

# THE DARK TIMES

Sept 2023 | Wednesday | IN 303

## Sheriff Announcement

A missive on conclusion to the announcement of April 2023. First though conformation for those that are unaware that the position of Scourge is not part of the Sheriff's Office but indeed a separate court position.

Now at the time of this missives penning the twilight of evening is ending with Saturn ascending and the Super Blue Moon coming into view, hear my assessment for those Kindred looking to gain my favour in regard to attaining Hound status and my to be my potential successor as Sheriff. I find that no current Kindred whom made themselves known have meet my favour to be forwarded for candidate for Sheriff at this time. For now nothing outwardly changes in this office and as from time immemorial for those known seeking favour education will be ongoing once again with my assessment being given at the next Harvest Blue Moon.

My assessment for whom Hound is:

Jemima, Hound  
Zev Ben-Zion, Second  
Travis Moon, Junior Hound

Any queries should be put to my Hound or myself.

As always our traditions are sacrosanct,

Sheriff Douglas

## Have You Herd?

This Tranq gets deeper and deeper. And one wonders what government agencies really are capable of. More and more cases of deaths are recorded each week in cities all round the UK. Particularly in young people - recreational drugs gone too far?

Well, maybe. But I have another thought. And it's an old trick we are all familiar with. Be it the 1980s explosion of Crack Cocaine, sponsored by none other than the CIA, or the Tuskegee experiments...or more recently the mantra "Safe and Effective". Governments have been filling the vulnerable up with enough potions and lotions to make your average Assamite Sorcerer blanch!

And this Tranq is no different. It's already established that it is an outside force, inflicting it upon the residents of Glasgow. An outside force with outsized influence. Able to manipulate the levers of power to further it's bidding. Coincidence? I'll let you be the judge.

I would not be surprised if there is a government lab out there, churning out high strength Tranq, messing with our blood supply. I've already reported on what effects have been claimed it has upon the blood bond....but what happens once it becomes part of our diet?

We need to start seriously looking into this threat. Before it's too late.

Trust in me, dear reader. I'll be watching, what's out there.

Calvin Pope

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Greetings Kindred,

I would like to publicly thank Sheriff Douglas for appointing me as one of his Hounds. I am more than happy to contribute to the safety of this great Domain of Glasgow and partly repay the very warm welcome I have received from the Princes, Officers, and other residents since my arrival 18 months ago.

I would also like to thank my fellow Hounds, Travis and Jemima, for accepting me as part of the team. I am looking forward to a long and fruitful working relationship with both of these redoubtable Kindred.

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

## Wanted

Kindred wanted with influence in the council and/or media for an anti-drug public awareness campaign.

Be aware that drinking from humans who've taken the drug 'tranqdope' can affect your ability to heal.

Jack, Primogen

Lose yourself in dance  
Feel the ecstasy of the bass  
When insanity feels this good, why be sane?  
Asylum  
Opening Soon  
All creatures of the night are invited

Advertisement by Leo Clarke of Clan Malkavian

## Beware the feeding grounds of Glasgow

While Glasgow has always been a dangerous place to feed if you're not careful due to the prevalence of drugs, but the rise of Tranq-Dope has taken a swift hold over many of the young teams and has invaded many popular feeding grounds from nightclubs to squats. Thank fuck we feed in Paisley, but how long until we face the same problem here.

Heed my warning fellow kindred. We do not yet understand the full effects of this drug on the kindred body.

#staggering #dangerous #besafe

Camilla  
Anarch of Paisley

In an environment brimming with unresolved inquiries and unexplored opportunities, let me confidently present Sylas - an experienced expert focused on technology advancements and the skillful tracking of individuals. With an unyielding dedication to unraveling concealed facts and adeptly maneuvering through the digital realm, Sylas delivers an unparalleled range of services that are bound to make a lasting impression, all while keeping pricing competitive.

Advertisement by Sylas of Clan Assamite

## The ancient and venerable sport of Beast-baiting

*Note: Naturally, I am writing this as a mere armchair commentator – like others, I eagerly await the return of Mr Ortega’s formal Harpy column to read truly biting social critique. But, whilst he is retrieving his pen from whatever bottomless crevasse it fell into, I thought I would offer some brief musings.*

For reasons which I shall not disclose, the sport of Beast-baiting recently came to mind. Not, I would assure the animal lovers amongst you, the baiting of bears or setting of dogs or cockerels against one another – but the baiting of the Beast within all of us.

This sport can be being played with many levels of subtlety and intent – and I would strongly recommend learning to recognise it. Young kindred may well not even recognise that they have engaged in this aspect of the great game – merely that they have driven another into rage, and they and their opponent must each navigate the consequences of that.

