# The Case against Zaradi and Coal

## **Part 1: Zaradis Contrived Activity**

Early on in the game, Zaradi comes off really aggressive, but in most cases it doesn't seem to go anywhere.

You see little cases of zaradi <u>snapping</u> at people for things that really shouldn't be scum tells, and starting <u>lines of inquiry</u> that go absolutely nowhere. He makes it sound like less than 100 posts into the day phase, people should have solid <u>scum tells</u>, and I don't need to explain how little sense that actually makes. His activity early in Dp1 over-all seems like he is trying really hard to come off as doing something productive with nothing to go on. He is a veteran, he knows how things go. He is trying to make <u>mountains out of molehills</u> of Oro's "Read list" which is more or less random so early, but again doesn't go anywhere with it. And seriously what was he expecting from this <u>vote</u> on objectivity? Didn't last long anyway. I am getting the general vibe of "Where's he going with this"?

# 1A: "Scared of pressure" Mis-representation...

So Danielle finally comes into the game and makes her opening posts. In it, she makes a list of four people she wants to pressure, and just leaves it at that. My first thought is confusion at what specifically she wants to pressure for, since there aren't really claims in the game. Getting scum vibes off of things people say is one thing, but just saying we need to pressure certain people without providing any reason or incentive to do so didn't make a lot of sense to me, so I make this post asking her to elaborate further. Zaradi takes this and runs with it and instantly votes me saying this is me being scared of pressure? Wtf? The read seems opportunistic, and lazy to me, and mis-represents the context wildly. I ask him to explain. In the meantime, Danielle answers my questions about applying pressure, admitting she didn't realize the game was themeless and was looking for claims. This answers my question, and shows that my question regarding the intention of her pressure was valid. So I challenge zaradi to build his case because he barely put any effort into the read, and up until this point was very lazy in general in his reads and lines of inquiry, I brought up to him I felt it was contrived. We banter a bit about what entails a "valid reason for pressure". I am getting the feel that zaradi is getting more and more defensive until finally he makes a case built on the earlier mis-representation of my reason for questioning danielle about her pressure. In the case he fails to mention the key part where Danielle actually admitted she thought there was claims. In it he also attacks my viewpoint on pressure (as if a meta dis-agreement is a reason to scumread someone, especially when it's consistent with how they've played and acted in the past).

The case is over-all pretty weak, and I <u>demolish</u> quickly. What's interesting is how quick Coal is to switch his read on me; Until this point I was town read by him, and he was even <u>questioning</u>

zaradi about why he would be wrong. Given how weak Zaradi's case actually was, and how easily he was convinced, I am now starting to suspect Coal.

#### Part 2: Coal's opting for the easiest mis-lynch.

At this point it blows my mind completely that Coal is so easily convinced. In post 279 (though wordy), he really doesn't have much content, and it's not like Zaradi's case provided any new hard hitting evidence he was not there to witness himself. He, like Zaradi, also ignored Danielle's post admitting she didn't read the OP enough to know that pressuring people for claims was pointless. In this post he twists the implications of what he had previously said to suit a scum read on me for convenience. Specifically, he says: *In my prior post I claimed that both of you could not be scum. So, there are three possible worlds: TUF is town and you are scum; TUF is scum and you are town; or you and TUF are both town.* 

This almost sounds like he was denying he town read me in the first place and instead describing it as a what if scenario based on me and zaradi's interactions, even though he had told oromagi only two pages earlier that he didn't think I was playing my scum <a href="meta">meta</a> (whatever that is, and as if he would know it). I am a bit taken aback by this sudden switch of reads, but I decide it's pretty weightless and since he's not actually pushing a case on me, I don't want to get distracted with it. I start pressuring Objectivity and more or less put it in the back of my mind.

