



After a fruitless night of interrogating the small town around the base of Castle Ornst, I set out and before long had stepped over the unmarked border into cold Kreykaarh. Castle Kreykaarh was a colossal bastion of sheer rock, covering what seemed like almost the entire region and stretching upward almost as high as the spires of Castle Lyre. The entire town and population of Kreykaarh was contained by its walls.

I soon found myself standing at the foot of a giant moat, raised against me and guarded by a soldier whose height rivalled my own. He held a greatsword low to the ground in one hand, and a shield in the other. The emblem on the shield said he was from a family called Ilvos.

“Halt, traveller!” he said in a booming voice that was almost certainly intended to alert his comrades up on the battlements. “What business have you in Kreykaarh?”

“I seek an audience with your ruler, sir.” I kept my stance open and friendly, and my hands well away from either blade.

“Castle Kreykaarh is closed to visitors. Our ruler is in negotiations with a delegate from Castle Skrar, and none may enter until they are concluded.”

“Very well. If I may ask, what do the negotiations concern?” I inquired as innocently as possible.

His eyes narrowed nonetheless. “You may venture to Skrar and take up your questions with Lord Numinort, if you have so much interest.”

I bowed as I backed away, sensing I was at the end of a very thin rope. “I hope the negotiations go smoothly. Good day.”



Act III
Scene 2

Li Ven Se Tt Le

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