

Lord of the Land

- Twelfth Moon, 347

At long last, the war is over. My enemies have been broken, destroyed, or driven out. The valley that lies before the ruins of the castle is a paradise. I have taken both as my own.

- Sixth Moon, 348

This new peace gnaws at my soul. The inhabitants of Barovia are still fearful of me. I care not.

- Third Moon, 349

Work proceeds on the castle under Khazan's guidance. In honour of my mother Ravenovia, I shall name it Ravenloft.

- Eleventh Moon, 349

All is in readiness. I shall call for my family.

- *Fourth Moon*, 350

Alas, mother shall never know the land I saved for us. Tatyana though has arrived, and Sergei, my old comrade, has returned with them. I nearly bested him sparring this morning, his skill is staggering. The sword he uses, a gift from my father, is exceptional; this new blade has yet to take a life but is fearsome in Sergei's hand.

Although we are soldiers, he is suited to the new age of peace in a way that I, with the chill of death in my bones and the taste of war still on my tongue, can never be. I feel old. Each night fades before dawn, if I am to persist, this cycle must be broken...

- *Fifth Moon*, 350

Another attempt on my life. In time, the noble families of Barovia will learn how far they are

beneath me. Their assassin was a member of those that had assaulted us in the Balinok Mountains, the 'Ba'al Verzi'. They were identified by a bone dagger that was meant for my heart. It is now in my possession, while my castellan interrogates the failed murderer. Rahadin ensures me that others will come. They will meet the same fate.

- Fifth Moon, 350

The High Priest Markovia has died, I wonder why the gods at last decided to let her go. Sergei has requested I declare a day of national mourning. He has been asked to take up the position of High Priest and appears genuinely humbled - it pains me to see such feebleness in him. The clergy have given him leave to carry the "Valley's Heart" to the monastery in Krezk. Fools. The symbol of Ravenkind is my spoil of war. Although for Sergei, I shall allow it.