

Time Jump 2012-13 Part 2:

Elder Goddess Rising: Randwin was attacked by numerous groups twenty two years ago and two of the High Priestess died, one Morganti and the other passing on. With only one High Priestess remaining and the security of the High Temple at risk Anne Ironbranch, the last remaining High Priestess took a rather militant position and rallied the priestess from across Roekron. Temples and Shrines across Roekron were abandoned as followers answered the call to protect the Randwin at all cost. The warriors of the Elder Goddess also were taxed the extreme as they battled demons in unprecedented numbers and tried to hold together the government while the quite and usually reserved Peter Nonas took up the mantle of King of Illionass, their protectorate. There are accounts of the Stone Dragon of Randwin coming to life several times during these wars and continuing to protect what is known as The Prison of the Skull Demon, a set of four ancient stones that keep a very dangerous demon haunt confined near the temple. There are some accounts of Anne actually riding the Stone Dragon into battle in some very horrific attacks on the temple which increasingly use the now infamous Null-Magic Items, weapons crafted by Dagdeoth that somehow disrupt magic around them. The way Dagdoeth crafts these items is a well kept secret as the items are a bane to all who use and rely on magic. These wars against the Temple are called The Priestess Wars and lasted for seventeen years before they began to subside as Dagdeoth fell apart and Odilwatch having left off and pursuing it's new vampire orders set about with other tasks. Randwin continues to deal with Blackspire who has become very militarized and many believe is being supplied with weapons by the vampire organizations and encouraged to raid it's neighbors. The result of these battles and wars is that the Order of the Elder Goddess has undergone some powerful shifts in it's structure and goals. Self preservation having always been a goal, new measures and spells were set about the Temple making it a virtual fortress of traps, armaments, and defensive counter-spells. It



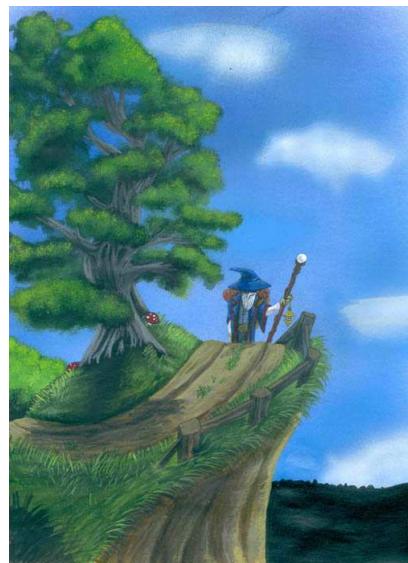
is said that next to Astengrad, there is no place more shielded from magical attack in all of Roekron! It is said that during these wars many priestess and warrior alike sacrificed themselves to bolster this defense and the safety of the remaining priestesses. The heaviest losses have been in the way of fighters. The Warriros of the Elder Goddess are all but gone, with a dozen still known of, many having gone into hiding due increasing assassinations. The total number of Priestess and Sorceresses has also decreased as their outreach and influence across the region has shrunk in their attempts to secure their High Temple. However, the organizations has been growing and was given a huge boost by the Free Republics of Roekron who for political reasons could not include the Priestess on their council but are a major supporter of the group. It is said that though the Priestess and Sorceress are so few, they have never been more powerful. Those who encounter Anne Ironbranch claim feel as though they are in the presence of an Avatar, and there are none that dare to cross her or the Order. Many believe the Priestesses and Sorceresses have been consolidating a tremendous amount of energy for a major conflict to come and that once that threat is determined the wave that will be released will be unstoppable. Whether these rumor are true only fate will tell.

The Dimming of the Fae: Roughly twelve years ago many mages, elves, and those close to the beings of the wood noticed a significant change in those known as Farries or more accurately, the Fae. The beings whose nature is so unpredictable and spontaneously magical began to be found in odd and disturbing situations. Many of them seemed lost in their own groves, some struggling along on legs they had rarely used, seeming to have forgotten they had wings. Some seemed simply mad or insane, although this is often difficult to determine with Fae. What was clear was that the



