

Unto the Mouth
From the Northerly Innards

Grace and Truth:

I have not reported in for nearly 2 years, and I am aware that His Grace has actualized a better relationship with the House of Moriquendi'rim and with the Princess of Curinirim than his predecessor, Her Grace ever did. Nevertheless I have remained in my place and properly inserted and at this time I believe contact is necessary. Therefore I have used the transport crystal and requested that this be placed into the Mouth's hand.

As you know, significant underground tunnelways exist and debouch in a limited number of places on Continent Drucien, one of them into the belowground areas of the Enclave of ZaploniMoriquendi'rim in the City of Enclaves. Enormous amounts of underground trade comes and goes through those tunnels, and the underways are far more fortified than the above ground entrance platforms.

While I am far from being of status to enter the underways routinely, I have been there, and I have developed a group of informants who find ways to pass me information when their various caravans, bands, and principals enter the Enclave. They seek me out, I pay them from my purse for their information and glean it for what it is worth. Most of it is not worth much and every few months I pass what I have gleaned on to the official ambassador to Enclaves at the Enclave of Opposition. I presume that he gleans it again and anything of value to His Grace is then sent on with the regular dispatch packet. I do it in this way to avoid any suspicion, since such suspicion might prove fatal quickly for me.

Yesterday nooning an informant who has passed information to me, occasionally quite useful, for over a decade came to me. He said that he had something of great interest and given that he has brought useful information before, and never brings pure dross, I offered him our maximum payment. He refused immediately. His counter offer staggered me. He said that he would not offer his information for any amount of money. He said that he wants transport from this place to the place "where my house matron is" and that "though she may flay me" he would rather deal with said matron. He says that he is willing to help said matron to act on the information ONE TIME, but that after that, his demand in return for the information and that help is sanctuary for the rest of his life, on the surface.

This is beyond my grade to decide.

The informant is an Underdark mercenary captain of some small repute among the independent merchants. His men are loyal when purchased, to say, they stay bought and the buyer cannot be outbid. They have, over the decades been in several very rough pitched battles, and he has seen them through each one. He is quite famous for never having fled and abandoned a caravan that had hired him, as well as for not being bribable. His men virtually worship him.

He is a dark elf - and was born a member of the House of Godeep. He left the House as a young man and entered into an all male mercenary band. He both hates and adores the female matriarchs of his former house and has difficulty trusting females. His service to the Archduchy has been solid - as with all his actions, he stays bought.

What do I do with him now however. I have him in the safehouse - and I can take him to one of the other enclaves and put him on a veller, but given his past value and the fact that he seems to be bursting with information, or at least thinks he is - I thought at least reporting the situation was wise.

If you wish to apport him, he is in the safehouse, the same one we used to evacuate Lord Dillion 8 years ago and the set up is the same. If the Archmage activates the runes at that end, it should scoop Ak'dravan straight to the palace. If he is still there at tomorrow's dawn I will presume that you do not consider this to be vital, and I will send him by slower routes.

Yours in service,

The northerly innards.