

The Travance Chronicle

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Amizar Wuzwhir, Editor

Rich Cultures of Travance

by Kamei Kunsai

Throughout my time here in Travance I have had the opportunity and the honor of getting to know some fascinating people and their cultures. I find it rather interesting that there are so many different types of people living within Travance and how they go about their day-to-day routines. Each and every person that I have talked to about these subjects have always given me answers that make me want to learn more about the way they live. I wish to share this sense of curiosity and knowledge with everyone. This will give everyone a better understanding of each culture and why some people do things that most others do not understand. Overall it may help us have a better general understanding of one another.

This article is going to be on my own people: the Khitanese. Our lands lay far to the east across the sea. It is a very long boat ride to our lands and not many people have been there to explore. We have three different lands to our people: The Empire of Jade, The Empire of Sun, and the Empire of Night. The Empire of Jade and the Empire of Night are had been separated by a wall of bone until recently when war destroyed it. The Empire of Sun on the other hand is made up a grouping of islands.

Now here are just a few different things about the Khitan:

- ◆ Khitanese are a very honor bound people, who hold honor higher than even their own lives. If they feel they have dishonored their family name they must atone for their actions. And, if you insult an honor of a Khitanese, you should prepare yourself for the most honorable of combats.
- ◆ Most Khitanese (not all) do not believe in gods or the faiths that so many people in these lands follow. We have our own set belief systems of ancestral worship. Our fathers and mothers before us are the ones who gave us life and we know they continually watch over us, much like you believe your gods do. So please take this into consideration if you try to change a Khitanese's mind to try to have them convert.
- ◆ One of the biggest things I have heard about within my time in Travance is how "stuck up" Khitanese people are. This is not true. We are fun loving. It's just that Khitanese are usually very private people which most people perceive as rather strict.
- ◆ From personal experience I have learned some Khitanese and the other races of Travance have different ideas of dating and romance. Be warned if your love interest is a Khitanese, be prepared to communicate. Be very blunt as to what your intentions are and what you plan on getting from the relationship (if you are fortunate enough to have them say yes). Do not be offended if they do not say yes and believe they are giving you false hope. Talk to them at length.

The Ode of Jonas Kane

by Corvin Kalenfolly

We all know Jonas Kane as our local Dragon Claw Inn Owner, but can anyone tell me where he came up with the gold to buy this fine establishment or where he came from before he arrived in Travance? I thought not. I'm here to share some of the Real stories and the beginning of the Ode of Jonas Kane.

Jonas Kane was the first born child of a mysterious dragoon who claimed to be from the stars and went by the name of Kane First Spear of the Northern Skies and a lovely woman named Beth Landsberry. She was smitten by him immediately and quickly changed her name to Kane. After having grown up with that dreadful last name her whole life, she couldn't get rid of it fast enough! Having conveniently forgotten to have told Mr. Northern Skies what she had done, while he was sleeping off the previous night's festivities, she went about her next morning happy as could be.

Beth on her way home with supper decided that Kane's wagon needed a quick cleaning, as he had said he'd been on the road for a while. However she found to her dismay a trunk that was stored in the bottom of the wagon under the seat with three locks, a magical drawing of an angry face, and either a mouse nest or a tiny animal guardian's home that Beth quickly knocked out of the way. Within it was the Real Secret of Kane First Spear of the Northern Skies.

(The Story Continues in our Next Issue!)

Constitutional Mayhem - An Ode to the Perils of Advertising

by Swyft Glitterleaf, Vassal Healer of Drega'Mire

The morning constitutional; a merry jaunt with Jonas.
To watch him wake the sleeping folks is just an added bonus.
O what a sight, this jolly man, so full of vim and vigor,
Demanding that you rise and eat to make his coffers bigger.

O morning constitutional, so crisp and cool and fresh,
That you might have a shock for me, I never would have guessed.
Good natured Jonas, full of smiles, stopped to talk to strangers.
And I, so silly, turned my back, inviting ALL the dangers...

Ambushed, bound and carried on the wind, so far away!
Poor Jonas was outnumbered and all I could do was pray.
They lopped off my precious tail, these horrendous little beasts.
How dare they wreck our roundup for the early morning feast!

O morning constitutional, you sly little friend! You lout!
Instead of having breakfast, I saw insides get ripped out!
My friends, you did come save us. For that I am quite grateful.
But how sad our morning constitutional was turned to something hateful!

Is it with trepidation that you must traverse Travance?
Is every outing fraught with peril like a game of chance?
Ah, nevermind, we didn't die! Things could have gone much worse!
So get thee to the Dragon's Claw and empty out your purse!

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Romani Tales

by Dame Zafrin Vhatzi

We continue the exploits of the most famous of all Romani, Esmerelda. This week's story is about the beautiful and cunning Esmerelda putting her life on the line to save some of her cousins from a most certain death.

