot her load premature! She hasn't shot her load that early in the proceedings since her favourite brother joined her between the sheets for the first time.

She tanked her reputation so hard, that by the end of night she literally couldn't even give a boon away! But as amusing as it is, it should also be an important lesson to everyone. She is a predator that you cannot trust with your boons. If you fall into disfavour and she can see a way, she will fuck you. Take last court, a simple misunderstanding over the wording of a boon - and in complete bad faith - an obtuse attempt to force a Kindred of Court, a Domain official, no less, to fail in their obligation and thus render them Boon Broken. Something that if she had managed to hold her water, so to speak, for another thirty minutes she would have successfully managed.

I don't know about you - but she's either so underhanded that nothing she says can be taken at face value. Or she's too fucking stupid to tell the time. Either way, do you really want to have her manage the boons of the city?

While you all ponder that, I'll do what I do - keeping my eyes out for what's *out there*.

Calvin Pope