With a wholly predictable directness, the Anarchs consider it the height of political finesse to deliberately attempt to antagonise elders of the Camarilla into frenzy – ideally in court to maximise the elder’s public humiliation and subsequent disgrace. In the interests of keeping language current, my childer advise me this tactic may be compared to ‘trolling’ amongst the kine upon the internet – and indeed that younger kindred might recognise the unhappy condition that the target finds themselves in as ‘being triggered’.

Most established kindred, rightly, scoff at such crude tactics – and whilst nobody except the kindred who frenzies can be held responsible for

that loss of control – one who is perceived to have transformed another into a weapon (in both the classical sense and in the Glaswegian vernacular) may well find their own reputation tarnished as a result, for it suggests a lack of judgement.

Instead, the game is played one degree removed. A wise kindred will remove themselves from a source of excessive frustration before they disgrace themselves – but by doing so, they admit their need to retreat. Just as being placed into ‘check’ does not end a game of chess, but instead admits a position of weakness, so do kindred more subtly indicate that they have been outmatched. A rapid exit, an overly-loud setting down of a glass, an abrupt change of topic – all of these can indicate that unwritten but always-noted points have been scored. However, one may sometimes – shockingly – observe such uncivil behaviour as snarling or the flipping of furniture. Such things are remembered by the Harpies.

But the methods of testing another’s resolve and control can vary wildly. A knowingly incorrect form of address used in a most charming invitation, the subtext of an outwardly thoughtful gift, an obsequiously polite suggestion, a minor matter of local housekeeping – each of them a fresh gambit. And these too are noted – often with a discreet figurative golf-clap.

Until court, then...

Lady Giuliana Dunsirn  
Primogen & Chancellor of Glasgow

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## STORYTELLERS ANNOUNCEMENTS

We've been getting some feedback about orders and plots and I want to remind players that it's best practice to take a reread through your previous orders before submitting new ones and to reread responses just before game. We have a high number of players getting dissatisfied with orders responses due to misinformation and lack of communication between players. While this can obviously happen for plot reasons at the scale that it is happening, it's clear that quite a few are just simple mistakes. But sometimes those mistakes can lead someone on a wild goose chase to the opposite side of the country and waste several order points.

If this is something you are doing for plot then we would appreciate a heads up where possible so that we can manage player expectations about what type of plot they are engaging in and so we can better tailor order responses rather than just responding with further confusion.

If you are unable to join a plot line or if you are unsure if your participation in a plot requires orders then please reach out to ask us.

Susan will be running Order info sessions from 8:30pm on the 10th, 14th and 17th of September to answer questions and provide some guidance on how to write and get the most out of your orders.

We do have a template in the player handbook which helps players to keep track of what needs to go into orders and will become useful the longer you are in play to communicate boons, IC chats and trackers for progress towards backgrounds.

On that note I would like to reiterate to new players that we also have guidance on In Character chats which often take place over social media during the month, in the player handbook but to cover the basics:

If the STs do not know about it, it did not happen. Confirmation needs to come from all players involved.

No player should engage in any discipline rolls, frenzy checks or rotschecks without an ST present. IC chats are there to enhance gameplay, not to replace it.

Consent forms are available in the player handbook and should ideally be exchanged before engaging in any action heavy IC chats to encourage communication about boundaries and expectations. If these are not completed and exchanged, there is also the option of saying "X-Card" to put a stop to any interaction between the players involved.

On a more positive note:  
Please keep an eye on Facebook for any updates about this event;

We will be looking for a volunteer to be our guinea-pig to test, then host on the night, a GV themed pub quiz to kick off our 2nd fancy night out which we have written and prepared for you all. Prizes will be available for the winning team with a World of Darkness twist.

IC details will follow as we work with players to get them sorted.

Thanks folks  
The ST Team



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## Court Setting Information:

Stow College.

A throb of deep bass reverberates from the surrounding buildings. Hundreds of kine bask in deep pink and blue lights illuminating the facade. AFTERLIFE is here. A club night that is breaking the mold for Glasgow. Navigating the mass of happy humanity may be easy or difficult for Kindred, depending on their condition. There is no simple way through. Those who brave the private security will be ushered ever upwards. No lifts are in use. Each floor moves to its own rhythms and seems to draw its own peculiar audience. Eventually, those who make the climb are rewarded. The top floor, consisting of artists' studios, is entirely reserved for Kindred. It is here that the Prince is holding court. The vast energy of the building below meets the open skylights and rooftop breeze over the city.

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