## Gathering of the Clouds of War

December 1173 of mundane calendar by Putredus of house Tytalus, Agnus Coctus to my Filius, Profanus, Insula Maledictus

You petty fool, do you think struggling against barbaric norsemen in middle of nowhere with an insignificant bunch of should-still-be-apprentices will grant you wisdom and power? You abandoned me, your home covenant and the mainland, where the true challenges await! That is why you should have never been allowed to pass the Gauntlet; always choosing the easy way out, never learning.

However, I did not write this letter to belittle you. I am growing old, Profanus, and with you young ones having left, our covenant is slipping far in to the winter. So much happening here, so much to learn, but my joints are becoming stiffer and my sanctum feels more comfortable with every day that passes. Jost treasures of dead magi, highland giants, haunted borderlands, and war. If only I were couple of decades younger!

Yes, war. War never changes. As you are probably aware, the fool of a King, William, has joined the princes of England in war against the tyrant Henry. The reasons are, as always, purely mundane ones; fame, land, treasure. The battles have been going on in the borderlands for a few months now, and it irritates me that I am missing a perfect opportunity for learning, but I have other tasks to attend to, as I try to keep this house of senile old men from falling apart.

What ever happens to the jester with the crown, this conflict will probably have a great impact to our Order. With the existing tension between the Joch Jeglean and Stonehenge tribunals, serious conflicts could burst in flames. One does not have to be an oracle to tell that Horsingas is probably already plotting an assault on Voluntas. But this is of no concern to us. The thing that really worries me is the word that is spreading around: The Stonehenge magi are aiding the English King in bringing the rebellion under control. Those insolent bastards! If this is true, it means two things: Not only are they breaking the Code, but also seriously threatening the territories of our tribunal! At worst, this could lead to a small-scale schism war between the two tribunals.

However, do not let anger or eagerness for battle shroud your reason. I give you a piece of advice: keep a watchful eye on what happens here on mainland, for it can greatly affect the future of your covenant. Although I still think you are an ass, I wish you the best in the coming struggles,