

*remarkably similar to what we have heard in Helsing. The main obstacle we face however remains the enmity our associate is subjected to. This considerably weakens his ability to act throughout the Empire, reducing the boons we ourselves can receive.*

*This is one of the primary reasons for which the activities of our less informed members have become so overt in recent years, and in turn what has sparked the latest wave of persecution. I too have heard some worry from a variety of other contacts throughout the Empire, and although a majority of them have escaped notice, through being too small for notice, we fear that our network will be severely reduced in size and power.*

*I am confident, however, that we have succeeded in one of our masters' broadest aims, which was the encouragement of our fellow citizens in the rejection of the laws which the weak have imposed upon the strong. Already, we have seen that even in Anvil, cannibalism is treated as a minor affair, a distraction or an amusement sometimes, but seldom do people superstitiously attach to it ridiculous notions which they used to. You and we both know that the profound transformations that the mind goes through when participating in the Act is no dark corruption to be feared, and merely the accession to a higher state of being, an empowerment towards which we have been guided, something which was already inside of us, waiting to be let out, and which has been blissfully allowed to express itself. We are confident, therefore, that even if our network needed to remain dormant for years or even decades, Helsing's path to corruption is now assured. So long as imperial citizens, and even the heroes of Anvil consider cannibalism with such a benevolent eye, often joking about it, being flippant about the spiritual effects, Hunger shall have a foothold in the League, and those who truly seek greatness shall be enabled to pursue that path.*

*But to return to the primary subject, one of the most interesting things which we have learned from our discussions with Karinaa is that the enmity to which our associate is subjected fully does not apply outside of the Empire. Out there, she freely receives His boons, and her return to Wintermark is thus practically assured, as well prepared as she must be. At least we suspect so - we have not received detailed information from her on this subject.*

*Friend,*

*The Stone circle has agreed that although the propositions you outlined at the beginning of your letter are promising, we have chosen to go down another path. There are many promising local regions in Mitwold which are ripe for the taking, forgotten by the wider nation and ready to be exploited for the good of our own cause.*

*Our broad aims do align, rest assured of that. We will not seek a full association with you, but our envoys to your meeting in Misericorde shall discuss the nature of any future potential exchanges we may have.*

*One one aspect however we must turn you down. We have neither space nor the capability to shelter any of your number and must turn them away should they come to us. The lack of discernment you displayed in attracting attention from Anvil upon us all in the Empire, and upon your network, is your own problem to handle.*

*We are however glad to hear of some of the news which you wrote us of, particularly the news of a possible renewal of devotees in the North. What has happened in Semersuaq has always been a tragedy, and to know that soon liberation shall return to Wintermark in general is delicious to know.*

*The only possible avenue of cooperation we would see for ourselves would be the potential leveraging of your own resources of materials. The Stone Circle aim to trade and commerce with a number of highly destructive winter heralds within Mitwold and potentially Upwold – which of the two has not yet been determined – and having resources and a variety of potentials to trade to them would put us in a position*