abilities and magic of the Fae was somehow dimmed. A source close to the Fae who wished to remain anonymous but who this historian has complete confidence in has mentioned rather cryptically that “the web was cut now they are unraveling.” We understand this to mean that some core element or structure which the Fae rely on has been destroyed or damaged and have been unable to recover. Many Fae died in the following years, and some, rather horrifically, from old age! Some took their own lives rather than live so hobbled. The result is that the Fae have been scarce in recent years. When they are encountered they are often angry and dangerous. Their powers seem to be very erratic and when they do have their power they seem to wish to take vengeance on those they blame for their condition which currently is anyone and everyone. Many blame the increase failure rates of spells throughout Roekron on the meddling of angry Fae who want revenge for their loss of power though most scholars believe this to not be the case sighting that if the Fae lost a great deal of power it is unlikely they would be able to affect Roekron in such a widespread way with their magic. When Embarcarious was asked to make a statement on the subject, being the leading Arch –Magus in Roekron magical theory outside of Astengrad and having just succeeded in scoring a major victory against the Rastkuru, the tiny hobbit mage at first declined to say anything but eventually was reported to have said when pressed, “If you wish to kill a garden, it is not necessary to root out every plant from the earth, you simple have to kill the bees...” What this means is up to the readers interpretation, as Embarcarious declined to elaborate on the statement.

The Golden Age of Pinicle: The geographical location of Pinicle combined with clever investments, shrewd politics, and a greatly increased military has made the Pinicle School of Magic one of the most prosperous organizations in Roekron. While not opulent or grand, Pinicle has succeeding in becoming the leading mage school in the nation and is unchallenged in its role as the policy maker for magical law, spells craft rulings, and even magical item basic practices. This was a hard won position



and one that all the Arch Mages have worked to secure, many noting that Melissa the Scald seemed to have been absent a great deal from her post while she worked at what many understand to be “national security.” Oditan the Summoner has gained great renown as the regions leading spirit specialist, and Nelain Echos famously gave up her seat as Head of Storm Magic when a famous enemy of the Wizards Trader Order reappeared at the start of the War of Heaven, one Sen a Dem Dil, who was voted in as the new Storm Teacher, Nelian taking the seat in Nature vacated by Drestensai sor Goku, a Trade Order loyalist. There are rumors of a love affair between the two, which has many



bards are storytellers writing at length. Many worried that Sen would be an unfit teacher due to his lack of ability with the Roekron language, and it is true he has been more of an asset to the schools defense and security, but as he has famously said, “Speak no! Do! Watch... Boom!” His students do seem to do just fine and whether this is due to Nelian Echoes “assisting” in his classes we will leave up to the readers discretion. Regardless of the methodology, Pinicle is in a Golden Age of Schools. Taking on projects many thought impossible, the Pinicle School has set new standards

for detailed spell creation, dispel skills, security measures and safe spell practices, detailed spell training, and enforcement of many magical laws often school have turned a blind eye to in the past. The most famous feat to date has to be The Chaining of the Raustkuru, or so it is has been called though it is by far merely figurative in nature. Reportedly Embarcarious successfully hobbled the Raustkuru some nine years ago with the aide of the entire mage school, particularly Sen a Dem Dil, and the Priestess of the Elder Goddess. It is said that he could have completely eradicated it except that Astengrad had refused to assist him and thus he lacked the necessary power. What has been confirmed is that for a period of time, the Raustkuru failed to effect those of the Pinicle School, and during this period of time, numerous protections and shields were set up all across Roerkon in all the major cities and schools which granted protection from interference from the Raustkuru in the future. These shielded ritual spaces are now the

only existing safe spaces to cast from with confidence. Pinicle is said to have “many” within its walls, the amount always seeming to change when we have asked. Unfortunately, it has been confirmed that our enemies took advantage of this effect as well and that Dagdeoth, The Dark City, and other powers opposed to the Free Republics were not idle and secured for themselves similar safe casting spaces. Whether this is good or bad is a question for history and will be revealed by time no doubt. One very clear effect is that the Raustkuru very rarely effects those at the Pinicle School, which seems to hunt the renegade spell. The fact that spaces exist where spells that target the Raustkuru itself seem to have given the being pause and it is somewhat less active of late. Enjoying a booming magical economy and security brought on by a efficient and dedicated military, Pinicle thrives while Hostor the nation seems to be failing. Gone are many of the cozy villages and towns that once scattered the land. Hobbits, either working in the capital or enlisted in the army, have begun to give up their more quiet life and look to the rest of the world with vision and aspirations. Some wonder if the hobbit way of life will be a thing of the past in the next generation. While we cannot speculate on way or the other at this time, one benefit to this change is culture and the Golden Age of Pinicle is that hobbit in foreign regions are often assumed to be mages and given a wide berth and a rather large helping of respect and awe, something they do not seem to mind for a change.

End Part 2

Details and Edits to follow.