

## The Steward's Ball

23 January 2007  
Taysayad Keep

**Raphael Dolek:** Within the palace walls lies a huge courtyard in which carriages and horses arrive. It's been lined with lamps to light the way to the main entrance. Several servants await the guests, showing them inside and offering to care for and stable any animals out of the winter cold. Within the double doors is a waiting area, where staff await to take coats and note the presence of invitations. Weapons will have to be surrendered at the door. Those without invitations will be refused. Beyond there is the Great Hall. Tables with tidbits to eat – breads, cheeses, fruits and many pastries line the walls. Servers walk through the crowds, offering wines, ales, and non-alcoholic drinks. They'll do their best to accommodate any guests' requests. The decorations are festive, and the rooms are well lit.

**Raphael Dolek:** To the left of the Hall, music is played in the ballroom. Chairs and small tables are scattered about the dance floor. The musicians are up in a balcony overlooking the room below. Stairs from the Hall lead to an overlooking corridor, off of which several small sitting rooms are, for those who wish a quieter place to talk. Double doors in the back of the Hall lead to the palace gardens, which while covered in snow, is also decorated with several snowmen, all dressed in formal attire. The snowfolk are courtesy of the Steward's daughter and her friends.

**Raphael Dolek:** Entrance to corridors leading from the foyer area, the Great Hall, and the private rooms off the balcony are blocked, closed, or otherwise guarded. Inside, the Taysayad Guard, as well as a carefully chosen contingent of the City Guard, will be quietly but firmly in attendance. There are also Guards on patrol outdoors.

**Raphael Dolek:** ::Music drifts through the hall as some guests have already arrived. Most are still gathered in the Great Hall, eating and talking. Some dressed expensively, others in their Drake Day best.::

**Nadiya Galyn:** ::Nadiya Galyn showed her invitation, while another servant took her cloak, revealing the amber gown she wore beneath. Her dark hair was up that night, held by jeweled combs.::

**Raphael Dolek:** ::Steward Dolek moves among them, dressed in hunter green, is having a serious discussion on which pastry tasted best.::

**Nadiya Galyn:** ::She cast a glance back towards her companion for the evening, and smiled.::

**Jakob Sevine:** ::Jakob stepped up the stairs and into the room. His black outfit was nice for him, but most would imagine it to be made of cheaply crafted material. He could really afford nothing more::

**Mik Gideonn:** ::Mik stood cautiously beside Nadiya. He was dressed impeccably, his clothing new for the occasion purchased for him as a gift. ::

**Jakob Sevine:** :: his eyes glanced quickly around the room, and spotted the location of the alcohol and he moved in that direction. Trying to hide it the best he could, he felt very uncomfortable at the moment::

**Raphael Dolek:** ::Excusing himself, he headed over to Jakob:: Good evening and welcome.

**Sherakai:** ::Kai appeared at the balcony railing with two guards. The three of them looked over the ballroom, talking quietly:::

**Nadiya Galyn:** We should probably find the Steward. Though...perhaps a glass of wine first wouldn't hurt.

**Mik Gideonn:** It was elegant and fine, stitched magnificently. His finery was less grand than Nadiya's, to compliment rather than overshadow her, warm russets and rich creams::

**Jakob Sevine:** ::nodded to Raphael:: Thanks.

**Mik Gideonn:** ::He let a grin slip over his lips:: Wine first. We'll find him eventually.

**Raphael Dolek:** I'm glad you could make it. I'm Raphael Dolek. ::He held out his hand::

**Nadiya Galyn:** Indeed. ::She reached to take his arm:: Lead on, let us see what we can find.

**Jakob Sevine:** ::he took Raphael's hand in his and shook it firmly:: Jakob Sevine.

**LorenSIntstrider:** A tall lanky human strode in; his outfit was a combination of homespun and leathers; carefully cleaned, yet still clearly bearing the marks of much wear and use. Greens and browns were the primaries of his garb; a longtooth dagger bound at his hip; secured by a small grey sash.

**Raphael Dolek:** Jakob, you look like a man in need of a drink. ::chuckling:: If you don't find what you want, just ask. And enjoy the food.

**LorenSIntstrider:** His hair was pulled back into a loose braid to keep it from sliding loose. He regarded those present with an earthy grin, taking the time to appreciate the many fine vessels.

**Jakob Sevine:** ::nods:: Thank you. I will. ::he turned and moved for the drinks and speaking with the server gets himself a fine ale::

**Sherakai:** ::After a moment, he nodded, clapped the nearest on the shoulder, then made his way down the stairs. He was garbed head to toe in stark black. His high-collared tunic was trimmed

**Soledaad Rourke:** ::Baroness Soledaad Rourke moved away from her coach, her cloak left with a servant, the lines of her gown, a subdued brown with a low coredsted neckline with a simple stright skirt::

**LorenSIntstrider:** Peeping from between tunic, a bit of greenery interspersed with tiny unblossomed buds.

**Mik Gideonn:** ::It was easy to find the variety of beverage offerings and Mik guided Nadiya effortlessly::

**Raphael Dolek:** ::He moved on to greet Nadiya and her companion::

**Jakob Sevine:** ::Jakob moved for the nearest wall, where he took up his position for the night. He took a lean against the wall and began taking slow pulls of his ale as he watched all those in fancy outfits coming in::

**Sherakai:** in silver. A silver drake cuff swung from his ear, and around his waist was a wide, intricately twisted sash of shimmering silver and copper::

**Soledaad Rourke:** ::a collar crossed her shoulders and a black velvet ribbon was tied around her neck with a ruby stone in its center, her white hair was braided, as always and she had no companion::

**Nadiya Galyn:** ::She looked over the crowd, taking note of faces familiar and not. She smiled to Loren as they passed, and nodded::

**Raphael Dolek:** Good evening and welcome, Nadiya. ::He smiled to both her and Mik:: I'm glad you could come.

**LorenSIntstrider:** :: He returned the smile offered with a grin and wink, then made his way to suss out a drink, something robust of flavour but low of actual liquor ::

**Soledaad Rourke:** ::she handed over her invitation and waited in silence, a touch of command and regality in her tonight::

**Nadiya Galyn:** Ah, Steward. Very good to see you, thank you for the invitation. Have you met Mikkaill Gideonn?

**Raphael Dolek:** ::The drinking table was seeing a lot of activity::

**Mik Gideonn:** ::As they came near to Dolek, and were greeted, Mik smiled warmly in return and offered his hand when Nadiya introduced him::

**Jakob Sevine:** ::he recognized Soledaad from a time in the tavern. He also saw Kai, whom he nodded to if looked towards and raised his tankard::

**Kendra Rulyar:** ::Her right hand rest gently in the crock of his arm, dressed in emerald green, a not to fancy dress which allows her to move if the need would come up:::Shall we?

**Raphael Dolek:** ::He shook Mik's hand, smiling:: I think I've seen you in the Crosswinds.

**Jarl Werrand:** ::he looked up at the elf with his one eye, a crooked grin on his face:: Aye, lass.

**Soledaad Rourke:** ::she made her way into the hall::

**LorenSIntstrider:** :: whistle dampened, he slipped from the table to regard those present and those arriving; observant eyes regarding all; a ghost of a smile spotting Kendra, and mischief lit his eyes ::

**Kendra Rulyar:** ::smiles down at him and lets Jarl lead her into the room::

**Mik Gideonn:** A time or two, I expect. It's a pleasure to meet you, Steward.

**Soledaad Rourke:** ::her red eyes looking over heads rather easily as she follows the muted sounds of music and voices::

**Raphael Dolek:** Enjoy yourselves. The wine is excellent. ::A grin to Nadiya, and

he moved on::

**Kendra Rulyar:** ::The elf spots Loren, at first he gets a turned up nose. ( while she walks in with a dwarf) but a little smile plays over her lips::

**Sherakai:** ::Making his way into the Great Hall, he stood in the doorway looking over the gathering crowd.::

**Jarl Werrand:** ::the old dwarf stomped into the hall, his greying beard braided and clasped with mithral jewelry, clad in shining silver armour::

**Nadiya Galyn:** Thank you.

**Celes Dunhold:** ::Celes muttered as she adjusted her dress, entering from a back hallway, two guards saluting her as she passed::

**Kendra Rulyar:** ::and yes, Jarl has taken a bath tonight.Does he not look stunning?::

**Nadiya Galyn:** Speaking of excellent wine... ::she grinned at Mik::

**LorenSIntstrider:** ::He slipped between people with the grace and flexibility normally reserved for passing through thornbushes without being snagged, marking a path toward her; he offered the wolf's grin as she turned her nose up, wider as that smile flickered ::

**Jarl Werrand:** ::he even ate mint leaves to get the ale scent out of his mouth::

**Kendra Rulyar:** ::Nods to Mik and raises a brow at Nadiya as she moves past them::

**Raphael Dolek:** Why, Kendra. Don't you look stunning tonight?

**Soledaad Rourke:** ::moving along the edges of the crowd::

**Raphael Dolek:** Who's your companion? ::He grinned at the dwarf::

**Mik Gideonn:** ::Mik bent slightly in a bow to Kendra and when she was occupied with Dolek whispered something in Nadiya's ear ... choice of wine, perhaps as they perused the table::

**Jakob Sevine:** ::he silently watched his boss enter with a dwarf, then took a large pull of his ale::

**Kendra Rulyar:** Thank you Raf::winks at him:: say have you had the pleasure of meeting my friend yet? Jarl has taken to Dreven and even reopened the old mine we talked about before.

**LorenSIntstrider:** :: his hand slipped to his breast, under the tunic, withdrew a tiny orchid bud, palming it for the moment as his hand slipped back to his side ::

**Celes Dunhold:** ::looks between the two smirking saluting guard:: Not a word...either of you. Or you'll be on sewer duty for a month.

**Nadiya Galyn:** ::She nodded.::

**Jarl Werrand:** ::nodded politely:: Tis a pleasure, sorr.

**Raphael Dolek:** So this is the gentleman. It's a pleasure to meet you, Jarl. ::He offered the dwarf his hand::

**Soledaad Rourke:** ::she found a spot to stand and waved away a servant::

**Jarl Werrand:** ::took the man's hand in a firm shake:: Nice place ye've got 'ere.

**Kendra Rulyar:** ::waves over to Soledaad::

**Raphael Dolek:** Had it decorated in early castle.

**Sherakai:** ::A hand on the hilt of one of his swords, he looked to the guards. One of

them lifted a hand to point into the crowd, and Kai turned his head to look.::

**Nadiya Galyn:** ::A smile of a different sort illuminated her features after a moment.:: I trust your taste completely.

**Elenari Tuurchi:** ::Stands outside the wide doors and draws in a deep breath, her chest rises up just a little, the red fabric curled around her feet. Both hands come to rest on her belly and she waits another moment.::

**LorenSIntstrider:** ::Such beauty dae t' grace us wi' 's presence, like a portrait masterwork, ne'er spoiled by a word,:: he murmured as he came up to Kendra and the dwarf, bringing his hand up to produce the flowerbud, then slipping away before she can overmuch react.::

**Soledaad Rourke:** ::she raises a hand to Kendra and remains tucked away where she is.::

**Celes Dunhold:** ::she glided gracefully through the crowd, sliding up next to Raf.:: G'ave Steward.

**Kendra Rulyar:** ::her hand takes the blossom, she looks up, her eyes follow Loren and well she does not know just what to say.::

**Raphael Dolek:** ::He looked over at Loren, with a raised brow, then turned and smiled at Celes.::

**Jarl Werrand:** ::merely blinks at Loren.:: Heh.

**Raphael Dolek:** You look lovely, Celes.

**Sherakai:** ::He moved into the crowd, nodding and smiling greetings as he went.::

**Mik Gideonn:** ::For once, Mik didn't quite know what to say to that and busied himself with getting their glasses, a thoughtfully mischievous smile loitering at the corners of his lips.::

**passeadordinoche:** #:the shadows on the veranda outside the two tall, glass doors leading to the gardens shifted and stirred before a presence emerged from their depths.::

**Celes Dunhold:** ::smirks a bit.:: Thank you Steward. You look well yourself. I'm certainly not use to something like this.

**LorenSIntstrider:** :: A deeper smile crossed his lips as he espied a face ... he slipped between courtiers and freemen, moving to a position near the opening doors, yet slightly obscured by them to any coming in.::

**Kendra Rulyar:** ::A glance over to Mik and Nadiya, a tug on Jarls arm.:: Shall we find you some ale?

**Celes Dunhold:** I almost slipped on my dress uniform, but the dresser girl informed me she'd tan my hide if I did.

**Raphael Dolek:** Good for her.

**Jakob Sevine:** ::doing his job of holding up a far wall quite well, Jakob nodded towards Kendra and then also towards Celes whom he met a few days ago.::

**Soledaad Rourke:** ::she turned to the muscians.::

**Jarl Werrand:** ::begins grinning.:: Hehehe... might as well keep the servin' lads busy.

**Elenari Tuurchi:** ::Tosses the free flowing pink hair back for good measure and starts to move forward, chin up and taking small steps.::

**Celes Dunhold:** ::she gave Jakob a polite smile and nod.::

**passeadordinoche:** #: a deep breath lifted the black satin material covering her well endowed chest, some of which glowed pale in the moonlight above the scooped neckline of her ball gown:

**Miss Amorina:** :: *Ami climbed out of a rickety old carriage, then stopped and waited for her escort: ...not late, see there are still some others arriving.*

**Raphael Dolek:** :: Several guests were starting to drift into the ballroom to dance:

**Kendra Rulyar:** As you should :: goes on to find Jarl ale: just let me smell it for a moment:: sigh:

**Nadiya Galyn:** :: As he secured beverages for them both, she pointed out a few faces in the crowd: The Ambassador to Balthazor, there. :: gesturing to Soledaad: And there is the Captain of the guard, I *believe*. :: she gestured to Celes:

**Elenari Tuurchi:** :: And the Arborian Ambassador steps inside the great hall:

**Loren SIntstrider:** :: reaching in once more, he removed a small wristcuff woven of flowerstems and blossoms, carefully stripped of thorns on the inside; this he held low in his left hand, waiting for the opportune moment ::

**Jarl Werrand:** :: thought in advance to bring his own dwarf-sized mug, begins filling it: Why no jus' get some?

**Raphael Dolek:** If you'll excuse me, Celes?

**Kendra Rulyar:** If Nisi finds out she never speaks to me again Jarl: sigh: ever...

**Celes Dunhold:** Well atleast I know a little bit about looking like a woman. :: smiles: Go on Steward, this is your night anyway.

**Mik Gideonn:** :: He curled his fingers around his glass and hers, holding them close, leaning his shoulder to hers as she indicated people: I've met the former, though not under title.

**passeadordinoche:** #: long, thin fingers slid the matching satin shawl back up over bare, pale arms and wrapped it closer around her although the wintery night air really didn't disturb her overmuch:

**raghefaunus:** Hmph. :: from inside the carriage, an elderly gentleman took his time climbing out: They're probably leaving.

**Sherakai:** Kendra, what a pleasure to see you :: he greeted from behind her: Jarl, I'm terribly disappointed. Where's the purple gown?

**Elenari Tuurchi:** :: Pauses again, her eyes drift over the crowd and she holds her breath for a moment:

**Raphael Dolek:** :: He headed over to Soledaad: Good evening.

**Kendra Rulyar:** :: smiles hearing her brother and leans back to give him a kiss on the cheek:

**Celes Dunhold:** :: she moved through the crowd once more, her moves graceful but hold a air of predator nature to them:

**Jarl Werrand:** :: merely shakes his fist at Kai, his mouth busy guzzling down ale:

**passeadordinoche:** #: one hand lifted to shove a length of dark curl back over her shoulder before she breathed in deeply again, perhaps steadying breaths, then the Thermadorian :: Ambassador: stepped into the ballroom from the garden

entrance::

**Nadiya Galyn:** ::She nodded:: Oh. And there is the Arborian ambassador. ::gesturing towards Elenari::

**Soledaad Rourke:** ::she turns and looks to Raphael:: Good even, Steward Dolek.

**Elenari Tuurchi:** ::She had to attend she may as well move deeper into the room to find some wine to calm her nerves::

**Sherakai:** ::Kendra's cheek got a kiss in return and he winked at Jarl::

**Raphael Dolek:** You're hiding yourself in the corner?

**MissAmorina:** ::Ami watched as he climbed out, eyeing the purple...costume...and rolling her eyes again she muttered:: *If you'd not insisted on that old thing ::gesturing to the carriage:: Nonsense. ::Ami started to walk, trying to keep her*

**Jarl Werrand:** ::whispers to Kendra:: **If someone irritates me, am I allowed tae hit 'em?**

**passeadordinoche:** ::skin, so pale as to be almost translucent seemed to glow under the lights of the ballroom, her appearance only made more stark by the contrast of dark hair and gown::

**LorenSIntstrider:** :: He waited ... stopped really, taking in the Ambassador in her dress. It was a rare moment that stopped him, but as she moved he came out of the reverie, gliding up alongside her, finding her left arm and lifting it to place the

**Celes Dunhold:** ::bowing her head lightly to several guests, looking around for folks she may know ::

**MissAmorina:** *a small distance so maybe some would not think they were coming together...and so his costume would not clash with the garnet gown she wore::*

**Kendra Rulyar:** Always::whispered back to Jarl::

**Mik Gideonn:** Balthazor, Captain of the Guard, Arboria... got it so far. ::He let escape a soft chuckle::

**LorenSIntstrider:** band upon her arm just behind her wrist; he murmured very softly,:: 'ello Elenari,:: then more vocally, ::Ahh, Ambassador, welcome, tae guid tae hae y' 'ere'::

**Soledaad Rourke:** ::nothing in her expression or demeanor belied any doubts of her being here:: I am not one to demand attention, Steward. ::a small smile plays on her lips::

**passeadordinoche:** ::eyes the same color as her gown shifted over those already inside the room, stopping here and there to take particular note of one or another of the guests before she moved toward any soft of less well lit area::

**Celes Dunhold:** ::she stopped at Mik and Nadiya:: G'even to you both. Thank you for coming to the Ball this fine chill eve.

**raghefaunus:** Tsk tsk, ::taking Ami's arm:: Is there a reason you're in such a hurry?

**Jarl Werrand:** ::grins happily, then begins to drink more::

**Raphael Dolek:** Who said anything about demanding? ::He chuckled:: Can I get you anything to eat?

**Nadiya Galyn:** Thank you. ::she smiled to Celes:: Have we been introduced?

**Elenari Tuurchi:** Loren?::a smile touches her lips and she leans towards his touch: I did not know you would be here:: she looks less nervous now::

**MissAmorina:** *You said we were late. ::but with a resigned sigh, she let him escort her through the main entrance, showing their invitations to the guard and letting them take her cloak::*

**Nadiya Galyn:** ::She knew the woman by title, but that alone::

**Jarl Werrand:** **Alright lassie, I'm followin' ye. Let's find trouble.**

**Celes Dunhold:** Forgive my manners, I'm Celes Dunhold. Captain of the Dreven Guard.

**Elenari Tuurchi:** ::A light blush touches her face and she whispers:: may we find some wine first?

**Nadiya Galyn:** Oh, not at all. Celes, it is a pleasure. And this is Mik Gideonn.

**Kendra Rulyar:** ::Sniffs the air and wonders if one taste of wine would kill her, really::

**raghefaunus:** ::The guards took Ragnall's coat, looking over the curious pair briefly:: Are you sure that ambassador will be here?

**Kendra Rulyar:** ::waves to Ami::

**Dante Voltan:** ::a carriage pulled up, the footman opened the door and a gentlemen stepped out, his bald head steaming lightly in the cold air::

**Soledaad Rourke:** I will see to some wine in due time, thank you. ::she inclines her head somehow making it a, well slightly nobel gesture::

**Mik Gideonn:** ::Mik greeted the Captain with a bow:: If only the entire guard looked like you. ::He smiled::

**Jarl Werrand:** ::also waves at ami:: **This ale's a little watered doon.**

**LorenSintstrider:** ::He smiled gently, nodded his head, ::But o' course ... sha' I hie for y' a glass, or wouldst prefer tae review for y'sel'?

**Raphael Dolek:** Please enjoy yourself, Ambassador.

**Kendra Rulyar:** No it is not!::drags Jarl towards Mik and Nadiya::

**Nadiya Galyn:** ::She took a sip of her wine, hiding her smile::

**MissAmorina:** *Not at all, but why wouldn't she be? ::Smiled to Kendra, then back to Ragh:: Give them the hat too.*

**Raphael Dolek:** ::With a smile, he moved on to greet a simply dressed couple::

**Soledaad Rourke:** I will indeed Steward. ::this tiem she does actually curtsey, a fine one indeed::

**passeadordinoche:** ::dark eyes landed upon Soledaad and lingered there a moment before moving on to others who had made their way to the ballroom instead of the Great Hall::

**Elenari Tuurchi:** ::Thinks on what he had just said:: I let you choose.

**Sherakai:** ::Drifting through the crowd, he made his way to Ambassador Tuurchi. ::Good evening, Ambassador, ::he bowed slightly to her, then smiled at her companion::

**Jakob Sevine:** ::he smiled seeing Ami enter. His back firmly against the wall near the corner::

**Jarl Werrand:** Aye it is, I think they're tryin' tae save money. ::gets dragged::

**Celes Dunhold:** ::smiles a bit at Mik's words:: Well my thanks Sir. If they did I'm sure most of the male brigandry in the region would turn themselves in hordes.

**Soledaad Rourke:** ::red eyes raise to the darkk eyes woman and a curious look crosses her face::

**Elenari Tuurchi:** ::She gets stopped by Kai:: Good evening Baron:: a nervous smile:: have you had a good day so far?

**raghefaunus:** ::After a stubborn stair, and the guard looking between them not sure whether or not to take the hat, the old man surrendered it::

**Dante Voltan:** ::he made his way towards the front door, stepping behind Ami and her escort:: G'ave Ami.

**Mik Gideonn:** And fight to be first, I'll warrant.

**passeadordinoche:** ::as her gaze met Soledaad's she gave a slight inclination of her head then continued to peruse the rest of the crowd as her agile feet carried her toward the doors leading to the Great Hall::

**Sherakai:** Quite busy, and how are the two of you doing?

**LorenSIntstrider:** :: Loren offered a grin to 'kai :: ::Mos' pard'; serrah, may I cull y' a drink whilst I gae fer th' guid Amba,:: :: he inquired of 'kai before going ::

**MissAmorina:** Good evening Dante. ::Moving aside so the guards could assist him, she also waved to Jakob and a few others she recognized::

**Soledaad Rourke:** ::she manages not to sigh, thinking again she should not be here::

**Celes Dunhold:** ::she shrugged lightly:: I reckon so. Sadly its not that easy though.

**Jakob Sevine:** ::he gave a slight wave to Ami, but noticed her attention moving quickly to everyone else. He just remained against the wall and took another long drink of his ale::

**Nadiya Galyn:** How have things been, Celes? I've heard of difficulties.

**Sherakai:** ::He crooked a brow at Loren curiously, trying to decipher what he'd said. When he thought he had it, he shook his head:: Thank you, but no.