### 2A: Coal's position on the Ragnar Mess

So after all this, a more or less sensible wagon on Ragnar gets started by sui, and enforced by Coal. I bite because of my scum read on Objectivity at the time, and because Ragnar's read on Objectivity was a non-read. Between that and feeling like Ragnar wasn't near as active scum hunting as I remember him being in the quickfire game I hosted a month or two back, I felt like there was enough for pressure. Also Ragnar's response to this didn't feel all that town to me. I realize this wasn't the hardest hitting evidence, but rarely are DP1 lynches hit with the best evidence so if we were going to go for one, I felt ragnar was a good option. All the while this is going on, Coal is trying to get me to back off of my suspicions of zaradi (which at this point are lower compared to my suspected team of ragnar/objectivity). At one point he even thinks I am tunneling him even though my vote isn't even on him. In hindsight, this all looks very overly defensive of Zaradi.

We finally get ragnar to L-1, and he get's on and makes the <u>post</u> that has caused most of the mess of DP1 and 2.

In this post Ragnar says "If mafia have a power role, it is Role Blocker".

The implications behind this for anyone who was town, meant that Ragnar had a power role that wasn't in column B of Lucky's OP, because the power roles in A and C are the same. Upon seeing this, I <u>unvote</u> for Ragnar and say discussion around ragnar and his role should

dis-continue in the off chance mafia haven't picked up on his claim. Coal and Zaradi are both on to identify what has taken place, and Coal is STILL trying to push ragnar. I do my best to vaguely explain to him how this is a bad idea without giving too much information away, because if Ragnar is scum, the second we get flips from one the real power roles, or one Counter claims from Column B, Ragnar is dead or at least never making it past MYLO anyway.

And here is where things get really suspicious...

# 2B: Coal setting Zaradi up for a fake claim, and zaradi "taking the bait" while leaving options open.

Coal, who logically has no reason to suspect that Ragnar is lying, says this: Well I'll just spell it out. I think Ragnar's soft claim is a cheap form of derailment bullshit because Zaradi is the only person I see so far that has been playing like he has that role.

At the time I didn't think a whole lot of this, and was more focused on trying to steer the conversation elsewhere, but in hindsight this is pretty damn scummy. If this is a 2 goon set up, then mafia know the only way there isn't another power role is if it's the mason set up. If ragnar mis-understood the OP (which they would know if they were goons), and he did, that if there wasn't another person to confirm a mason, Ragnar could only be only be a cop or a jailkeeper, and they could use his mis-information about the existence of roleblocker to potentially have another fake claim. Coal should have no reason to think Zaradi was a mason, or anything else at this point, the only reason he would have said that is to set zaradi up with a claim.

Zaradi replies with this: You know theres no good way for me to answer that question without hard claiming, right?

Pretty much feeding into the idea that he can confirm Ragnar. At this point I have already mentally noted that the two are Masons, and have dis-regarded my scum tell on both. If there is any doubt about zaradi bread crumbing something, I put it as ease when he asks Coal to elaborate and coal asks him if he's sure, Zaradi says Coal <u>must be town</u>.

All of this will come to play in part 3 again, but to stay consistent with the timeline, let's get into the events at the end of the day phase 1.

# 2C: Coal settling for the next best mis-lynch

You should keep in mind that during all of the ragnar's lynch, I am still being "slightly town read" by Coal. At the very least he is saying I am not today's lynch (as if he thinks he is leading the day phase, and whatever he says or does is final lol). His only indication of a scum read towards me is slightly agreeing with some of the absurd points in Zaradi's case.

He mentions his "Three worlds" scenario marking situations where I can be Town, or scum in reference to my reaction on unvoting ragnar. If he thought I was scum, then why would he unvote when I told him he could be mis-reading into the situation? If I am scum defending Ragnar for towncred, why listen?

The simple answer is that Zaradi is still voting me at this point, and Danielle is suspecting me for unvoting Ragnar (though unlike coal she still adamantly insists on his lynch at this point). I am the easiest mis-lynch target between the most active players at the time, which is really the only way I can see him flipping onto me at this <u>post</u>.

