



October 2012

Murders Under Investigation

The New Berrethian Order at Allowen continues to investigate the murders of Hiram and Liam Chandler, ten and two years old, cruelly butchered in their bedrooms. Both boys had their throats cleanly slit, their blood left in pools beneath their lifeless bodies, posed facing each other and no doubt forced to watch each other die. The responsible party is believed to be conducting dark rituals in homage to some unnamed evil, and may be a woman based on evidence observed at the scene of the murders. The Order has offered the generous bounty of two crowns for information leading to the capture of those responsible.

Trouble in Sorvin

The village of Sorvin is nearly emptied and may be abandoned to the coming winter. With no crops and no citizenry to gather what now lays in fallow fields after an early frost, in appears the village will die off. Sir Laveer, claiming lordship

over Sorvin, did nothing as the populace suffered. Instead, heroes from Ilvaresh led by Sir Locksley and Brother Gwydion Brenn of the Berrethian Order arrived to evacuate starving survivors, giving them whatever coin they carried in their pouches and offering promises of food and good treatment from the villages of Ilvaresh and Crossroads where the survivors are to be received.

Good to his word, Brother Gwydion was observed setting cooking fires in Ilvaresh and preparing to make his way to Crossroads to see to the other few survivors. Of a village of three hundred the previous summer, only some twenty to thirty are rumored to survive.

Death in the Water

Nightbourne is the site of an ongoing investigation. The bodies of Janus and Emily Baker, seventeen and fifteen years respectively, were discovered on the stoop of their home by their father. The circumstances of their death and discovery are

unknown. Shortly thereafter, the body of Gwentyth Potter was pulled from a well, her neck cleanly broken in a manner not consistent with a fall. On the same day the bodies of Amos, Charlene and William Taylor were found dismembered, cut to pieces that were arranged to form an eight-sided cross that resembles a compass rose.

The Lich

Ilvaresh was the site of attack by powerful undead, interrupting the Early Harvest festival in the month of September. Details describe a night shattered by the peal of powerful magic repelling the undead and destroying them outright. The night was punctuated by screams and angry calls for aide from the few members of the Order that were present to watch their cooking fires. This is a woeful tidng for the coming All Hallows festival, aggravated by claims that the Order of Silvermane had offered aide that never arrived. Instead, heroes from the Order of the Thistle and the Order of the Rose responded. There are rumors that in response the loyal Orders have been drastically reorganized, and new leaders sought.

Mayhem!

At the end of the Summer Court festival, Sir Laveer, Knight of the Order of Silvermane swore oath to protect the New Berrethian Order, then also promised to help the guards in training at nearby Brenn, then also renewed pledge to defend Ilvaresh and the Heartswain Inn from which the Order claims credit to humanitarian works feeding the poor--but when danger reared its head, help never arrived. It is even suggested that the entire Inn actually vanished during the attack, but this is most likely angry storytelling on the part of the

populace. On the next morn however, rumors rise of a new Order of the Raven claiming a new Grandmaster, companion to the Order of the Rose which has suddenly returned to the Barony, and no mention of Silvermane at all.

A Riddle: What is the word of a Knight?

Answer: No different than the word of any other man, apparently.

Sammie Jenkins

New Healers and New Towers

The Berrethian Order continues construction in Allowen, Crossroads and Ilvaresh on the three sites authorized by Her Excellency, Baroness Kali. Survivors from devastated Sorvin arrived late in the month of September, and have bolstered numbers already joining the efforts in Crossroads and Ilvaresh. The only question now is whether construction will be completed before the first snow, in what is likely to be a hard winter.

Crops flow into the Capital!

The drought and rumors of famine have been widely overstated, as farmers enjoy crops in higher than expected numbers. While drought is responsible for some starvation and the clearing of several smaller villages where crops failed completely, the Barony is expected to enjoy a safe and well-fed winter.

Adventurers, Mercenaries, Men-At-Arms!