**Kendra Rulyar:** ::Smiles at Mik and leans in to give him a kiss on the cheek :How are you tonight::still has Jarl( drinking) with her:: You meet Jarl have you not?

**Jarl Werrand:** ::nods to Mik, permanently attached to the Crazy Elf for the night::

**LorenSIntstrider:** ::He nodded, and moved toward the table, hoping to find her preferred vintage; but in the end settling for a smooth white. He brought this back to her, and gently set it in Elenari's left hand, fingers touching briely in the exchange::

**Mik Gideonn:** ::He smiled:: A good evening to you Kendra, you're looking well! ::He grinned at Jarl then:: Aye, we've met.

**raghefaunus:** ::Ignored Dante:: And what does this said ambassador look like?

**Celes Dunhold:** ::frowning a bit:: Its been a tough transition. As is want to happen, folks are taking advantage of the instability.

**passeadordinoche:** ::pale skin prickled as she stepped into the Great Hall, and she stopped to let her gaze take in all the people milling about the food and drink tables::

**Kendra Rulyar:** Thank you :: smiles softly:: so do you, and I been eating more.

**Soledaad Rourke:** ::a slight movement of her jaw and she turns to the drinks::

**Dante Voltan:** ::glances back to the carriage, muttering something::

**Jarl Werrand:** ::takes a good long swig from his horn:: **Good thing, ye were too skinny anyhoo.**

**Nadiya Galyn:** Much the same has occurred in Luminii, though we've had a bit of a head start on solidifying control.

**MissAmorina:** ::Moving further into the hall accepting the first glass of wine brought over by a servant, Ragh right beside her:: *Just look for the pink hair.*

**BlissNLvjy:** ::this was not where she wanted to be, at least not alone, but here she was dressed in her finest gown::

**Nadiya Galyn:** ::Her gaze went to Kendra and Jarl briefly, and she nodded. Smiled.::

**Celes Dunhold:** Though as the guard gets itself more settled and expanded, the unrest is being dealt with.

**Elenari Tuurchi:** Thank you ::said softly to Loren:: Baron, this is my ::thinks on the word for a moment:: friend Loren, he is a very skilled hunter.

**Jarl Werrand:** ::all smiles::

**passeadordinoche:** ::her eyes paused briefly upon Elenari and then Dante, finally they shifted - searching::

**Sherakai:** It is a pleasure to meet you ::He inclined his head politely:: I'm Kai dan Rikash.

**Soledaad Rourke:** ::she almost seems to part the crowd with an aura of command, unspoken but her's nonetheless::

**Kendra Rulyar:** ;waves to Bliss with a huge smile:: She is here!

**LorenSIntstrider:** :: An eyebrow raised just a bit and he regarded the Baron he was being introduced to :: Ay'n I da hie Loren, dan nada, :: he replied with just a hint of amusement.::

**Nadiya Galyn:** I wish you the best of luck with it, Celes. It is no easy task. The Archon of Luminii, by the way sends his regards to you all.

**passeadordinoche:** ::her gaze once more paused, this time on Jarl, then again searching the crowd until finally landing upon Kai for a very long moment::

**Elenari Tuurchi:** :Takes a sip of the wine to taste it, he had chosen well::

**Sherakai:** I trust you're finding your visit to Dreven pleasant? ::he inquired of Elenari::

**Raphael Dolek:** ::Chuckling at something said, he moved off to greet Ami and her companion::

**Jarl Werrand:** **Hullo Miss Blissy! ::calls out::**

**Elenari Tuurchi:** Yes thank you.::A nod to Kai::

**MissAmorina:** *Here comes the steward. ::she said softly to Ragh as she saw Dolek approaching::*

**Kendra Rulyar:** See I knew she would come::still smiles::

**Celes Dunhold:** ::smiles sincerely:: My thanks to him. The Steward and Guard

send their thanks and hopes for prosperity between both our regions.

**LorenSIntstrider:** :: His left hand slid down to smooth out the leathers a moment. ::

**BlissNLvjy:** ::ah, spotted. Too late to slip away to the office and hide. Putting on a charming smile she glided into the room, waving back at Ken and Jarl::

**Soledaad Rourke:** ::I saw her today at the reception, a glass of wine in her hand::

**Jarl Werrand:** O'course. Lookin

**Nadiya Galyn:** I will be glad to relay that. ::She bowed slightly::

**Jarl Werrand:** purdy t'night, too.

**Kendra Rulyar:** ::looks Nadiya over, Mik's attention may turn just a little towards Bliss, and she would just love this::

**Jarl Werrand:** ::nodnods::

**Raphael Dolek:** Good evening, Ami.

**raghefaunus:** Which one? ::scanning the crowd::

**passeadordinoche:** ::still standing in the doorway between two rooms, she slowly turned her head to follow Soledaad's progression, then began to follow with her body as well::

**niqueliece:** :: slips just inside, keeping an eye on the exits ::

**Jakob Sevine:** ::wanders over to the server and waits for a refill of his ale::

**Celes Dunhold:** ::grins at Kendra, noting her gaze:: Hello Kendra!

**Nadiya Galyn:** ::She took a sip of her wine, and found it very much to her liking::

**Soledaad Rourke:** ::easily over six feet tall, sshe was a little hard to miss::

**Raphael Dolek:** And who is your companion?

**Jarl Werrand:** ::drinks some more::

**Dante Voltan:** :shakes his head and moves through the guards entering the Hall::

**Kendra Rulyar:** Jakob::smiles at him:: I heard you are doing rather well, your skills are getting better.

**Soledaad Rourke:** ::she turns with her wine and there is Passeador, the dark eyed woman::

**MissAmorina:** *Evening Steward. ::smiling and curtsying:: This is ::she actually paused not sure how to introduce him::*

**Jakob Sevine:** ::turns and look at Kendra:: Oh. Well thank you. I do try and work hard. ::grabs the new ale and takes a pull::

**Sherakai:** And you, Loren? How are you enjoying the ball thus far?

**passeadordinoche:** ::pale, unrouged lips seemed to twitch at the corners as if she were tempted to smile and fought against it, dark eyes perused the tall woman before her:: (q) What are we drinking this evening, Missstress...?

**raghefaunus:** This is him? He's a bit young isn't he? ::To Ami, not seeming to concerned that Dolek was right there. Then as she paused he said:: Orson Bard, at your service...her betrothed. ::there was a mischievous sparkle in the old man's eyes

**Kendra Rulyar:** ::nods to Jakob:: how are you settling in Jakob?

**MissAmorina:** *My employer! ::The look on Ami's face could only be described as horror::*

**Celes Dunhold:** ::waiting quietly while Kendra finished her conversation with Jakob::

**Jakob Sevine:** ::nods:: I think I'm doing well. I am just trying to stay out of everyone's way.

**BlissNLvjy:** ::waves off an offered glass of wine as she comes to a stop by Kendra::

**Elenari Tuurchi:** Thank you Loren, you picked the perfect wine::smiles at him::

**Dante Voltan:** ::grabbing a glass of wine from a passing server, he allowed his eyes to slide across the crowd::

**Jakob Sevine:** ::nods to Bliss as she stands next to Kendra. Takes a pull of his ale::

**Kendra Rulyar:** How are you tonight Bliss? I am glad you did come.

**Jarl Werrand:** ::gets distracted by a mound of cheese::

**LorenSIntstrider:** ::He offered a wry grin. ::Oh, ti' a lovely feast fer th' eyes ... tae be sure.

**Raphael Dolek:** I hope I still get my dance, Ami. ::He smiled, as if understanding her dilemma::

**Kendra Rulyar:** ::makes a face as cheese is near her and her hand covers her mouth::

**Soledaad Rourke:** ::red eyes looking over the woman before her:: (s) Does it matter?

**Sherakai:** Ambassador, do you mind terribly if I borrow your companion for a moment?

**LorenSIntstrider:** ::Then to Elenari, ::Thou' the fairest apple blossoms near.

**Jakob Sevine:** ::raised a brow at the hand to mouth::

**Nadiya Galyn:** ::she leaned in to speak to Mik:: I've just a few people I need to speak to tonight. Then perhaps some dancing?

**Mik Gideonn:** ::Mik was listening and when Ken mentioned Bliss he looked up and over with a smile and a glance behind her for his brother... But he doesn't see him::

**raghefaunus:** ::Nudged Ami, chuckling:: He would have believed me...

**Ciara Dierdre:** ::she leaves her cloak with the staff and looks around to see who is checking or taking invitations::

**Elenari Tuurchi:** Oh not at all :and Loren says apple blossoms and her heart misses a beat, but she keeps a pleasant smile on her face::

**Mik Gideonn:** ::He nodded at Nadiya's words::

**MissAmorina:** ::She took a moment to recover, then smiling at Dolek:: Please, rescue me... ::managing a soft laugh::

**passeadordinoche:** ::a pale, slender hand shoved yet another stray curl back over her shoulder. Her long, black hair was pulled back with a ribbon, the ends curled:: (q) If it is Balthazorian, then I will join you. If it is not...then yes, it does.

**BlissNLvjy:** ::that would be because she'd come alone. A hand brushed

down the front of her barely pink gown:: (s)Oh look at all the people.

**Kendra Rulyar:** ::takes Bliss by the arm:: Look Mik is here as well.

**Celes Dunhold:** ::she moved to Jakob's side, lightly elbowing his side:: Evening their soldier. ::winking to him::

**Jarl Werrand:** ::gets distracted further by pastries:: Oh! Apple-filled!

**Mik Gideonn:** It would be my pleasure, whenever you're ready. ::He caught her hand and brushed a soft kiss to her palm, then let her go, reluctantly::

**Sherakai:** We won't be a moment::He gave her a small, amused smile, then reached for Loren's elbow to guide him a little away from her::

**Kendra Rulyar:** I am sure he will dance with you::Green eyes meet Mik's:Since he is too busy for me, he may make time for you.

**Raphael Dolek:** I'll be back soon. ::chuckling, he moved over to Elenari::

**BlissNLvjy:** Evening Ken. ::gets turned slightly:: Ah yes, that would be Mikkaill. Handsome fella.

**Soledaad Rourke:** ::she extends the glass of Sangiovese to this new woman::

**Dante Voltan:** ::eyes fall on Nadiya, it had been a while since they spoken in person, he made his way towards her:

**BlissNLvjy:** ::dark chocolate eyes tilt Kendra's way:: Jealous?

**Nadiya Galyn:** ::She smiled at him, the gaze lingered. Then she made her way into the crowd, only to spot Dante:: Well! Another familiar face, hello.

**Kendra Rulyar:** ::Looks at Jarls ale and since Bliss and Mik are busy she rips it out of his hands and takes a drink from it::

**Jakob Sevine:** ::looks to Celes and grins:: Evening to you Captain. ::looks her over:: You clean up nicely.

**MissAmorina:** ::Her eyes followed Dolek, and she spotted Elenari:: Look, there's the ambassador. As soon as you speak to her about your acquaintance I'm leaving you at one of the buffet tables.

**Kendra Rulyar:** Pfft me...::caught with ale on her lips:: Why? Because I am short on soap?

**Raphael Dolek:** Good evening, Elenari.

**Celes Dunhold:** Thank you Jakob, people keep saying that. I might start to believe it.

**Jarl Werrand:** ::as his mouth is full of pastry goodness, he cannot retort::

**LorenSIntstrider:** :: He moved with 'kai but an eyebrow arched slightly :: ::Ye've a query?

**passeadordinoche:** ::her eyes had not left Soledaad's and still did not as she reached to take the glass from her and she took a sip::

**raghefaunus:** I'm wounded...::Though his tone did not sound it one bit::

**Elenari Tuurchi:** :A nod and smile for Dolek:: Good evening Raf.

**Dante Voltan:** Nadiya! Its great to speak to you through something other than ink and parchment!

**BlissNLvjy:** Soap? ::it was too soon for her to be this confused::

**Jakob Sevine:** ::laughs slightly:: Why would want to do that? ::another laugh as he takes a pull of his ale::

**Sherakai:** Indeed. ::His silver gaze went to Loren's waist:: I'm sorry, but I'm going to have to ask you to surrender your weapon.

**passeadorinoche:** ::she offered the glass back to Soledaad:: (q) Have I misjudged?

**Nadiya Galyn:** Indeed! How is your business going?

**Celes Dunhold:** Ehhh This is...the third time I've been in a dress since going into service.

**Sherakai:** I would be happy to take it, or you can turn it over to one of the guards ::Guards that were hovering not too far away, watching::

**Jarl Werrand:** ::takes his ale back:: Aren't ye not allowed tae drink or somesuch?

**LorenSIntstrider:** ::He raised an eyebrow. ::Tae be bonded as required of law, wi' a knot I dinnae ken the passing of.

**MissAmorina:** *No you're not. ::And slowly Ami started to move in Elenari's direction so that when Dolek was finished speaking with her she could introduce Ragnall - in the meantime she did her best to finish her wine::*

**Kendra Rulyar:** :: Gives Jarl a soft poke in the arm:: Nisi said no wine...

**LorenSIntstrider:** ::His voice was quiet; he had no desire to create a scene, at the same time, a dagger was an eating utensil to his mind::

**Mordred Anubis:** ::Rings of gold shifted gently within dark elven ears, eyes sliding over the gathering as he left a sword with a guard. stepping further into the hall and proceeding for a drink::

**Raphael Dolek:** You look nice.

**Dante Voltan:** Quite well, even better since we came to our mutual trade agreement. Did you enjoy that bottle of Shadokhan Red I sent? It was one of my better selling vintages.

**Jarl Werrand:** Ale's better fer ye, anyhoo... full o'... somethin'. ::nods and swigs::

**Jakob Sevine:** ::nods:: This would be the first I've been dressed up in some time. Even if my outfit isn't the most expensive. ::he looked down at his inexpensive outfit:: Couldn't afford more.

**Elenari Tuurchi:** Thank you:: and yes she did in this bright red tight dress and her marks showed rather clear::

**Mik Gideonn:** ::Mik moved closer to Bliss to kiss her cheek tenderly::

**Ciara Dierdre:** (m) Don't forget to breathe. ::she runs a hand down the skirt of her black velvet gown and makes her way into the crowd::

**Sherakai:** I'm sorry, but there are no weapons allowed here tonight. Unless you're one of the guards ::he smiled::

**Soledaad Rourke:** ::not exactly sure she wanted this question to be answered at the wine table she moves to put a hand on the small of Passeadori's back and guide her from the wine table, letting her hold the glass for now:: (s) Misjudged in what manner?

**Nadiya Galyn:** I did, very much. I believe we'll have some more wines for you as well. Provided the portals cooperate. ::She frowned slightly with that statement.::

**LorenSIntstrider:** ::He shrugged quietly, then began to tug at the knot so he could pull the blade, sheath and all, lose.::

**BlissNLvjy:** Hey Mik, how's the party? ::a real smile appearing for a moment.::

**Jarl Werrand:** ::sighs, rather bored with the pomp:: **Can I start a fight yet?**

**LorenSIntstrider:** ::As he did so, he drifted back Elenari-wards ::

**Raphael Dolek:** ::He chuckled:: That sounded a bit lame, I'm afraid, but I'm fast running out of ways to tell women how lovely they look.

**Kendra Rulyar:** Sure ::tugs on the pearl earring for a moment.::

**Celes Dunhold:** Well this ::gesturing to her dress:: Was paid for by the Guards. They said ::If she'll put it on, we'll foot the bill.:: ::laughs.::

**passeadordinoche:** ::as she was turned and gently led away from the wine table with a hand to her back, a small smile passed across pale lips.:: (q) You are Balthazorian, yesss?

**Kendra Rulyar:** Would keep the guards busy

**Jarl Werrand:** ::glances up:: **Ye plannin' somethin'?**

**Sherakai:** ::He accompanied Loren, just to be sure the weapon was handed over. Lovely task...::

**Mik Gideonn:** So far, it's lovely. The wine's excellent and the company unsurpassed. ::he grinned at her and at Kendra, and indicated Celes, Elenari and all the lovely ladies.::

**niqueliece:** :: slips about here and there among the edge of the crowd ::

**Jakob Sevine:** ::laughs.:: I think they just need a little something to think about in their private time.::winks.::

**Mordred Anubis:** ::Glance over the selection of wine, pluck of a glass up and tasting sip.::

**Dante Voltan:** Well I will have a ship coming into Luminii in the next few tendays. Heavily armed if you'd like to send something back.

**Jarl Werrand:** ::offers the ale.::

**Soledaad Rourke:** ::catching a glimpse of Bliss as she passes with Passeadordi, before she stops and moves to against face Passedordi.:: You are very correct. ::a small smile on her lips.::

**Celes Dunhold:** ::smirks.:: **Folks dream most about what they'll never have.**

**BlissNLvjy:** ::a soft chuckle.:: **Do try not to get into too much trouble.**

**Elenari Tuurchi:** I was asked to trade my robes for a dress tonight Raf, do not worry about your words.:: takes his hand into hers for a moment.:: and I am sorry for what is to come. I was not allowed to warn you Raf.

**Mik Gideonn:** I'm looking forward to the dancing, but I fear I'm woefully behind on my drinking.

**Nadiya Galyn:** Perhaps that might be best. I'm not certain how much longer I'll be in Dreven, but I'll try to stop by your shop for a visit before I go.

**MissAmorina:** *::She scanned the crowd, offering a nod and a smile to a few others she recognized::*

**Jakob Sevine:** *::nods and lifts his tankard:: Very true. ::takes a pull as his eyes looked over at Ami and then back to Celes::*

**LorenSIntstrider:** *:: dexterous, though well calloused fingers pick the bond loose after a few minutes, then take the belt sheath from the belt, handing it over to 'kai ::*

**Kendra Rulyar:** *Thank you Jarl, see this is why I asked you to come, you are a true friend::gives him a kiss on the cheek::*

**Raphael Dolek:** *Oh?*

**BlissNLvjy:** *Take no offense, Brother but I think I'll pass on the dancing tonight...as well as the drinking.*

**Dante Voltan:** *Please do! I'm sure the girls would like to meet the woman I so frequently write to. I keep telling them its only business...but they wonder sometimes. ::laughing::*

**Sherakai:** *Thank you kindly, sir. I'll see to it that it is returned to you. ::He gave Loren a polite bow, then quirked a brow in Raf's direction::*

**Mik Gideonn:** *Yes? ::He was disappointed enough to pout at her:: Why?*

**raghefaunus:** *::Nudged Ami:: I think he's looking at you. ::Nodding in Jakob's direction::*

**Raphael Dolek:** *And just what is to come?*

**Jakob Sevine:** *::to Celes:: Care for a drink?*

**Nadiya Galyn:** *Next time I write I'll have to include something salacious, just to make them happy. ::she laughed softly::*

**Celes Dunhold:** *Oh please. A ale or something. None of that dainty wine.*

**passeadordinoche:** *And you are of...\*the\* clan...yes? ::her voice was almost a whisper as she stepped one step closer to Soledaad, her face near level to the woman's bosom::*

**MissAmorina:** *::She gave Ragh a ::please don't embarrass me again:: stare, then looked over a Jakob, smiling::*

**Jarl Werrand:** *::shrugs:: Thar's no point in not drinkin'. Doesn't do anythin' bad, aye? Maybe makes th'world a tad fuzzy some days, but so does other things.*

**LorenSIntstrider:** *::He leaned in quietly, ::Dae sha' introduce meh to tha' sommat important looking lady and her dwarf over there?:: he murmured to Elenari, indicating Kendra::*

**Elenari Tuurchi:** *::Let's go of his hand:: I cannot tell you more i am sorry.*

**Jakob Sevine:** *::looks over towards the server and indicated he wanted another ale, then handed it to Celes:: Here you are.*

**Dante Voltan:** *::he laughed as well :: I've determined every woman in the former empire is out to embarass me with my sisters.*

**BlissNLvjy:** *::her voice softened to a near whisper:: I'm only here because*

to not come might have looked bad for Raf being as I am one of his advisors.

**Elenari Tuurchi:** Who::looks to Loren and when the other elf with the dwarf::

**passeadordinoche:** ::she took another sip of the drink then held the glass once again toward Soledaad::

**Nadiya Galyn:** Just a bit of sport. But yes, I will be pleased to meet them.

**Celes Dunhold:** My thanks Jakob. This is a life saver.

**Raphael Dolek:** Enjoy yourselves. ::He gave Loren another odd look, then moved over to speak to Kai::

**Mik Gideonn:** ::He cast his glance around the room, took a step to one side so he had a clear view of Nadiya::

**Jakob Sevine:** ::nods:: Aye, it is. I'm on my third so far.

**Dante Voltan:** ::smiles:: Well I'll be sure to have a good meal ready.

**Kendra Rulyar:** You know I do not really like ale but what the hell::takes another taste::

**Ciara Dierdre:** ::there were some familiar faces in the crowd even if she didn't know all the names that went with them::

**LorenSIntstrider:** Ti' seems I hae ken verra few folk about ... ye keep m' gaze well,:: he murmured to her::

**Mordred Anubis:** ::Shift back and perch in lean against a wall, staying out of the main stream of guests as he took a sip from the wine glass in hand::

**Soledaad Rourke:** ::she is at a definite disadvantage:: You speak of the Sisterhood? ::rather than taking the glass she lifts Passeador's hand rather than taking the glass, not at all aware she has done so::

**Nadiya Galyn:** Excellent. Now if you will pardon me, I have to make my rounds. But perhaps we'll get to speak again later. Enjoy yourself!

**Mik Gideonn:** ::softly:: It's good of you to support him then.

**Celes Dunhold:** Careful Sir, you don't want to embarass yourself!

**Raphael Dolek:** Kai?

**Elenari Tuurchi:** I know who she is Loren, she is a Merch and now helps the Steward.

**Jarl Werrand:** ::eats another pastry::

**BlissNLvjy:** And she does the good old meet and greet. ::her tone still soft:: Smile and ply, make connections...all the fun stuff.

