

THE SLIBERBERG SENTINEL

— Veritas in Viscera —

MORNING EDITION | TUESDAY, GOLDLEAF 24, 501 | WEATHER: FAIR & COOL

WYRD EXPLOSIONS ROCK HIGHLANDS

Incidents at Grand Undertaking sites contaminate the local area, and magic levels are through the roof throughout the western Cantons.

BREAKING NEWS

Two days ago, three separate complexes located at Moss Run, Drachenfels Castle, and Paxton's Crossing associated with The Fairy Godmother's Grand Undertaking suffered severe accidents that resulted in multiple explosions at each site. Following the explosions, witnesses described towering pillars of rainbow light that stretched high into the sky.

Sources within the Royal Forestry Service and Ranger Corps of New Mountainheart and the Magsitarium have confirmed that there was a massive release of Wyrd Magic following the accidents, and efforts by the royal army to contain the leaks are ongoing.

The Magsitarium has confirmed aether readings in the western Cantos are at a level not before seen in the region. Sentinel reporters have received reports of at least a dozen Faerie trees common to New Mountainheart growing from seed to 9 feet tall around Paxton's Crossing in a single night, grain and vegetables growing to massive size in minutes



Figure 1: Sketch of the state of one of the sites.

, Innumerable reports of inanimate objects suddenly gaining life and dozens of other magical phenomena.

Reaction in the capital

The recent uproar in the western cantos has soured the general mood regarding the Grand Undertaking. Citizens are understandably worried about the potential for wyrd contamination from other sites. Many demand the withdrawal of New Mountainheart from the Grand Undertaking before further accidents can occur.

LATE DISPATCHES

Tuscarora Stuck in Loch Slanach

Slanach — The Clipper Tuscarora has grounded itself in Loch Slanach in an attempt to dock in Slanach Town and take on cargo. Work is underway to free the ship.

Battle outside Lyonguard

Lyonguard — Tensions in our northeastern neighbor have boiled over as a full-on battle between the Hawks and Dove factions erupted just outside the walls of Lyonesse capital. Civil war seems imminent.

Cardinal Regent and cardinals flee Lyonguard

Lyonguard — A fleet of church ships left Lyonguard in a hurry with the Cardinal Regent, the senior clerics of the church, and the most valuable of all the relics of Christomdom. Destination currently unknown.

Castle floats away

Hirschfeld — Castle Drachenfels and all within has floated away. Rescue and recovery effort ongoing. Residents of Hirschfeld reportedly glad to see miserly old Lord Wintsh go.

BATTLE FOR GOVERNOR OF UPPER TAY TURNING UGLY

The battle for the seat of Royal Governor of the Canton of Upper Tay turned dark yesterday Morning when a horde of zombies descended on the valley floor beneath Dun Rowan. As our reader must certainly know, Dun Rowan and the Mac Colla family have a dark reputation for villainy of all flavors, including, if rumors are to be believed, a former uncle of the current Castellan Ben Colla who was a necromancer. Lord Colla has denied that he or his family is responsible for the shambling dead, blaming the outbreak on the nearby wyrd contamination. Political insiders, however, point to Arthur Paxton SR as a potential culprit for the zombie outbreak. Ezuqirax the Dark, a necromancer of little ability, was seen exiting the Paxton residents by nosy neighbors of Paxton's Crossing. Said necromancer was last seen headed north out of town days before the outbreak. If true, this will be the last salvo in the feud between Lord Ben and Mr Paxton that has left the Upper Tay Canton one of only two cantons in the kingdom without a Royal Governor.

EDITORIAL: Are the Fools Leading the Blind?

By Powell Tupeeples, owner and chief editor

This summer has been a whirlwind of changes for our fair city and the nation, but one has to wonder to what end all these changes brought us. Sure, I cheered when the railroad came to Sliberberg. The SSG has led to a 3 fold drop in flour prices and 6 fold drop in the price of Reve's fish and wine, and I, for the first time, visited the Royaume des Rêves and drowned my bones in wine during a two-day stay at a vineyard. However, the construction of the elevated railroad line and Queen's Heart Station resulted in the demolition of more than 240 homes and businesses. Then there is the near-constant rumbling as the locomotive dragons and their trains pass the Sentinel Offices.

Likewise, I poured praise into my editorial when the Fairy Godmother announced her grand undertaking with promises of saving the world. But with the recent disaster out in the western cantons, one has to wonder: what are they doing out in the countryside? Whom are they saving the world from? Is this a classic example of the fool leading the blind man over the cliff? It has been 4 months since work started on the undertaking's massive machines in the countryside. Have there been any explanations as to what these "devices" do in this time? No, nada, forgetaboutit. Now, with wyrd spewing out from the earth and turning the soil pink, twisting the livestock in knots, and making the trees walk away, I think it is time to demand answers.

