

# The Travance Chronicle

April 1213

Amizar Wuzwhir, Editor

## A Letter from the Editor

by Loremaster Aemorniel Silverbow, Assistant Editor

The adage “Words have Power” has always proven true and each story, no matter how fantastical, will somewhere have a small grain of truth hidden within them. In our lands, what once were thought to be merely nursery rhymes are coming alive. These tales told to children, whether they be as warnings or for amusement, have manifested themselves as phantasms and illusions and have walked our streets at night. Don't be mistaken—these are not creatures you would wish to trifle with alone. This edition of The Travance Chronicle will be exclusively publishing these nursery rhymes so that all subjects can have them on hand. So far banishing them and dispelling the creatures has worked but at times they vanish only to reappear elsewhere. The only consist way of getting rid of them effectively is to read the appropriate rhyme that coincides with the phantasm to it. How and who is summoning them is unknown so Sir Weaveforger asks that if possible when you encounter the creatures, grab a bard or scholar first to see if they might be able to garner any information about it with their lore. Otherwise, keep a copy on this on you at all times—you might never know when or where they might appear to you. Any with information regarding these creatures is asked to contact Tobar since he is compiling the information on them that we know so far. Safe journeys my friends.

### Smiling Jack

Smiling Jack with the yellow cap,  
Sneaks up on you. Tap Tap Tap.  
Drops golden treasure at your feet.  
Oh so shiny! Oh so sweet!  
All that treasure, what a sight.  
But don't forget, Smiling Jack's bite.  
Touch that treasure at your feet,  
And Smiling Jack. It's you he'll eat!

Known Facts: This phantasm appears as a smiling, silent young man, often in a yellow hat. He drops an illusory gold coin at your feet. If you attempt to pick it up, he devours you whole.

### The Broken King

King Gregory was fair and wise  
A noble King of Kormyre  
But his wife The Queen was cruel and cold  
And against him she did conspire  
With forces dark, and sorceries black  
She placed a curse upon his throne  
And when poor King Gregory, that morning sat  
He was suddenly turned to stone  
A passing priest did see this happen  
And prayed for a resolution  
When The Queen returned with mace in hand  
The Stone King had his retribution  
Where her weapon struck him hard  
His arm fell to the ground  
But the curse rebounded upon her as well  
and their Knights two statues found  
So beware The King dressed all in white  
For he shall surely do you harm  
As he walks through the lands of Old Kormyre  
Searching for his missing arm.

Known Facts: This nursery rhyme was based on a historical king of Kormyre who died under mysterious circumstances. The phantasm has the power to turn people to stone. Once it has done so, it will knock off one of the statue's arms and attempt to attach it to it's own stump.

### Sweet Mary

Sweet Mary, full of joy,  
Fell in love with a dark haired boy,  
This dark haired boy with a heart of ice,  
To her he pretended to be nice.  
He wooed her with his words of honey,  
when all he wanted was her father's money.  
Not a coin remained, he spent it all,  
And Mary's tears became a waterfall.  
He asked her to stop them spilling,  
But soon their house with tears was filling.  
He begged her to reverse her frown,  
In a house full of tears, he was left to drown.  
So now you know that greed's a sin,  
But breaking a heart will drown all Aratyn.

Known Facts: Mary appears to be a beautiful young woman wailing uncontrollably.

Unconfirmed: We believe Mary will attack any dark-haired man she encounters. If her crying continues long enough, we believe her tears will be enough to drown anyone near her, similar to very strong water magic.

### Alzag the Hunter

In the darkness Alzag lumbers,  
through the lands, because he hungers,  
Scooping up children with his powerful hands,  
to fill his stomach's endless demands.  
His dogs of war, they howl so sad.  
Hunting forever has driven them mad.  
So when you're alone in that empty wood,  
Baying of hounds spells no omen good.  
You'll hear footfalls going snicker-snack,  
As Alzag wants your bones to crack.

Known Facts: Alzag was a historical ogre warlord who trained a pack of wolves to hunt for him. This manifestation includes phantom wolves.

Unconfirmed: Historically, Alzag may have been a Druid. It is said he preferred to eat the flesh of human children.

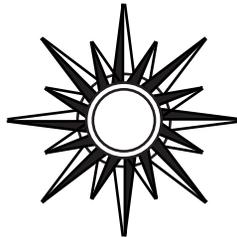
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## The Lord of Dreams

Tip toe, tip toe, and here he'll go,  
into your house at night.  
For he is the Lord of restless dreams,  
Who will set your mind to right.  
A little boy, did one eve past hatch a daring plan.  
To catch a glimpse of the Lord of Sand,  
And see him as he stands.  
The boy slept with one eye open,  
Hoping to test his luck.  
But the lord was far too crafty,  
And the orb he quickly plucked.  
So do not seek the Lord of Dreams,  
And heed this very rhyme.  
Do not be that poor blind boy.  
Who tried a second time.

**Known Facts:** Sometimes called the Lady of Dreams. This phantasm can put people to sleep.

**Unconfirmed:** It is believed the Lord/Lady of Dreams will try to blind anyone who resists it's attempts to put them to sleep.



## Celebration of Light

Brother Bat Cooper, Cleric of Balos and Recruit of the Baronial Guard

Most people who think about offerings to the Gods think of offerings of gifts, prayers, perhaps wearing a holy symbol or taking this or that Oath. All of these are important, but they are not the only offerings we can give to the Gods. What if I were to tell you that you give many more offerings to the Gods every single day, even if you are not baptized to them or even believe in them? It's true!

Every time you forgive someone who hurt you, that is an offering. Every time you obey the law when it is inconvenient or to your detriment, that is an offering. When you comfort the afflicted, tend to the sick, feed the hungry, those are all offerings. However, those aren't the only offerings. So are harsh words, hurting others, and being greedy. Some of those actions are offerings to the Gods of Light. Some are not. Think carefully what offerings you make in your daily lives.