



– Tuesday July 23, 2019 –



A Busy Afternoon in the Market

The courtyard was a buzz with energy as girls explored the many vendors that had arrived to sell their wares. There were candles and metalworks, flowers and sugary drinks, and every kind of trinket and delight.

The girls tried their hand at butter churning and making perfume. They painted peg dolls to look like their favourite characters and wove baskets from reeds. Many hands were busily at work and there was a smile on every face.



The Messengers discovered a few interesting items upon their arrival: steel weapons of such excellent quality that they could only have been forged in the fires of Ferredon. This is an exciting development, for the borders of that kingdom have been closed since the dawn of the second age. Lady Celestria entrusted Lady Isla to draft a letter to be sent to the Northernmost border of Caelor. The investigation continues.

Mercy in the Marketplace

“Look! Is it daggers you seek?” shouted a vendor from the other end of the marketplace. She began to present a series of items that she claimed were rare and genuine, including daggers from the kingdom of Ferredon, a Gaudiia crystal from Solandil, and a wolf’s tooth straight from the jaws of a fierce Caelorian wolf.

One by one, Celestria showed these items to be false: the daggers were actually knives, the crystal ought to change in sunlight (it did not), and the wolf’s tooth? From a cow.

The merchant was arrested, but before she could be hauled unceremoniously before Princess Illyria, said princess arrived. “There is more to this story than meets the eye,” she stated. Using her gift from the King to see into hearts, she discerned that the merchant had been using her profits to provide for the orphans in her village. She ordered that the merchant be given the money she needs to purchase land, and in turn, she was asked to return all that she had taken. The merchant was so excited, she proceeded to run around, embracing the Messengers with great gusto.



Night Mission

Towards evening, the Maidens were summoned to the Castle by Princess Illyria. A council was held and the maidens were asked to seek out Lady Samara who has been undercover for some time, traveling with a band of merchants. There was a strange moment in the council where Lady Amalaya insisted that she had the skills and abilities necessary to be undercover, and that she was underappreciated. There was a strange moment as Lady Amalaya stormed out of the council meeting. Que awkward silence...

The Maidens headed down the Great Hill, where they met a Messenger. A message was found, stuck to an arrow in Folloris. The message led to an encampment, where Lady Samara was coughing and with high fever. As the Messenger distracted the merchants of the encampment, the Maidens gave water to Lady Samara and received the information she had gathered from being undercover. The Maidens were rudely interrupted in their act of service, and forced to leave the encampment.

The Maidens successfully completed the mission, without blowing Lady Samara's cover. The Maidens left, being able to find out that it is not bandits stealing people away, but some darkness. Lady Samara was able to slip a piece of black cloth from the borders of a dark land, into the hands of the Maidens. The Princesses can now study it and determine where it is from and who this mysterious darkness is.

We would have included a picture... but it was a *secret* mission.

CLASSIFIEDS

WANTED: A willing person to hold down tablecloths and flowers at Village altars. Must be able to withstand great wind storms.

GENERAL ADVISORY: Water is still a necessary liquid for consumption, even when we are not be scalded by the sun, so drink up!

LOST: One merchant in the Market would like to find her three moths, Benny, Billy, and Bob. If found, the reward is a tooth from a mysterious creature (which may or may not be a cow...).

DAILY SCRIPTURE

“Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.”

— 2 Cor. 9:6-7