**Dante Voltan:** ::bows lightly:: You as well. I'll need to steal a dance later.

**Sherakai:** Do I dare ask what that was about? ::he asked Raf, watching the pair move off::

**MissAmorina:** ::Taking Ragh's arm to lead him in Elenari's direction, she paused a polite distance away from the ambassador and her companion::

**Jakob Sevine:** ::looks to Celes:: If I were to embarass myself, I doubt anyone here would really know. I don't know but afew.

**Nadiya Galyn:** Of course. ::she bowed as well. ::Then she turned to move into

the crowd, in search of other familiar faces.::

**Kendra Rulyar:** Oh Jarl make the cheese go away!::looks a bit pale::

**passeadordinoche:** Yesss... ::she makes no move to remove her hand from the other woman's, and simply lifts the glass to Soledaad's lips::

**Raphael Dolek:** ::Walking with Kai, he kept his voice low:: I was hoping you might know something. The Ambassador appologized for something that's to come.

**LorenSIntstrider:** ::He nodded slightly. ::Merch? A' though one tha' sells thin',:: he inquired very softly, knowing her ears would still pick it up - and most others would not. He knew little of the ways of the landed gentry and city folk.::

**Celes Dunhold:** Well... ::looking around:: Most of these folks I only know very little about.

**Jarl Werrand:** ::shrugs:: **Let's find another corner, aye? I thought ye liked cheese? Ye allergic tae coos now?**

**Elenari Tuurchi:** You still wish me to meet her? ::she whispers back::

**Soledaad Rourke:** ::a sip taken and she nods as she swallows having to chase a dark cherry drop from her upper lip::

**Kendra Rulyar:** I did until well until I became with them..now it bothers me greatly...

**Jakob Sevine:** Perhaps that is a good thing.::slight chuckle and a pull of his ale::

**Sherakai:** I thought that's what she said, but I wasn't certain ::He glanced around the room again and shook his head.:: Was it a threat?

**MissAmorina:** *My lady ambassador...::Maybe it wasn't polite to interrupt, but she was desperate::*

**raghefaunus:** ::Arched a brow at Ami::

**LorenSIntstrider:** ::He gave a little shrug. ::Tae seem th' Ambassador would dae well tae keep in tooch. If'n ye like I could do th' introduction instead.

**Raphael Dolek:** Or a warning. ::He sighed::

**Jarl Werrand:** ::shrugs, not having the foggiest clue what she's talking about::

**Mik Gideonn:** ::Mik waved a hand slightly, brushing away any idea of being abandoned:: Work, you know, Bliss. These things are always more work than pleasure. So where is Ricoh?

**Elenari Tuurchi:** ::Gets stopped on her way toward Kendra by Ami and her strange partner::

**passeadordinoche:** ::~You are here on a mission, do not forget it~:: ::a soft sigh escaped her lips as she watched that droplet upon the woman's lips disappear:: (q) And may I inquire as to your name?

**Celes Dunhold:** Well it pays to make connections with folks. And get to know those you help to guard.

**Jakob Sevine:** ::he gestured towards Soledaad and the other woman, now joined by Ami and her older escort:: What do you think that's about?

**BlissNLvjy:** ::an unlady like shrug of shoulders:: Home I guess.

**Jakob Sevine:** ::nods:: I can see where that would be the case.

**Sherakai:** I'll let the guards know. Do you wish me to speak to her?

**LorenSIntstrider:** ::As Elenari stopped, he committed a slight orbit so that he did not so much abruptly stop moving as pivot around, casually.::

**Kendra Rulyar:** ::makes sure Jarl has more ale on hand as a servant passes::

**MissAmorina:** ::Smiled:: Please, pardon the interruption...::curtseying::

**Elenari Tuurchi:** yes? ::to Ami::

**Soledaad Rourke:** I am Baroness Soledaad Rourke.

**Raphael Dolek:** Perhaps later. This isn't the time or place.

**Celes Dunhold:** The Ambassador of Balthazor I hear is a formidable warriorress in her own right. Brilliant as well.

**Ciara Dierdre:** ::the proper thing to do would be to introduce herself to the host, but something else caught her attention for the moment::

**Jakob Sevine:** ::nods:: I see.

**Raphael Dolek:** But definately inform the guards.

**MissAmorina:** *My employer asked me to introduce you to him...*

**Elenari Tuurchi:** ::Does not curtsey back, and keeps with her station in life, a simple nod of her head;::

**Sherakai:** Very well ::he smiled:: I'll ask her *after* it's too late.

**Mordred Anubis:** ::Perk of an ear, off toward a title... curious brow arched::

**Jarl Werrand:** ::takes a large swig::

**LorenSIntstrider:** ::He made a business of paying no direct attention to more than the introduction. It would not do to be regarded as overly interested.::

**passeadordinoche:** ::a small smile parted those pale lips once more and she executed a perfect curtsey in the woman's direction:: Well met, Baroness.

**raghefaunus:** ::At that Ragnall held out his hand for hers; Keeper Orson Bard, the young lady told me she had seen you before and that I might find you here.

**Elenari Tuurchi:** ::gives Lorens hand a soft squeeze::

**Celes Dunhold:** Though I wonder whom Ami's escort is.

**Raphael Dolek:** After you take care of the problem.

**Elenari Tuurchi:** ::Offers her hand::Elenari Tuurchi.

**Jakob Sevine:** ::he looked over Ami favorably:: As do I.

**niqueliece:** :: moves about, the somewhat-formal pale lavender suit and matching hair ribbon shimmering faintly off strawberry blonde locks; opal and emerald irises at her neck and ears sparkle softly ::

**LorenSIntstrider:** Tae fael, in th' winter's turning, the brush of frost tha' wakes life o' deat's passing.:: :: he returned the small squeeze ::

**Celes Dunhold:** ::smirks:: You dog you. You have a thing for the girl don't ye?

**Nadiya Galyn:** ::She found herself speaking to a group of merchants, off in one corner. Occasionally, her gaze went out across the room, in search of Mik.::

**raghefaunus:** ::He bowed over her hand politely:: I would to ask you about an acquaintance of mine that I believe you may be familiar with?

**Soledaad Rourke:** Now you have me at a full disadvantage.

**Elenari Tuurchi:** Oh?:her hand still rest in his:: and this would be who?

**Soledaad Rourke:** ::watching the curtesy::

**Mik Gideonn:** ::Whenever Nadiya would lift her eyes to him, his seemed to be there, looking back. ::

**Jakob Sevine:** ::he looked at Celes:: She's a beautiful woman and a good friend. ::a smirk on his face::

**MissAmorina:** ::Ami gave Ragnall a surprised look at the way he introduced himself.::

**Sherakai:** I appreciate the vote of confidence ::He couldn't help laughing. Signaling one of the guards over, he murmured instructions to him::

**Raphael Dolek:** ::With a nod to Kai, he moved to welcome Bliss::

**passeadordinoche:** Ah, my apologies, Baroness. Passeador. ::she gave a small bow of her head and then lifted her eyes to gaze at Soledaad over the rim of the glass as she took another sip::

**Jarl Werrand:** **This ale is watered down ::mutters::**

**Celes Dunhold:** ::laughs:: Good friend. Right. I've had one or two of those in my life as well. ::grinning more at his smirk::

**Kendra Rulyar:** So get some Serky ..

**raghefaunus:** Lord Fafnir Elwynne, of the Order of the Rising Sun. ::releasing her hand and standing straighter than one might think he'd be able to at his age::

**BlissNLvjy:** ::she watched the crowd, fingers toying with the rose quartz and white topaz pendant at her neck::

**Elenari Tuurchi:** ::Coughs and withdraws her hand quickly::

**Raphael Dolek:** I'm glad you made it, Bliss.

**raghefaunus:** He is from your home...:as though that meant she should know him::

**Jarl Werrand:** ::flags down a server and orders him to find a bottle of spirits::

**Soledaad Rourke:** Is it the touch of my home I feel in you, Passeador?

**Jakob Sevine:** ::he looked at her:: Careful. Assuming things doesn't fair well for someone like you. Need to have facts. ::winks:: And I can honestly say...nothing has happened.

**BlissNLvjy:** ::pastes on a smile:: Wouldn't have been right of me to miss it.

**Elenari Tuurchi:** Lord Elwynne? Why.. he has been in his homeland for quite some time.

**Raphael Dolek:** And you look like you'd rather be anywhere but here.

**Kendra Rulyar:** See now you will be happy::sigh:: can I smell it at least?

**Jarl Werrand:** ::hands her the bottle::

**MissAmorina:** ::Ami blinked at Ragnall's mention of the ORS, and Elenari's reaction::

**Kendra Rulyar:** ::sniffs, smiles and hands it back::

**raghefaunus:** I thought that might be the case. ::Grinned::

**Jarl Werrand:** ::swig::

**BlissNLvjy:** I'll work on my happy mask. ::inclining her head:: Have you met Mikkaill Gideonn my future brother in law?

**Mik Gideonn:** *That makes twice this evening alone.*

**Elenari Tuurchi:** ::Lifts her chin up:: this is not a topic for tonight master Faunus.

**Raphael Dolek:** Actually, I have. What can I get you to drink? They do have tea here, if you'd like?

**Celes Dunhold:** ::she gave Jakob a comraderly pat on the back:: Its alright my friend. I assume nothing, though love to tease.

**Jakob Sevine:** ::drains the remainder of his ale and looks to Celes:: Sorry to do this to you, but you'll have to brave the remainder of the ball without me. I have somewhere I need to be.

**passeadordinoche:** Yesss..misstresss... ::she finished off the wine glass and glanced away from Soledaad in search of a servant to take the empty chalice away::

**Celes Dunhold:** ::mock pouts:: Oh you evil man. Abandoning a woman.

**BlissNLvjy:** ::shakes her head:: I'm fine. ::she wanted her hands free:: Perhaps later.

**Elenari Tuurchi:** If you would excuse us please.

**XRemembranceX:** ***The mages. They might well have felt it first. The slow ebb of the ley lines, like a tide drifting out slowly....:***

**raghefaunus:** ::Nodded:: Of course not. Perhaps you would let me speak with you another time?

**niqueliece:** :: meanders here and there ::

**Mordred Anubis:** ::Watchful eyes from his perch by a wall, following Soledaad a moment::

**Elenari Tuurchi:** ::her hand reaches for Lorens::

**Dante Voltan:** ::winces as the ley lines shifted:: Oh no....

**passeadordinoche:** ::she gasped softly, the glass falling from fingers that suddenly went limp and she looked at Soledaad with panic in her eyes::

**Jakob Sevine:** Tease is a title that doesn't suit you. ::shrugs:: Sorry. Can't be helped. ::looks over his shoulder towards Ami:: Tell her I said hi. ::he put the tankard down and exited out the side without a word::

**LorenSIntstrider:** :: Loren took her hand guided but more accompanied Elenari, finding an open spot. :: ::P'haps a bit of dance would suit tae clear the mist?

**Celes Dunhold:** ::nods as the man turns and leaves::

**Sherakai:** ::A frown drew down his brow as he looked around the room again:: Oh, not tonight... ::he murmured under his breath::

**Jarl Werrand:** ::another swig, leans against a pillar::

**Raphael Dolek:** Do try to look like you're enjoying yourself. ::Chuckling, he moved over to greet Niqui::

**XRemembranceX:** ***A gentle thing at first, but the change was still***

**undeniable.::**

**raghefaunus:** And in the meantime you could take a look at this for us? ::Handing her a folded parchment wrapped in a a simple cord::

**passeadordinoche:** ::her hair slid from left to right as she searched for any shadow anywhere, her gaze that of a trapped animal in a cage for the first time::

**Ciara Dierdre:** ::she shivers, her head tilts as though she's listening to someone::

**Soledaad Rourke:** ::she reaches for Passeador to steady the woman::

**BlissNLvjy:** ::nods:: I shall. ::sighed softly:: After I find somewhere to sit. ::pretty sure what color her cheeks did have was fading::

**niqueliece:** :: pretty much keeping to herself, meandering here and there ::

**Dante Voltan:** ::he looked around at those he knew had the gift, Bliss and Kai to be exact, seeing if they felt it as well::

**Raphael Dolek:** I'm glad you could make it, Niqui.

**Mik Gideonn:** ::The music was so nice... :: Are you sure you don't want to... ::it wasn't so much that he felt the shifting, as of sand from beneath his feet, it was more a disconnect from the earth... and Bliss looked - pale::

**passeadordinoche:** ::feeling Soledaad's touch upon her she looked once more into the woman's eyes:: (vsw) I...

**Elenari Tuurchi:** Maybe :: She grew a bit pale::

**Mik Gideonn:** ::Solicitously, he helped her find a seat::

**Soledaad Rourke:** ::a deep pain in her joints, something was very wrong, but she held to Passe:: I feel it as well. ::she whispers::

**Elenari Tuurchi:** Would you excuse us : to Ami and her friend::

**XRemembranceX:** ::**No ripple, no hiccup this time. It faded further.::**

**Avraham Lave:** ::walks up to the the double doors throuh he walks to find himself in a waiting area. handing his invitation and cold weather wraps to a waiting staff revealing a formal attire. emerald green with saphire blue trim.

**MissAmorina:** I beg your pardon for the interruption, again. ::she interjected::

**BlissNLvjy:** Yes, sitting is what I'd like to do. ::shot him a grin:: Maybe dance later.

**passeadordinoche:** ::she swallowed hard and nodded, only one thought in her head still ::What if I'm stuck here?:::

**Kendra Rulyar:** ::Makes a face at Jarl:: is cheese near?

**niqueliece:** :: hearing her name, rippling hazel eyes glance up at the man :: Steward Dolek.

**Celes Dunhold:** ::folds her arm, looking around for someone to chat with, her conversation having left::

**raghefaunus:** Thank you, ::smiled::

**Mik Gideonn:** ::It wasn't a thing he would have recognized unless he had been out hunting, however, but something was off - and it seemed such a nice nice::

**Jarl Werrand:** ::shakes his head:: **Nay love.**

**Mordred Anubis:** ::Rub of a temple with a dark finger tip gently::

**Soledaad Rourke:** ::by force of will getting the both of them to a seat::

**Kendra Rulyar:** I think I may get sick::Her nose wrinkles::

**Raphael Dolek:** ::He had no magic, but wasn't totally unaware of his guests all looking suddenly ill::

**LorenSintstrider:** :: The woodsman's eyes and ears twitched slightly. He addressed Amorina briefly as he went with Elenari :: ::Tae nae of need tae beg about ana' oder all ... tae jus' as tae see thin' for another time.

**Sherakai:** ::Drawing himself up, he aimed for one of the guards. Handing Loren's knife over to him, he pointed him out so the weapon could be returned later. The guard nodded, then hurried off::

**Jarl Werrand:** ::Jarl felt fine, a little sober, but not too terribly bad::

**MissAmorina:** ::*She followed Ragnall as he started back towards one of the tables:: You did not tell me you worked for the former Rising Sun. ::hushed::*

**passeadordinoche:** ::her hand rested none too lightly upon Soledaad's arm as she led the both of them to a seat, nauseau at the thought of what was happening rising in her stomach::

**XRemembranceX:** ::**Moments of...nothingness...ticked by::**

**Celes Dunhold:** ::she suddenly realized folks looked.....not well, she started making her way through the crowd towards Dolek::

**Jarl Werrand:** ::motions for a window:: **Fresh are may help, eh?**

**Mik Gideon:** ::He found her a nice table with chairs, one of many not far off::

**raghefaunus:** I was not aware that they were former, and you did not -

**Dante Voltan:** ::rubbing his eyes, he blinked several times, trying to clear the fog::

**Elenari Tuurchi:** ::She held steady and her hand rested on Lorens arm, a moment later her fingers pinched into his skin::

**MissAmorina:** - ask. ::*Ami finished for him::*

**passeadordinoche:** (sw) Do you think...will it return?

**XRemembranceX:** ::**Strangely, there was an echo that sounded like ::see ree dee::. A bird, here?::**

**Mik Gideon:** ::He looked up and around, searching for Nadiya for just a moment, then back to Bliss::

**Soledaad Rourke:** ::she put an arm a little around Passea, her body was well trained as its own weapon, but she felt almost a hole inside her and a sickness at where she should have felt the power::

**BlissNLvjy:** ::well, this was certainly a party pooper:: (s) Ya okay, Mikkiiall?

**LorenSintstrider:** :: If her pace did not carry her elsewhere, he would guide her toward an open space; at the pinch of her fingers, he moved closer, hand to the small of her back, not sure why specifically, but it seemed fitting ::

**Celes Dunhold:** Raf....err Steward! A word.

**MissAmorina:** *It would have been decent to at least warn me.*

**Sherakai:** ::He moved around slowly, as though searching for something... ::

**Ciara Dierdre:** ::having heard the Steward being addressed, she looks to see who answers that call::

**Raphael Dolek:** Yes, Celes? ::He was watching the others::

**XRemembranceX:** ::*The bird call would be audible to most, not just the mages.*::

**Elenari Tuurchi:** ::swallows hard and lets him guild her away from everybody else::Something is wrong Loren::She started to sweat::

**Celes Dunhold:** ::slides next to him, whispering:: Somethings up. Something not good.

**Mik Gideonn:** ::He whispered:: I'm fine, but something's... odd. Off. Like a job gone wrong, if that makes sense? You?

**raghefaunus:** I believe that fellow by the wall was looking for a dance..perhaps you should go find him so I can have a snack.

**XRemembranceX:** ::*"see ree dee"...*

**Raphael Dolek:** I know.

**passeadordinoche:** ::she'd never been sick in her life, not that she could remember, one hand pressed against her stomach, the other against her mouth for a moment before her head cocked to the side listening:: (w) Birds...?

**Kendra Rulyar:** I think I am going to be sick again..I should have not tasted that ale...

**Jarl Werrand:** ::another swig of serky:: E'eryone's lookin' a bit green.

**Celes Dunhold:** Should I have the guard stop letting folks in and out?

**XRemembranceX:** ::*Then the magic ROARED back through the ley lines. And with it came tremendous noise.*::

**XRemembranceX:** ::*Creaking, shaking.*::

**BlissNLvjy:** If I die, will you take care of Ric and Reb for me? ::laying her head down on the table::

**Avraham Lave:** ::following the sounds of the sounds he was into the grand hall where a server offers a plate of drinks. selecting a juice and with a 'thank you' he begins to search the room for familiar faces:::

**Mik Gideonn:** ::He went down on one knee beside Bliss::

**MissAmorina:** ::She scowled as he dismissed her, then throwing her hands up she started in the other direction.::

**Kendra Rulyar:** ::gives Jarl a kiss, misses his cheek and it is smack on the mouth and she runs towards the doors::

**Dante Voltan:** ::SLAM! Dante hit the ground as magic suddenly rushed back into him, trying to hold in the wine he just ate::

**niqueliece:** :: finds herself a spot near an exit to sit ::

**Soledaad Rourke:** ::she shuddered and found her fingers laced in Passea's:: I don't know.... ::just before the rush::

**LorenSIntstrider:** ::The woodsman tilted his head at the odd sound; his arm slid

more to about Elenari's waist; damn the conventions, something felt wrong with the way people were acting.::

**Sherakai:** ::That had not been -- At the sudden return of the magic and the noise, he swore under his breath, grimacing and shaking his head.::

**Mik Gideonn:** ::The noise hurt his ears, but his hands were on Bliss, for support;::

**Jarl Werrand:** ::just stands there, mouth hanging open::

**MissAmorina:** ::Stopped in her tracks at the noise, her head was starting to hurt...Darn that Ragh, she should have known not to bring him to tell him about the ball::

**passeadordinoche:** By the Darkness! ::she cried out as the magic lurched through her. Her body lifted up off the seat and then she fell back into it against Soledaad::

**XRemembranceX:** ::**Quite suddenly, the bird's song came from everywhere. And standing in the middle of the Great Hall was a tremendous oak tree which had not been there before.**::

**BlissNLvjy:** ::and her hands went to her temples::

**Mordred Anubis:** ::Dark hand set to the wall, light shake of his head. long white locks bypassing his shoulders in turn::

**Avraham Lave:** ::seeing kendra in a rudh. quirks an eyebrow::: ::pass friends::

**Mik Gideonn:** You'll not die, ::He hissed::

**Mik Gideonn:** ::Ric would kill me!::

**Celes Dunhold:** RAF! Your orders?! ::the words hissed ::

**MissAmorina:** Bloody he-...::blinking at the appearance of the tree and stepping back::

**XRemembranceX:** ::**Too large for the room, it's branches did not break the walls or ceiling, but melded with them, as if it had always been a part of them.**::

**Jarl Werrand:** ::his nose begins to bleed a little, but aside from that, the dwarf seems to be fine::

**Mik Gideonn:** ::blinkblinkblink:: Tree. ::he said::

**Elenari Tuurchi:** ::Her eyes roll back, the oak really did it:: This is Arborian... ::her knees buckle under her::

**Soledaad Rourke:** ::a tear of blood ran from her left eye as she held Passea::

**Mik Gideonn:** ::couldn't miss that::

**Celes Dunhold:** ::eyes widen as she notices the tree for the first time::

**BlissNLvjy:** Big honking tree. ::nope, couldn't miss it::

**Raphael Dolek:** Find anyone not affected. Send them to help those who are. And don't bother trying to get a vivo to help.

