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The Lady's Sharper Eye

"Cutting through the darks, *The Eye* sees all."



BATCH-1

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Psychic peels spice dealer

by Daeh K. Carc, Sigil culler

Lady's Ward--Earlier this week a reputed jarra spice trader and convicted planar hibiscus dealer rejected a plea bargain due to the prediction of a 'psychic' in the Hive Ward. Apparently, the mindbending cross-trader predicted that he'd never be convicted and would not face the nasty future, at least 20 cycles in the Prison, promised by a conviction. Guvner prosecutors had offered Illandro 'the Shadow' A'oyo a deal that would have resulted in a reduced five-cycle sentence. A'oyo would have then been required to testify as a witness in a future case against a reputed illegal spice cartel that includes top-shelf 'loths and some Lady's Ward high-ups.

The prime-turned Cager has been on the run of late after being convicted last month on Bytopia of intention to distribute planar hibiscus, as well as a separate charge of possession of the "mind weed". A'oyo flippantly rejected the deal offered by the Fraternity of Order after a fortune-teller assured the sod that he would never spend a day behind bars. A'oyo then waived his right to a Guvner trial and placed his fate in the hands of High Justice Gabberslug. As chant runs in the Hive, for an extra 8000 Cager gold, the psychic apparently also offered to put a curse on the prosecuting Guvner and the Harmonium officers who arrested A'oyo. The Clueless human apparently didn't want to dump the extra jink (or either didn't have it) and declined. He is scheduled for sentencing next week at the City Courts.



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Deadly case collapse in Hive

by Daeh K. Carc, Sigil culler

Hive Ward--At least 30 bodys were killed and up to 120 were trapped and feared lost after a five-story slum kip collapsed two days ago. Hardheads said Dustmen emotionlessly searched the rubble of the building in an area near the Mortuary throughout the day. Officials said that at least 12 sods were unaccounted for, but it was not clear exactly how many were in the case when it caved in just before peak. Hardheads also said the owner of the building, a baatezu spinagon named Offalman, had been detained.

Excavation for construction work for a new 'Erinyes Nightclub' was taking place next to the collapsed building and Guvner architectural experts said at length that they "theorized that the repercussions had been at the very least, instrumental in the undoing of the nearby housing facility... " (edited for brevity). Further, the Harmonium added that the spinagon was being held while an in-depth investigation was completed on his "possible involvement in the affair, as well as a possible interest in the nearby Nightclub". The falling building took with it the outside wall of an adjacent apartment block, whose residents sifted through debris to salvage possessions into the gloomy hours of the Sigilian night. Anguished relatives whose families had not yet been found wailed in grief as rescuers delved into the rubble and Bleakers merely shook their heads silently. Dustmen pulled one bundled body out in wee hours after anti-peak and unceremoniously hurried it into the Mortuary as relatives of the missing fought for a glimpse of the corpse's face.

The last major building collapse in Sigil was in Accordant of last cycle, when an 11-story case pancaked, killing 640 poor sods, in an accident blamed by officials on the illegal addition of extra stories. Soaring costs of building permits, as well as the long waits and process times at the Hall of Property Records, have often pushed slumlords to build extra floors without permission from the authorities. Actions such as these and frequent fires have also taken their massive tolls in lives within the poorly constructed kips in the ever-crowded ward.



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Leatherheads lose portal key

by Daeh K. Carc, Sigil culler

Guildhall Ward--"It seems that sometimes a sod's own stupidity is a law-abiding body's best defense", said Harmonium sergeant Quithin Tormblood, after the fumbled burglary attempt on Maal'quon the Mephits' Most Marvelous Merchandise jewelry store was brought to light. "Perhaps a different line of work would be better for these 'would-be' knights-of-the-post", he continued, chuckling. Tormblood spoke with cullers regarding two bar-Igura, who had apparently succeeded with their robbery attempt, but hit the blinds as they tried to give the Cage the laugh.

Tormblood continued, "Yes, it seems that the berks robbed the case quite efficiently. They casually entered the Guildhall Ward jewelry store, scragged the employees and locked them in a backroom vault, quickly filled their adventurer's backpacks with jink and then exited, inconspicuously, as normal customers. The flaw in their plan came when they couldn't find the correct portal key for their 'getaway portal' to Torch after exiting the establishment. It appears that the Cage's ever shifting portals, or perhaps the Lady's will, gave the sods the laugh when they were least expecting it". Officers arrested one suspect at a nearby pub who was "bawling into his ale" and the other leatherhead turned himself in the following day. Sor'futh 'the Eater of Elfs' and V'ssk Maggotjowl were both charged with aggravated robbery and three counts of kidnapping.



