

Nev,

It's hard when the first letter you write to a new friend is a request for help. But so it is. I hope you won't be offended or think that I presume too much based on a handful of dice games.

But I am in dire need.

The Cuore di Pietra were with the Towerjacks in Cinion this season – and the fighting for all was hard but went well. However our terrible luck seems to have continued and Luka has been taken prisoner by the Grendel, along with a handful of our other Bravos.

It is, as you might guess, all Marcello's fault. He followed his coin and went on a lone skirmish away from the rest of the armies against a handful of Wave Riders who had been annoying us all day with arrows that missed and taunts. Of course he managed to take an arrow in the back. Luka and the others rushed in to rescue him and managed to drag him back to me. But where they stopped to heal their wounds taken in the fight to rescue him, I carried on moving and got him to a transport heading back to our field hospital. Only to realise that below their position had been attacked again and they were captured and under guard.

I managed to get close enough to hear the guards discuss their plans – not close enough to do anything. But I know that they will make camp at either The Dark Glade or the Wild Stones in Ateri in Spiral over the Solstice.

Will you help us?

Can you find out if there is a conjunction to either of those locations, and if there is, hire mercenaries on our behalf to exact a rescue?

We have gathered all the funds our poor free company has made of the last years, and called in all the favours we know to arrange this – some used to send 3 Winged Messengers – one to yourself, one to Giacomo de Tassato, another friend in Anvil, and one to a member of the Cuore who was not with us in Cinion and will seek out you and Giacomo with additional funds we have raised to hire such a rescue – although we expect we may need to trade in future favours too. I hope you will help us – I hear Anvil is full of new heroes this season, and if no one else can be persuaded to take this task, perhaps there will be some among them who will?

One last thing – please – if you can – keep our shame away from the ears of the League Generals – it is not good for a free company to be needing rescue, and may stop us getting future work.

Yours in the hope of a friendship beginning to blossom

Angelina