**Dante Voltan:** What.....the...hell.....::breathing deep::

**XRemembranceX:** ::**Small songbirds, the Coidean from Arboria, flew from the branches.**::

**LorenSIntstrider:** ::He made a warding sign against fae magic with his free hand, but his other arm gripped firm, pulling her close but keeping her upright for the moment. His expression was one of concern, both for her and for the environment.::

**Mik Gideonn:** ::He stood back up again, slowly::

**Raphael Dolek:** What the....

**passeadordinoche:** ::she stared at the tree, her body pressing closely to Soledaad, the comfort of ::kin:: helpful at this time, she then turned to look at the other woman to see if she was seeing the tree too::

**Sherakai:** ::Another shake to clear his vision and he stared at the tree. Then his gaze was flickering over the guests to see if anyone had been injured by the appearance of the bloody tree.::

**MissAmorina:** ::She quickly moved towards one of the walls, not sure how large the tree was going to get::

**niqueliece:** :: just watching from her unseen spot beside an exit ::

**Celes Dunhold:** ::she nodded and started moving through the crowd, grabbing a spare guard here and there as she went::

**BlissNLvjy:** ::she pointed at the tree:: Home tree...

**Jarl Werrand:** ::stands there like an idiot, staring at the tree::

**XRemembranceX:** ::*Then...just as things which did not belong began to appear, other things began to vanish....*::

**passeadordinoche:** ::noting the tear of blood, she lifted a finger and wiped away the blood::

**Mik Gideonn:** ::whispered in an echo:: Home tree?

**Elenari Tuurchi:** ::She gets pulled into his arms and whispers:: Coidean...how I have missed them sing...

**Soledaad Rourke:** ::the tear of blood running down her very pale cheek as she stares at the tree. Then it is wiped away::

**Dante Voltan:** ::POP! Dante was there one moment, and the next he just was not::

**BlissNLvjy:** Arboria...

**LorenSIntstrider:** ::Under his breath he murmured quietly, ::What manner of witchery,:: and looked for a place to take Elenari that would at least provide some cover if things became worse. ::Coidean?:: he inquired.::

**Ciara Dierdre:** ::whatever it was, voices unheard to most were clamoring for her attention, but her eyes were fixed on a ... tree::

**Mik Gideonn:** ::He moved to take a step toward the tree, after all, it was a tree, right...? ::

**Sherakai:** ::He helped a staggering gentleman to find a seat, then moved on to help an elderly woman sitting on the floor.::

**MissAmorina:** *Master Faunus?* ::Looking for her employer, he was nowhere in sight and she only hoped he'd made it back to the food tables all right.::

**Jarl Werrand:** ::shakes his head and finishes the mostly-full bottle::

**MissAmorina:** ::She started to look for Kendra::

**XRemembranceX:** *::Dante Voltan was the first. Nadiya Galyn was gone soon after.::*

**Elenari Tuurchi:** The bird.. the song::her voice is only a whisper; Loren .. this is home ...

**LorenSIntstrider:** ::He shook his head. ::No.

**Raphael Dolek:** Get people sitting. ::He told Celes, then moved to help those affected.::

**Celes Dunhold:** ::Guards began to mill through the crowd, helping ill folk to chairs::

**Jarl Werrand:** ::the dwarf started to laugh uncontrollably::

**Sherakai:** ::Someone screamed and pointed, but when Kai looked, he could see nothing but confused people.::

**LorenSIntstrider:** Don't ye go leavin' me, Elenari,:: he murmured quietly to her.::

**Mik Gideonn:** ::He turned to look for Nadiya again, to see if she had noticed the honking big tree...::

**XRemembranceX:** *::Meanwhile, the oak remained as it was, not growing, not changing. Just looking like it had always been there.::*

**Celes Dunhold:** ::she moved toward the Elven Ambassador:: Are you folks alright?

**Avraham Lave:** *::walking through the crowd witnessing an unusual commotion::*

**Elenari Tuurchi:** ::Leans her head on his shoulder, since he had her in a tight grip and smiles:: I am not.. they came to us

**celinahastur:** ::A woman dressed in furs suddenly appeared in a corner, unmoving::

**LorenSIntstrider:** ::He shook his head. ::Then is no safe fer us tae be.

**Mordred Anubis:** ::The wine glass long lost to the floor in a shattering of glass. his form slid down the wall to rest as he breathed slow, evenly as eyes moved over the tree ::

**MissAmorina:** *::Helped someone that had nearly fallen into her to a chair before she continued moving through the crowd::*

**Celes Dunhold:** Come, lets find you a chair to sit in and settle down.

**Sherakai:** Nice, tidy thing ::he scowled at the tree, helping another woman.:: Very attractive, don't you think?

**Elenari Tuurchi:** ::Shakes her head: Why would it not be .. and I cannot not leave yet Loren. I have to wait just a little longer.

**Mik Gideonn:** ::but when he didn't see her, he continued his full circle:: What the... ? ::Calling her name wouldn't help much.::

**niqueliece:** :: just watching the goings on from her spot ::

**MissAmorina:** *Mordred! ::Shocked by his sudden appearance in front of her::*

**Avraham Lave:** *::downs his drink then sets it on a nearby table::*

**Soledaad Rourke:** ::softly:: She wasn't here... the one from Luminii... gone.

**Raphael Dolek:** Where's Kendra? ::Asking around as he helped an older gentleman sit::

**LorenSIntstrider:** ::He leaned in close to murmur to her ear, ::Hae ye no seen th' oddlings about 'ere? People appearin', disappearin'...

**Mik Gideonn:** ::It would have been lost in the noise::

**LorenSIntstrider:** A great bloody tree out o' nowhere an' non tae claim credit of it.

**Avraham Lave:** ::hearing dolek moves near::: ::she just left:::

**XRemembranceX:** ::*The birds, almost comically, began to perch about the room. Still singing their song.*::

**Jarl Werrand:** ::tries to walk to the door, but it seems quite a feat::

**passeadordinoche:** ::she nodded in agreement with Soledaad, looking in Celina's direction, knowing it was useless to search for the other::

**Elenari Tuurchi:** I do not know how to tell you what happened, I never seen this before::licks her dry lips::

**Avraham Lave:** :::looked a little pekid::

**BlissNLvjy:** ::tried to get to her feet wanting to touch the tree to see if it was really there but she was still dizzy::

**Mordred Anubis:** ::Shake of his head::

**Celes Dunhold:** ::she moved and helped a young man sit in a vacant chair::

**Elenari Tuurchi:** :looks around for some water::

**Avraham Lave:** looks around the room::: ::explanation?::

**Mik Gideonn:** Hey, where you going, Blissy?

**Raphael Dolek:** ::Turning to a guard, he sent him out to find her and make sure she was all right::

**Soledaad Rourke:** ::as unaware as possible tht her fingers have laced in Passea's until she forces herself to her feet::

**Jarl Werrand:** ::takes another cautious step::

**XRemembranceX:** ::*In the gardens, likely unnoticed as of yet, a small school of fish flopped in the snow.*::

**BlissNLvjy:** Tree. ::a giggle escaped::: Maybe it wants a dance.

**Jarl Werrand:** ::bumps into Bliss::: Fuzzy.

**Mik Gideonn:** ::A bird did a swoop and flutter past their heads then back to the branches of the tree::: Real enough. ::He pointed::: Birds'll be after the food tables next. ::He let out a weird little laugh as well::

**passeadordinoche:** ::feeling a tugging against her arm, she looks down at their linked fingers and follows the arm that is attached to hers up to the other woman's face once more then follows to stand at her side::

**LorenSIntstrider:** ::He pursed his lips quietly as he regarded the turn of events. Something ... nature was being turned on its ankle. And he had no clue why:::

**Raphael Dolek:** Kai? ::He strode over towards Kai::

**Mik Gideonn:** ::Softly:: I can't see Nadiya. ::and his eyes were good, dammit:: Anywhere.

**BlissNLvjy:** Displaced by the tree, maybe?

**Mik Gideonn:** :He knew she'd been talking to Dante and searched the crowd for him as well::

**Jarl Werrand:** ::takes a few more steps, feeling better every foot he put between him and the evil tree::

**Mordred Anubis:** ::Mutters.. as rubs a finger tip to his left temple...: Get rid of the tree...

**Sherakai:** ::He swatted a bird that darted past his head and turned to Raf:: Yessir?!

**MissAmorina:** ::*She blinked at Mordred as she tried to help him up, was he talking to her?*::

**GryPheonix:** ::shifted through the crowd, smoothing out his coat as he regarded the tree::

**Mik Gideonn:** Displaced. Hope that rather than squashed by it. ::but he could feel the ground again, and that was good because he knew it for what it was then, or had been rather... or... ::

**Ciara Dierdre:** ::some part of her has the urge to climb that tree, but given her attire, she suppresses it::

**Soledaad Rourke:** ::she turns and looks to Passea, suddenly realizing they were still linked::

**Jarl Werrand:** ::another few more steps, determined that all trees are indeed evil::

**Celes Dunhold:** ::mutters seeing a few birds dive bombing:: Great....I'm going to need a net now.

**Raphael Dolek:** How are you feeling?

**Avraham Lave:** ::helps to steady those that seem to be wobbling and helping them to a chair::

**Sherakai:** ::He rubbed his forehead and winced:: Ever been clobbered by a sledgehammer?

**GryPheonix:** ::a woman with yellowish eyes walked towards Shad, glancing warily at the tree::

**Mordred Anubis:** ::Shift to stand with Ami and the walls aid, least it wasn't moving::

**LorenSIntstrider:** :: He turned his efforts instead to what he could deal with - making sure Elenari was kept safe; presuming she wouldn't just vanish anyway; he was unsure he could do anything if that happened ::

**XRemembranceX:** @::***A shadow darkened the gardens. The faint sound of a wingbeat.***::

**BlissNLvjy:** No squishing. Look where the branches meet the ceiling...blending, no breaking.

**Soledaad Rourke:** (q) Your head Passeador?

**MissAmorina:** *Lets get you to a chair...away from the tree. Did you see Kendra*

*anywhere?*

**Raphael Dolek:** Once. Is it getting better?

**BlissNLvjy:** ::she put a hand to her forehead:: (vs)Oh my poor widdle head and I didn't even get to drink.

**Soledaad Rourke:** ::madness it is pure madness::

**passeadordinoche:** (q) Hurts, but is better each.... ::she paused and turned toward the ballroom and the gardens beyond::

**Mik Gideonn:** I'm not sure that's encouraging. ::He didn't like the thought of anyone blended with the tree:: But I take your point.

**Mordred Anubis:** I haven't seen of her... ::Shake of his head, moving for a chair::

**Avraham Lave:** ::hearing ami moves to her::: ::saw her rush out the door::

**Sherakai:** It'll be a while ::He looked around:: Where's that Ambassador? Is this her doing? The tree -- not the rest.

**Soledaad Rourke:** Passeador?

**Celes Dunhold:** Raf, looks like most of the folks are ok, just have nasty headaches.

**Avraham Lave:** ::looked like she was gonna be sick::

**MissAmorina:** ::Swore softly under her breath::

**Mik Gideonn:** Want me to get you home, or rest here a while yet?

**XRemembranceX:** @::Beat, beat. Wind stirred::

**Raphael Dolek:** I hope not, for her sake.

**passeadordinoche:** (s) Listen...do you feel...?

**Sherakai:** Do they? ::He gave Celes a curious look, then gave the guests another look:: Lovely.

**MissAmorina:** ::Then a thankful nod to Avraham:: Thank you...

**Jarl Werrand:** ::his nose began bleeding again and his stride was wobbly::

**Mik Gideonn:** ::He didn't want to go, wanted to find out the root of this... whazzat? Wings?::

**GryPheonix:** ::took a couple steps closer to the tree, taking off a glove from his hand::

**BlissNLvjy:** Want to know who dropped a tree on our party and why.

**passeadordinoche:** ::she began to move toward the ballroom, not realizing she still held Soledaad's hand::

**Avraham Lave:** ::are you feeling alright::

**Mordred Anubis:** ::Perk of his head to the side, so much life suddenly thrust within the room.. and something.. else felt, oddly though::

**Sherakai:** ::His head cocked and another frown darkened his features:: What's that?

**Soledaad Rourke:** ::follows with Passea:: I hear it.

**LorenSIntstrider:** ::He tilted his head slightly, shaking his head. Looking for 'kai. They'd taken his dagger, and now, of course, it might be needed::

**GryPheonix:** Somehow I doubt this is an aspect of the part.

**XRemembranceX:** @::***The sound came from the gardens. Snow blew from the pretty snowmen.:***

**Raphael Dolek:** ::He headed over to the door to the gardens to find out.:

**GryPheonix:** ::tapping his cane on the floor once.:

**MissAmorina:** ::*Looked around as she heard the beating of the wings.:*

**Mik Gideonn:** ::the air... not little wings neither, were they?:

**Soledaad Rourke:** No the gardens....

**passeadordinoche:** ::her steps quickened as she led Soledaad toward the doors leading from Ballroom to Gardens.:

**LorenSIntstrider:** Leave that portal closed,:: he rasped, though he expected they would have no cause to heed him.:

**Celes Dunhold:** ::raises her ears in a cocked head position:: What now...?

**GryPheonix:** (Ch'iki) Why did you insist on this dress... ::dryly to Shad.:

**Soledaad Rourke:** ::by the Great Mother how she wanted her leathers and her sword.:

**BlissNLvjy:** Oh, I hope what ever that is that it's smaller then the tree.

**XRemembranceX:** @::***The shadow in the gardens indeed had wings. And four legs. And scales. It was not as large as some of it's kind, but still...large enough.:***

**Mordred Anubis:** Ami... hide. ::Turns to her quickly.:

**Jarl Werrand:** ::stumbles out of the ballroom, pushing through the doors.:

**Elenari Tuurchi:** ::stirs a bit and blinks.:

**niqueliece:** :: watching silently as things run amok ::

**passeadordinoche:** ::she paused almost to the doors of the Gardens and her dark eyes widened, then her gaze turned toward Soledaad.:: Strong...do you feel?

**Sherakai:** ::A prickle swept up his spine.:: Get away from the doors and windows! ::he shouted, hurrying to bodily move people to the edges of the room.:

**Raphael Dolek:** ::Reaching for his sword, he realized he wasn't wearing it. The door slammed shut.:

**MissAmorina:** ::*Stared wide eyed in the direction of the gardens, it seemed she didn't hear Mordred.:*

**Soledaad Rourke:** ::she simple throww herself on Passea and then the floor.:

**GryPheonix:** (Ch'iki) ::glanced towards the shadow in the gardens coldly.:

**XRemembranceX:** @::***Eyes flickered in the darkness...flickered brightly, and with intelligence.:***

**Jarl Werrand:** ::he leaves, mumbling about evil trees.:

**Elenari Tuurchi:** ::She brushed the pink hair out of her face and staighen herself, still looking in wonder at the tree.::Just how did it get here?

**Sherakai:** ::He ran after Dolek.:: Raf!

**Celes Dunhold:** ::there seemed to be a guard rush from the doors.:: **DRAKE!!!!**

**Ciara Dierdre:** ::hearing Kai, she gets her back against a wall.:

**passeadordinoche:** Oof! ::thrown to the floor, she peered from beneath Soledaad's arm as half the woman's body covered hers, wishing for a shadow or two at the moment::

**Raphael Dolek:** Anyone know how to talk to a Drake?

**LorenSIntstrider:** Elenari ... we need tae get tae safety ... now.

**BlissNLvjy:** Very politely?

**Celes Dunhold:** ::the guards begins to make a break for it, but a rather angry looking Captain stood in their path:: Stand your ground!

**GryPheonix:** (Ch'iki) I know of one way....::flexing her fist, as she side-glanced to Raphael::

**Avraham Lave:** turns to see niq near the exit::: ::niq::

**XRemembranceX:** @::*The doors shut, and in their wake, the drake roared.::*

**Celes Dunhold:** ::Ok yes, she was VERY freaked to, but she was holding it back....barely::

**passeadordinoche:** (vsw) I have experience talking to them. ::a short, bitter laugh escaped her lips::

**Elenari Tuurchi:** Oh Loren ! ::She falters for a moment:: I cannot not now...::her gems start to glow and she arches her arms up to draw power from the leylines::

**LorenSIntstrider:** ::His eyes went immediately to scanning the area, looking for a place that would give shelter from the thing in the gardens. He'd only seen one before - and that was quite enough ::

**GryPheonix:** I wish I had my bow now.

**Avraham Lave:** ::moving towards her:::

**Celes Dunhold:** Brace those doors!

**LorenSIntstrider:** Ye'll draw madness.

**niqueliece:** :: just sitting there watching the goings-on ::

**Sherakai:** ::He drew one sword and pressed the hilt into Raf's hand:: I thought I told you to wear a sword ::he growled::

**LorenSIntstrider:** Damn it Kai, get me back my dagger ...

**niqueliece:** :: glances up, hearing her name :: Hm?

**tequinsundew:** ::And in one corner the light starts to twist and bend and twirl into a dark brown soon to be a light green and yellow as a portal opens::

**Mik Gideonn:** ::Bliss was already near a stone wall, in fact it was a prime observation spot, well protected::

**BlissNLvjy:** ::shakes her head trying to clear it:: (s)Maybe it just wants to come to the party.

**LorenSIntstrider:** ::Or better yet, a bow:::

**Elenari Tuurchi:** Not now .. please not now ...::her eyes close and she starts to chant in Arborian::

**Soledaad Rourke:** ::standing, somehow gracefully and reaching to help Passea:: ANd you would trust one?

**Mik Gideonn:** *Maybe.*

**Raphael Dolek:** The poor drake is likely as confused as we are.

**XRemembranceX:** @::*Wind battered the door, and raised snow cyclones in the garden.::*

**Avraham Lave:** ::feeling ok?::

**XRemembranceX:** @::*It roared again.::*

**niqueliece:** :: nods ::

**Sherakai:** ::The guards were moving people into the foyer -- away from the possible entrance of the creature in the garden::

**Celes Dunhold:** ::she gestured to a group of guards:: YOU! Get these guests to the other side of the hall. NOW! ::growled::

**Avraham Lave:** :::noting the effects others seems to be experiencing;;;

**GryPheonix:** (Ch'iki) Damn magicks...

**tequinsundew:** ::The portal becomes stable enough to allow four figures through before it closes as sudden as it had opened::

**Mordred Anubis:** ::Close of eyes, feeling the creature.. as life and death played in twist to his soul. grabbing Ami as his eyes opened and pulling her aside back from the doors::

**BlissNLvjy:** I hope they don't hurt it. ::but then she wasn't quite herself yet::

**Raphael Dolek:** @::Taking the sword, he sheathed it, and slipped out into the gardens, shutting the doors behind him.::

**Avraham Lave:** :::concern on his face:::

**Elenari Tuurchi:** ::Elenari gasps as the powers drains away from her again::

**Celes Dunhold:** *Damn...crazed...Steward...*

**LorenSIntstrider:** ::He watched Elenari begin to chant, not knowing the language ... he frowned, set his shoulder, ready to check Elenari and carry her to safety if whatever she did showed signs of going wrong like everything else this night ::

**passeadordinoche:** (q) I did not ssssay trussst...

**GryPheonix:** I suppose we may be the main course.::tapped his cane::

**niqueliece:** @:: slips out her own exit, to drift with the shadows and watch ::

**Soledaad Rourke:** Can you calm it?

**Mik Gideonn:** *Look, more guests. ::He watched as Dolek moved into the gardens:: I wonder just how long that man'll be Steward.*

**tequinsundew:** ::The old Elf stands tall and motions to his companions to stand back::

**XRemembranceX:** @::*The roar choked off. Could drakes look surprised? This one leaned down and stared at the Steward.::*

**Raphael Dolek:** @HELLO! ::He yelled so it could hear him::

**Elenari Tuurchi:** Your grace::Elenari starts to bow down rather quickly::

**Celes Dunhold:** ::she snatched a club from one of the door guards and started for the garden Doors::

**BlissNLvjy:** ::she grinned:: Luck honors the daring. ::finally managing to fully stand::

**Raphael Dolek:** @Something's happened to the magic. You're in Dreven. Shadokhan.

**passeadordinoche:** ::hearing Raphael shouting she shook her head:: (q) They are not deaf.

**GryPheonix:** ...Interesting. ::regarding the entrance of Tequin with a polite sort of bow::

**tequinsundew:** ::Tequin waves her off, and starts to walk across the room. Ranu at his heels::

**LorenSIntstrider:** ::Loren gave a visible start as the portal opened in the middle of the rest of the madness::

**MissAmorina:** ::*It took Mordred moving her before she turned to run away from the doors, having been frozen in her spot with shock.*::

**Raphael Dolek:** @::Well, it was roaring::

**Mik Gideonn:** Why are you standing up, lovely? ::He slipped his arm around her::

**XRemembranceX:** @::***It bellowed again, an echo of the HELLO. Wind battered the gardens and shook windows.***::

**passeadordinoche:** ::feeling the presence of another great magic weilder she tried to shift under Soledaad to find the source::

**LorenSIntstrider:** ::Then Elenari's behavior .. the pieces fell into place; and he did not know whether to feel relieved or more worried now ::

**Celes Dunhold:** ::she stopped short, seeing elves appear and looking like they were up for business::

**BlissNLvjy:** ::she pointed:: Old ones are upon us.

**Soledaad Rourke:** ::softly:: Elf...

**Raphael Dolek:** Are you from Cloosidian?

**Sherakai:** Where -- ::One second to check on the work the guards were doing and he'd lost Raf. ::You're kidding me... ::With a growl, he headed out the doors to join the Drake Party::

**BlissNLvjy:** ::pointing at Tequin and crew::

**Mik Gideonn:** ::He wanted to scowl, Ric would have::

**Elenari Tuurchi:** ::She started to look up and backed into Loren, her hand reaching for his::

**Mik Gideonn:** I see 'em.

**GryPheonix:** @::walked out to join the party with the drake, Ch'iki by his side::

**LorenSIntstrider:** ::He took her hand; gave it a firm squeeze and quietly repeated, ::We need to be away from here ... Sequin can handle the dragon, I dae be suren.

**Soledaad Rourke:** ::red eyes on Tequin::

**Ciara Dierdre:** ::she shakes her head as listens to something and mutters ::that's not helpful

**passeadordinoche:** (vsw) Shall we join them outside? ::she turned her head, mere inches from Soledaad's and smiled slightly::

**tequinsundew:** ::Tequin folded his hands and looked at the oak:: Hmmm ::Ranu slowed his steps and came to stand behind him:: A tree to welcome me?

**XRemembranceX:** @::***One wing swept out, aimed at the Steward, but falling just short. Was it a warning?::***

**Avraham Lave:** ::turns to help others out of harm's way:::

**GryPheonix:** @Please don't get jumpy.

**tequinsundew:** ::He raised his hands and called the branches down to touch his face for a moment::Touching :: he was not amused::

**GryPheonix:** @(Ch'iki) ::scoffs:: hardly::

**Raphael Dolek:** ::The wind held him against the wall:: How can we help you?

**Soledaad Rourke:** ::she nods in return, damn the skirt::

**Mordred Anubis:** ::Shake of his head, ushering Ami out of the way of the tree and the front doors::

**Sherakai:** @::Bright silver eyes swept over the scene before him, then his head jerked around:: Shad. Keep everyone else inside.

**GryPheonix:** @Excuse me... ::watched the drake::

**Elenari Tuurchi:** Take me into a corner... I cannot not leave until he does::she whispers:: oh Loren...

**niqueliece:** @:: drifts with the shadows, watching the pair ::

**XRemembranceX:** @::***The drake spun in confusion, like a caged beast::***

**MissAmorina:** *What happened? ::to Mordred, speaking over the noise of the wind::*

**Celes Dunhold:** Geez....I got elves in one direction...a drake in the other.

**GryPheonix:** @Shall do, soon as this is cleared up.

**Sherakai:** @Do it *now* ::he barked::

**passeadordinoche:** ::dark eyes speared Kai's back when she heard his words:: (sw) Find me some shadows, I'll get us outside.

