Selected Biographies from Arlenburg's Guide to Peerage, 1067 edition

The Royal House Fabul

His Majesty Maximus, King of Avalon, First of his Name

Prince of the Blood, Duke Breathstone, Count of Amnisau, Stillwater, and Verdane, and Baron Caethbur.

Born: April 5th, 1031

Reign: July 1st, 1065 - Present

Motif: Valiant Tailor

Son of Tristan II and Leda of Hesperides, Sibling of Tristan III (and three others). First marriage to Sarah

Argen (deceased).

A true Valiant Tailor to his core, his majesty has long been a respected commander due to both excursions against bandits and monsters and border skirmishes with Valhalla during his late father's and brother's reigns; his status as the king's younger son furnished him with a proud ambition and powerful courage. As a commander, he was uncompromising with his men, but inspired them with his daring and clever battlefield tactics.

He'd naturally earned the trust of his elder brother, and so taking position as his brother's regent, and when his brother could no longer rule, the new king of Avalon, was inevitable once Tristan III took ill.

His Majesty Tristan III, 50th King of Avalon

Prince of the Blood, 50th Duke Breathstone, 38th Count of Aminisau and 10th Count of Stillwater.

Born: January 20th, 1021

Reigned: October 1st, 1040 - July 1st, 1065

Motif: Glass Mountain

Son of Tristan II and Leda of Hesperides, Sibling of Maximus I (and three others). Married to Charlotte

Argen (Deceased).

The eldest of His Majesty Tristan II's children, and one of only two to survive to adulthood. King Tristan's ascent to power was an easy one, and much of his reign was peaceful, barring a few incidents on the Valhallan border. The king was patient and held great largesse, but was often uncommonly merciful to his enemies. His wife, a Charlotte of the main branch of the Gistrom family, was chosen after she was perfectly able to both answer his riddles and correct his indulgences, tying his family to the Argens. This alliance was complicated by his ultimate creation of the Duchy of Arcadia under a Rillheart leader towards the end of his formal reign.

They had one child, the Prince Alistair, who none have seen since the Enchantress took him. While he was sore aggrieved, Tristan III turned that love unto his people. When he contracted an illness that did not allow him to take visitors, The King stopped being seen and the land began to suffer, leaving to his abdication in absentia. His health, according to His Majesty and his personal physician, remains stable but infirm at the time of this publication. Saints protect him.

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Her Majesty Charlotte, 54th Queen-Consort of Avalon

Lady of the Realm, By Courtesy 54th Duchess Breathstone, 42nd Countess of Aminisau and 10th Countess of Stillwater. Nee Argen.

Lived: October 13th, 1019 - January 8th, 1065 Tenure: October 1st, 1040 - January 8th, 1065

Motif: Singing Bone

A thoughtful and just queen, who made encouraged the promulgation of many laws concerning the conduct of law courts. She brought an end to wandering judges and a beginning to stable courts, including The Royal Legal Court as a fixed location. When young prince posed a series of riddles concerning how his bride must enter the city ("neither on the road nor off of it, neither naked nor clothed, neither walking nor riding," as the story goes), she became the one to answer. When the young king's treasury grew thin from extravagant gifts, it was her degree of concern and foresight that martialled him to order.

Unable to bear the king a child on her own, they turned to magic, and to the Enchantress. It is said the queen was peaceful in her grief, knowing she had not held true to her own pact and paid the price. Her passing was deeply mourned by friends and allies across Avalon.

His Royal Highness Alistair Maximus Windermere Vladimir Carl Alexander Françoise Reginald Lancelot Herman Gregory James

Prince of the Blood

Born: March 5th, 1048 Motif: Wishing Fish

The son of Tristan III and Charlotte of Avalon. Having been secreted away by the Enchantress due to that unfortunate contract at birth, little of him is known. He remains in a place where he shall not be found by man, according to prophecy. When questioned on the matter, The Enchantress is enigmatic and vague in a way that certainly supports his continued life.