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Ruckus draws the Lady's Gaze

by Daeh K. Carc, Sigil culler

Lower Ward--An eruption of light, sound, mayhem and destruction shook the very foundations of the Lower Ward in the wee hours after anti-peak this morning. It seems that some sort of large, magically induced explosion ripped through the roof of the Godsmen outpost Harbinger House, killing several barmies native to the case and drawing the attention of the Lady of Pain. Alarms sounded throughout the Lower and Lady's Ward as the Harmonium mobilized a strike team to "get to the bottom of the ruckus".

It took some time to sift through the rubble of the nearly destroyed House, which has stood on the border of the Lady's and Lower wards for as long as any blood can remember. The fact that the block was literally crawling with what the Godsmen refer to as 'future candidates for ascension', most of whom seem to possess some sort of innate magical abilities. However, once the faction of Most Harmonious Order had gotten everything under control, it seemed that they had precious little, if anything, to go on. Rumors were rampant about the Lady's appearance, a group of tanar'ri trying to rest control of the Cage, and about sods becoming powers, but there were precious few facts to draw upon. There were, however, a few bodies littered about that reflected the 'flaying' that has been known to accompany the presence of the Lady.

Further, there was also scree about the 'Party of Pain', a group of primes that were present at the explosion, saving the fledgling power-to-be, Trolan 'the Mad'. The validity of this, however, has not been confirmed as the last chant that the Harmonium had regarding this group of addle-coves was that they had left the Cage through a known portal to Twelvetees, the 13th layer of the Abyss. "Precious few sods come back through that portal" commented Harmonium official Dorus Doubleaxes. Apparently, the reason that the prime party was under watch by the Hardheads was due to their suspected involvement in a spree of brutal murders that occurred recently in the Lady's City. "Although the group was cleared of all charges regarding the murder, we still had to keep an eye on 'em", Doubleaxes commented again.

Both the Harmonium and the Fraternity of Order have sworn to get to the bottom of this strange incident and have begun an in-depth investigation into both the Believers of the Source and into Factol Ambar. "This House has too long been a thorn in the side of the factions of Sigil", commented Guvner investigative aide, Borggul Bloodquill. "It has caused disruptions amongst us for the last time - we will find out what happens behind those shadowy walls. Even now, the Lady has shown us a sign that we have tarried overlong - no more, I

say!"

In a seemingly unrelated event that strangely coincided with the destructive explosion, the followers of Trolan 'the Mad', who evidently had been worshipping the Lady, deserted their assembly in Bloodgem Park. Apparently, the large group of addle-coves received some sort of 'divine inspiration' and departed the Cage without another word. Trolan could not be reached for comment on his followers abrupt departure.



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Brutal murders terrorize the Cage

by Daeh K. Carc, Sigil culler

Lady's Ward--A recent rash of bizarre, barmy and gruesome murders has left investigators in the Harmonium and in the Fraternity scratching their grizzled brain-boxes. For the past several days, Harmonium enforcers and investigative teams coupled with aides from the Guvners have been tracking the winding and warped trail of a ruthless murderer, or murderers. Other than tallying an ever growing list of victims, they have had little results resulting from their investigation. Chant has it that the Guvners will soon be offering a substantial reward for any darks to the murders.

The current chant on the horrific case, which has sods all across the City of Doors wigwagging about a creature that rips sods to shreds and leaves their bloodless bodies behind, is still totally dark. When asked to shed some light on the subject, Harmonium high-up, Narcovi, told *Eye* cullers the following: "All we have so far is three poor sods that are in the dead-book. They were apparently put there by some sod (or sods) using a long, sharp chiv, more than likely a long sword." To hear the bubbers and chant mongers tell it, however, it is a very different tale altogether. A seemingly endless stream of screech ranging from the victims having The Lady's symbol carved into her forehead to the chant that all of the victims were members of the lawful factions has spread out from the Lower Ward and threatens to engulf the entire Cage in its madness.

When asked about the gruesome and repetitive natures of the murders, the dour dwarf lass replied, "We're not releasing any details. We also do not want a mass panic on our hands, and would like to formally state that the only unusual aspect of the murders is their wide range of occurrence." Cullers from *The Lady's Sharper Eye* lanned from an unconfirmed source that the murders have been committed in both the Lady's and the Lower wards, and that all of the victims were killed in a gruesome, almost ritualistic manner. When asked to provide further details, the contact reluctantly agreed, "The poor sods were sliced to ribbons, startin' with their brain-boxes, all th' way down to their soddin' feet. All of 'em had this 'orrible, blank look of pure, ultimate terror frozen on their faces - ya know like they'd seen their worse fear just before they were put in the dead-book. And then there was th' writin'... Awful, 'orrible stuff, smeared all across th' scene - all written in th' poor sod's blood."

Further, *The Eye* found that an unusual, large group of prime bashers recently arrived to Sigil are under observation in regards to the murders. Apparently, these sods have been spotted in the general areas of each murder prior to their occurrences. Finally, there is a bit of chant on the street about the unusual and

tenacious involvement of the Believers of the Source in an independent, but related investigation of these murders.



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