## Waterdeed Sentinel

HARKEN AND HEAR, GOOD NEWS AND GRAVE, ALL THAT IS TRUE AND FIT FOR PRINT for 1 nib

## Silverymoon Allies Cheered

Lady and Lord Charivar Greeted by Open Lord Silverhand Before Parade, Grand Ball

AT THE LORD'S PALACE — Waterdeep celebrated the arrival of Silverymoon's new delegation with a parade through the city streets and a ball at the Lord's Palace.

Open Lord Laeral Silverhand greeted Silverymoon's chief delegates, the Lady and Lord Charivar at the North Gate, then accompanied them for the parade. Silverhand sat with Lady Charivar in a light blue coach while Lord Charivar — astride a white steed — rode alongside attired in a military uniform.

"Our fondness for Silverymoon remains constant," Silverhand said during the welcoming ceremony at the gate. "All the members of the Lord's Alliance are cheered by the special relationship our two cities share with one another."

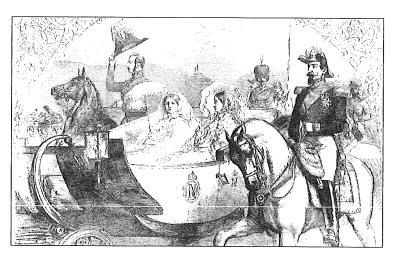
Silverymoon's chief delegates personify the objectives for the mission. One is tasked with securing favorable trading terms while the other hopes to alleviate any concerns about its military strength.

Lady Ninafer Charivar is a halfelf whose family had gained a fortune in running merchant caravans across the North.

Her human husband, Lord Conoger Charivar, is a captain in the famed Knights in Silver and has been a military adviser to Silverymoon's High Marshal Methrammer Aeasume.

Waterdeep went to considerable expense in staging the parade and ball.

"Clearly, the Masked Lords wish to demonstrate to the other members of the Lord's Alliance that the ties with Silverymoon are unbroken



Lady Ninafer Charivar of Silverymoon, left, is accompanied by Open Lord Laeral Silverhand in the coach while Lord Conoger Charivar, in martial regalia, rides beside on a white charger of the Knights in Silver.

despite that period under the previous Open Lord when things were, how shall I say it, somewhat strained," says the gold elf lord, Elorfindar Floshin, a longtime observer of North politics. "Good feelings aside, there are still the practical concerns. Surely many Masked Lords, even those favorably inclined, must wonder if Silverymoon will be a reliable partner."

Dissolution of Luruar and the fragmentation of the Silver Marches have left Silverymoon in a precarious position, Floshin said. "Plainly, Silverymoon needs investors," Floshin said, "and the North is very wild, so it needs more soliders under arms. The Charivar delegation is here to make deals, and not just with our Open Lord."

Across the city, minstrels and bard celebrated the Silverymoon delegation, especially those musicians who trained at the Gem of the North's famed academies of music and magic.

The halfling Tella Waddles, a songtress at the The Raging Lion in the city's North Ward, was gleeful as she sang lyrics she composed for the occasion.

"The Charivars favor the arts, so I hear," she said. "That's what Silverymoon means, a revival of epic storytelling and beautiful songs. We need more of it here in Waterdeep."

At the Palace, Silverhand made another speech emphasizing the values shared by the cities.

Absent in Silverhand's remarks was any reference to her familial connection. Silverymoon's ruler is a nephew — the half-elf son of her sister, the late High Lady of Luruar, Alustriel Silverhand.

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## Watchful Order Convenes

Lady Master Szeltune Faces Leadership Challenge From North Ward Book Collector

AT THE TOWER OF THE ORDER — Hurlblar Corthyn, book collector of the North Ward, addressed the Watchful Order of Magists and Protectors, imploring it to "weed the garden" and install new leadership.

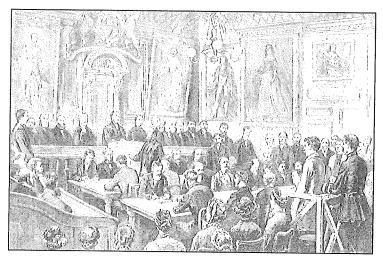
It was an unprecedented request from someone who was not yet a member of the order and may not even be a spellcaster.

But Corthyn's Highsun address—an hourglass in length—to the order's membership committee was the first step in what suppporters say will culimninate in a candidacy for leader when the full order convenes during the Feast of the Moon.

Lady Master of the Order Mhair Szeltune was not in attendance at the hearing. To date she has not responded to Corthyn or his criticicms, most of which have been published over the past two years as letters to the order's monthly publication, *The Summoner*.

Speaker of the Order Orlar Thammas conducted the hearing at the request of Corthyn's supporters — the most prominent being South Ward scorceress Nala Ophendaahl, a clerk at Aurora's Realm's Shop.

"The order has lost its way," Ophendaahl said, speaking to reporters after the hearing. "The Lady Master has resisted attempts at internal reforms. Mystra knows, we've tried. Now we have Master Corthyn, who sees the same things we do and offers a path to make



Hurlblar Corthyn, a modest book collector of the North Ward, explains his qualifications for leadership into the Watchful Order of Magists and Protectors

things right. I say, give him an opportunity. Things certainly can't get worse than they are."

Speaker Thammas called the meeting to order. He did not address or interrupt Corthyn's petition. Nor did he show any visible reaction to Corthyn's direct criticisms of the conduct of his office.

The hearing had one outburst. Danillo Thann, nephew of Open Lord Laeral Silverhand, stood up in the balcony, pointed a finger at Corthyn, then exclaimed; "You are dangerous, sir!" Thann immediately exited.

After the hearing, Thammas did not make himself available for reporter questions. Sources within the Tower of the Order said Thammas met in conference with trusted advisers within the order for several hours, then responded to a summons to meet with the Lady Master for dinner.

Corthyn, smiling but exhibiting more shyness than he showed during the hearing, spoke afterward with supporters at Bhephel's Bottles and Exotic Wines,

Most of those in attendance were spellcasters who stay out of the public eye and are not known outside their immediate circle. The exception in this gathering was the presence of Savengriff the Wandering Harper, former apprentice to the late Khelban Blackstaff.

Corthyn thanked the assembled wizards for their support. "I am hopeful. I know we have an uphill battle. Will my membership application be accepted? The hearing is a good sign. It means the Lady Master will at least entertain a discussion."

Someone asked if Szeltune's absense was noteworthy. "I have no doubt she heard every word I had to say," Corthyn replied.