Esmerelda was contacted by a distant cousin who told her that some of her family was taken hostage by some dangerous hobgoblins. Esmerelda, an infiltration expert, came up with a plan in which she would disguise herself and a few others as goblin workers and sneak her cousins out of the jail. Esmerelda had to use a great deal of guile in this task. If the hobgoblins caught on that they were not who they said they were, she and her accomplices—as well as the hostages—would most likely be put to death immediately. Esmerelda and her newly disguised goblin pals went into the hobgoblin territory and convinced the hobgoblin kidnappers that they were sent to help see to the needs of the hobgoblins there. Esmerelda and her team worked for a few days, gaining the trust of the hobgoblins and learning the layout of the camp. She was able to slip into the hobgoblin supplies and taint the alcohol with sleeping potions. She and her companions proceeded to convince the hobgoblins to drink and be merry and they eventually all passed out. She went into the jail and unlocked the cells to let her cousins out. She dressed them as goblins too (knowing that to even the green skin races, they all look the same) and instead of running away, they pretended to also be drugged. When everyone woke in the morning, the hobgoblins were so upset by the jail break, they didn't even notice a few extra goblins afoot. They immediately set out to track the escaped prisoners as Esmerelda and her crew slipped away unnoticed.

This may or may not be the inspiration for the exploits of the Brockles clan, the great saviors of Travance.

Me Know

Advice by Blade

Dear Blade,

What is the best way to gently remind your human lover that he is your pet without him catching wise, and simultaneously making him a better pet?

Signed,

Elvish Mischief Twins

Twins,

Sometimes stupid human make good pet, sometimes them make terrible pet. It not easy, me know. Blade say you want good pet, you more happy make pet! Pet no need know you own them. You not do by say: "Stupid human, no you know you me own!" Human actually know words and stuff and maybe one day figure out what you say it to! No no! Maybe you be smart, maybe you say thing like: "You really good and stuff like that. Me like you stay round this place and stuff. Oh look how good puny stupid human fight off little gnoll thing with him sword! You so good for stupid puny human thing!" Then maybe you need to make sure it safe and thing like that. Pet that feel safe 'cause you, want to stay with you. You make sure it have nice warm place for sleep and stuff like that, and you check it for fleas and ticks and stuff when it go running in woods, and stuff like that. Also, sometime pet need thing to do when you no able to spend time with pet. You let pet no have thing to do, pet when wander off. Me suggest you get pet good cigar! This way when you no there, pet be like: "Oh no, me so sad and lonely, what me do now? Me know, me smoke cigar!" Good cigar keep stupid human pet happy for long time while you go do thing stupid human pet no understand.

Blade

We Want Your Treasure!

Come visit Valentine Graye of the Purple Thistle Trading Company at Market Faire.

We buy, sell and trade in any and all legal goods. Found a treasure you can't use, sell it to us or trade it for any of our commodities.

Free Appraisal on all Gems, Magic Items.

We also do consignment sales.

GinGinny GinRum's Guide to Drinking - Drega'Mire

Ready for another in-depth look at some of the premiere wines and ales coming from the lands of Travance? This moon I will be introducing you to one of the many alcohol producers in Drega'Mire. Drega'Mire is well known for their imports and exports, but they also have a rich tradition of local ales and wines. (Rumor even has it experimentation is being done on making beer from bananas! Whatever they are.) I was hanging out at the Dragon's Claw Inn some time ago when I happened to strike up a conversation with winery owner, Rosette, who is one of the many lovely and talented bartenders that fine establishment employs.

Have you ever tasted a wine that was minty, luscious, and still darkly complex, that stayed with you afterwards as one of the most memorable wines you've ever tasted? Neither had I, until I tasted a recent vintage from Rosette's winery, the Tanager Factory, in Drega'mire. We got drunk one night on one of her mint and flower blends and giggled until morning. It is known as one of the best gypsy wineries in Drega'Mire, and many come to buy directly from the source, so enamored are they with her. (One such admirer even offered her a set of goats, pigs and chickens, gold, and a couch, for her hand in marriage!) Rosette is primarily inspired by fruits, tree leaves, and flowers, and has a special spring/summer seasonal brew she calls a wanjo blend. In the harsher temperatures, she makes her wine with mint. If owning a winery were not enough, Rosette herself aspires to one day own her own bar.

Regardless of your preference for fruit and flower wine blends or for hoppy brews, it's hard not to find a wine or ale you like in Drega'Mire. In fact, I rarely find one I dislike anywhere. Of course, I'm willing to continue the search! Do you have a winery or brewery you think might be spectacular - either spectacularly good or spectacularly bad - and would like to show a satyr a good time? Next moon I will be taking my exploration to the alcoholic institutions of another land, and your establishment could be one of them!