

GRALHUND STUDY OF THE GRAND GAME

These disparate papers, written in the hand of Orond Gralhund, concern the strategies and machinations of House Gralhund.

Uktar 4th, 1491 DR

They have treated us like fools. In the wake of the Lord Murders, with so many vacancies among the Lords and with Yalah's lineage, it should have required no effort at all for her to be elevated to her rightful place. For the Gralhunds to be elevated to their rightful place, so that she could guarantee the prosperity of the Gralhunds for future generations. Instead they have taken our money. They have taken our favor. And they have spat in our faces. They have closed their ranks against us once again.

This journal entry, and others like it throughout late 1491 DR, speak to the bitterness of the Gralhunds, who felt slighted by being excluded from the ruling council of the city.

Night 21st, 1491 DR

At the fires of Simril last night, Lord Berenger spoke to me of a curious matter. Neverember's Enigma. It seems that the former Open Lord kept some monstrous secret, and now word of that secret is beginning to spread. There are those who believe a Grand Game may be beginning. I sense in this an opportunity to right the great wrong which has been done to Yalah.

It is clear from Orond's notes, however, that over the next few weeks his efforts to penetrate the Grand Game were stymied. The resources of the Gralhunds were limited. But Orond thought outside the box: He embedded agents (referred to by the codephrases "Eagle" and "Catoblepas") in Renaer Neverember's household. As Renaer was estranged from his father this was a long-shot at best, but it paid off. A report from Eagle reads:

We've identified the gnome who's been keeping surveillance on R.N. Dalakhar. An agent of Lord D. Please advise.

Several weeks later, the gnome Dalakhar abruptly stopped his surveillance of Renaer Neverember. Eagle played a hunch, followed up, and discovered that Dalakhar had ended up in the employ of the Xanathar Guild.

Dal. must still be acting under the orders of Lord P. No other explanation for the sudden shift of allegiance.

Contemporary notes from other sources allowed Orond to begin piecing certain facts about the Grand Game and Neverember's Enigma.

There are Three Eyes with which Neverember's Enigma may be seen. The First Eye is held by Kanathar, and lies somewhere within his lair. Bullette's report that this lair can be accessed from teleportal sites within X's sewer hideouts provides a potential means by which this Eye could be seized, but in the absence of a synchronized key these teleportal sites are useless.

A later note states:

The Second Eye has almost certainly been taken from R/V by the Chentarium. It is more important than ever that we discover where M has hidden his head.

And then, this:

Xanatharians are riled. Word on the street is that something was stolen from them. But not the First Eye. The stone of Solarr.

This report is attached to analysis written by Orond.

What if the "Key to Neverember's Enigma" which Kanathar was known to hold in his possession is not, as I have suspected, the Eye? But instead the Stone of Solarr? If so, then what better thief than an agent of Dagutt's? Perhaps even sent there for that purpose. The gnome has taken the Stone. I am certain of it. If we can find Dalakhar, then we can seize the Key. We can take the Stone.