**LorenSIntstrider:** ::He nodded, moving with her around the tree to a corner - a table was turned to provide cover, and he stood in front of her as a second shield of flesh.::

**Raphael Dolek:** @We want to help you get home.

**tequinsundew:** @::Tequin strolls towards Kai, a smile on his face:: I see I came at the right moment Weaponsmaster .. are you sure you are up for this? At least the last Weaponsmaster was Elven Trained..you on the other hand cannot even admit to your truthful calling...

**LorenSIntstrider:** I still thin' we shou' be gone of th' place an' now,:: he hissed::

**GryPheonix:** @((Ch'iki):kicked Shad in the shins::

**Sherakai:** @Raf -- ::A growl rumbled through his throat and his hands fisted::

**GryPheonix:** @Ow..damn okay fine.

**Mordred Anubis:** The ley lines are ill... there is a drake outside.. stay away from the doors and windows, Ami.

**XRemembranceX:** @::***The drake turned back on the Steward, sending a powerful gust of wind at him.::***

**Elenari Tuurchi:** Loren .. ::her voice was still weak, after the drain and the sudden surge in power:: I ...stay with me .. please.

**GryPheonix:** @Can you.. gah okay.

**passeadordinoche:** ::and in an even softer whisper:: And your sword...

**GryPheonix:** @(Ch'iki) Still a bloody fool. ;to Kai, as Shad went back inside::

**MissAmorina:** ::*She blinked at him, and doing as he said she stayed with him away from the doors and windows, but strained her neck to try and see::*

**Raphael Dolek:** @Look. ::He spoke to Kai, giving a nod to the strange elf with him:: I'm playing this by ear.

**Sherakai:** @::Turning his attention firmly on the drake, his lips began moving, though no words seemed to be spoken::

**LorenSIntstrider:** ::He nodded brusquely. ::Ye'll no be free of meh net, Elenari,:: he murmured in a gruff, protective tone::

**kylaradevaria:** @::she had quite literally ::popped:: into the keep, though none were there to witness her arrival as she had appeared in one of the sitting rooms nearby::

**BlissNLvjy:** ::an arm about Mik:: Big tree, big drakes, really old elves...how annoyed do you think Ric is going to be to have missed it?

**GryPheonix:**(Ch'iki)@::her skin started to ripple slightly::

**tequinsundew:** @A drake.. invited ? ::turns his back to Kai:: I am sure you can handle it, Your Grace::to Kai::

**Soledaad Rourke:** ::she reaches under her skirt and the hand returns with a dagger having been sheathed to her thigh::

**Avraham Lave:** ::**to mordred::: ::leylines heck. more nature just plain takin' over::**

**Celes Dunhold:** @::she followed the elven party warily, eyes widening as she saw the Drake:: Well...your a big boy...girl....drake aren't ye?

**XRemembranceX:** @::***The thoughts came suddenly, full of anger.:: ~Who did this to me? Who dared bring me here? Was it you? YOU? ~***

**GryPheonix:** ::glanced around for any druids in attendance::

**Mik Gideonn:** ::Mik shook his head:: When I tell him we got to sit out the dance, he won't be sorry.

**Mordred Anubis:** Remind me to thank the Steward for a lovely ball.. ::Between Lave and Ami::

**Sherakai:** @::He ignored both Raf and Tequin as he chanted the spell::

**kylaradevaria:** @::definitely not dressed for a ball, she's clad in simple garb, and looking rather pale and definitely disoriented::

**GryPheonix:** ::halted::

**Soledaad Rourke:** ::she would have simply ripped away the skirt but propriety left her to cut away all but a foot of material::

**MissAmorina:** ::*She smirked:: At least he knows how to entertain...*

**Celes Dunhold:** @::paled slightly:: No umm..Drake Sir..Miss.....

**Elenari Tuurchi:** Loren ::points out the old Elf and his attendance:: Meet my Archmage and his protector, the best Elvenblade in the land.

**LorenSIntstrider:** ::A hand was reached back, fingers lightly brushed her leg, squeezed. But mostly he kept eyes open for anything that might assail her::

**Raphael Dolek:** @Celes? How are the guests doing?

**Soledaad Rourke:** ::snuffing out several lights with the wetted amterial in her hands::

**LorenSIntstrider:** ::He raised an eyebrow. ::Tha' be Sequin,:: he murmured inquiringly with a hint of disbelief::

**kylaradevaria:** @::she rubs at her forehead and takes a look around, trying to get her bearings::

**tequinsundew:** @Where is she?::Tequin gave Ranu a rather annoyed glance::

**Raphael Dolek:** @::He spoke low, so as not to disturb whatevr Kai was doing::

**niqueliece:** @:: keeping downwind, keeps with the shadows, watching ::

**LorenSIntstrider:** ::He moved to break line of sight between the two::

**Celes Dunhold:** @Far away from the doors and windows. Most have been moved into the foyer so they can slip out.

**tequinsundew:** @::Unless Kai asked for help, Tequin would let the drake eat Raf and whoever else was close enough::

**passeadordinoche:** ::smiling as instantly shadows replaced light, she took Soledaad's hand once more as the shadows began to wrap around them, twisting and writhing as if protesting the intrusion a moment before the two women disappeared in them::

**XRemembranceX:** @~*Where is my HOME?~* ::*The drake advanced until it was near enough to touch the men.*::

**Sherakai:** :@:He could feel the magic moving through him and around the drake. Faint light rippled over his coppery skin:: ~Easy...~ ::he urged it, as he would one of his horses::

**Elenari Tuurchi:** ::frowns as Loren moves but come to her feet again and bows again as eyes turned towards her::

**Raphael Dolek:** @Do try to keep the guests from trying to come outside? It's cold enough as it is.

**tequinsundew:** Ah.. Elenari:: A brow arches at her companion:: You did well tonight::Tequins eyes search Lorens face for a moment::

**kylaradevaria:** @::feeling dizzy and disoriented, she stumbles to a chair, and taking a good glance around, recognizes her surroundings are looking oddly familiar::

**Celes Dunhold:** @::squints as hot air is snorted her way:: Erm...Alright....

**GryPheonix:** Excuse me... could people clear away from this door.. thanks

**Mordred Anubis:** ::Grabbing a guard by the arm, his brows narrowed as he spoke low to him:: Ambassador Anubis, bring my sword I gave you... now boy.

**Elenari Tuurchi:** Thank you your Grace ::swallows hard and bows again::

**passeadordinoche:** @::outside on the veranda, shadows writhed and twisted several feet from where Dolek, Kai, and Tequin stood, unwrapping their package to deposit the two women into the garden night::

**LorenSIntstrider:** ::The woodsman's gaze meets that of the one called Archimage. Wary, yes, concern, yes. If there is fear it is not permitted to master him.::

**XRemembranceX:** @::***Briliant eyes fixed on Tequin. Then on Kai.:: ~Brother. A brother to me in spirit. Why have you attacked me this way?~***

**Celes Dunhold:** ::slips back inside, away from the Drake. She started assembling guards. They in turned barred the passegges to the garden, not letting others through::

**MissAmorina:** ::She blinked at Mordred as he demanded his sword::

**kylaradevaria:** @::muttering something to herself in Elven, she presses a hand to her forehead, this cannot be happening::

**tequinsundew:** ::Waves his hand:: Who is this? ;His attention is already shifting as he feels the Drake :: Oh .. you are learning good...

**Avraham Lave:** :::sees kylara stumbling. moves to her and helps her to a sitting position on the chair::: ::here let me help::

**Sherakai:** @::His hands lifted, palm out. It was a little early still for relief, but he still held out hope:: ~We have not. It is the magic.~

**Avraham Lave:** :::doing so gingerly:::

**GryPheonix:** @(Ch'iki) ::glanced between Kai and Tequin dispassionately::

**Elenari Tuurchi:** ::swallows hard:: This is .....good Tequin was already looking away, she breath in deep. Just how to explain Loren::

**XRemembranceX:** @~***And I trust you WHY Brother? Tell me why I should not tear this place apart!~***

**kylaradevaria:** @::she glances up at the man, her face pale and confused:: What....?

**LorenSIntstrider:** Thi' is a mon who wa' there tae aid when the Elvenblades were elsewhere,:: he replied to the Archimage's question.::

**tequinsundew:** Do not leave, I may need you :: He turned away from her and moved closer towards Kai and Raf again::

**GryPheonix:** ::focused, trying to subtly move the guest away from the doors by suggestion::

**BlissNLvjy:** I hate waiting. ::inside while all the fun was happening outside::

**XRemembranceX:** @::***As if to emphasize the word, the drake flicked***

***a rapid burst of air past the men, and at Shad.::***

**Raphael Dolek:** @::His eyes narrowed, looking between Elenari and Tequin::

**tequinsundew:** :Ranu, the Elvenblade, shoots Loren a very very dity look and mutters something::

**LorenSIntstrider:** ::Then, muttered under his breath, ::An' one who'd give mooch tae hae a bow tae hand right now.

**Avraham Lave:** ::sorry. just trying to keep you from falling. let me help to the chair::

**GryPheonix:** @::rapidly stepped to the side, nearly getting thrown off his feet::

**kylaradevaria:** @::she hears the noise and the confusion nearby, but has no clue what's going on just yet...she'd been resting in bed back in Arboria when ::poof:::

**Elenari Tuurchi:** Loren:: Elenari and Loren are out of the reach of the drake.. Tequin is moving back towards it::

**Sherakai:** @::Even angry, a real, liv, in-the-flesh drake was a beautiful thing.:: ~We have no need to hurt you or frighten you. We ask only that you leave us in peace. The magic, great one, is dangerous as it is.~

**kylaradevaria:** ::nods to Avraham:: Aye, thank you. ::accepting his assistance::

**passeedordinoche:** @::she simply watched from the shadows before looking toward the Drake, then spoke softly to Soledaad:: I don't think they will let me speak to it. Mortis wasn't as angry as this one...

**BlissNLvjy:** Chaos, like when the fox would get in the henhouse. ::looking about:: And my head may crack open.

**kylaradevaria:** ::visibly shaking, she whispers up to him:: What's going on?

**niqueliece:** @:: just watching quietly, keeping to the shadows out of sight ::

**Mik Gideonn:** It's never easy. ::Mik quipped:: Maybe we should get you to your carriage while they're busy out there. Many of the others moved to the foyer.

**GryPheonix:** @Please stay away from the doors.

**LorenSIntstrider:** ::He regarded Elenari briefly, murmured under his breath to her, ::What might Sequin ... need you for, tonight?

**tequinsundew:** @You will not ::He raises his voice and flicks his hand to toss up a wall of earth between him and the Drake;

**celinahastur:** What happened? Where am I? ::The bundle stirred, sitting up::

**Avraham Lave:** ::eases her into the chair::

**BlissNLvjy:** ::looks at him, brow raised:: Do you really want to leave?

**XRemembranceX:** @~***The magic. The magic, and what have you done to the magic, my brothers?~*** ::The words punctuated by another roar::

**Elenari Tuurchi:** ::Her hand strokes over his for a moment:: Loren my gems.. I can help him draw up the leylines.. it is my gift...

**Soledaad Rourke:** @Mortis? ::she flet better to have her sword in the well shortened skirt, mindless of the cold::

**Mik Gideonn:** ::He shook his head::

**MissAmorina:** ::*Wincd as the Drake roared again:: How do you think before it tries to come inside? ::to no one in particular::*

**LorenSIntstrider:** ::His lips pursed slightly. ::'e seems tae hae the matter fair well 'andled.

**Mik Gideonn:** No. Course not.

**Ciara Dierdre:** ::she looks to one side of her, once again having left her senses since no one is there:: What do you mean you want to talk to it?

**GryPheonix:** @::Shad blinked, then focused:: ~nothing~

**tequinsundew:** @We have done nothing ::His voice cold and loud:: the former Masters of this city have done the damage.

**XRemembranceX:** @::***The elf was sheltered from him. He focused once more on the others.***::

**Mordred Anubis:** ::A guard returning with his sword, better to be prompt than annoy the Necro Ambassador. slide of the sword out an inch to check it was his own, a black blade and then slid back into the sheath as he attached it to his side, moving to stand::

**passeadordinoche:** @Fire drake. ::she gave a small shrug and smile then returned to gazing at the Drake over the wall Tequin put up::

**kylaradevaria:** ::she hears the drake roaring and shudders a little::

**BlissNLvjy:** Didn't think so.

**Ciara Dierdre:** ::she just laughs:: Well, fine then, it can't kill you.

**Elenari Tuurchi:** Loren what can you see in the gardens? Anything?

**GryPheonix:** @(Ch'iki) ::somewhat oblivious to the discussion, but she watched coolly all the same::

**Sherakai:** @::A handful of invisible cords snaked out toward the drake, wrapping it in calm:: ~HOLD!~

**Mik Gideonn:** ::He closed his eyes a moment at the dragon's roar:: Leaves but that's loud.

**XRemembranceX:** @~***Send me back***~ ::***he demanded, suddenly, in a fury. It flinched as it felt the magic touch it.***::

**LorenSIntstrider:** Naught but a wall o' earthern matter .. seems y' archimage ha' blocked th' view,:: he muttered.::

**Soledaad Rourke:** @ It will feel attacked...

**Raphael Dolek:** @ ::He didn't particularly want to be here with the Drake, but he wouldn't leave, these people were his responsibility::

**niqueliece:** @:: keeping to the shadows, just watching, unseen ::

**passeadordinoche:** @::she gave a nod in agreement with Soledaad:: (vq) Do you think these males will listen?

**LorenSIntstrider:** Not even Fae are halfwitted enou' tae try and ensorcel a dragon,:: he murmured, speaking the words like a curse.::

**kylaradevaria:** ::once again looks up at Avraham:: What's going on?

**LorenSIntstrider:** But wizards tae be th' onla ones smart enou' to be tha' stupid.

**Avraham Lave:** ::turns in the direction of the roar and sees drakes abound

and kai in the middle. apparently trying to tsalk to them::: ::okay.  
thiskeepgettin' better an' better::

BlissNLvjy: ::she was trying to step forward towards the tree:: It's mad and scared, you'd roar too.

Sherakai: @~I can try.~ ::Right::

passeadordinoche: @ I wonder what it wants here.

GryPheonix: @(Ch'iki) ::stepped closer to Kai::

Elenari Tuurchi: ::sighs:: I wish it to be just Fey Loren::She takes this chance and rests her arms around him, since Ranu and Tequin are outside::

Celes Dunhold: ::she was trying to keep her guards moral bolstered, moving along the line that blocked the way to the garden::

kylaradevaria: ::she glances toward the commotion, but is far too weak to wander that way::

Soledaad Rourke: @ ::she answered by starting forward towards the wall in a now knee length skirt::

Mik Gideonn: And have. ::He kept an eye on how close the windows were to the tree, but let her walk that way, helped her in fact::

passeadordinoche: @ ::She peered closely at the Drake, trying to see if there was anyway to see where it was from::

celinahastur: ::She didn't know or understand. Slowly curling up in a corner, she passed out again::

LorenSIntstrider: :: He stepped back just a bit so she could lean in and let her frame rest against him without having to stretch, if such was her need ::

tequinsundew: @Since you can handle this ::to Kai with a smile::

GryPheonix: @(Ch'iki) ::even she had to admit never facing a Drake, but a bodyguard's honor disregarded the danger::

XRemembranceX: @~Try.~ ::*it mocked, though more calmly than before.:: ~No. Maybe you've just given me a new home, Brothers. Perhaps I'll like it here...~ ::Panic had turned into cold fury.::*

Sherakai: @::He turned then to give Tequin a considering look:: Maybe you can help.

LorenSIntstrider: ::Loren could not make out the language of the dragon, of course, but the tone of its roars had taken on a note that made his bones feel chill::

passeadordinoche: @ ::She stepped out of the shadow's upon hearing Kai:: Or I...

GryPheonix: @(Ch'iki) I shall lend my claws to keep them safe.

Elenari Tuurchi: ::She liked him near her, it gave her a warm feeling, she would not let go of him now::

passeadordinoche: @ ::her comment directed at Kai::

Avraham Lave: ::spying a glass of juice, offers to kylara:::; ::here,maybe this well help steady you a wee bit::

XRemembranceX: @::*The drake's attention turned to the woman*

**who'd stepped from the shadows.:**

**LorenSIntstrider:** Guid lor preserve us,:: he murmured under his breath.::

**kylaradevaria:** ::reaches for the glass:: Thank you. ::taking a small sip::

**tequinsundew:** @Oh? ::turns around again:: Would you like to send it back? You and I are strong enough to raise a portal, if you admit to what you truly are Weaponsmaster.

**passeadordinoche:** @ ::her head cocked to the side as she gazed at Kai and Tequin, she had taken her attention from the Drake for the moment::

**BlissNLvjy:** ::she set her hand lightly against it's bark:: (s)Hello old one.

**Elenari Tuurchi:** It's a drake? ::shivers::

**GryPheonix:** @(Ch'iki) ::talons seem to flex out from his hands, her features taking on a slightly more animalistic expression::

**Sherakai:** @::Back to the drake, he focused his attention on another spell. Illusion:: ~You sure you want to?~ ::he asked, and the sudden figure of a towering copper drake seemed to fill the space he stood in.::

**XRemembranceX:** @::**The oak tree that Bliss touched resonated with age, and a sense of timelessness.::**

**kylaradevaria:** ::her hand shaking as she offered it back to him::

**XRemembranceX:** @::**The drake's roar filled the gardens.:: ~You challenge me?~**

**Avraham Lave:** ::**no drink the rest. you need it.::**

**Mik Gideonn:** ::with her, at the tree, Mik too ran his hands over the bark::

**Sherakai:** @::He gave a scant nod to indicate he'd heard Tequin:: ~Other way around.~

**LorenSIntstrider:** Aye ... and now ... I know ye hae loyalty tae th' archimage ... but ye'll be nae guid tae him dead, Elenari,:: he murmured quietly; reaching a hand back to brush one of her own.::

**niqueliece:** @:: shakes her head, just watching ::

**Soledaad Rourke:** @ ::she stops in her forward progress, stunned::

**kylaradevaria:** ::she nods up at him and takes another sip::

**tequinsundew:** @Whenever you make up your mind Baron.

**passeadordinoche:** @::she winced as the Drake roared again, standing in the same spot she'd advanced to when offering her assistance to the two men::

**BlissNLvjy:** ::both hands and a cheek against the bark, her eyes closed and she sighed:: Home...

**Sherakai:** @~We will help you return to your home.~

**GryPheonix:** @(Ch'iki) ::an expression of near shock crossed her expression as the 'drake' appeared about Kai::

**Soledaad Rourke:** @ ::two drakes?::

**Elenari Tuurchi:** ::Lets out a soft moan:: He should be able to handle himself, and you are here to watch over me:: a soft smile::

**XRemembranceX:** @::**He moved quickly, far more quickly than**

**what he looked capable of. A clawed leg reached for the Shadowed woman.::**

**Avraham Lave:** ::rest a wee moment be right:: ::looks around . spies of plate small meats brings it kylara::

**Soledaad Rourke:** @ ::she steps before Passea and raises her sword in deense instinctively::

**GryPheonix:** @(Ch'iki) Damn fools! ::at the Shadowed woman::

**kylaradevaria:** ::gaze darting from him to the plate back to him, she shakes her head, feeling suddenly ill::

**Avraham Lave:** ::here. try to eat some along with the juice.. it'll bolster and help regain your strength::

**Sherakai:** ~@::He couldn't physically challenge the drake, but he could manipulate emotions. With the magic filling him, he sent the thought of pain at the Drake::

**Ciara Dierdre:** ::she just looks at the line of guards and shakes her head::

**MissAmorina:** ::Ami sighed and leaned her head back against the wall she was leaning against.::

**kylaradevaria:** ::instead she tries to stand, but her legs give out and she grasps his arm to steady herself::

**passeadordinoche:** ::shadows rushed forward as she sensed the danger a moment after Soledaad stepped between her and the talon, the shadows wrapping once again about both women::

**XRemembranceX:** @::He swiped at Soledaad. But then faltered back with a sharp cry.::

**Sherakai:** @He's not going to cooperate ::he informed Tequin. As if the archmage couldn't tell:: Let's do this.

**LorenSIntstrider:** ::Another gentle squeeze of her hand, his attention primarily on the environment. If the elves and mages and whatever elses out there did unwell ... he would have no compunction about slinging Elenari over a shoulder and exiting via the closest door or window.::

**Avraham Lave:** \*ooF\* ::careful there::

**tequinsundew:** @ As you wish ::He calls on the leylines and draws open a portal:: Kai now !

**MissAmorina:** ::She was far enough away from the entrance she wouldn't make it out of the room she was sure, not through the crowd huddled together...and she didn't really want to go outside anyway::

**kylaradevaria:** I have to go.

**GryPheonix:** @(Ch'iki):: Flee! ::to the women, glancing back at the Drake at the ready::

**Mordred Anubis:** ::Shake of his head, clearing his thoughts:: So much for a normal evening in Dreven.. ::Light smile pushed to his lips with a nod at Ami::

**Ciara Dierdre:** ::she looks to Bliss, she'd seen her touching the tree:: How old do you think the tree is?

**passeadordinoche:** @::the shadows dissipated a moment later, leaving the two

women standing in the exact same spot::

**Soledaad Rourke:** @ ::suddenly unsure of where she was::

**Mik Gideonn:** ::Mik had little enough fondness for high elves and archmages, but the tree was something else and he could feel the cool balm of it's very being::

**Elenari Tuurchi:** ::Shivers as she feels power drawn up again::

**MissAmorina:** ::Shuddered at the cry the drake made, she managed to smile back at Mordred::

**Avraham Lave:** ::then you're gonna need my help::

**Elenari Tuurchi:** Loren can you hold me again? ::her gems turn bright pink once more::

**BlissNLvjy:** Forever. ::her voice a breathy whisper::

**Sherakai:** @:: Kai bent his will toward persuading the drake to take advantage of the portal while it was open. Sweat beaded his brow::

**Avraham Lave:** ::helps her to her feet and steadies her to make sure she doesn't fall::

**BlissNLvjy:** ::at the moment the very picture of a tree hugger minus the pointed ears::

**kylaradevaria:** How did I get here? ::grasping hold of his arm::

**GryPheonix:** @::felt the strain of the spirits about him he started to focus, trying to aid in the attempt::

**GryPheonix:** @::May the spirits guide him.

**XRemembranceX:** @::***Rage and pain, rage and pain...it sent wild bursts of air out in all directions, as it began to stagger to the portal.***::