House Tirnog

Her Grace The Enchantress

The Enchantress

Motif: Wishing Fish

A lady of mystery who commands the Enchanted Forest to her whim. She is striking and seemingly ageless, with long golden hair and green eyes. She is an aide to those who meet her judgement, and

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heartless to those who do not. Her ancestry is unknown, and from her high, wide-eyed features, possibly fae. Those endeavoring to take a personal history of her will find she will not answer with anything besides that she has no history.

While her authority magically within Avalon (and within Tirnog especially is unrivaled), she has no formal title and no formal territory. Rather, her presence can be felt, in many forms, across Avalon: where a little extra magic, for good or ill, is needed, there she might well be -- though where her actions and disguises begin, and the fae end, who can say.

His Lordship Emrys, Marquis Tirnog

Marquis of Tirnog

Born: April 8th, 1041

Tenure: October 8th, 1062-Present

Son of Adrian of Tirnog and Saffina of Flo, "Nephew" of The Enchantress.

Motif: Laughing Princess

The title of 'Marquis of Tirnog' is an unusual one throughout the history of Avalon. It is, put simply, an administrative position, rather than a real authority. It does not appear Emrys has any visible regret in this, favoring instead the job that's before him. In this, Emrys is a quiet and capable official that keeps affairs in Tirnog as orderly as they have ever been: work continues on a new census, for which he claims accuracy will be significantly increased. The marquis also administers the university at Greenvale, due to an enduring magical interest. While, like many generations of marquis, the Enchantress refers to him simply as her nephew, she does seem especially fond of this mild-mannered, orderly man: he possesses the common traits of the house, that golden hair and wide set, fey green eyes that speak to being able to interact well with the forest's magic. His approach to administering Tirnog's needs appears to be walking steadfastly forward, surely the cause of his distance from the reigning King.

House Rilheart

His Grace Gilgamesh, Duke Arcadia

Duke of Arcadia, Count of Riverkeep

Born: November 20th, 1045

Tenure: 1061-Present

Son of Gerard of Riverkeep and Alster of Blossomforth, and Brother of Canas, Count of Blossomforth,

and Lucard, Baron of Brettridge

Motif: Laughing Princess

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The Rilhearts being a powerful Arcadian family did not necessarily mean their main branch's youngest son would be promised success; rather, it initially seemed to leave him with little. The ongoing feud with the Argens meant it was better for Lord Gerard to furnish his eldest children with more extravagant, competitive holding, leaving a pittance for the youngest. However, this was before that odd matter of the golden bird (the less said, the better), where each son essayed to satisfy King Tristan III. It was rational, level-headed, and austere Gilgamesh who won the day, and was created Duke of Arcadia, thereby uniting the Arcadian Floodplains under one person besides the monarch for the first time. His goal is to truly unify it, cleaning up and uniting his new underlings, including his family and their enemies. For granting him this wish, he gave King Tristan his absolute loyalty. However shaken at his illness he was, however, Duke Gilgamesh understands the currents of power that connect him to His Majesty, King Maximus: his skills as a Paladin and commander serve His Majesty's armies invaluably.

As of this publication, he is seeking a wife. His lordship's stringent tastes, however, have turned this into something of a city-wide spectacle in Riverkeep, as he tests them (at times publicly and at times privately) for their nobility and discernment. The tales of his tests for their noble bearing and upbringing spread fascinating gossip concerning mattress softness and whether or not prospective maidens noticed offending vegetables.

House Lacus

Her Grace Irene, Duchess Wellcliff

Formerly Duchess-Consort, Captain of the Winged Fish Nee ???

Born: November 24th, 1015

Tenure: 1063-Present

Widow of Duke Landon of Wellcliff, Mother of Grace Lacus

Motif: Valiant Tailor

Her stock is troublesome to genealogists, who cannot be allowed to dabble in the popular and exceedingly well-known belief that she was once a pirate captain and lifelong rival of Captain Drakebeard. While The *Winged Fish* clearly *did* rescue her late husband Duke Landon from his captivity at the hands of Captain Drakebeard (as say the well-known and often dramatized tales of her origins) enlightened members of the peerage should not interpret this as the actions of a former pirate turning to light and to love. This publication believes her upbringing to be of Lower Wellcliff lesser nobility, financially strained, but the exact origin of the captain is unclear. Certainly, she pushed her way into both a loving marriage and negotiations of Wellcliff's nobility with her personal fleet of ships and their hearty crews.