With zaradi cleared based on me thinking he is a mason (and zaradi feeding into that idea) my scum team now is Danielle and Coal for pushing for whatever mis-lynch they can find. In the case of Danielle, at least her scum read on me has been consistent throughout the day phase. Coal on the other hand makes little sense. Multiple times prior to this point, he had argued with zaradi I was not the day's lynch and even feux questioned his reasons, as if they actually mattered in the grand scheme of things. The next 200+ posts of this day phase are me arguing with brick walls for my life to no avail. Luckily, the day phase ends before I can be hammered.

#### Part 3: Ragnar's flip, and what it means about DP1 revelations

So Dp2 starts, and Ragnar flips cop. The implications of this initially don't hit me until Danielle points out what should be obvious: There was no mason. If Zaradi was another power role, he would have to be doctor, in which case there was no other protection target than Ragnar, the only other claimed PR. And there was no mention of being frustrated at being blocked at the beginning of the day phase. And if zaradi isn't scum and the mafia had a roleblocker, they could have roleblocked ragnar and night killed zaradi instead (almost would have been the smartest option given Ragnar was still being scum read by Dani and Coal at the end of the phase). All this is to say, the only way killing of Ragnar was the best move is if both scum were goons and had inside knowledge of the set up way back when zaradi was bread-crumbing initially after Ragnar claimed. Killing ragnar ensured no one was copped innocent or guilty in DP2, otherwise if they had a roleblocker they could have just roleblocked him and killed literally anyone they want while being able to keep Ragnar as a scum read.

# Part 3A: Coal and Zaradi's reactions to these questions

So at this point it's fairly obvious that Zaradi did something anti-town. Whether it was as a doctor choosing not to protect ragnar, whether it was not coming out about the roleblock, or whether it was the third option that coal conveniently brings up at the start of the day phase, trying to draw the night kill as a vanilla. Let me quote Coal <a href="here">here</a>: So there's a world where I read your behavior as that you were actually trying to draw the NK by implying you were some kind of power role, potentially with some association to Ragnar (read: mason); in which case, what would have happened is that scum would have killed vanilla and not a power role and at least the cop would be alive.

Coal after this post suggests he is doing this for town reasons, and suspects he knew what Zaradi was doing this whole time by saying: So even though you lied, the effect was pro-town; and that seems to be in line with your intentions.

But when did Coal mention he thought Zaradi was trying to bait the night kill before? Remember when Coal pretended he knew that Zaradi was claiming a role earlier?

Well I'll just spell it out. I think Ragnar's soft claim is a cheap form of derailment bullshit because Zaradi is the only person I see so far that has been playing like he has that role.

Playing like he has the role of Vanilla? Any defense of Zaradi's intentions with this are not only wrong; they are fabricated, and this post shows Coal trying to set Zaradi up with a scapegoat. Also keep in mind, Zaradi is not getting how he is tied down to this yet. There are multiple times he asks where he actually breadcrumbed, which I interpret as denying he ever did. Otherwise why ask? Initially as he <a href="feux questions">feux questions</a> coal after Ragnar claims. Then again in <a href="DP1 to">DP1 to</a> Danielle. Then again at the beginning of DP2 <a href="feux questions">to Coal</a>. At this point Zaradi still doesn't seem to have decided whether or not he is gonna stick with his power role that he hinted at in the last day phase.

But now that all these questions arise, we have Coal on to vehemently defend the idea that Zaradi was <u>drawing the night kill</u>.

And Zaradi knew, though, that Ragnar was the target and he also knew that drawing the NK meant that Ragnar might be able to post his result, which is obviously proving that he doesn't have a power role because if Zaradi was the doc he never would have made the post you identify above. He would have just doc'd Ragnar and there would have been no NK, because, again, Zaradi was never on Ragnar's lynch in the first place.

Again Coal acting as if this is the obvious answer, directly contradicting what he said before about "zaradi being the only person he could see with that (vague) role)". Nice. So Zaradi is the only person Coal can see being vanilla lol. The fact that he tries to make this appear as the obvious answer is so absolutely bullshit, and can't be anymore obvious that he is setting up his partner with a scape goat. That said I was still curious to see what zaradi would come out with.

