



# *The World Takes*

*By*

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*Harpy of Trenton*

## *Seasons of Change*

Ours is a society that has stood strong and stable for more than half a millennia. Stability is a hallmark of the Ivory Tower... change, when it comes, is rare and incremental. When a new Harpy takes up the

social burden, it is noteworthy. When a praxis changes hands, it is a matter of interest to Kindred far removed from the boundaries of that Domain. So, when multiple praxes change hands and Harpies are removed and replaced, all within the course of three weeks, one must wonder what this foreshadows for the nights to

come. Read on and learn of a sea of changes from New York to Los Angeles, from Pittsburgh to Harmony Island... and the new Elysium that was profaned the night of its grand debut. It's been a busy month.

## *Of Stability and Home*

Lest my former words convey the appearance of chaos consuming all, allow me to take but a moment to remark upon the bedrock foundation of the Domain of Trenton, the praxis of *\*Sovereign\** Elder Prince **Walter Merrick**. February saw the court of Trenton assemble in the hallowed halls of this fine city's Elysium, under the ever-watchful eye of its Keeper, **Mina Burana** of Clan Toreador. A quiet evening was had by many, with gossip regarding matters ranging from the threat posed by a coterie of alleged Caitiff diablerists stalking one of our *\*Noble\** Primogen, to the recent reemergence in society of a long-time resident by the name of **Oskar Veruccker**, of Clan Malkavian. While the conversation was lively, the event was subdued... much as one would expect at the monthly court of an Elder Ventrue.

## *A Shiny New Apple*

Word has traveled quickly of the peaceful transition in power that occurred but a mere two weeks ago at the trendy Music Hall of Williamsburg. In the announcement of their monthly court, Prince **Virgil Vendicimo** of New York mentioned that they had personally secured this venue in the heart of Clan Tremere territory and gave no indication of any plan to step aside. Even further, Prince Vendicimo's invitation stated that they were in search of a new Seneschal... an interesting call to make if one was expecting to abdicate. Yet by the end of the evening, New York had a new Prince... *\*Sovereign\** Luminary Elder **Nissim Melamed**. What exactly transpired that led to this change? That's for those that were in the room where it happened. No one really knows how the game is played... the art of the trade, how the sausage gets made. We just assume that it happens... What we do know is that when the night ended, Seneschal Vendicimo was content to assist the new Prince and Prince Melamed had Called the Seasons on the Primogen Council, that the clans may reassess their choice for their voice. The fate of *\*Noble\** **Claude de Bourbon**'s tenure as Harpy of New

York will have to wait until after their new Primogen Council is convened.

## *Retraction - Won't Be Trying That Again - January 2022*

Gossip and rumors being what they are, one can expect a certain amount of unsubstantiated speculation and idle musing. However, when a *\*Noble\** Harpy makes a public announcement regarding the permanent elimination of threats to our society, and credits that effort to his city's Scourge, one should reasonably be able to rely on that. One should be able to take the Harpy's announcement at face value and offer well-deserved kudos to the one that ended these threats. Yet... a trustworthy source has suggested to me that the proclamation by Harpy **Anejo** of Pittsburgh, that the Scourge of Pittsburgh, **The Albino**, had served Final Death to the Anarchs **Jack Campbell**, **Joshua** and **MOE** may have been a bit premature... that the justice he allegedly wrought was not quite as 'final' as one would commonly understand and not quite

as 'dead' as we would expect. Until there is further confirmation of what truly occurred, please allow me to retract that writing. More on the Harpy of Pittsburgh to follow below...

## *Well, It Was Nice While It Lasted*

The dedication of a new Elysium. A solemn occasion where all Kindred of good standing come together and recognize the special standing of those hallowed halls. Couple that with a memorial service to recognize the passing of an honored King that sacrificed his existence to end a threat to the residents of the city... surely such an occasion would be one where all would be on their best behavior. Even the freshest Neonate or unreleased fledgling would know and adhere to those most basic common rules of Elysium... the ones that apply to virtually every Elysium. No violence to others. No damage to the Elysium or its contents. No use of disciplines on another. And with an assortment of visiting Princes in attendance for the memorial, as well as one of the Toreador Justicar's Archons... well surely no elder would ever think of using a discipline on another to silence them, right? Did I mention that this was the new

Elysium at Harmony Island? Does that change your mind? On its first night as the new Elysium for Harmony Island, Elder **Jahangir Al-Tanin** of the Banu Haqim used the proprietary arts of his clan to silence an unaligned Lasombra that was making noise during the service. In usurping the authority and duties of Keeper **Khloe Klein**, Elder Jahangir profaned this hallowed space, a matter that was quickly noticed by many in attendance. When the good Keeper confronted him on the matter, he boldly admitted to his action, offering an excuse that excused nothing. The Keeper exercised her authority and announced her judgment. Elder Jahangir, not content to recognize his horrific violation of ancient customs, became abusive towards the Keeper, hurling threats and accusations at her until he was physically removed. At this point, the *\*Disgraced\** elder will bear this shame for a year and a day, and has only a short period of time to make amends to the entire population of Harmony Island lest he face further sanctions...

