

THE DARK TIMES

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Reporter Serafina Fox, for the Dark Times

Glasgow, known for its vibrant culture and close-knit communities, was plunged into a state of turmoil when a mysterious new drug flooded its streets. Authorities both Kindred and Kine were grappling to contain the fallout from a substance that not only endangered lives but mystified anyone investigating the situation with its complexity and origin.

The infamous Daniel Kinahan, a figure with ties to the Free City of Dubai, was linked to the sudden influx of this enigmatic narcotic. Known for his reign over the Kinahan Cartel, operating as a mercenary outfit, Kinahan's association with the drug's spread has sent shockwaves through the city.

What baffled investigators was the unconventional strategy employed by Kinahan's operatives. Instead of the anticipated sophisticated drug ring, the operatives targeted unaffiliated youths from the traveller community, luring them with promises of quick profits by selling a new drug at drastically reduced prices. These 'travellers' infiltrated parties and raves, swiftly distributing the substance among unsuspecting individuals eager to turn a profit.

The repercussions of this drug, named Tranq dope, were dire. In Kindred beings, it hampers healing abilities, slowing down recovery, and possibly offering some form of relaxation to curb frenzies. However, in humans, it causes catastrophic organ failure, visibly manifesting as unhealing sores across their bodies due to the drug's decelerating effects on bodily functions.

Glasgow's healthcare system was strained under the sudden influx of individuals suffering from

these severe symptoms. The NHS had to shut down minor ailment services citywide due to an overwhelming number of users presenting with these concerning sores.

Law enforcement, faced with the daunting task of tracking this elusive drug, struggled to penetrate the clandestine parties where it is distributed. Multiple task forces were established in the Kindred realm during this time, with special mention of Clan Ventrue throwing their hat into the ring to solve this ever-growing problem. Thanks to these combined efforts the supply line has been served at its head. With numerous arrests of the dealer from the traveller community, causing their army of pushers to disband, While the shipping companies involved were heavily fined, causing a few to fold.

While Glasgow has grappled with this unforeseen crisis, questions loom about Kinahan's motives and the extent of his network's influence. Inside sources speculate that the increase in activity may be connected to Kinahan's top man disappearing for at least 4 months before mysteriously returning only to leave the city straight away. The city of Glasgow, renowned for its resilience, faced an unprecedented challenge in stemming the tide of this dangerous substance that has disrupted its very fabric. While it did emerge triumphant it also emerged, scarred, from this experience. While the streets are now clean of this substance, the question remains as to why a target was placed on this city's back.

Tranq Dope Update

I'm pleased to say that we've stopped the attack on Glasgow. It wouldn't have been possible without the help of so many of the city working together. Special thanks goes to Sylas and Sydnee for the critical help to identify Kinahan's primary distribution centre. Thanks to Kenzie for helping me stop the drugs getting into the city by a comprehensive attack on their shipping. With Influence in the Police and criminal justice system, the efforts of The Prince and Icarus got the right people arrested... and kept them there. The Ventrue as a whole mobilised the media and the councils so the city's mortal resources were focused on stopping the drugs. Additional thanks to Travis for his research which will help inform what steps we take to make sure this doesn't happen again.

We can't be complacent, however. We've succeeded in this battle but there is more to be done and Glasgow's enemies are still out there, preparing their forces to come at us again.

*Jack
Primogen*

Bibliophiles

Have you, like I, noticed a truly shocking downturn in not only the quality and quantity of the written word in the past few decades? Do you wish to see the written form preserved against the vulgarities of the modern age?

If your answer is yes, do make yourself known so we may act in the preservation of written word culture.

Sir Charles Douglas

There was an old sage called The Akkadian

With knowledge mystical and arcanian

He wrote an article for a Malkavian

And I'd like contact to be made again

Begin again

Seriously Sargon, let's hang out sometime! I'm sure we could learn a lot from each other.

Travis Moon

DEATHS & OBITUARIES:

The outlaw James Russell is dead.