**Celes Dunhold:** @::pokes her head out the door hearing the cry:: Blast...

**Avraham Lave:** ::not sure got here kinda late m'self::

**Mik Gideonn:** ::and that half of him that was elf resonated to it, like the strings of a mandolin, but for the bitterness that was a more human lifespan::

**Soledaad Rourke:** @ ::she looks to Passea, wincing at the Drake's cries of pain::

**passeadordinoche:** @::stepping forward, she reached to try to touch Kai's shoulder and lend her magic to his::

**tequinsundew:** @::Staggers as he keeps the portal open:

**Avraham Lave:** ::by carriage or horseback presumably::

**Raphael Dolek:** @ ::The wind sent him flying away::

**Celes Dunhold:** @DOLEK!

**XRemembranceX:** @::***For the longest moment, it hovered at the very edge.***::

**GryPheonix:** @::tapped his cane resolutely on the floor, sending what he had into the attempt::

**niqueliece:** @:: just watching, as usual::

**passeadordinoche:** @ ::her eyes were squinted against the shrieks from the bird::

**Sherakai:** @::Light pulsed from his skin. When Passea's hand touched him, it doubled and his spell increased in power.::

**XRemembranceX:** @~***Do not...do not think...I will forget...I will come back for you, my BROTHERS...~***

**LorenSIntstrider:** :: He nodded; turning and slipping arms around Elenari; this left him only smell and hearing to detect threats, but it seemed important to her ::

**Avraham Lave:** ::***waitta minute. considerin' things are kinda warpin' all the plavce...what the last thing you remember?::***

**MissAmorina:** ::***Stared at the windows as the light from the portal lit them::***

**Ciara Dierdre:** (S) Oh, great, if they kill and it comes to visit me I am NOT going to get much sleep.

**Avraham Lave:** **place**

**XRemembranceX:** @~***ALL of...~ ::Then it was gone, through the portal the mages had created.::***

**Soledaad Rourke:** @ ::taking Passea's hand with her free one::

**Sherakai:** @::His lips were skinned back from his teeth as he gritted out the spell::  
~Go!~ ::he urged::

**Mik Gideonn:** ::He turned his head, spying through the distant window as he rested temple to bark, the glimmer of the portal, the shadow::

**tequinsundew:** @::It takes his last to keep the portal open to let the drake leave::

**Raphael Dolek:** @ ::He didn't hear Celes over the Drake's roar::

**kylaradevaria:** Nay... ::glances to the commotion and starts to move that way::

**passeadordinoche:** @ ::her pale skin seemed to grow paler each passing moment that she touched Kai and Soledaad::

**tequinsundew:** @::He collapes into the arms of his Elvenblades::

**GryPheonix:** ::suddenly fainted in the building::

**Sherakai:** @::He dropped abruptly to his knees, panting raggedly::

**XRemembranceX:** @::***An eerie silence filled the gardens.::***

**XRemembranceX:** ::***The songbirds circled the room, and came to rest in the tree, as if all of them had decided upon the action at once.::***

**passeadordinoche:** @::when the other two fell, she also fell, unconcious to the ground her skin almost translucent::

**MissAmorina:** ***I don't know if I like that...::she said to Mordred at the sudden silence.::***

**GryPheonix:** @::collapsing to the ground softly, unconcious but some sort of muscle memory cushioning the fall::

**Celes Dunhold:** @::she says a few words to the guards and slipped outside::

**Elenari Tuurchi:** Loren :: she smiles up at him and takes a small pleasure of being so close to him, again for a second time tonight.::

**Mordred Anubis:** Stay put... don't move just yet. ::Nod to Ami::

**GryPheonix:** @ (Ch'iki)::caught on to Kai, claws sheathing::

**kylaradevaria:** ::making her way slowly toward the crowd::

**MissAmorina:** ::*It didn't take much to convince her. She nodded:*

**XRemembranceX:** ::**See ree dee, came their song.**::

**LorenSIntstrider:** ::He held her near, feeling something of the fatigue in her - and if he happened to enjoy the sensation as well, it made a nice bonus ::

**GryPheonix:** @(Ch'iki)Damn...::glancing back to the door:: what did he try this time.

**Mik Gideonn:** ::Mik saw the glimmer vanish, glanced up at the birds:: (m)You crap on me, I roast you.

**Sherakai:** @::Instinctively, he slapped away the hands grasping at him and rolled away::

**Soledaad Rourke:** @ ::some of her hair free of the braid, she stabbed her sword into the earth and kneels beside Passea::

**tequinsundew:** @::Tequin regains his posture and he stands once again steady on his feet:: This place is still cursed...

**LorenSIntstrider:** ::Wonder how long will be afore the earthwall collapses...

**XRemembranceX:** ::**Gentle vespers, comforting.**::

**Avraham Lave:** ::wait. your still weak. maybe that's not such a good Idea::

**BlissNLvjy:** ::she stood straight, glancing up at the birds:: Drake's gone, are you leaving now too? ::hands still on the tree::

**tequinsundew:** @::yes and his spell is broken and the earth does return to its former place::

**kylaradevaria:** ::spies the tree, knowing its origins, confused again:: What....??

**GryPheonix:** @(Ch'iki)::stopped, he seemed fine for the moment::

**Ciara Dierdre:** ::hearing Avram's voice she looks over::

**Elenari Tuurchi:** hmm? :: She dares and places her head on his shoulder again, she could feel weak for a moment, nobody was paying attention to them::

**kylaradevaria:** ::makes her way toward the tree, totally focused on that now, she doesn't see or hear anyone for the moment::

**Sherakai:** @What was it you were saying before, Tequin?

**Mik Gideonn:** ::Nudges Bliss, points out the woman heading their way in consequence of heading the tree's way::

**Mordred Anubis:** If the ley lines could displace a tree and a drake... ::Eyes growing wider in thought of something::

**Soledaad Rourke:** @ ::cradling Passea in her arms::

**Celes Dunhold:** @::Celes started to look for Raf...wherever he landed::

**XRemembranceX:** ::**The birds, instead of leaving, seemed to be settling in for the night. Tucking beaks behind their wings. Growing more quiet by the moment.**::

**LorenSIntstrider:** ::He shook his head slightly; not enough to dislodge her. ::Nae ... ti' seem th' matter hae taken of itself care.

**GryPheonix:** @(Ch'iki) Are you fine? ::to kai::

**Raphael Dolek:** @ Gayle's snowman was crushed. ::He mumbled, sitting in the

snow::

**tequinsundew:** @You still are not trained by an Elvenblade to be Weaponsmaster Kai. ::Nods to Ranu so he can move back inside::

**niqueliece:** @:: quietly listening, keeping out of sight in the shadows ::

**Mik Gideonn:** ::And a glance up again, soft mutter:: That's better.

**passeadordinoche:** @ ::slowly she comes to and gazes up at the woman holding her:: Is it done?

**kylaradevaria:** ::part of her recognizes Bliss standing there, part of her is too much in a state of shock to acknowledge her::

**Sherakai:** @::He pushed himself upright, wincing:: I'll be all right, Ch'iki. Thank you.

**Celes Dunhold:** @Raf....Your crazy! And ya destroyed the snowman!

**MissAmorina:** ::Wide eyed at Mordred:: What is it?

**GryPheonix:** @(Ch'iki) Right..I'll check on the fool.

**BlissNLvjy:** ::looking where indicated:: Kylara? ::suprised to see her as well but rather, pardon the pun, blissed out by the tree::

**Raphael Dolek:** @ She worked so hard on it.

**Sherakai:** @Don't need to be. I had something better. ::to Teq::

**Soledaad Rourke:** @ ::making her way to the door back inside, ahead of Ranu, one slipped shoe hitting the door dead center and with a little extra push of shadows, breaking the bar across it::

**Soledaad Rourke:** @ (q) It's gone.

**kylaradevaria:** ::blinks, hearing her name and turns to the speaker:: Bliss?

**Elenari Tuurchi:** Loren :: a little smile on her lips::thank you ..

**Celes Dunhold:** @::offers a hand to him::

**Avraham Lave:** ::holding on to her to keep her from falling:::

**kylaradevaria:** ::looking very out of place in her jammies::

**BlissNLvjy:** All dressed up and dancing with this lovely tree. ::grins::

**tequinsundew:** Elenari !::He may be weak but his voice still works::

**Ciara Dierdre:** ::she looks between Bliss and Kylara::

**passeadordinoche:** @ ::arms slid up around Soledaad's neck to help hold herself steady as the woman carried her inside::

**GryPheonix:** @(Ch'iki) ::grumbled as she walked over to Shad:: How many times have I done this...

**Avraham Lave:** ::hol on there lady::

**Mordred Anubis:** ::Wave of his hand at the side, a shadow from the wall leapt forth:: Quickly.. to the Anubis manor.. find my daughter Bella ! ::Motioning the shadow off as it darted quickly as it came::

**Elenari Tuurchi:** ::Gasps and lets go of Loren::

**LorenSIntstrider:** ::He murmured softly to her ear, ::Da:: then stepped back half a pace as he heard the archimage - his hand still held to one of hers::

**GryPheonix:** @(Ch'iki)::lightly slapped him on the face, causing him to stir slightly::

**LorenSIntstrider:** ::releasing as he stepped to one side as she let go::

**GryPheonix:** @Gah... what the did it...

**kylaradevaria:** What is it doing here? ::to Bliss, all confused like::

**GryPheonix:** @(Ch'iki)::slapped him again more resolutely:: Yes

**tequinsundew:** I want you in the morning! You know where I will be ::His eyes land on Loren::

**GryPheonix:** @Aggh... ::wincing::...Good.

**Mik Gideonn:** Living? ::Mik ventured a guess, smiling faintly at Kylara::

**BlissNLvjy:** Visiting. ::like she knew. She was just happy to soak up a bit of the home she couldn't get back to::

**tequinsundew:** Without your new pet ...::He walks towards the door and does not wait for her answer::

**Sherakai:** @::Moving stiffly, he got to his feet and looked around for the Steward::

**Mordred Anubis:** If a tree and a drake could be swept out of place Ami... ::Glancing to her, worry upon his features suddenly as his mind worked::

**Soledaad Rourke:** ::she carries Passea through the ball room::

**GryPheonix:** @(Ch'iki)::sighed::Still the same... ::quietly::Don't worry me.

**kylaradevaria:** It's...Arborian. ::she reaches out to touch the tree, almost lovingly::

**GryPheonix:** @::smiled faintly::My apologies.

**XRemembranceX:** ::*Later, some of them would learn that the chaos had not occurred only here at Taysayad. That things -- flora, fauna -- had been displaced throughout the old Empire here and there.*::

**Elenari Tuurchi:** ::her mouth closes hard ::

**Mik Gideonn:** Sure is.

**MissAmorina:** ::She blinked at Mordred:: You think there's more?

**BlissNLvjy:** And forever old. ::smiles and sets her temple against it's bark once more::

**GryPheonix:** @(Ch'iki)::her coldness warmed slightly as she helped him back to his feet::

**tequinsundew:** ::Tequin leaves them all behind and walks out with Ranu in his wake::

**LorenSIntstrider:** ::He regarded the Archimage coldly::

**GryPheonix:** @Come on..I wanna. ::walked back out to check on

**kylaradevaria:** ::she looks around:: Isn't this the palace?

**LorenSIntstrider:** Ye prove yer true colours wi' yer insults.

**kylaradevaria:** How did I get to Dreven?

**GryPheonix:** @::suddenly a shower of flower petals seemed to fall from the skies::

**Elenari Tuurchi:** Where did we leave my wine::still shaking as he finally left::

**Ciara Dierdre:** Does it speak to you? ::childlike curiosity as she looks the tree over::

**BlissNLvjy:** Yes, we were having a party for the new Steward. ::a dark opens again:: Probably the same way the tree and the drake did.

**Avraham Lave:** ::taysayad palace to be exact::

**Mik Gideonn:** Not quite the same way.

**passeadordinoche:** (sw) And I was going to ask you to dance. ::still carried in Soledaad's arms::

**LorenSIntstrider:** ::He moved through the disorganized room, finding the wine miraculously unspilled. Picking up the goblet, he bore it back to Elenari::

**BlissNLvjy:** ::to Ciara:: Yes, no...it sort of is me and I'm it and it's home.

**kylaradevaria:** ::glancing between those gathered near the tree, trying to fathom what's happened, one minute in bed, and the next at the palace::

**Mordred Anubis:** I must speak with my daughter Bella.. and send word to Captain Rodoc in Balthazor at the Keep.. Quietus must be checked on.

**GryPheonix:** @What the... ::as light red petals began to shower about him::

**Avraham Lave:** ::uhhh bliss.....she feeling awfully weak and not at all well::

**LorenSIntstrider:** Elenari,:: **he inquired gently,** ::will ye be aggrieved for my protection this night, by that ... man?

**Avraham Lave:** :::referring to klara:::

**Soledaad Rourke:** ::She stops a guard:: There is a sword in the garden. It had better end up in my carriage in moments. ::then looked to Passea:: Ask me to dace?

**kylaradevaria:** ::looks to Bliss curiously::

**GryPheonix:** @(Ch'iki)...Very out of season.

**Elenari Tuurchi:** Thank you Loren::both her hands close around the glass but she cannot look at him yet and whispers:: I am sorry..you are not my pet...

**Raphael Dolek:** @ ::He took Celes' hand and stood, brushing off the snow::

**Avraham Lave:** :::still keeping her steady:::

**niqueliece:** @:: moving about, studying the drake's resting place ::

**kylaradevaria:** ::grateful for Avraham's chivalry::

**Sherakai:** @::Seeing him with Celes, he rubbed his head and looked around the tattered garden:: Well, that was fun.

**LorenSIntstrider:** ::He places a single finger under her chin and tilts her head up to look to his face. ::I know tha' ... and I ken tha' ye know that too. His words dinnae make it truth.

**MissAmorina:** ::Nodded to Mordred, understanding::

**Ciara Dierdre:** Somehow, I think the tree is helpful to her. ::she smiles to Avram::

**GryPheonix:** @Hey... nice work. ::glancing to kai, then to where the drake had been::

**Celes Dunhold:** @::once he was up and stable.....she smacked him...hard::  
DON'T EVER do that again!

**GryPheonix:** @Wish i could've..

**Avraham Lave:** ::g-d willing::

**passeadordinoche:** @ Yes, in thanks for introducing me to the Steward, whom I sadly still haven't met. ::her voice was weak as her former strength would not return any time soon::

**GryPheonix:** @(Ch'iki)::'smacks' Shad out of his curiosity.. 'literally'::

**BlissNLvjy:** ::she gave a little nudge to Mik:: (s)You're hugging a tree.

**GryPheonix:** @Aggh... damn.

**Mik Gideonn:** ::He felt a soft sigh escape him:: Don't tell Ric.

**niqueliere:** @::stops for a moment, simply gazing at the ground, hands hooked behind her back ::

**kylaradevaria:** ::if it weren't for Avraham, she'd probably not be standing::

**Avraham Lave:** ::great looking tree but what tree isn't::

**Elenari Tuurchi:** ;:She looks up at him with a frown:: He does not know you, I do Loren, and you are ::swallows hard again:: you are .. not that I thought I would meet here in Dreven.

**theashmaker:** ::if any were near the fireplace and were gazing into the fire, they might feel someone looking back, and those gifted might even see two eyes peering out of the fire at the tree::

**BlissNLvjy:** Long as you don't tell him how I want to curl up in those big branches and take a nap. ::smirks::

**kylaradevaria:** ::looks at the others, then at herself, realizing she's very underdressed and blushes a tad::

**Sherakai:** @::It was an effort to stand straight. Stiffly, he moved back inside::

**XRemembranceX:** @::*The gardens were a little trampled, somewhat windblown. The drake's tracks were clear though, in the snow.*::

**Raphael Dolek:** @ Shut up, Celes. They're all my responsibility.

**Mik Gideonn:** Deal.

**Mordred Anubis:** ::Lays a hand to Ami's shoulder as looks to her:: I have a friend in Balthazor.. he must be seen to. His safety was my promise.

**Celes Dunhold:** @Yeah....but your mine! ::huffing:: Leave the stupid moves to me! ::smiling a bit::

**MissAmorina:** ::She nodded again:: I'll be fine..

**Raphael Dolek:** @ I would do it again, but between you and I, I'd rather not.

**Soledaad Rourke:** ::out in the great hall:: And here I thought you had ulterior motives. ::she jests as she carries Passea along::

**kylaradevaria:** ::she also realizes there is someone in the room, a presence that pulls at her, and she turns to see Mordred and her face pales::

**Celes Dunhold:** @::mutters:: Yeah...agreed.

**BlissNLvjy:** Ahhh, this is making my head free so much better.

**BlissNLvjy:** feel so much better, rather.

**kylaradevaria:** ::or nearby::

**passeadordinoche:** How else was I going to get an introduction and a dance all in the same breath. ::she smiled weakly up at her ::protector:::

**Mik Gideonn:** You sound like you're getting a bit 'tree drunk', Bliss.

**LorenSIntstrider:** ::He smiled, more gently, the tensions and high-strung

nerves of the earlier event unwinding. ::Aye, well .... know this a'well. Thi' hunter,:: a light tap to his own chest, ::dinnae give up the chase simply fae another hunter be in th' woods.

**Raphael Dolek:** @Shall we find a warmer spot?

**GryPheonix:** @I could use some food actually.

**BlissNLvjy:** I didn't realize how much I missed home.

**Celes Dunhold:** @Please....this dress is breezy.

**Avraham Lave:** ::tree...drunk?::

**kylaradevaria:** ::she took a heavier lean against the tree::

**LorenSIntstrider:** ::He leaned in and very lightly kissed her left cheek. ::Now, shae we find y' a seat, or would ye prefer tae lean on mae a while yet?

**Sherakai:** ::One of the guards approached to check on him and give a hodge-podge report. Kai listened as he moved toward one of the beverage tables.::

**Elenari Tuurchi:** ::blushes a bit:: No other hunts me Loren::now finally takes a sip from the wine he had found for her::

**Mordred Anubis:** Do you want me to see you home safely, Ami?

**Soledaad Rourke:** ::she laughed softly::

**Mik Gideonn:** ::Mik grinned at Avraham and tapped the tip of his own pointed ear::

**LorenSIntstrider:** ::He pursed his lips a bit. She said none other hunted her, but the archimage's words seemed to suggest otherwise.::

**Raphael Dolek:** @::He headed inside the palace, habit having him hold the door for Celes::

**kylaradevaria:** ::feeling suddenly ill, she just kinda plopped down on the floor, near the tree::

**passeadordinoche:** (q) Where exactly are you taking me? ::feeling as though she'd been beaten by the Drake after all::

**Elenari Tuurchi:** Baron ! :: since Kai was near somewhere::

**Ciara Dierdre:** ::she had been admiring the tree, but when she hears the familiar voice, she looks over:: The silk would have been easier to cut, Soledaad. ::and somehow that remark seems like the sticking out of a tongue should accompany it::

**Celes Dunhold:** ::she nodded her thanks, the guards in the hall holding their picket line::

**Sherakai:** ::He signaled for two drinks, then turned toward the sound of someone calling. Was it him she wanted?::

**Avraham Lave:** ::feeling going down.....firms up his grip and eases her down::: ::easy there lady::

**GryPheonix:** ::fished out a flask and offered it to Kai:: This may help..it's 'of the spirits'.

**Soledaad Rourke:** (q) Home. ::turning with Passea in her arms:: I do not wear pink. ::she says flatly::

**GryPheonix:** Helps me out when I'm feeling down.

**MissAmorina:** ::Shook her head:: I'll be fine.

**niqueliece:** @:: just standing quietly, gazing down at the disturbed ground ::

**Elenari Tuurchi:** ::Elenari turns towards Kai::Baron I want is weapons restored::lowers her voice::now...

**Ciara Dierdre:** Avram, is there chair near?

**passeadordinoche:** ::being held in Soledaad's arms and hearing someone speak to her ::companion:: she twisted her head about to try to get a look, her head being dangled over one arm and her feet the other as she was carried::

**kylaradevaria:** ::lays her head in her hands::

**Avraham Lave:** ::nods::: ::let's get her there::

**Sherakai:** What? ::he looked at Elenari blankly::

**Ciara Dierdre:** ::she gets on one side of Kylara::

**Raphael Dolek:** ::He looked around to see how everyone was doing::

**Elenari Tuurchi:** He took up the place of my guards, so he should be my guard for tonight.

**Nadiya Galyn:** @::And Nadiya Galyn awoke to find herself by a snow-covered road, still in her gown, and having no idea how she'd gotten there or what had happened.::

**Avraham Lave:** ::eases her up once again and guides her to a comfortable looking chair:::

**Mordred Anubis:** ::Nod down at her, shift from the wall with a run of a finger tip over his left temple, pause seeing Kylara:: You should not be here.. where is Kyosti?