Zaradi enters day phase 2 saying this: Guys I work at night. I sleep during the day. The fifteen "Zaradi needs to post" posts are super unnecessary. I'm catching up and processing.

This reaction is interesting because at this point it's only me and Danielle who've caught on to any of this, and we haven't exactly been tagging Zaradi about any of this. Where he got the heavily exaggerated 15 posts about needing to post is a valid question. However we do know Coal has been reading the situation up until now, and as scum would probably be very aware of how this is going to look negatively for Zaradi. It's not hard to imagine Coal posting aggressively

in the mafia PM for Zaradi to quickly come in and explain himself, as it is making Coal look worse having to explain this for him. If that was the case, I can see why zaradi not being caught up could think the situation was more urgent than it actually was.

So he comes in and goes with the <u>baiting the night kill</u> option, kind of what I would have expected scum to do, and what I would have done as scum myself, seeing as the other options looked much more scummy. However this option doesn't do him any wonders either, especially after <u>lecturing Coal</u> about fishing for information in day phase 1, and agreeing with me that what Coal did was <u>anti-town</u>.

I don't think any of the discussion from any side surrounding Ragnar has been pro-town.

If he didn't like the discussion, why the hell would he risk getting potentially CC'ed by another power role by admittedly going along with the bait he pretended Coal was setting up for him?

The answer most likely is that he was caught in a contradiction, and probably never intended to actually claim vanilla. But he left it as an option just in case there became problems with the role claim, which is why he kept asking people to substantiate where he bread crumbed.

Now all these questions were asked to Zaradi of course, and he conveniently replaced out at this point, despite us having several inactives that took precedent.

#### Part 3B: Coal's further insane reactions to the Zaradi developments

Up until this point, all Coal has done is actively defend and speak for zaradi. But as more and more questions about zaradi's behavior arise, Coal starts to show some signs of switching on zaradi, accepting his scum buddy is probably going to die, and understanding it will look worse for him to not be on that wagon when he does get lynched

Coal asks Zaradi this: So explain to me just what the hell it was that you were trying to do and why.

NOTHING Zaradi has said so far goes against the excuse that Coal already made up for him long before Zaradi even answered. What answer is he looking for? It's more likely he is trying to distance himself from this nuclear hazard of a mess they are in, but frankly, that's too late.

I bring this up to <u>Coal</u>, and of course his answer doesn't say how anything has changed, and if anything he defends Zaradi even further:

Give me a reason why the hell it makes sense for scum Zaradi to do what he did, and then I will consider but you have not done that.

Shortly after this Zaradi replaces out, and now Coal fully <u>commits</u> to the lynch, saying he would still defend Zaradi had he not replaced out. Why vote for someone you are willing to defend? If you are willing to defend them you must still think they are town right?

# **Conclusion:**

Coal realizes that Zaradi is a lost cause and he better be on board or risk questions the next day phase. Questions me and Danielle have already started asking. But nothing about his stance on Zaradi to begin with made much sense from a town perspective. He should have never answered for Zaradi to begin with. Further defending Zaradi's scummy actions makes little sense. If by some miracle Zaradi is town, Coal is definitely still scummy, because in no world does it make sense for him to have acted the way he has this game as town. The changing of votes to secure the easiest mis-lynch, the continued pressure of ragnar, the multiple displays of inside knowledge, etc. No matter what happens with Zaradi, Coal is definitely scummy. The reason I am making this case a dual case for Zaradi and Coal now, instead of just focusing on Zaradi atm, is because now Coal is saying: But this can't be read any way other than that he was scum; so TUF is probably town

If Zaradi is lynched guilty, I am a very likely night kill target so I want you guys to know who the next lynch is. It's Coal 100%. Nothing about anything in the actions I have brought up to your attention are pro-town. Even independent of zaradi, Coal's behavior is extremely scummy. You all know what to do next day phase if I am dead.