

*As the season turns and you travel through Reikos to spread the word - to urge the people to reject the bounty and the spawn of the Realm of Spring, and to support the exclusionist approach to dealing with Llofir's handiwork - you encounter strange stories. An eerie spirit is walking the land, said to be Athaliah, a Cardinal of Loyalty from the time of the First Empress whose Loyalty to his ruler and his people was such that simply dying was not enough to make him set aside his duty to Reikos. Much as you are doing, tales have it that Athaliah is encouraging the people of the territory to reject the taint of the Spring magic that has washed over the landscape - it seems he was awoken from slumber by the devouring tide, and travellers and scouts alike say that he saved a number of precious relics from being devoured by Llofir's hunger, which he then handed to the living, breathing Cardinal of Loyalty during the Summer Solstice. Now he continues his eternal duty and exhorts the Reikos-folk to take up arms and purge what is left of the Spring Eternal's influence in Tamarbode. He seems to be pleased that the soldiers of Urizen have moved in to cleanse the region - but angered that his own people and descendants are not the ones shouldering this duty, instead leaving it to Loyal outsiders to do the dangerous work.*

*You never encounter Athaliah directly - his manifestations and visitations seem random, with little pattern to when and where they occur - but after a season spent in Reikos you are without a doubt that he exists. Magisters have apparently found the ancient shrine to Loyalty in Longshire where he was originally interred, but say that it is now naught but a ruin. The Spring enchantment upon Reikos finished what the weight of the years had started, reducing it to rubble and ruin.*