

From the press of
The Company of the Venturesome Harrier,
The Mews,
Belzedar Street,
Apulian

For the fair hand of
Estella Lucati di Sarvos,
The Carta Bellamarina,
To be delivered at Anvil

Your Grace,

It is with absolute, undisguised and unalloyed pleasure that we read of the ninety-seventh Judgement in the dispatches of the National Assembly from Anvil. Thank you, thank you, and again thank you - not simply did you put our cause in lights, but **what lights!** - a greater majority, no less! - I tell you, it seemed that no sooner had our promotional works sprung loose from our presses than people came walking through the door, and they have not stopped! Please, please permit me to press you to a certain share of the fruits of your labours on our behalf, and likewise to accept my apologies for our inability to pay you the worth of this in advance!

Quite currently we are generally going with the fairly simple, *See what the Synod doesn't want you to see*, and the eye-catching *BEFORE IT CAN BE BANNED* - our ears are wide open, should you have further proposals for our literature, for while we have taken full advantage of your kindness in leaving the wording of your Judgement unambiguous for our best use, yet we would be pleased to acknowledge your creativity should you wish to subject the work to sparkling words from the pulpit. Do you have an in-house poet? I am told that Anvil is the place to find the very best.

For the avoidance of doubt, of course, it behooves me to suggest that every Vigilant caution is in fact being taken. The beginning of our tours to Screed is a simple journey from Apulian by Trod, followed by a reasonably short and unchallenging few days' hike up the southwest approach and a pleasant camp during which our customers may be quietly assessed for those whose physical fortitude and field skills might be in need of a judicious bit of assistance for the approach. We then bring our guests over Blade Col, for the able, for its striking views across south central Screed, and otherwise an unremarkable route around the base, then up to our lodge of Harrier's Rest.

Harrier's Rest is a former Urizeni citadel and fully equipped with the latest in mithril nets: our permanent staff there have a great deal of experience in the terrain of Screed, many of them indeed having served in the Conquest. We have also several in-house artisans here, allowing us to furnish every guest with a Circlet of Falling Snow for the final approach. Then as the crowning jewel of the trip, we bring our guests northeast from Harrier's Rest on a by now well-understood trail up into the heart of Screed and permit them to behold the Black Plateau itself in all of its stark and inspirational beauty. Thence of course, we bring them back quite unharmed - if moved - and the return journey is, while it is always a sadness to leave a place of such beauty, unchallenging.

I would be overjoyed to invite you to experience one of these trips for yourself, bringing shall we say two companions? We are already fully booked for this autumn, but if you should present this letter to any of our staff at the Mews we should be more than pleased to invite you upon the midwinter expedition, and indeed I should say that if the weather is good then Winter is the season in which the Black Plateau is at its most beautiful. Your Grace, I remain,

Your fellow in Ambition,

Alexandre Sortilega di Apulian