

Unto the Mouth
From eyes on the Western border

Most honored and revered Mouth -

I am stationed in the Western duchies and have always been here - loyal eyes for the Mouth and the Archduchy. Early Today those in the towers said that they saw a glittering black ship pass over our southern border, but then, and I saw it pass with my own eyes, it turned northwest and skimmed our border, at what Old Horvac said was flanking speed. He used to be a voller crewman, but on a merchantman and whether his word is any good or not, until he has a couple drinks in him, I do not know. I can tell you they were going really fast I think. The ship passed over the edge of the village, and maidens in glittering armor tossed silver and gold dust over the side as they passed (no really, I am a proper goodwife, I do not drink, except on MidWinter and sometimes on Great Harvest, I swear). A strange figure stood at the front, my eyes aren't what they were, but it was not a figurehead, though it was covered in glass, as the ship seemed to be.

As the ship went northwest it fired several blasts of purple light down into the ground over the border (no, I swear, I am not insane, old Gerba has not lost her mind yet, and she swears on the lives of her 15 living grandchildren this really did happen.) It then began to gain speed and a cloud of purplish light seemed to form around its front end and it was just... gone. (Seriously, honored mouth, I would not waste one of the special scroll covers you gave me all those years ago to report this if it were not true. What sort of an example would that be to give the grandchildren?)

The ship seemed to be of glittering black glass, as did the lady that was not a figurehead. It flew odd banners at front and stern. It was no merchant ship either, it was sleek and like I said, it could throw beams of light. I can not be sure, but it seemed to me that a dozen or so figures in black armor that did not glitter as much were in ranks behind the lady that was not a figurehead.

The baron has taken his knights over the border to see what the ship shot light at... They haven't come back yet and it's been a quarter of the night. The baroness is preparing the men at arms to follow, and she's gotten out her special wand and will lead them, but she has also called up the militia and told them to man the walls. We are lucky, we have walls.

Though none of this makes any sense, old Gerda thought she should report it. Gerda only has one of the report cases left now.

I remain your humble servant.

Gerba (goodwife and not a drunk)

Oh - the banner was like this that it flew:

