

To his Excellency Ricardo di Tasatto, the Imperial Ambassador to the great nation of Faraden, in friendship and in health.

I am pleased to introduce myself to you as Törmörbaatar, High Lord of the clan of the Bitter Chill, the foremost workers of the magic of the Wind in all of Faraden.

I wanted to extend my thanks to you for sorting out the recent business with my beloved nephew Chingis when he visited the Empire with his cousin Borlormaa. I am given to understand that he was involved in a nasty incident with a member of the Frozen Hearth – a petty family of thugs and ruffians, workers of trifling magics – in which he was called upon to defend the honour of our clan.

While of course he had been instructed to act within your laws while in your lands, the noble love for honour and the pursuit of justice which rests within Chingis's heart overcame him. Ah, youth!

I understand you had the matter smoothed over with your magistrates, for which I am very grateful. I also understand that you were helpful in defeating an attempt by the aforementioned chancers, the Hearth, to gain favour in your Imperial Conclave. This is right and proper.

However, I am also given to understand that you spoke in favour of a neutral stance to the Conclave. I really must protest this: let me set out the reasons why.

It is just not the case that one can must only deal with the nation of Faraden as a whole. The honour and Prosperity of individual clans is very important, and must be respected. Of course, you know this.

As such, what I would prefer is that the Conclave recognises the eminence of the Bitter Chill in the art of the Wind. I am greatly interested in the trading opportunities that such a recognition could open up, which I am sure would be mutually beneficially – for of course as the Ambassador to our nation it seems only natural that you would receive some recompense for your aid in setting up an agreeable relationship. We are interested in both the trading of materials, but also the potential for exchange of magical resources. We are also interested in the possibility of purchasing introductions to Eternals with which our family does not have a history of treating – the Empire appears to have a good record at fostering such relationships.

Obviously I do not object to any other trading relationships existing between the peoples of our nations: with one exception. It would be impossible for any friendly relationship between the Bitter Chill and the people of the Empire to exist if people continue to treat with representatives of the Frozen Hearth. But I hope your experience of them convinced you of their iniquity.

In skill and foresight,

Törmörbaatar, High Lord of the Bitter Chill

Sent from the Fortress of the Southern Wind