After her marriage, she began to use her ship to crack down on pirates and enforce her own law and order, with the full backing of the Duke. Hers has never been a battle-free life, and not a life on the back

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lines of those battles, lending to many scars at her age. When the Duke passed, she inherited his titles before their daughter, while the girl is still growing.

House Ingle

Her Ladyship Sienna, Marquise Firespit

Marquise Firespit

Born: August 10th, 1039

Tenure: December 10th, 1059-Present

Sister of Baron Heathcliff of Peaksgard, Wife of Bianca, Aunt and Guardian of Phillip

Motif: Glass Mountain

Upon her 5th birthday Lady Sienna's treasure entrusted to her as heir of the March, the Flame Jewel of Inglesmight, was stolen by a dwarf who'd long lusted after the treasure; in order to take it, he transformed Sienna into a Bear. What follows next is the stuff of Stories, rarely told by Sienna herself, who wandered as a Bear without memory of the Flame Jewel or her heritage. It was during this time she met and was aided by her future wife. Unusually enough, however, their adventures did not end in Lady Sienna's humanity restored. She remains a Bear, having armor and clothing fitted for this purpose, even after she returned to the city and took her family seat. It caused some consternation that she would take the lady Bianca as her bride while she was not human, as opposed to following tradition and waiting to avoid such a high profile marriage between an Animal and a Commoner. To settle the doubly-thorny issue of her heir, she and Bianca have chosen to take as heir and ward one of the young children of their respective siblings, also wed. This is indicative of the Marquise's ferocious but not unkind approach to her dealings, as well-regarded as her strength. Hers is the booming Inglesmight of the smithy and the border guard.

Her Ladyship Bianca, Marquise-Consort Firespit

Marquise-Consort of Firespit Nee Snowglen*1

Born: February 23rd, 1040

Wife of Marquise Sienna of Firespit, Sister of Baroness Rosalina of Peaksgard, Aunt and Guardian of Phillip

Motif: Silver Hands

Of her family, we've recovered little; her mother is a Stargazer who tended to a shrine just outside a small town of Snowglen; her father was a traveller whose extraction may well have been from Axis Mundi. She entered the public eye as a young woman, returning on the furry back of the long-lost

¹ The name of the family has not previously been documented, and so is taken from location of origin

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daughter of the previous Marquis and Marquise. They were married instantly, brazenly flaunting convention; a task that her ladyship found perhaps somewhat difficult, given her gentle disposition, but she nonetheless endured the storm with a surprising kindness and patience, until many were charmed. Opinion softened seeing the beautiful girl, who seemed like a woman blossomed like a flower from the snow, so happy. Together, she and her wife form an effective partnership that well fits the mingled nature of their city, and she has begun an extensive education befitting for a Marquise's wife.

House Caith

Her Ladyship Lucretia, Baroness Caith

Baroness Caith

Born: April 16th, 1036

Tenure: November 8th, 1056-Present

Sister of Lucian, Lux, Luke, Lucia, and One Other

The Lady Lucretia is remarkably proud of her position as head of House Caith, a line of Cats who have been courtiers stretching back generations. Each member of the house seeks and finds a Cat to take as spouse, keeping the line going unbroken by adoption or irregularity. Lucretia and her littermates are a beautiful set of uniformly seal point Siamese Cats, revealing to the purity of her much-vaunted heritage. She is an accomplished diplomat, socialite, and soldier, foregoing the family tradition of the sword for a more intimidating Lance. She was a fond friend of the late Queen. Since the time of the new King's ascension, her faction in court has encountered certain legal troubles, and so she has been rarely in attendance at Court as in days of yore. She has been seen questing, likely attending to family matters her career has kept at bay, rendering her an eligible bachelorette to Cats.