## ***About That Harpy...***

In what appears to be part of a continuing wave of change, *\*Sovereign\** Elder Prince **Frederick de Gorizia** Called the Seasons for his fair city of Pittsburgh. In the resulting shakeup, the Steel City has selected a new Kindred to serve as their enforcer of social norms and keeper of their social obligations. Blessed with a Rose that shines in social situations as brightly as the fine jewelry she expertly crafts, the Primogen of Pittsburgh have placed their faith in an up-and-coming Neonate of exceptional quality. Congratulations to *\*Noble\** Harpy **Dawn** of Clan Toreador.

## ***Paying the Price***

Some months back I remarked upon the unique auction hosted by a certain unaligned Ancilla, **Parallax Vykos**. More impressive, to me at least, was the extremely generous collection of obligations he obtained from a great number of elders of the Tower. At the time, I remarked “*[t]he sum weight of the debt that Voivode Vykos acquired... well, that would indeed be the ability to shape society in ways few would consider possible.*” Now little birds twitter about this industrious entrepreneur. Not content to simply lay back and sleep on his hoard of boons like a dragon

of legend, word has it that he's been rather active of later. Trading boons, calling due debts owed by Luminary elders, seeking only he knows what. Good Voivode, should this writing find its way in your hands, please reach out at your convenience... I have so very many questions and would so very much like to be in the room where it happens.

## *When Angels Fly*

As the praxis of New York changes hands in a manner quiet and calm, a coast far away sees a Prince disappear, allegedly taking wing from his home in the City of Angels and heading East. What exactly happened to renowned filmmaker and Elder Rose, Prince **Miguel Cantone**, is a question that many are seeking answers to, including at least one servant of Their Graces, Archon **Ridler**. What is known is that Los Angeles has a new Prince... its former Seneschal. Congratulations to *\*Sovereign\** Elder Prince **Don Carlos de la Vega** of Clan Ventrue on his ascension to praxis.

## *Call Me Maybe*

Long established as a prominent and respected elder of the Tower, Elder Prince Nissim's ascension to praxis

has provided him a platform to begin an open appeal to those possessing the skills and interest in changing the Ivory Tower's view of technology. Putting out the call to any interested members of the Tower, the *\*Triumphant\** Elder Prince initially voiced his proposal in Canada this past October. Now he has begun assembling a small team of skilled Kindred to develop appropriate practices for the Sect and to then present the proposal to the Justicars for their assessment and approval. Interested parties should reach out to the good Prince and express their interest with the project.

## *Interesting Timing*

For those that have followed the ongoing difficulties in Harmony Island, that there has been a difference of opinion between Harpy **Syfa McAdams** and select members of the Clan of Kings on Harmony Island, including their *\*Noble\** Ventrue Primogen **Don Ariel** and the *\*Disgraced\** Elder Ventrue, **Johann Lowcszy**. Most recently this resulted in Harpy McAdams issuing a light public chastising of the local members of the clan for their failure to offer a proper apology, with the resulting escalations by Elder Johann

earning him his disreputable standing. Justified or not, the presence of only select members of Harmony's Primogen Council provided an opportune time for those interested in replacing Harpy McAdams to do so... and so they did. Fortunately a renowned Luminary Elder and Architect of the Tower, *\*Privileged\** Elder **Caderyn Cathal** of Clan Nosferatu, magnanimously accepted the burden of serving as Harpy of Harmony Island. Congratulations *\*Noble\** Elder Harpy Cathal.

## ***Odds and Ends***

They should have workshopped Harmony Island's new slogan a little

more... 'Harmony Island, a great place for good Kindred to go bad.' Really? Well, truth in advertising and all...

Some of those that paid their boons to Parallax might find themselves no longer in debt to the Voivode. Rumor has it that there's been a recent flurry of transactions in his ledger and that certain Luminary elders are now indebted to very different creditors...

## ***Eyes and Ears***

It is simply impossible to be everywhere at all times. So much juicy news that goes unreported... unless YOU bring the story. Appropriate recognition as the situation calls for, naturally. Who lives, who dies, who tells your story...