

Rafael Barossa di Tassato PID: 2979.7

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The following letter has arrived by Winged Messenger.

Ave, friend in Virtue,

Forgive me if this letter appears terse. I write as we begin to travel - myself and my siblings in the Way, by many winding paths to a distant destination. There is still much to plan and do, and time drains like water through grasping hands.

First - let me share what I can of our plans: we are away to Geberra. There are a dozen of us, but we have prepared at length - as I said, we will disguise our intent by diverse lies, travelling by intermediary ports to thwart the Temple of Eyes and a vigilance born of fear. Were it we could not carry the expense, the lives of many of our number would be forfeit - it is through your shared Prosperity that we may hope to attempt this.

We have there secured space across the heathland of Esticar island - it is many hours of hard travel across those parched hills to the summer estate of the Tarquinius - but we will be hidden by wreaths of smoke from the burning undergrowth - a gift from the shadowed flame to keep our lungs hale and our movements hidden. Were it we acted alone, the guards of the estate would end our efforts with a single raised voice - it is through your Wisdom that we shall succeed.

Much of our accumulated ritual potency travels with us - hidden or obfuscated in purpose: with our own knowledge, and through our collaboration with *La Aubétoile* we will be girded magically, with the generous donations of liao from the Diplomat we shall be set in purpose and, with the delivery of further ritual knowledge I hope we shall be an insurmountable force.

Our plan is simple - to put an end to the Tarquinius' political rise in the Plenum - to cut their voice from the clamouring for war heard across Nemoria. We have studied the news from the capital well to know the names among the family who clearly speak against the Empire and the Way. We will respond in clearer deeds.

Given our journeys are successful, we shall be within our assumed quarters on Esticar come the Solstice and will act within the month that follows. You may reach me at La Casa Groga,



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The following letter has arrived by Winged Messenger.

Esticar - or, if I am taken by the Eyes - contact my second, Hélia Bûcheron - she, like all of us here in Felucca, knows the legendary efforts you have undertaken for our faith and future.

If the worst comes to pass, I leave my cousin Alberto Acciai overseeing our efforts on Felucca. May he be as valuable a comrade to you as he has long been to me.

I have spoken at length with Alberto on that which you asked us in your last letter - of those seekers of Virtue in Calatupos and Sulesca. I know of the Divines and the aberrations of dogma that have grown among those denied the privileges I have from my efforts in Maracossa, before I travelled to the Empire. We have spoken and thought on the topic of Saul of Cora too - though we do not know the name - we do know that their story is not unlike many of the Courageous souls that carried the embers of the Way over the sea.

In the absence of those within our Temple that are travelling to Esticar, there are still many in Felucca that might begin to seek ways to act - but not enough that both avenues might be pursued fruitfully. We turn to your Wisdom on this - that there are those who seek Virtue who live in chains is a terrible wrong, yes - but so too can we see the power in unearthing a symbol of the Way's struggles in Nemoria. Alberto is poised to act - we ask only in which direction.

Finally - perhaps a warning? We are unsure - agents of *La Aubétoile* have told us to watch for 'Seven Cleansing Flames' across the narrows to Nemoria. They will say no more. We still shun the capital - but we will watch. Perhaps this means more to you?

I go now - the ship is in the harbour. When next we speak may we be in a changed world.

-Amika Acciai, Felucca.