There is no glory in this. There is only the passing of a soul from the world of the living, one step closer to Oblivion. And for the soul of a kindred, that final step can be a very swift one. But they are a soul that leaves clan, and kin, and loved ones behind. Regardless of their deeds in life - in death, their experiences and understanding are stolen from the world.

To my friends in Clan Gangrel - I offer my condolences for your kinsman's passing. For all else that he did, he fought to the last. Should you wish it, I will attempt to tell the tale of it at Glasgow's next court. The printed word is not the right way to do so, but wounds should not be left to fester and rot through inattention.

Lady Giuliana Dunsirn

Statement from Oban

I would like to personally thank Prince Magnus Burton and the domain of Glasgow for supporting the bloodhunt against James Russell, the traitorous Gangrel. More specifically, my thanks is extended to Lady Primogen Giuliana Dunsirn, Hound Zev Ben-Zion and his clanmate Sylas, who answered the call in person. The bloodhunt upon him is concluded: James Russell has met Final Death.

You may see a number of mortal news reports issuing from the Outer Hebrides - these media outlets are under our control, and are a necessary consequence of ensuring that Russell's brutish disregard for the Masquerade has no further consequences. Had he not already been bloodhunted for his attempted political coup, his recent frenzied slaughter of innocent kine would have left me with no choice but to call for his head. I will not tolerate such Tradition breaches in the domain of Oban.

Prince Olivia of Oban
Of the line of Karlson, Seneschal of Aberdeen
Clan Ventrue

Greetings Kindred,

Happily, I can report the Final Death of the Bloodhunted James Russell of Clan Gangrel, formerly Senechal of Oban.

I would like to thank Donna Guiliana Dunsirn and my cousin Sylas for their invaluable aid in locating and fighting this extremely tough and formidable Elder Gangrel.

And I would also like to congratulate both of them on a well earned victory!

Rafiq Zev Ben-Zion,
Emissary of Clan Assamite,
Hound of Glasgow

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Tragedy ignites social care controversy (Outer Hebrides News)

A joint investigation by police and healthcare officials is underway at private social care company Tranquil Vale, headquartered in Tobermory, Mull. It has emerged that all communication with sheltered housing on an otherwise-uninhabited island off the coast of Benbecula Island abruptly ceased several weeks ago. Staff at Tranquil Vale had insisted to concerned relatives that the blackout was temporary and blamed the problems on storms battering the remote island, which lies between North & South Uist. As more information has emerged and the full scale of the tragedy has come to light, questions are being asked about whether staff at the care provider knew more and were attempting a cover-up. Multiple employees have been suspended, and there is a real possibility that charges of corporate manslaughter will be filed.

The following report contains details that some readers may find distressing.

Emergency services were dispatched from Oban after eyewitnesses called to report seeing a raging fire on the island. On making landfall the following day with the assistance of coastguards from the Isle of Skye, the fire services discovered that Tranquil Vale's property 'Taigh Mairead' was still ablaze, and it was unsafe to attempt to enter; with a second property on the island also having been destroyed by fire.

On eventual entry, the heavily charred remains of inhabitants and staff were found still in their beds, with no survivors. Initial investigations have led the police to conclude that all had been dead for several weeks prior to the fire - and carbon monoxide poisoning has been listed as the cause of death.

At this time, the fire at Taigh Mairead is believed to have started accidentally following sparks carried from an explosion at the second property - but the possibility of arson at Taigh Mairead leading to the explosion at the other property has not been discounted. An insider at Tranquil Vale spoke to our reporter off the record, and outlined a history of cost-cutting with safety checks being consistently rescheduled and delayed.

The explosion at the second property will also raise further questions about more general mental health support services on the island, regardless of which fire caused the other:- it appears that a paranoid 'prepper' recluse had taken possession of an abandoned cottage and had been storing large quantities of fuel in a home-constructed tank built into the roof space. Firefighters attending the scene colourfully described the perhaps-inevitable result using phrases that this reporter feels it would be inappropriate to print. Local rumours that this was a 'meth lab' remain unsubstantiated at this time.