**Sherakai:** ::The guard with him held the wine glasses up and Kai took them automatically:: Thanks, Shad, but no ::he murmured.::

**Ciara Dierdre:** ::she helps Avram as best she can::

**MissAmorina:** ::Her eyes were searching the room. Wine...there had to be more somewhere::

**kylaradevaria:** ::she is suddenly ::guided:: to a chair, she glances up upon hearing a familiar voice::

**Dante Voltan:** @::Dante awoke on a boat floating in a harbor:: What the...?

**Raphael Dolek:** What are we going to do with a tree?

**Soledaad Rourke:** Cee. ::she calls out::

**GryPheonix:** ::shrugs:: If you insist. ::downing the flask::

**kylaradevaria:** ::shakes her head at Mordred, not understanding him at first::

**passeadordinoche:** ::she realized twisting her head about in her present condition wasn't really a good idea and closed her eyes before resting her head against Soledaad's bicep and whatever else was near her cheek as bile rushed up into her throat::

**Sherakai:** Lose your Blades, did you? ::he asked Elenari::

**Ciara Dierdre:** Yes? ::in answer to her name::

**Soledaad Rourke:** ::adjusting Passea in her arms so that Passea's head could rest on her shoulder::

**Sherakai:** ::Slowly, he made his way toward Raf and held one of the wine glasses out to him.::

**GryPheonix:** (Ch'iki) ::just a hint of a smile perhaps as kai talked to Elenari::

**BlissNLvjy:** Decorated it and call it Bob?

**Elenari Tuurchi:** Replaced them with something more pleasant to my eyes:: her voice low and a challenge::

**Mik Gideonn:** *Bliss, I should take a look around for Nadiya.. ::though he knew if she were there she'd have come looking for him::*

**Soledaad Rourke:** See to the Lady's needs. She is to want for nothing.

**LorenSIntstrider:** :: clears his throat :: ::Hmm, whoms' weapons dae ye seek to hae returned?

**Raphael Dolek:** Bob? ::His laugh seemed a bit forced:: Bob it is.

**XRemembranceX:** ::**Bob the tree stood impassively.**::

**GryPheonix:** What's this bout weapons?

**MissAmorina:** ::*Finally, she moved away from the wall she'd clung to while the Drake was in the garden, and went in search of the wine.*::

**Mik Gideonn:** No need to decorate it. ::He gestured to the sleeping birds:: They'll do it.

**kylaradevaria:** What are you talking about? ::to Mordred::

**BlissNLvjy:** ::blinks:: Nadiya? Oh yes, Raf, we need to look for Nadiya, she disappeared after the tree appeared.

**Mordred Anubis:** Kyosti, where is she?

**Sherakai:** Here ::He elbowed Raf, still holding the wine glass out to him::

**Elenari Tuurchi:** Yours:: her hand slides into Lorens::

**GryPheonix:** What? ::glancing to Bliss::

**kylaradevaria:** She is safe.

**Soledaad Rourke:** ::turning she starts again for the doors to the courtyrad with Passea in her arms::

**LorenSIntstrider:** ::He was still short his longtooth dagger, but had been uncertain if she referred to him or not.::

**Mordred Anubis:** Where?

**Raphael Dolek:** Nadiya? Disappeared? ::He took the glass from Kai automatically.::

**LorenSIntstrider:** :: a gentle squeeze given her hand as she slipped it so, calloused fingerpads rubbing the center of her palm briefly ::

**Ciara Dierdre:** I understand, sister. ::she then goes to get her cloak from the staff and wraps it about Kylara::

**kylaradevaria:** In Arboria...where do you think?

**Elenari Tuurchi:** Baron? :: her voice grates on Kai;s nerves just a bit::If you would Weaponsmaster.

**Raphael Dolek:** What about Kendra? Anyone else?

**Mik Gideonn:** And Dante. He was talking with her shortly before that but I haven't seen either of them since.

**kylaradevaria:** ::looks up at Ciara, really confused now::

**GryPheonix:** Got something of hers? I can try and track it... dunno how good it'll work now but.

**Mordred Anubis:** You're supposed to be watching her.

**theashmaker:** ::the eyes seemed to glare through the fire burning in the fireplace and the man on the other side muttered to himself:: What demon have you awakened there in \*my\* palace, Steward?

**Sherakai:** ::He took a hefty drink of his own wine, then turned back to Elenari:: Yes, Ambassador?

**Elenari Tuurchi:** :Ken has puffed for good....maybe, she is a pest::

**GryPheonix:** (Ch'iki) I think there won't be a trail to find.

**BlissNLvjy:** I was getting to Dante. ::ear against the tree:: Bob didn't smush them.

**kylaradevaria:** I don't know how I came to be here.

**Elenari Tuurchi:** His weapons:: motions to Loren::

**Avraham Lave:** ::arently she's here not by choice::

**Celes Dunhold:** ::slides up to Raf:: I'm getting changed and starting search and security details.

**Mordred Anubis:** ::Nod to Lave::

**Elenari Tuurchi:** He is my escort::her chest pushes out::

**passeadordinoche:** ::allows herself to be taken wherever it is Soledaad deems necessary for the moment::

**niqueliece:** @:: thoughtfully gazing down at the disturbed ground, pondering things ::

**Sherakai:** As soon as he leaves ::he eyed the poofing chest and one inky brow crept upward:: Did Tequin leave?

**Raphael Dolek:** Okay, Celes.

**Avraham Lave:** ::from what's going on in here I'd say whatever making these.....things appear and people disappear. made her appear her as well::

**Soledaad Rourke:** ::and into her waiting carriage Soledaad carries Passea::

**GryPheonix:** (Ch'iki)Yes.

**kylaradevaria:** Is that all you care about? ::to Mordred::

**LorenSIntstrider:** ::The hunter raised an eyebrow at the not-so-non-sequitor of 'kai's.::

**BlissNLvjy:** Marched out of here with his nose so high in the air that he'd drown in a rainstorm.

**MissAmorina:** ::Taking a glass from one of the servants, she took a long drink of it, her gaze scanning over those who remained - and the tree::

**GryPheonix:** (Ch'iki)Yes. ::to Kai::

**kylaradevaria:** ::her voice quieter:: There was a time when you cared for me. It would seem that time has passed.

**LorenSIntstrider:** Better I be unarmed and she be dead, then?

**Elenari Tuurchi:** His Grace did leave and I do not think his Grace will approve if his Ambassador is left with a defenseless escort.

**Celes Dunhold:** ::she vanished into the interior of the keep, soon folks would see squads of guards moving through the keep, well armed, some carrying nets::

**GryPheonix:** (Ch'iki) There is no shame in being unarmed.

**Mordred Anubis:** I don't have time for this... I have others to make sure they are safe as well. ::Growled::

**LorenSIntstrider:** ::He shook his head slightly in derision::

**kylaradevaria:** I wish you only happiness, Mordred. What else do you wish of me? You have changed.

**Raphael Dolek:** Lady Ambassador.

**Sherakai:** ::He gestured to the very visible guards:: I'd be happy to assign one of my men to keep an eye out. One would think you'd be able to keep track of your Blades.

**LorenSIntstrider:** :: He regarded Ch'iki :: No shame ... truth. But tis makes the duty harder when I must use but bare limbs tae protect.

**Raphael Dolek:** ::He spoke to Elenari with some restraint::

**Avraham Lave:** ::uhh can we save this spat for when things a are a little normal?::

**Ciara Dierdre:** ::she just listens in silence waiting to see what Kylara needs as she was told::

**Elenari Tuurchi:** One of your guards will not do Baron::She counters::

**MissAmorina:** *Oh blast...::suddenly remembering something, she handed her wine back to the servant she had gotten from and made her way towards the main hall to leave::*

**kylaradevaria:** It was not I who broke my vows. ::quietly spoken::

**GryPheonix:** I must apologize perhaps::to Loren:: Ch'iki... they hold their Blades in special regard. Like i do my cane.

**Sherakai:** One has to make do in a pinch. If you'll excuse me, I seem to have something of a mess to tend to. ::Giving her a slight bow, he turned and made his way toward a pair of guards near the door::

**Raphael Dolek:** Feel free to leave then, Miss Tuurchi. ::He walked away::

**GryPheonix:** (Ch'iki)fine. ::casually::

**kylaradevaria:** You are free to do as you wish now. Leave me in peace.

**niqueliece:** @:: pattering outside, studying something ::

**Mordred Anubis:** It is what you wanted.. now go make sure Kyosti is safe ! ::Turns with a growl and moves for the door::

**Ciara Dierdre:** For some, Avram, things are never what others would call normal.

**kylaradevaria:** It is not!

**Mik Gideonn:** ::Mik straightened up, away from that feeling of home, the oldness of the tree:: Steward, if I may suggest...

**kylaradevaria:** It is what you wanted.

**Elenari Tuurchi:** ::raises a brow:: SO they wish to make this an issue.

**Raphael Dolek:** ::He turned to Mik:: Yes?

**LorenSIntstrider:** ::He paused when apology was mentioned. ::Tae offend, I dae be sure wa' not thy intent. Sae apology is nae needful tae clear the way betwixt us.

**Mik Gideonn:** *No one should leave until we have an idea of who may be missing and who's ... extra.*

**Avraham Lave:** \*siiigh\* ::guess so::

**Mordred Anubis:** ::He had children, men, Kendra, others friends and one near his age to find and ensure their safety::

**Elenari Tuurchi:** ::She raises her arms and the Oak in the middle of the room starts to grow::

**BlissNLvjy:** ::would very much like to sink into the tree and embrace the feeling of the ancient and home::

**LorenSIntstrider:** In simples, dae but return tha' which is needful of mae duty tae me, and th' matter sha' be clear as waters tae th' ocean.

**kylaradevaria:** ::she lays her head in her hands and starts to cry::

**Mik Gideonn:** *Have the guards check the lists as guests are leaving perhaps?*

**Avraham Lave:** ::or dysfunctional homelife a normal state of affairs::

**Avraham Lave:** ::kinda familiar with that m'self::

**Mordred Anubis:** ::Pushes out and for a horse to start checking on people::

**Raphael Dolek:** Good thoughts. I'll go make sure, they know.

**GryPheonix:** ::nods:: Indeed.

**Ciara Dierdre:** Like mine. ::a bit of wink to Avram as she hands Kylara her handkerchief::

**BlissNLvjy:** And we'll need to set up rooms for our unexpected guests, like Kylara here.

**Avraham Lave:** ::agreed::

**kylaradevaria:** ::taking the handkerchief, she blows her nose, gently of course::

**theashmaker:** ::the fire in the fireplace roared suddenly then settled down, any who had noticed the eyes in the fire would see they were now gone::

**kylaradevaria:** ::hearing her name again:: I have to go home.

**Raphael Dolek:** ::The tree, with it's limited space and earth, will soon start to die as it grows::

**Sherakai:** ::And Dhemi thought things at Streytan were a little crazy... He gave the fire a critical look as he passed::  
theashmaker has left this chat.

**Avraham Lave:** ::well...home being 'Arboria' I take it?::

**Raphael Dolek:** Kylara? ::Returning::

**kylaradevaria:** ::quietly:: Aye.

**Elenari Tuurchi:** Humans:huffs and turns her attention to Loren again as the Oak branches out:: They will regret this!

**XRemembranceX:** ::*Maybe there was a tree growing in the parlor in*

**Streylan too.::**

**kylaradevaria:** ::to both Avraham and Raph, with a glance between them::

**Mik Gideonn:** :he turned to Bliss:: I'm going to check in with the guards once they've been informed.

**Avraham Lave:** ::ahhh the new steward I take it?::

**LorenSIntstrider:** ::He raised an eyebrow. ::Ye ken I be human, aye?::

**Mik Gideonn:** I'd like to rush off and try to find Nadiya, but she may just be in another room in the Keep, or she may be ... elsewhere. ::Kylara had obviously been brought from afar off::

**LorenSIntstrider:** ::He followed the question with a wry grin.::

**Elenari Tuurchi:** ::yes and the towers are getting a new floor::

**Sherakai:** Wilson! ::He found his able second in the crowd and gave him orders to lock down the Palace until the whole bloody thing could be searched. It was going to be a long night::

**BlissNLvjy:** ::room would and could be made for the tree to continue but that was a later worry:: That was my thought, Mik.

**Elenari Tuurchi:** You do not upset me Loren:: She holds out her hand:: ever.

**BlissNLvjy:** I should get home and make sure nothing big and nasty has popped in at the academy or at home.

**Avraham Lave:** ::good to meet ya sir::

**GryPheonix:** ::walked over to the tree, feeling it with his ungloved hand::Interesting.

**LorenSIntstrider:** ::He smiled, took her hand and raised it to kiss the back of it, then lowered it again, though not releasing it.::

**GryPheonix:** (Ch'iki)What?

**niqueliece:** @:: still studying something on the ground as she moves quietly around in the shadows, unnoticed ::

**BlissNLvjy:** Well, once we are allowed to leave. ::couldn't help but grin::

**Avraham Lave:** ::sir. do ya have a room for our friend kylara::

**GryPheonix:** ::half-smile::This came from not too far from my mum's home.

**Elenari Tuurchi:** Unlike the Weaponsmaster, you are concerned with my well-being and I am forever thankful for it.

**kylaradevaria:** ::she has not yet introduced herself, but figures everyone probably knows who she is now that she and Mordred have had words::

**Ciara Dierdre:** As long as your child is safe, Lady, a night's rest would do you much good. ::looking to Kylara::

**Avraham Lave:** ::aparently she just pooped in a long way from home::

**GryPheonix:** (Ch'iki)The tree?

**Mik Gideonn:** I'll stay until I know we're both on the Steward's lists.

**kylaradevaria:** ::looking to Ciara:: She is safe.

**GryPheonix:** Yeah...well... close enough but still far.

**kylaradevaria:** I would know if she were not.

**GryPheonix:** (Ch'iki)You make no sense.

**BlissNLvjy:** And we can't get you to a working portal until at least morning, Kylara.

**Mik Gideonn:** ::He chuckled with Bliss:: You make a good point.

**Elenari Tuurchi:** ::The oak in question lowers its branches and caresses Bliss::

**Raphael Dolek:** Miss Kylara. One of the staff can set you up in a room for the night. We can sort this out in the morning.

**LorenSIntstrider:** ::He shook his head slightly. ::Now, I dinnae go so far as tha', Elenari ... I s'pect he is concerned ... in his own oddly backward sort o' manner.::

**LorenSIntstrider:** ::A bit of an impish smile turned the corners of his weatherworn lips.::

**kylaradevaria:** Aye, thank you.. ::at a loss for a name, as she looks to Raph:: I'm sorry. I don't believe we've met.

**Elenari Tuurchi:** ::slides both hands into his:: Is he?

**BlissNLvjy:** I'll be here, tree hugging and advising. So you won't lose me.

**Raphael Dolek:** I'm Raphael Dolek. And I guess my first official party was a flop.

**Mik Gideonn:** ::He kissed Bliss' temple:: Best not.

**LorenSIntstrider:** ::He nodded. ::Mmm, I dae think 'e be. But carry it no so well to show.:: He took a few steps back, holding her hands, beginning a simple peasant dance - aye, yes, amidst the chaos and confusion

**GryPheonix:** ::walked over to Raphael:: If you need any help, I can scout around the castle, see if anything else is off.

**BlissNLvjy:** It was a great party, Raf. Nobody died.

**Elenari Tuurchi:** ::the Oak likes Bliss, maybe she will leave the sheep man, as branches slide over Bliss's back::

**kylaradevaria:** Oh... ::pausing, unsure what to say:: It was certainly not boring.

**Ciara Dierdre:** ::she looks the Steward:: I wouldn't say that.

**GryPheonix:** She speaks the truth. ::nodding to Bliss::

**Mik Gideonn:** ::He chuckled, overhearing Raf, now there was a political tag line!::

**Elenari Tuurchi:** ::Her head falls back and she laughs out loud and lets him lead into the dance::

**LorenSIntstrider:** Tae be an affair I shan't soon forget, guid sir,:: Loren commented in passing to the Steward.

**kylaradevaria:** ::glances to the group, recognizing some, but not knowing others::

**Avraham Lave:** ::hey look at bliss and the tree::

**Raphael Dolek:** No. Boring it wasn't. ::He chuckled::

**Avraham Lave:** :::slight smile slides across his face:::

**GryPheonix:** (Ch'iki)The drake may return.

**Mik Gideonn:** ::He moved off to help the guards with the lists, anxious to be sure no one who was missing was missing for good::

**Elenari Tuurchi:** ::her arm slides up his as he leads her::

**Raphael Dolek:** You were given something to drink? Eat?

**Sherakai:** Somebody tell those musicians to make themselves useful ::he ordered another passing guard.: Might as well earn their pay...

**kylaradevaria:** Aye, a bit. I'll be fine. Thank you.

**Raphael Dolek:** ::As soon as they all crawled out of the local closet::

**LorenSIntstrider:** ::It is a simple series of steps, this particular dance, and thankfully one of the less energetic ones, for much energy had been spent in the panic this eve ::

**Avraham Lave:** ::she had some juice and and a few pieces of meat mr. dolek::

**kylaradevaria:** ::wouldn't mind a cup of tea, but is too polite to ask::

**Raphael Dolek:** I'll leave you to help her out. Call me if you need anything.

**Avraham Lave:** ::but can certainly use more::

**Elenari Tuurchi:** ::She did not care, and melted into his arms::

**Avraham Lave:** ::yes sir::

**Raphael Dolek:** Bliss! ::He moved towards her:: You have a new addition to your job.

**Elenari Tuurchi:** Say .. I did not know you could dance so well.

**BlissNLvjy:** ::looks up from her tree hugging::: Hmmm? More paperwork?

**Raphael Dolek:** You are our official Keeper of Bob.

**Ciara Dierdre:** ::she leans to Kylara:: (s) If you require anything, you have but to ask.

**kylaradevaria:** ::a questioning glance up at Ciara:: Do you know me?

**Avraham Lave:** ::to ciara::: ::perhaps a cup of tea and some fruit and meat?::

**niquiece:** @:: absently glad she wore her dress boots, moving around quietly, studying the ground from the shadows ::

**BlissNLvjy:** I'll remind you of that when I have to remodel to keep Bob alive and well.

**kylaradevaria:** A cup of tea would be well, aye.

**Ciara Dierdre:** Only by your family ties to Lord Mordred, Lady

**Avraham Lave:** ::looks like she could definetly use some:::

**kylaradevaria:** I am no lady.

**Raphael Dolek:** Trust me. I don't imagine I'll forget.

**Raphael Dolek:** Has anyone seen Ami?

**Ciara Dierdre:** I am Ciara of the Sisterhood in Balthazor.

**LorenSIntstrider:** :: he gave a sort of rumbly chest laugh ::: No ... so well, but I dae know a few steps.

**BlissNLvjy:** Maybe, eventually, we can get Tequin to see if he can remove the tree to somewhere else.

**Sherakai:** ::Eventually, he made his way back to the Steward's side. He looked a little

worse for the wear and his coppery complexion had taken on a distinctly grayish hue::

**Ciara Dierdre:** ::she goes to get Kylara her tea::

**kylaradevaria:** ::arches a brow at Ciara's reply::

**Elenari Tuurchi:** Do you now :: leans close to him and kisses his cheek::

**Elenari Tuurchi:** ::this much he did deserve after tonight::

**Raphael Dolek:** You need to sit down and eat something, Kai.

**kylaradevaria:** ::unaccustomed to being waited on::

**LorenSIntstrider:** ::He raised an eyebrow, her initiative almost causing him to throw a step ... and he returned the little electric jolt in kind, kissing her cheek opposite ::

**Ciara Dierdre:** ::it's few moments, but she brings the tea back and offers it to Kylara::

**kylaradevaria:** Thank you, Ciara. ::taking the tea gratefully::

**Elenari Tuurchi:** :She blushes, deep red, fits with her dress::

**Ciara Dierdre:** You are most welcome.

**kylaradevaria:** You need not make a fuss.

**LorenSIntstrider:** Mmmm, so long and I hae not even told ye how beautiful y' look t'night...

**Ciara Dierdre:** It is no trouble.

**Sherakai:** I will. Barring any other surprises, ::he slanted a suspicious look at Elenari:: we should be able to start letting folks go shortly.

**BlissNLvjy:** ::leans her back against the tree, easier to look about this way:: Wonder if the Crosswinds is still with us.

**kylaradevaria:** ::anyone who knows her would know she does not appear to be her "normal" self::

**kylaradevaria:** ::taking a small sip of the tea, grateful for its warmth::

**Elenari Tuurchi:** Loren:: does she look like the color of apple blossoms yet?::

**kylaradevaria:** What interest do you have in me, Ciara? ::sensing there is more to this than meets the eye::

**Avraham Lave:** ::so.....you are from Arboria?::

**LorenSIntstrider:** she's passed apples into cherries, but she is still beautiful for all of it :: Aye?

**Raphael Dolek:** ::As if appearing Drakes and ancient trees appeared every day, the dance floor was becoming crowded with dancing couples::

**Avraham Lave:** ::sorry::

**Raphael Dolek:** Have you seen Kendra or Ami?

**Avraham Lave:** ::nto wishing to interrupt::

**kylaradevaria:** ::for those who haven't met her, she is obviously elvish with long blond hair and brown eyes::

**Sherakai:** Not since before the, ah... tree.

**Raphael Dolek:** I don't see Niqui either.

**Elenari Tuurchi:** ::takes in a deep breath of him and his scent:: Do not end this dance.

**Ciara Dierdre:** My sister, Soledaad, is the new Ambassador to Dreven, she asked that I see to what you need.

**niqueliece:** @:: finds a spot to sit in the shadows, gazing up at the stars ::

**kylaradevaria:** ::arches a brow at Ciara's response:: Oh?

**Avraham Lave:** ::soledaad. I've met her. quite a lady::

**kylaradevaria:** Why would she do that?

**LorenSIntstrider:** ::His lips quirked into a funny little smile. ::Ye will, in time, grow tired .. but for th' nonce, I sha' fill yer desire.::

**kylaradevaria:** I am no longer...mated to Mordred. ::assuming any interest in her is only because of him::

**Sherakai:** I saw her outside before I came in. I'll go look for her there again.

**Raphael Dolek:** ::He stopped a few guards to have them look for the ladies in question.::

**BlissNLvjy:** Ami was here, she went looking for Ken who ran out just before the tree appeared.

**Raphael Dolek:** Eat something first.

**niqueliece:** @:: after a bit, stands, wanders off through the shadows in the general direction of home perhaps ::

**Elenari Tuurchi:** :laughs softly::Please do, it does seem to annoy the Baron.

**Raphael Dolek:** Thank you, Bliss.

**Ciara Dierdre:** ::she nods:: I think she just wished to show you that the hospitality of our people has no bearing on who you are or are not mated to.

**kylaradevaria:** ::the tea warming her and strengthening her a bit::

**LorenSIntstrider:** ::He gave a deep rumble of a laugh, and led her into the next dance he knew; this one a bit more uptempo, but still fairly close.::

**kylaradevaria:** I appreciate that.

**Elenari Tuurchi:** ::Her right arm slide over his shoulder and she kept up with his steps::

**kylaradevaria:** My...former....mate ::unsure what to call him really:: ...has changed.

**BlissNLvjy:** ::she called a branch down, happy to have her abilities work at all, and sat upon that branch before it moved back in place. Geomantic way to climb a tree in a gown::

**Raphael Dolek:** I thought your wife was coming, Kai?

**Ciara Dierdre:** Some men do, Lady.

**kylaradevaria:** He was my....

**Raphael Dolek:** ::He was feeling a bit exhausted himself, and took a seat.::

**Sherakai:** ::He put one hand on Raf's shoulder and closed his eyes.::

**kylaradevaria:** ::bites her lip, uncertain if she wants to finish that thought::

**Sherakai:** ::And about fell over as Raf unexpectedly sat!::

**Avraham Lave:** ::depending on the individual...yes::

**BlissNLvjy:** You both should have something to eat and drink...and rest.

**Ciara Dierdre:** Are you hungry? ::leaning toward Kylara a bit::

**kylaradevaria:** ::she hangs her head in sadness::

**kylaradevaria:** ::quietly back to Ciara:: I am ill.

**Sherakai:** Mmm. Something must have happened to detain her. ::His voice was soft::

**LorenSIntstrider:** ::He gave her a little twist, but not releasing her wrist, causing her to spin away from him a moment, but then he curled in the other direction, so that he ended wound in her arm, next to her again ::

**Raphael Dolek:** Will you dance with me, Kai? All my partners seemed to have vanished. ::Amused::

**Sherakai:** ::Worry creased his brow and he looked around, chewing on his lip::

**Sherakai:** What? Dance?

**Ciara Dierdre:** ::she nods:: (s) Is there anything that... ::she looks over to Kai, she's only met him briefly, but he always seems very wise to her:: Baron Streylan, have you a moment, please?

