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"Good" replied Past moving on to the next person "and what of your task Mental?"

"It was performed exactly as instructed." Mental replied. "I gathered the hides from deer that I had hunted alone and sky clad. I then took it before the Elves immediately afterwards to be tanned. From there I placed them high in the tree called Old Man by the Elves."

Past nodded slightly "I then gathered the leather and went to the Gnomes to be made into sheaths." Past then looked to Present "And your task?"

"I found the sheaths and took them to the Dryads to be embroidered with the symbols shown" Present then placed the sheaths on the table.

Each member reached out to get their sheath each knowing which was theirs for the taking. Q then placed each long knife in front of the member it belonged to. Then all stood around the table grabbing their weapon and lifting it slightly so the tips met.

"The next time that we meet it will not be in cloaks. We will all know who is here now upon sight and what we are suppose to do when the time comes." Past's voice rose in volume. "Although many will not know of our deed on that night we will forever be known to each other as the Knights of the Long Knives"

With that the members started to leave the meeting. Q being the last to leave, pausing momentarily to take in what has happened and to think about what was yet to come.

Two

It was the third annual Pipe and Pint in the year 1984. Q was standing near the new throne for the anointing of the first Baron of Revelwood. His title was to be the Iron Baron and all had felt that he was the right man for the job.

Q knew the procession was going to be a grand one and it was to start shortly. He looked about the room seeing the large choir assembled for the ceremony. A large orchestra was also present. He was impressed by the dignitaries present as well. The Czar of Russia was seated next to the Queen of England off to the left of the stage. On the right was the President of the United States sitting with the Emperor of Japan.

As he looked in that direction the First Ambassador to Japan caught his eye and waved. Funny, Q thought to himself, the Ambassador seems a little nervous. Just then the trumpets blared loudly announcing the start of the ceremony. The first part of the procession were the trained Llamas. They marched in, lifting their knees high into the air. This was followed by a short performance, which was very similar to Irish step dancing.

Following the Llamas were the golden camels, they were not as showy as the Llamas but impressive nonetheless. After the camels came the flame eaters and then jugglers. There was a brief pause as the Choir sang two songs about the glory of the Iron Baron. Their voices lifted the spirits of all who were present. After the Choir stopped it signaled the entrance of three mighty sorcerers, who placed spells of protection upon the Throne.

The orchestra played three songs, followed by two more songs of The Iron Barons greatness. At the end of the last

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