Your Crown calls you to service! Any dark elves found above ground or below are to be found and slain. The fell forces responsible for destruction on such a terrible scale during the last war must fall, lest we allow their numbers to be replenished, and face a new onslaught in coming years.

A bounty of one silver is awarded for solid proof of any dark elf slain in answer to this call to action. Half-breeds are not considered dark elves, and slaying a half-breed may likely constitute murder of our citizenry in the eyes of the Barony. To receive your bounty, locate the Berrethian Order of Ilvaresh.

Join the Blackcloaks!

The Berrethian Order needs skilled armsmen, guardians, healers, artisans, soldiers and good hearts of all walks of life to come forward in this great time of need. The Order will accept applicants in the village of Ilvaresh. The Order pays each able artisan the healthy bounty of one silver per moon, and awards additional honors for services rendered during time of war or at the cost of personal sacrifice. Join the Order today and serve your People and the Crown!

His Majesty the Prince received today a letter affirming service and loyalty to the Crown and the affections of Her Excellency the Baroness Kali today, from Gwydion Brenn of the New Berrethian Order, an order of healers based in and around Ilvaresh and chartered by Her Excellency for the benefit of her People. Rumors persist the Order was instrumental offsetting dangers of starvation by

revitalizing crops damaged in the drought. Also received was the official request for the Order's heraldry, emblazoned as a compass rose on a field of blue.

The Sirinthian Ascendant

"The town of Ilvaresh was alive with celebration when the Order of the Thistle announced the return of Lady Berreth, former leader of the Sirinthian Order. She was lost twelve years ago this very September when the dread necromancer Draxx laid siege to the Order, decimating its leadership. Led by Sister Caradina and Brother Gwydion of the newly formed Berrethian Order under the Baroness Kali, a band of adventurers from the border town found the means to restore her once more. Forces loyal to Berreth declared a victory even as rumors persist of forces of necromancy already in motion may seek to silence their cheers and replace them with sorrows."

"The Berrethian Order needs you!

Famine still lurks in the dark corners of the baronial lands, and it falls to the noble and the small from all walks of life to come together in search for a solution before the end of the current harvest. Herbalists and casters adept at the plant growth spells are needed today! Please approach your local Order chapter to offer your support. We do not fight for money or even food stores. We fight for the right to exist. Stand together or fall apart. The choice is yours."

"Allowen hosts new Order bastion!"

The city of Allowen broke ground this month for the new Berrethian Order, committing to build 'an edifice for higher learning in the clerical and alchemical arts.' Sources close to the effort point out the efforts of Brother Davinicus, of the Order of the Thistle in establishing this new safehold. It is anticipated the first of several expected buildings will be completed before first snow."

"Farmers rejoice!"

From Taridyr to the borders of Brisbane the concerted efforts of clerics continue to repair withered crops throughout the north, as word is spread toward the capital, signalling a light crop-- but one that will allow survival in what is expected to be a long and bitter winter."

"Eyes in the darkness shine from camp to town, between torch and hearth. Where will you be, when Darkness falls?"

"Alchemy masters needed."

The Berrethian Order is requesting the creation of alchemical compounds necessary for the preservation of crops for a hard winter. While we have had success restoring withered crops, the threat of famine still hangs over our heads. Interested parties are welcome to approach tenders of the Order in either Allowen or Ilvaresh."

"Halfling Army?"

"Halflings from Greenhill have been sighted marching north toward the village of Crossroads. Making few stops, they have covered a great distance in a short amount of time. No one knows why the halflings are on the move in such numbers, but local militias have been more observant in the face of armed strangers moving through their fields."

"Orc incursion!"

Orcs have continued to attack local farms and small villages across the north, prompting the Crown to offer a bounty of one silver for each scalp recovered from the corpse of an orc. Local militias and larger military forces have warned local townspeople not to attempt to befriend or make treatise with the local orc tribes, as this is expressly forbidden by the King's Law."