

Re-Opening of Brightwater

Kellis McLode

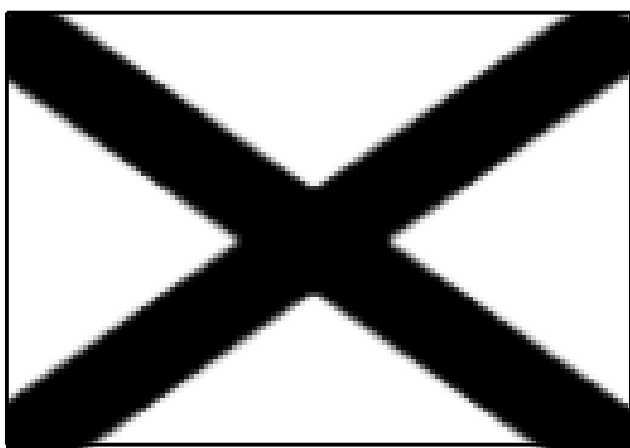
As the 10-year winter slowly lifts from Exile, King Hawke has finally decided to re-open the town of Brightwater to non-military settlers. After the war with Laojian-Lu ended, Lightfall's armies moved to other locations, leaving Brightwater empty and desolate. No civilians were allowed to move back to Brightwater, as the harsh, long winter made it difficult and dangerous to supply. King Hawke thought it better to leave the town bare until he felt it was safe for his people.

Now, all over Exile, and in fact the world, people are beginning to prepare for the "Grand Opening" of Brightwater. News that the Jewel of the Crater is going to be the new seat of the Council of Nations has people all over Raia itching to be the first to re-settle the town, believing it to be even more of a chance at riches and fame than ever before.

Some diplomats are preparing to move out even before the Council is Officially christened in January of next year, hoping to get in on the ground floor. Others are awaiting news that the town is finally safe to approach. Rumors have spread that the town is in horrible disrepair, and will need maintenance. Some fear that squatters may have taken over, others worry that the harsh weather may have reduced the town to nothing. Some fear that the magic of the crater will have wreaked havoc on the little town, changing its layout, and the dangers in the area. Others are not even bothering to guess as it is the crater, and anything is possible.

The first settlers are scheduled to arrive in May of this year, and the world holds its breath, hoping to find the success of the new Council of Nations, and curious to see what Brightwater does to rock the world to its core this time around.

Are you up to the task? Can you help protect the fragile peace between nations? Or will you be the reason it falls?



Wyldling Remembrance Day

Lewis Thistlebottom

This Saturday marks the sixth anniversary of Wyldling Remembrance Day, when a group of Lyn'Bri'ar's most faithful purged the corruption of the dark gods from her blessings, and cured the Wyldlings of their affliction. This miracle cured all the Wyldlings, and removed all the divine blessings and curses that twisted their bodies. Once persecuted for their nature, they now are living among the rest of the world, no longer worried about attacking their friends and families. This was not without a cost, and new details have emerged from the miraculous night.

In the frozen ruins of Skamplett the Disciples of Tir'Deth were trying to harness the magic of the void to further twist the Wyldlings, and have them become even more monstrous all the time. Seven sacrifices were prepared and the ritual was at its zenith when a group of Lyn'Bri'ar's most faithful, lead by the Wyld Pack, six of her acolytes appeared to disrupt the ceremony. As the fighting progressed Caffree Ispep, the mage of the Wyld Pack, noticed that they could redirect the ceremony to cure all those afflicted, but it would take still take at least six Wyldlings to willingly give up their lives. Seizing the opportunity, the Wyld Pack did so, and sacrificed themselves to save their fellow Wyldlings. Now, every year we remember those who gave their lives so that others could have a normal life.

Aloc Ispep was the leader of the Wyld Pack, an elf who was among the original the Lynn'Briar and the other light gods of nature tired to bless.

Caffree Ispep, daughter of Aloc Ispep, the mage of the group who had the gift of being able to somewhat keep her cool even in her shifted form.

Tian'Mount Dew, a Troll with a near limitless amount of energy, he could keep fighting long after normal warriors would tire.

Roctod Reppep, a Hawk Anarathi whose keen eyes were only matched by his skill with the bow.

Inyo Anuran, a rare Frog Anarathi battler who could go toe-to-toe with the toughest of opponents.

Ahdom Pahr, a human Wyldling whose stealth had no equal.

May these six brave souls find peace in the Silver City.



Mae Windfield

Oh, rumor rogues and gossip girls, it’s good to be back at my typographifier writing all the things you want to read! While I have heard MANY, MANY, MAAAAANY things over the years away, they’re all old news and no one likes old news. What you want to read is new news and that I have.

As you may or may not have known, this past February marks the tenth wedding anniversary of Prince Lawrence Adrian II and his lovely wife Princess Annabell. The Delluuzian/Exiled couple seem the perfect pair! Happy as ever, busy as bees, the right combination of all the right things. They’ve come into their own, seeming more mature as they entered their 30s, but something is still mysterious about the two of them. In those 10 years, not a single birth – no little princes or princesses running around the Celesheim fields or Lightfall halls.

There are plenty of rumors circulating. The first of which is that the two are not romantically involved. I’d be struck dead if that were true, Annabell has always been known for her open worshipping of Vera. And the way he looks at her? Ha! No, my loves, there is definitely SOMETHING going on there.

Some say that the wars have caused too much stress in their lives, that they’ve decided to hold off on having children. Others claim that they don’t want to produce an heir while Arthur still seethes about Lawrence’s existence. Some say that the Princess is not able to conceive. And still others say that she has in fact conceived but the children are never born...

Both countries are starting to question and press the matter. The two are getting up in years and heirs are needed for passing on the titles and such. Seems like we’ll have to wait to hear the truth, my scuttlebutt-talking society.



