ONE FAITH ONE HUMANITY ONE EMPIRE

The Story of the Faithful Seeker

Today was a good day. After weeks of meticulous planning, the Seeker was almost ready to leave Lodestone in one of the largest expeditions the noble House had ever seen.

She checked the manifest once more with a frown, then called in the most trusted of her crew. He entered, and as he closed the door behind him, the Seeker pinged a list of notable passengers over to him.

"This mission is destined to be historical, yet there is still one passenger space remaining," she said, pointing at the list as her frown deepened. "How is this so?"

Her crewman looked at her with bowed head. "What would you have me do, Seeker?"

The Seeker thought for a time, then answered. "Bring me someone who is worthy of a place on my ship." The crewman bowed deeply, then left to carry out her wishes.

He headed first to The Centrifuge. Along the way, a lowly Priest approached him and bowed. "I understand you search for another passenger for your voyage," the Priest said, after exchanging formalities. "Though I may not hold any position of import, I wish to join you, God willing."

The crewman checked the list of passengers his Seeker had bestowed upon him. There, he saw the names of no less than 4 members of the High Priesthood already confirmed for the mission.

The crewman shook his head. "4 of your brethren already bless us with their presence. No doubt my Seeker is looking for someone else."

He carried on his search, and all the while, the lowly priest followed behind trying to convince the crewman of his worth. Each time he made his case, the crewman denied him.

Now, whilst asking around the Districts, the people of Lodestone all pointed towards one person, a local businessman who had built up both a reputation and a wealth from nothing. He was both clever and kind, renowned as much for his charity as he was for his ingenuity.

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The crewman sought him out, and as he did, the lowly Priest continued to follow. It did not take long for the crewman to find the businessman, and it took even less time to convince him to come and see his Seeker. The businessman packed up his things as quick as he could, and they headed back to the Spaceport.

As they did, they lowly Priest continued to follow, trying to convince the crewman of his worth. The crewman denied him at every turn.

"I have found someone worthy of joining your crew, Seeker," the crewman said proudly upon his return. The businessman introduced himself, and started to speak of his accolades.

As he did, the lowly Priest entered. "Seeker-" he began, but the crewman cut him off.

"No," he said through gritted teeth. "You have followed me here and continued to beg, despite me turning you down. This mission is not yours, Priest."

The Seeker held up a hand and silenced her crewman. With a shake of the head and a look of disappointment, she pointed towards the businessman.

"Why do you bring this man to me when a man of God is forthcoming?"

The crewman bowed his head to the floor. "Seeker, 4 spaces have already been taken by the Church, and no others were forthcoming."

The Seeker lifted the man's head up and looked him in the eyes.

"Those spaces were not taken, but gifted willingly. You listened to my order, and brought me a many worhty of joining my ship, yet you were deaf when presented with the will of God. No other came to you during your search, only this humble Priest. It is truly fate indeed."

And the Seeker bowed deeply to the Priest, and welcomed him aboard.

Children of the Empire, hear this:

It is through God, and God alone, that greatness is achieved. Do not squander the opportunity to embrace them.