To all those who have dealt recently with my colleague Yaroslav, in matters regarding The Silent Kingdom.

I write briefly, and on his behalf, to let you know that he will not be travelling in Anvil this season. He, the Heralds who speak with us frequently, (many of you know some of them by name) and I, all believe that it is time to let the Winter Magi of the Empire decide alone, what terms they want for dealing with The Empty Throne, for a season at least.

We think you should make decisions about what kinds of suffering will teach you most in future, and if you are committed enough to grant The Hungry Wolf Amity, not as a transaction, for a specific purpose, or because The Tomb King wants it, but to acknowledge that this is the way the Empire should learn; the way it should be; a part of its truth and maybe of its Virtue.

It is with regret that I have to inform you that Exquy has decided to run The Trials of the Palid Charm outside Imperial Lands this season. It is not that none are worthy here, merely that the passage is easier to other places.

The Tomb King will honour his bargain, won by Maya, now with Rinnah of The Shattered Tower – we hope that with your leaders, you, Rinnah will agree where and let The Silent Kingdom know by Pallid Charm. It is your right to delay if you prefer, and time matters not to him – but I, in my Highborn home, with my own hatred of the Druj still brewing, am impatient to see this boon realised.

In the Empty Chamber there is also a draught of anticipation to see how The Basalt Citadel will be placed into Imperial Lore. Do not forget there is a contribution that can be requested, a message that can be sent by Pallid Charm on this matter also.

Those of you with boons or curses – I think you are coming to understand that the two are sometimes the same, are you not – enjoy what you gain from them. Be ready to teach us what should come next. Would you unlock more secrets from the Testament of Ahasver?

Ania of Necropolis Agent of Sorin