Dear Dandi: These past 10 years of winter have been difficult and I would never have been able to survive without my snow golems. They have helped with household chores and protected my farm from bandits and wolves. After all these years, I've even developed affection for the little frosty buggers. They're not too bright, but after 10 years of “life”, they've picked up a few mannerisms. Sometimes I hear ‘em singing about the upcoming change in weather and my heart breaks for them. I don’t have the magicks or money to keep ‘em cold when the weather turns. Should I let them slowly thaw an’ melt with the spring, or take them out back and put a quick end to it? I just can’t bear to see ‘em suffer.
-Broken Hearted in Hollyfrost Farm

Dear BH: Even though you can’t protect your snow golems from the heat, there may be a better way than putting them down. Have you tried slowly adding clay to their snowy bodies? It's only a theory at the moment, but our in-house mage postulates that if you were to add clay bit-by-bit, over a course of weeks, they would be able to incorporate it into themselves. If done properly, when the heat returns, they will bake nicely into stone golems. Unfortunately, since this has never been tested, I cannot promise it will work. We would love to hear back from you either way if you go this route so that we could advise others in similar situations. If not, I suggest letting them pass naturally.

Share Your Faith

Maudlin Mary

Your faith will help further spread the love of Alanna as you find satisfaction in what you do.



We provide resources to members that help them bring others into Alanna’s light.

We hire the brightest and kindest people who can advance the work of our goddess. We seek people who have much to offer and are dedicated to building a community. The cause in which we are engaged is the greatest cause on Raia. We look for people who are resourceful, upbeat, and loyal and who will give their best in what they are contributing. Our organization is founded on the great mission of all, which is to invite all to come unto Alanna’s hearth. We need people who are dedicated to working in community outreach to fulfill that mission by providing assistance, support, and materials to community leaders, teachers, missionaries, and families.

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-Exkltr Dgd

Dear Exkltr Dgd,
Uh....what? I think I may need my reader’s help with this one. I’m offering 5 gold to the first reader who can help me translate this strange language. Everyone deserves my help, even foreigners.

FASHION
BY FAE

Yesterday’s Fashion

Are you going to the recently re-opened Brightwater? Of course you are. Are you going to want to look your best? Bien sur! And are you going to find yourself taking another new and fashionable person to your bunk at the end of the night only to find out that their deal breaker is a cartoon character on your blanket? LET’S HOPE NOT! Because you, my love, are going to not bring that blanket with you.

You are SO OVER those days – the ones where you had your favorite bard plastered all over your wall and you grew out your hair and thought you were “deep” because you wrote a poem using the word “death.” You were young, dumb, and full of mixed emotions (might have just been indigestion).

EITHER WAY! It’s time you moved on to bigger and better things, like mature blankets. A nice quilt will please the eye, a solid earth-tone color wool will work best at keeping you warm, and a down comforter if you’re looking for some comfort. Purples, pinks, teals, and things of the like are so tacky.



Fashion Tip

Has the stress of moving from one side of Raia to another caused breakouts? Blemishes? Spots? We’ve got just the trick! Try some of these tricks to clear up your skin:

- To remove spots, lick an amethyst and rub the slobbery stone over offending areas.
- To remove freckles, boil oatmeal and vinegar together and smear it on. Alternatively, if you were out of porridge, you could use bull’s or hare’s blood.
- To eradicate redness, apply cucumber or strawberry juice.
- To soothe sunburn, use the squeezed juice of the waterlily.

PREDICTIONS BY
AISLINN FORTENCLA

Satyr (Dec 22nd - Jan 19th)

Beware!! A mysterious man has been seen in your future! If you meet a stranger check and see if they are left handed. If they are, run for they mean you ill.

Scylla (Jan 20th -Feb 18th)

A new month brings a fresh start this is a good time to venture out and try something new. Your endeavors will pay off and you will gain rich experiences.

Hippocampus (Feb. 19th-March 20th)

A silver saved is a silver earned. This month you shall be prosperous in your financial endeavors but be sure to put some away for a rainy day!

Cerastes (March 21st- April 19th)

Love is upon you this month; spring and flowers are in the air pick some and woo that special someone. They will find you unbelievably charming and irresistible, you lucky dog you!

Minotaur (April 20th-May 20th)

Change is coming, be prepared or it will knock you down like a tidal wave. However, if you are prepared you will ride the wave to a great new destination where you shall come across many happy tidings.

Balius (May 21st-June 20th)

Now is the time to hide. Your enemies are gaining power and will seek to use it against you. Stay low and quiet and wait to seek revenge.

Argus (June 21st-July 22)

The heat of battle leaves you weak. You will vanquish your foe this month but at great personal cost. Be sure to have your affairs in order before setting out.

Chimera (July 23 - Aug 22)

A trade expedition makes you rich, however be careful for the fat dragon sleeping on his treasure often misses the thief in the night. Don't loose what you have gained so quickly.

Devas (Aug 23- Sept 22)

Be open to magic this month. A mage holds all the answers you are looking for and will share them freely, but not almost too freely. It will be a small price to pay to find what you seek.

Jaculi (Sept 23- Oct 22)

The sword is your friend this month. A mighty battle awaits and with a trusty blade by your side you can do no wrong. This month, you shall have the strength of 10 men when battle comes around. Your enemies would do well to beware!!

Manticore (Oct 23- Nov 21)

A lost love brings great turmoil into your life. You feel as though nothing will ever be the same and it won't be for you are on a different path. Now tread carefully.

Kujata (Nov 22-Dec 21st)

Play your emotions close to the chest this month and avoid putting your heart on your sleeve for it will surely get stabbed there in a terrible and gruesome way.