**Field Report of Etana Laithe**

**ATTN: [REDACTED] CN416**

**Dated: 24th of Shah-Laurela**

 **Following the less than promising results of the journey to TFGVM I had found myself with two problems: First, a lack of further avenues of inquiry. I have a handful of ears to the ground but the rumour mill grinds frustratingly slowly when you seek the bread of a specific grist. So, we wait. And in the meantime, I need both more information on the happenings in the city and, considering how much it cost me to hire the Etherealists that made my trip possible, at least enough money to eat. To that end, I decided to join, of all things, the Samazar Chapter of the Adventurer’s Guild. Lyla help me.**

 **To say that the guild hall of the Samazar Adventurer’s Guild is a circus would be a disservice to circuses everywhere. Nowhere on the road from the Hinterlands, Kishar, even the far oasis of anDwapeh have I seen such a… diverse set of companions, a dizzying array of lineages collaborating to, by all accounts, cause chaos. I will say that, regardless of their peculiarities and lack of much in the way of formal structure (any PJHVBXMBT would pale at the sight) they are somewhat of an inspiration in the concept of multicultural teamwork: Celestines working with Dhampir, Humans and Gnolls and Constructs, Feytouched… frankly an alarming number of Feytouched. Given the cacophony of swordplay, dice-rolling, cooking, crafting of all kinds and the comings and goings of members in all states (both of dress and health) I suppose they felt rather at home. I witnessed one such Feytouched manically explaining to a small captive (possibly captured?) audience the intricacies of some kind of… madness board? It threatened to draw me in via sheer, morbid curiosity but, thankfully I had the business of joining the AG to attend to and averted my eyes.**

 **I had scarcely registered my membership in the Guild and procured my Adventuring Licence when I realised my measurements were being rapidly taken by a high-born human, as perfunctorily as if it were a handshake. My mind was filled with dread images of being measured for a coffin or, *worse, a uniform* of some kind and so I asked him what he was doing.**

**“Just measuring, in case you need parts.”**

**“...Parts?” I replied, thoroughly confused.**

**“You know, parts or modifications, grafts. Additions.”**

**I shuddered inwardly, and, rather than be impolite to a fellow Guild member so immediately, declined to inquire further. I politely nodded as though I understood and walked away.**

**Upon settling in I was immediately recruited for an expedition to a nearby ruin. It sounded easy enough, and we boarded the airship and were away. A handful of us were tasked with opening a set of complex puzzle-locks, a task we accomplished deftly enough (I will say that the traps attached to them held up surprisingly well, and it’s my official recommendation that a team be sent out to make schematics of them when feasible- do be cautious though, as the blades are still quite sharp.**

**Now to the important part of my report: Within the vault of these ruins there was, incredibly, a tome of rare, valuable knowledge.It spoke of the disbursement of constructs before the fall of the city, an entity known as the Chronographer (do we have records of such a person?) and the ability to manipulate time. It mentioned some kind of… It’s called the “Quintessence Forge”? I’m unclear on its nature.The book was not in a language I possess, and I find myself sorely wishing I had applied more time to my study of linguistics. Perhaps when I have time I can brush up. Regardless, the book is now in the possession of the AG where, in my professional opinion, it will remain safe until it can be collected for ESILJBEM, which is just as well as I almost certainly don’t have access to it.**

**I’m told, further, that yet another book was found by the other team that had gone afield with us, pertaining to some kind of lost technology (a communication array of some kind?) left in the Kishar scrap yards. Again, said book is now in the possession of the AG which for now must suffice until I can gain access to it and, perhaps broker a deal to purchase them (the Guild, as you’re no doubt aware, operates strictly on a money-forward basis.)**

**We had scarcely returned when, in the dead of night, there was a call for Adventurers to journey through a portal to the underwater fallback established by the Diamond Assembly in Crythia. Filled with excitement from the previous excursion I couldn’t sleep and so joined the team and set out through a portal to the underwater city. We came through into some sort of Temple of Laurela, but the condition of it was… awful. If there is a way to offend a god more thoroughly, I have not seen it. The walls were trashed and broken, anything of value stripped from them, the entire structure festering with sea life ranging from curious to dangerous. We made our way well enough through the labyrinthian city, all or most of which was dedicated to Laurela, with only cursory levels of violence. We eventually found the ‘fallback’ as it had been described to us, but what we found there was… something else entirely.**

**I’m sure the Diamond Assembly knows what they’re doing. They must. However, it’s my understanding that such a project would be more focused and limited in scope. The thing we found was some kind of semi-sprawling miniature town, frantic with building projects directed by the mad science of the Academy of Innovation. We determined that the Diamond Assembly representative was in charge only nominally, and the reins had been thoroughly passed to the more construction minded set. So, all-in-all, a mixed result: Yes, the ‘shelter’ was fine, for now, Laurela very literally willing. On the other hand, and I cannot stress this enough: NOT A SHELTER.**

**There was much discussion regarding the relatively recently opened portal in the Lost Valley, as to whether or not to close it, given the dangers that apparently lurk on the other side. Much would we mourn, I think, the loss of possible knowledge and discovery that closing the portal would mean, but if the alternative is opening another front in a war we’re already unsteady in… the question, as of my departure, was as yet unresolved.**

**Aside: Before I left I did end up assisting a crew in exploring the sewers beneath Samazar. They run deep and I would venture to say that an exploratory force could find much there to examine and record, provided you take the appropriate cautions. The sewers are filled with ‘cleaning slimes’ much as are the ones in Kishar. I might recommend sending away to XIK PJHVBXC there for more information if this is an avenue of pursuit.**

**From there I was called away on, well, business of which I’m sure you’re more apprised than I, to be frank. Look for my next correspondence in the coming weeks provided there are further developments. Loath as I am to admit it, I agree that my placement here in the Samazar Adventurers’ Guild has not only borne fruit (metaphorically, though fruit is apparently a popular snack fare here as well) but will continue to do so.**

**I remain as always,**

**Yr. Obdt. Svt.**

**Etana Laithe**

**PERSONAL NOTE, FOR YOUR EYES ONLY:**

**Several times after I had joined the AG I began hearing a disembodied voice which seemed to be addressing me. At first I attributed this to the nature of the locale, as I was told that the sunken city of Crythia often played illusory tricks upon the unwary. However, back in the Guild Hall I heard it again, this time certainly addressing me. I made discreet inquiries to the other Feytouched, with whom I confess to feeling a certain bond, and hackles were immediately raised. Apparently there has lately been some frenzy of activity regarding the Fey Courts of legend, including the re-awakening of a Court I have not yet come across in my studies, the Quartz Court. It seems the King of said Court is causing grief and chaos to the Feytouched here, a party that now apparently includes me in some fashion. I shall take every reasonable precaution against becoming too terribly entangled, but if XIK PJHVBXC has any information at all regarding this, needs must I repeat my earnest request for any knowledge to be found (respectfully.)**