**Avraham Lave:** ::thankyou::

**Elenari Tuurchi:** Loren :: she stops her steps and looks at him, still missing a heart beat or two::

**Avraham Lave:** ::me thinks you just saved him from a guy dance::

**Raphael Dolek:** ::chuckling, he moved away to find out if anyone found anyone::

**Sherakai:** Keep one open for me ::He squeezed Raf's shoulder and moved off to see of what service he could be::

**Ciara Dierdre:** ::she stifles a giggle at Avram's comment::

**LorenSIntstrider:** ::He tilted his head a bit at her calling of his name. :: Da?

**Avraham Lave:** ::oyy:: sigh

**Avraham Lave:** :::shakes his head:::

**kylaradevaria:** ::she glances up, a little startled, not wanting to be any trouble to anyone:: Nay, Ciara..I'm fine, really.

**Raphael Dolek:** ::A word or two with a guard, and he headed out the front door, to an arguing Ami::

**Elenari Tuurchi:** Another dance:: She drew close to him::

**Ciara Dierdre:** ::carefully tucking the cloak around Kylara:: Lady, the worst answer he can give is that he knows no answer.

**MissAmorina:** ::*Very frustrated, she was doing her best to convince the gaurd to let her leave.*::

**Sherakai:** Ladies ::He didn't quite trust himself to bow, so he only nodded. His silvery gaze examined Ciara curiously, then shifted to Kylara. Recognition flickered in his eyes::

**BlissNLvjy:** ::and she would commune with Bob until she could go home to check on things::

**Raphael Dolek:** @ Ami?

**Avraham Lave:** :: evenin' baron::

**kylaradevaria:** ::she met his gaze, too weary to move to her feet:: Kai.

**LorenSIntstrider:** :: He was glad he hadn't been hunting earlier in the day ... tis seems she would dance the night into morning, given the chance ... not that he had any objection ::

**Sherakai:** Hello, Avram.

**MissAmorina:** @::*She blinked and looked over at Dolek:: Captain Do- I mean..Steward Dolek. Are we able to go yet?*

**Ciara Dierdre:** Forgive me, I don't think we have been formally introduced. ::she offers a hand to Kai:: I am Ciara of the Sisterhood. Soledaad is my sister.

**Sherakai:** ::His attention was still on Kylara, and a small smile worked its way across his mouth:: I would say that it's good to see you, but under the circumstances...

**Raphael Dolek:** @ No dance then huh?

**Elenari Tuurchi:** ::and she would, unless he came up with a more creative way to change her mind::

**kylaradevaria:** Aye, forgive my attire.

**Sherakai:** Ah ::He turned to accept Ciara's hand and made a cautious bow over it before releasing it:: Kai dan Rikash. What can I do for you?

**Raphael Dolek:** @ They're allowed to go. ::He spoke to the guards::

**MissAmorina:** *I...umm...::she looked to the doors, then back to Dolek, undecided:: Somebody's waiting for me. ::apologetically::*

**Raphael Dolek:** @ I'm sorry you didn't enjoy yourself.

**Raphael Dolek:** @ Did you find Kendra?

**Ciara Dierdre:** Lady Kylara is ill, Sir, I know nothing for her comfort or relief. You have always seemed wise when I have heard you speaking, I thought you might know how to assist her.

**MissAmorina:** @ *Oh...I did. It was certainly an..interesting..evening. ::chuckled a bit knowing she wasn't very believable::*

**MissAmorina:** @::*Then shook her head:: Somebody said she left just after the tree appeared.*

**Raphael Dolek:** @ But not vanished, right?

**Avraham Lave:** ::apparently whatever happened here transported her from her home directly here::

**kylaradevaria:** ::she is at a total loss for words and merely bows her head::

**LorenSIntstrider:** ::He murmured quietly; let fingertips brush hers, then moved into a third dance. This one was a little more difficult - and perhaps a bit more risqué; it was one he'd learned on a Beltane night ::

**Sherakai:** I hope I don't disappoint your confidence. ::He turned back to Kylara as Avram spoke. He looked at her for a moment, then pulled a chair over and sat down in front of her, taking her hand in his::

**MissAmorina:** @::*Shook her head again:: No. Avraham said she left.*

**Sherakai:** Can you tell me what seems to be the trouble? Besides a little dislocation?

**kylaradevaria:** ::she looks up at Kai, eyes filling with tears, she at least knows and trusts him, but it's been a long time::

**Elenari Tuurchi:** ::Her fingers slide through his hair as the dance chances again, becomes faster and more intimate::

**kylaradevaria:** I... Mordred... We... ::stammering::

**Raphael Dolek:** @ ::Even though it was cold out, beads of sweat formed on his brow:: Do take care then. And travel safely.

**Ciara Dierdre:** ::she smiles to Kai and steps back::

**MissAmorina:** @::*She noticed:: You don't look well...*

**Raphael Dolek:** @ Just a long night, I suspect. ::With a nod, he headed back inside, and straight for a chair to sit in::

**Sherakai:** ::His free hand lifted and he pressed a finger gently to her lips, recognition in his eyes::

**kylaradevaria:** ::unsure just how to tell him that her Soul-Chosen has rejected her, she falters::

**MissAmorina:** @::*She watched him a moment, then turned and hurried on her way::*

**Elenari Tuurchi:** ::and she laughs as the dance speeds up:

**Sherakai:** Do you mind if I ... exercise a little magic? ::he asked in a voice meant for her ears alone::

**kylaradevaria:** ::shakes her head gently, trusting him::

**Ciara Dierdre:** ::she was watching the dancing get underway but not too far from Kylara in case she is needed::

**Sherakai:** ::His eyes went out of focus as he looked not quite at her, but into her::

**Avraham Lave:** ::**moves away a little to allow kylara and kai some privacy:::**

**LorenSIntstrider:** ::He grinned ... arm close and around back, dipping her back so her hair brushed the floor for a moment, then drew her up to her feet, even a bit up onto her toes; and kissed her then, full and directly until gravity drew her shorter frame down and away ....::

**kylaradevaria:** ::she meets his gaze, trusting him completely and opening herself to him::

**Raphael Dolek:** ::Perhaps some tea would help. He asked a servant for a cup::

**Elenari Tuurchi:** ::laughs as she gets turned and dipped in this dance::

**kylaradevaria:** ::she feels a sensation of warmth, rather calming::

**Sherakai:** ::His fingers tightened slightly on hers, and after several moments, he blinked and looked at her again. His face wore an expression of sad sympathy:: I don't know ::he murmured:: I think I can help. Soon.

**Elenari Tuurchi:** ::Her eyes opened wide and she tasted him on her lips and the dance stopped while she held him tight::

**kylaradevaria:** Can you? ::a glimmer of hope in her eyes;

**Sherakai:** I am willing to try if you are, my friend. ::A look of chagrin flitted across his

face.: I'm afraid I can't tonight, but I can perhaps ease your distress a little.

**Raphael Dolek:** ::Drinking the tea helped some, but he couldn't seem to get warm::

**kylaradevaria:** ::she nods in agreement:: I understand.

**Elenari Tuurchi:** ::And her head come up for one more taste::

**Ciara Dierdre:** ::she glances over her shoulder to Kylara and Kai then she looks around:: (s) More voices than they know can be heard here.

**LorenSIntstrider:** ::He certainly would not refuse her thus; hands shifted to support her waist as she leaned up to meet him again.::

**Elenari Tuurchi:** ::Her hands rested on his shoulders and she no longer cared about the music or who was about to watch,her lips meet his and that was all that mattered to her at the moment::

**Raphael Dolek:** ::A guard came and whispered something to him. He nodded and rose to deal with another problem.::

**Sherakai:** ::He touched his fingers lightly to her brow, and again a sense of warmth enveloped her. After a moment, it was followed by a feeling of relief, gentle as swansdown::

**LorenSIntstrider:** ::After a bit, he broke the kiss, meeting her gaze, then flicking an eyebrow; eyes moving from side to side. ::Hrm ... methinks we shall attract attention.

**Elenari Tuurchi:** I think I do not care:: breathless::

**LorenSIntstrider:** Personally, I dinnae mind,:: he commented with a wry smile.::

**Elenari Tuurchi:** I think we should leave :: Holds on to him::

**kylaradevaria:** ::she takes a slow breath, the warmth comforting and relaxing, her eyes drift closed::

**Elenari Tuurchi:** We should dance elsewhere::smiles up at him::

**Sherakai:** I wouldn't go to sleep right here if I were you ::he teased quietly. There was a tired look to his strange eyes, and his gray tone had deepened.::

**LorenSIntstrider:** ::He nodded slightly, and slipped an arm in one of hers. ::Da vhet ... though someplace warmer, hopeful.

**kylaradevaria:** ::she breathed another sigh and opened her eyes, a small smile on her lips:: Thank you, Kai.

**Elenari Tuurchi:** I am sure you will find one :: smiles at him::

**kylaradevaria:** ::she leaned close and brushed a kiss across his cheek::

**Sherakai:** I am pleased to be able to be of some assistance, Kylara. Fates, it's been a long time... ::He touched her cheek lightly, remembering::

**Avraham Lave:** ::to kai::: ::I think we should help her to her room. mr. dolek has assured her of one here::

**Avraham Lave:** ::and she doe appear to be in much need of rest::

**kylaradevaria:** Aye, too long.

**Sherakai:** Yes ::he nodded:: I think some rest is in order. I don't think you'll have any trouble sleeping tonight. I'll be about. If you have need of me, send for me?

**Avraham Lave: does**

**kylaradevaria:** ::nods to him:: I will. Thank you.

**Ciara Dierdre:** ::seeing Kai and Kylara have apparently concluded whatever it was he was trying, she goes back to Kylara's side::

**Sherakai:** ::He looked her over and a crooked smile touched his mouth:: I'll see that some appropriate clothing is brought to you, too.

**Avraham Lave: ::ah miss ciara::**

**LorenSIntstrider:** ::He guided her toward the way out, reclaiming finally his longtooth dagger. ::Tae verily sae, tha' thi' night sha' be remembered for t' start and th' ends. Tae well guid tae hae been 'ere this eve.

**Avraham Lave: ::we were just about to help to a room for some much needed rest::**

**kylaradevaria:** ::smiles, almost like her old self:: I would appreciate that.

**Ciara Dierdre:** Avram, it has been good to see you again despite the unusual circumstances. ::she smiles warmly::

**Elenari Tuurchi:** ::nods::Aye

**Avraham Lave: ::likewise ma'am::**

**Elenari Tuurchi:** Shall we?::motions towards the door::

**LorenSIntstrider:** ::He nodded:: Da vhet.

**kylaradevaria:** ::standing slowly, she takes Avram's arm::

**Avraham Lave: ::kai. good seeing you again also. even under these, rather unusual circumstances::**

**Elenari Tuurchi:** ::And the guard better hand over his weapons::

**Sherakai:** ::He drew in a breath and forced himself to his feet:: It's been a memorable night, don't you think?

**Ciara Dierdre:** If there is anything I or my sister can do to help you, please let us know. ::she bows her head politely to Kylara::

**Avraham Lave: ::indeed::**

**kylaradevaria:** ::returns Ciara's nod:: Well met, Ciara.

**Avraham Lave: ::definelty feel like I took one step beyond the night gallery into the outer limits of the twilight zone::**

**kylaradevaria:** I thank you for your help.

**Sherakai:** ::The guard has been waiting on pins and needles for the opportunity of returning Loren's blade -- and getting an up-close look at the increasingly notorious Arborian Ambassador...::

**Ciara Dierdre:** You are most welcome.

**Avraham Lave: ::long smirk spreads across his face::**

**Ciara Dierdre:** ::she looks to Kai:: I thank you, Sir. It seems my faith was not misplaced.

**Sherakai:** ::He offered her a wan smile:: I'm glad to be of help.

**kylaradevaria:** ::looks to Avraham, though she knows her way about as she once lived here long ago:: I think I shall retire now.

**Sherakai:** ::He gestured another guard over to explain the room situation -- Such a useful power! -- and the woman nodded, then turned to assist Kylara::

**Avraham Lave:** ::as you wish::

**LorenSIntstrider:** ::The woodsman reclaimed the blade, and shook his head slightly in amusement:: A tale ter tell y' grandchildren, no doubt, ::he murmured as the guard craned his neck to get his good look at the Ambassador. He then led her out with him ::

**Ciara Dierdre:** Dream peacefully.

**Elenari Tuurchi:** ::and out she goes::

**GryPheonix:** ::helping himself in a corner to some food and drink for what seems like hours::

**Raphael Dolek:** ::While a few guests seemed to plan on making a night of it, others were slowly drifting home::

**kylaradevaria:** You, also. ::to Ciara, a nod to the others and she makes her way to her room, assisted by the woman::

**Sherakai:** You are kind ::he observed, looking at Ciara::

**Avraham Lave:** ::may peace be ever with you as you ride kylara::

**kylaradevaria:** To you as well, Avram. ::and she departs::

**Ciara Dierdre:** ::she looks up to Kai:: I have spoken to spirits since I was very young that have things undone. I did not wish the lady to be one of them. ::her tone is gentle::

**Sherakai:** ::He looked at her steadily for a moment, then slowly nodded:: I thought I felt ... something.

**GryPheonix:** Hmm? ::glancing in the direction of Kai and Ciara::

**GryPheonix:** (Ch'iki) How predictable. ::glancing at Shad::

**Ciara Dierdre:** The events this evening have been quite an experience. So many voices wanting answers and I have none to give them.

**GryPheonix:** That reminds me, I hope things aren't too crazy in Arboria.

**Sherakai:** ::He looked around the room. The guards were busily carrying out their tasks, and he knew Wilson would find him if he was needed. He sank back into the chair:: I'm sorry, but I need to sit.

**Avraham Lave:** ::it is difficult to answer, when One does not know the question of this evening::

**Ciara Dierdre:** Helping others can be draining on ourselves. Can get you anything? ::she looks to Kai::

**Sherakai:** Would you mind? ::he looked almost childishly hopeful::

**GryPheonix:** ::blinked, glancing at Ciara::

**Ciara Dierdre:** I don't mind at all. ::she goes to get some tea and a bit of food for Kai::

**Ciara Dierdre:** ::she returns with a plate and a mug of tea for Kai::

**GryPheonix:** (Ch'iki)This is...uncomfortable. ::darkly to Shad::

**GryPheonix:** Huh? Oh.. uh..yes.

**Ciara Dierdre:** I take it you are well acquainted with Lady Kylara?

**Sherakai:** Thank you ::he smiled, accepting the food:: We met a long time ago.

**GryPheonix:** But you do look quite good in it.

**GryPheonix:** (Ch'iki)... ::shrugged slightly, glancing back over the guards away from Shad::...thanks. ::softly::

**Ciara Dierdre:** I just met her, but her name is known at home.

**GryPheonix:** what did I just hear? ::mischievously::

**Sherakai:** Is it?

**GryPheonix:** (Ch'iki)We'll have to make sure you're not losing your edge. ::dryly to Shad::

**Avraham Lave:** ::I fear I must take my leave and head on back::

**GryPheonix:** ..Lovely.

**Ciara Dierdre:** Her former mate, Lord Anubis, was once an Ambassador.

**GryPheonix:** (Ch'iki)No holding back.

**Avraham Lave:** ::ciara, kai. take care and may peace be ever with you as you ride::

**GryPheonix:** Just make sure i've got my last testament done before hand. y'know for next of kin. ::wryly::

**Avraham Lave:** :::tips his hat respectfully::

**Ciara Dierdre:** Safe travels, Avram.

**Sherakai:** ::He lifted his tea in a salute to Avram:: Take care of yourself.

**GryPheonix:** (Ch'iki)She'll appreciate it.

**Avraham Lave:** ::you too::

**GryPheonix:** I'm sure. Safe travels. ::to Avraham::

**Sherakai:** Ah, Anubis ::He made a face into his tea::

**GryPheonix:** ::finished his food and drink then walked over to Kai and Ciara::

**Avraham Lave:** :::::you also::

**Sherakai:** Will you people kindly find yourselves chairs to sit in? I'm going to get a kink in my neck.

**Avraham Lave:** :::slowly he makes his way to recover coat and gloves and heads out into the night::

**Ciara Dierdre:** Forgive my bluntness, but I do not understand how a seemingly gracious lady was bound to a mate that threatens lives over jests.

**GryPheonix:** ::comes with chairs::

**Sherakai:** Have you ever been in love, Ciara?

**GryPheonix:** ::offers one to kai::

**GryPheonix:** Oh wait.

**GryPheonix:** (Ch'iki) ::sighs::

**Ciara Dierdre:** Not yet, but I just passed my twentieth birthing day. I have been told those in love see things in their mates that others do not.

**GryPheonix:** ::takes a seat, with an extra chair::

**Sherakai:** I think one's enough ::he remarked drily to Shad -- from his chair::

**GryPheonix:** ::a soft smile wistfully upon hearing Ciara::

**Sherakai:** ::He lifted his tea in Ciara's direction and nodded:: People often wondered what I saw in my first wife. Loudly.

**GryPheonix:** (Ch'iki) Always acting before thinking. ::to Kai, glancing at Shad::

**GryPheonix:** Just the way I am sometimes. ::quietly::

**Ciara Dierdre:** ::she chuckles:: One only need see you dancing to have the answer. ::she takes the extra chair and nods her thanks to Shad::

**GryPheonix:** Welcome. ::beams::

**Sherakai:** ::He shook his head:: I was married once before.

**Ciara Dierdre:** ::she crosses her legs at the ankles and settles in to listen::

**Sherakai:** My first wife was something of a spitfire ::He smiled as he ate:: Some people found her a little ... abrasive.

**Ciara Dierdre:** ::she chuckles:: I suppose one might call my sister a spitfire. Our mother surely would have lectured her for cutting her gown. ::she looks toward the ceiling::

**Sherakai:** ::He thought about Soledaad for a moment:: I don't know her that well, but Rhia was very different.

**Ciara Dierdre:** What was she like? ::she tilts her head::

**Sherakai:** ::He worked on a pastry while he thought. It was the last one:: Very strong, determined. A little wild. Sometimes demanding. And I loved her with all my heart. ::His voice softened:: She gave me a son.

**Ciara Dierdre:** ::she smiles thoughtfully::

**Sherakai:** My best friend could hardly stand her, my niece was certain my wife hated her. Kendra tried to be nice to her ::he shook his head::

**Ciara Dierdre:** Some people simply do not not get along. I am learning this.

**Sherakai:** But the point is, we loved each other, whether anyone understood why or not. It just happens ::he said softly::

**Ciara Dierdre:** ::she nods:: I suppose some things only need to be understood by those involved.

**Sherakai:** So there you have it. ::He finished the tea, then sent plate and cup down on the floor:: I'm sorry it has gone so badly for Kylara. She never deserved this.

**Ciara Dierdre:** ::she brings her hand to her cheek:: I am glad you were able to ease her. She seems so lost.

**Sherakai:** She does. ::His lips pressed together, then he spoke very, very quietly:: I've been there. I hope I can help her...

**Ciara Dierdre:** I think you helped her already by letting her know she still has friends and isn't alone.

**Sherakai:** ::He nodded his head, then looked around again, his attention resting on the tree:: I kind of like it, don't you?

**Ciara Dierdre:** Yes, I did.

**Ciara Dierdre:** err. .do. ::she grins:: Miss Bliss seemed to be delighted by it.

**GryPheonix:** Reminds me of home. Or..one of my homes.

**Sherakai:** ::His smile was tired.: Not the kind of party surprise anyone will forget, eh?

**Ciara Dierdre:** ::she looks to Shad, who had been quiet.: Forgive my manners. I'm Ciara.

**GryPheonix:** Ah, pleasure to meet ya..my name is Shad Grey, and..

**GryPheonix:** (Ch'iki)I am Ch'iki. ::cutting off Shad.:

**Sherakai:** ::He gave a snort.: Funny how after something like this, it just feels like we should all know each other...

**GryPheonix:** ::chuckled.: Indeed.

**Ciara Dierdre:** I am pleased to meet you both.

**Ciara Dierdre:** Quite so. ::she nods to Kai.:

**Sherakai:** There haven't been any deaths. I like that.

**GryPheonix:** (Ch'iki) I relate to your sister.. this...:referring to the Arborian design dress she wore.: Is hard to move in.:

**GryPheonix:** (Ch'iki)::spoken to Ciara.:

**GryPheonix:** ::shrugs.:

**Sherakai:** But so good to look at. ::There was a flash of a cheeky smile, then it was gone.:

**Ciara Dierdre:** That is a good sign. ::to Kai then she looks to (Ch'iki): I am surprised that she didn't wear something leather.

**Sherakai:** I am, too. ::He pushed himself to his feet, one hand lifting to his head as though to keep it from tumbling off his shoulders.:

**GryPheonix:** (Ch'iki)::if she was capable of expressing embarrassment, now would've been a good time for it, but it was hard to tell.:

**GryPheonix:** I can't complain at all.

**Ciara Dierdre:** I'll let her know that she was admired. ::she grins a bit.:

**Sherakai:** You've no idea how much I'd like to sit here and chat, but I'm being beckoned at ::he nodded across the hall to a guard.:

**GryPheonix:** Definitel...:shivering for a moment when he caught a subtle glance from (Ch'iki):..ly.

**Sherakai:** ::That short rest had been a help, but it was going to be a long night.:

**Ciara Dierdre:** ::she gets to her feet.: I should go as well, I hope my horse is still where I left him.

**GryPheonix:** Aye..May the spirits guide you.

**Ciara Dierdre:** Travel safely.

**GryPheonix:** (Ch'iki)Always that again.

**Sherakai:** Please let us know if you find you need another ::he offered Ciara.:

**GryPheonix:** ::shrugs.: ..Safe travels then!

**GryPheonix:** (Ch'iki)Better.

**Sherakai:** Safe travels, all. ::With a nod, he made his way across the floor and back to work.:

**Ciara Dierdre:** I shall do that. ::she smiles:: I thank you. ::and out she goes::