Autumn 379YE, the Year of the Enduring Flame.



To Lucifer, Felix's Watch, Highguard - Anvil, the Empire.

Zuma Jakthund - Censor of Ambassadors to the Empire, High House of the People, greets you and bids you welcome. -From a faithful translation by Tiami Jakthund, translator, in Autumn 379YE, the Year of the Enduring Flame.

I send you this letter in hope that your Courage and Vigilance will lend swiftness to your actions - I am given to understand that you may be willing to support us.

Three days ago, we received the following bevingade budbarare from a group of foul orcs who are operating in the territory of Spiral:

"WE HAVE YOUR DIPLOMAT. HOW MUCH ARE YOU WILLING TO PAY FOR HER? CAN YOU BEAT THE ASAVEAN BID?"

Let us be very clear. We do not negotiate with beasts and blasphemers and we will not give these orcs any price for her. If necessary, Cardinal Xepicotl will die a martyr and go to the Labyrinth swiftly - better she part from us a hero than we mark her as a slave, even for one moment. However, there may be a way forward - a sufficiently Vigilant Präst of my acquaintance is well-versed in the art of scrying and has identified that she is being held in "a camp on the worn road south of the abandoned mines near Ateri".

Is it possible that there is some way that you can assist the Republic? I offer warning - it is likely that the Asaveans will also be moving against us in this matter - it is known that Grendel slave-ships are often seen in Asavean ports.

If you <u>are</u> willing to assist us, I offer this advice - **move quickly** - our scrying suggested that they would not remain there long - indeed, we suspect they will have moved before morning. Additionally, you will require some method of carrying her through your Sentinel Gate, or she can make her way to Casinea by foot - I do not doubt our Cardinal can make such a journey without any difficulty.

If you cannot or will not help us, then be clear - any shred of hope the Empire has of opening dialogue with the Republic will die with her - the High House of Pride is already suggesting that agents of the Empire are involved in this matter.

May the Way carry you safely.
- Zuma Jakthund - Censor of Ambassadors to the Empire,
High House of the People,
Zemeh, Sumaah Republic.