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Malcolm Campbell

In the realm of shadows, a Kindred known,
Malcolm Campbell, a spirit all his own.
A race car driver, with charm untold,
A toreador's heart, a soul of pure gold.

With handsome visage, a smile that's bright,
He races through the night, a thrilling sight.
But don't be fooled by the boyish grace,
For within his heart, a deeper space.

He's more than a racer, more than a face,
A kindred spirit, a gentle embrace.
Beneath the speed and the roaring car,
Lies a soul as bright as the evening star.

His eyes, like sapphires, they gleam with care,
For the world of darkness, he's made aware.
A toreador's heart, with passion's flame,
He knows that Kindred aren't all the same.

In the masquerade of immortal desire,
Malcolm's kindness burns like a roaring fire.
He's more than a boy racer, that much is true,
A gentle spirit in the dark, and that's you.

Amelia Howard

I'm sure many of you in Glasgow missed me this past month as I took my tour of other courts within the UK, and I am sorry to have deprived you of my presence. But Glasgow is home, so I could hardly stay away for long, though I must thank the domains I visited for their hospitality.

While I was travelling, I had much time to reminisce on the 19 months which I have been in the Glasgow court, and it has been a rather hectic

time. From arriving in the midst of a grand treasure hunt held by the Ravnos, and after the main body of our clan retreated to an oil rig for... Reasons. To becoming a member, and later the head, of the office of Keeper of the Masquerade, to the Whip of Primogen Douglas. It may seem rather gauche to talk of myself so highly, but I think it a rather inspiring tale for all the aspiring neonates that have arrived recently - Applying yourself and proving your worth will get you places.

And I think it rather damning for some of the more *experienced* kindred that we ended up in those positions. Did you know that I'm only 34 months old as a Kindred? Shocking, I know. But just goes to show that age is not all that one can be measured by.

Many have described Glasgow as a trial by fire for Camarilla Kindred, and I must agree. In any other domain, I doubt there would be the opportunity for such accelerated mobility in the ranks. However I think it does prove that trials by fire can indeed work, given that the trial hall itself does not catch ablaze.

Though sometimes it's impossible to avoid the trial hall burning up. Sometimes you gotta burn the forest to promote new growth. The phoenix must become ash to be reborn.

Take my time here as an example of what you can be, if you try.

Leo Voyant

Claire Clarke

Harpy of Glasgow

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Harpy Quotes

Our Dearest Benedict is, shall we say, indisposed following recent events. Let this be a reminder that we all serve, or even exist, at His pleasure.

Margery Houndsworth-Stone, Harpy of London

A stellar party in Glasgow. One would have even thought it was hosted by one of the Rose.

Maximilian, Harpy of Marseilles

Prince Leslie of Aberdeen sends his congratulations to Magnus Burton of Glasgow on his recent salon.

Dougal Douglas, Harpy of Aberdeen

Good dog. Bark the way your Master instructs you, because we know you have no bite, bitch.

Vanessa, Harpy of Carlisle

ST announcement

A really short set of ST announcements this month.

First of all, as this is going to be my last announcements written as Head ST (either I will be rotating the Head ST role with Susan for the next year, or we will have an incoming new ST) I wanted to once again thank the entire team of ASTs for their hard work, and every one of you as players for the energy and enthusiasm you've put into the game.

As we move into a new year, I thought it might be worth saying that as a whole lot of plots are wrapping up (four or five linears over the last month and a bit to put the finishing touches on things) December might be a good time to have some slightly less intense orders. Maybe give yourselves a break from the heavy plot chasing (unless you're really keen) and focus on some character building orders. I know everyone is going to be super busy with families over the holidays, so I would love to make things a wee bit easier on the

AST team as a Christmas treat 😊

Speaking of Christmas, have a little think about what you might want to ask plot-Santa for this next year. Do you want to see more action plots?

Do you have an idea for a personal plot for your PC? Write us a little note in your orders - we can't promise to give you exactly what you ask for (no asking to become 5th gen or learn Obeah) or if the other ST candidate will do similar if they win, but an idea of the kinds of things you are interested in will help us (or them if we lose) plan the year ahead.