I have it on good authority that the royal family is heading to the Royaume des Rêves to stay with the Fairy Godmother this very week. I say we petition our king and queen to demand answers from the so-called Fairy Godmother, and if they find those answers lacking, send in the army to tear up the machines.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Runaway tools

"To the Editor — My lathe, my vice, and my toolbox ran out the door when the Fairy Godmother machine blew, and I have not seen them since. How am I going to fulfill all these musket orders for the royal army without my tools?"

— A Concerned Resident, Paxton's Crossing

Powell the liar

"To the Editor — You said that these revolutionary devices of the Fairy Godmother were foolproof and perfectly safe. My sister was a maid in Lord Wintsh castle, and she floated away with it."

— Miss Sally Grue

It's Too Much

"To the Editor — They canceled the wizard polo match between the Griffons and the Bears because of all the wyrd in the air and the Bears cannot get down from the mountains. I cannot refund the tickets. What am I going to do Friday night?"

— A Student, Coláiste na hArd-Draíocht

I Am NOT Caitríona Ó Ceallaigh

"To the Editor — You had no right to publish that gossip piece saying that I was Caitríona Ó Ceallaigh. Now I have a bunch of lovesick fools and social climbers following me around when I try to bring in bountyheads"

— Cassidy Rose, Guildmistress SBHU

SOCIETY, CULTURE & THE ARTS

ROYAL FAMILY TO VISIT ROYAUME DES RÊVES

Our beloved royal couple, accompanied by their young wards and their daughters, shall be taking a vacation to the court of the Fairy Godmother, Queen of Slanach, for eight days. They will depart from Queen Heart Station on Friday afternoon and return on the following Saturday.

KING'S MEN PRESENT TALES OF THE ERRANTRY

Starting Emberfall first, Elmwood Hall's own King's Men theatrical company will present a new musical play written by theater owner Panthor Silverhoof and based on his best-selling The Errantry of Fredrick Von Mountainheart. Ticket sales will begin later today.

Silver Moon Autumn Charity Ball

It's that time of year again; Tansy and the local Matrons of the Sororital Order of the Silver Moon have announced the date and Venue for this year's Silver Moon Ball. This year's ball will be hosted on the grounds of Castle Sliberberg on Emberfall 7th. Rumor has it our fair queen will be inducted as an honorary sister of the order.

SYMPHONY AT THE Coláiste Draoidheil

The Coláiste Draoidheil pan-school performing arts club shall be hosting a concert of magical music on the 28th. Qualdrian special espresso and alcoholic refreshments will be provided.

COMMERCIAL & PRODUCE MARKET REPORT

COMMODITY	UNIT	CURRENT PRICE	CHANGE
Wheat (Rêves Gold)	Bushel	78pf	+ 2pf
Cotton (Donagh-Ardian)	Bale	34m	- 15pf
Bronze (No. 1)	Ton	18m	+ 15pf

WANT ADVERTISEMENTS & MERCANTILE NOTICES

MAGIC MIKE'S ENLARGING POTIONS <i>Long lasting and perfectly safe.</i> Guaranteed to double, triple, quadruple size. Formulated by leading alchemists. 4 marks a Bottle at all potion shops.	FINE TAILORING & CLOTHING <i>Gents' Custom Wool Suits</i> Hand-stitched Jackets, Overcoats, and Top Hats made to order with finest imported fabrics. Inquire at 84 High St.	ELMWOOD HALL <i>Final Performance Tonight!</i> A Special Gala Staging of the Pirates of Penzance. Grand Chorus & Full Orchestra. Doors open at 7 o'clock. Tickets 2 marks.
WANTED: SAILORS <i>For a Voyage to Yamati</i> Stout-hearted young men accustomed to sea life. Must be able to tolerate constant singing in a falsetto voice. Apply at Wharf No. 4.	AUTOMATIC CAULDRONS FOR SALE <i>Magic-Driven Machinery</i> New self-stirring cauldrons for sale. Bronze frames, self-heating, etched runic circle. Write for prospectus.	LOST & FOUND <i>Steel Zweihander Lost</i> Left in a tavern on Sunday afternoon. Faint red glow, rune-etched blade smells vaguely of blood. Return to Summer Rose.

An announcement from The Magistratium

Due to high wyrd levels in the Western Cantons, citizens are advised to inspect any food or drink from the region for wyrd contamination before consuming it.

Signs of Wyrd contamination include, but are not limited to:

- Talking/screaming
- Glowing
- Sprouting flowers
- Being of an unusual color
- Floating in the air

- Having sprouted eyes
- Having developed facial features
- Having grown fingers
- Running away

- Discharging electricity
- Being hot to the touch
- Being ice cold to the touch
- Being hard as a rock

Please bring contaminated food and beverages to a Magistratium-registered wizard for proper disposal.

Remember: If it's Wyrd, do not go Near!