Court Ceremonies

for the

Kingdom of Caid

Deluxe Edition

(Contains Coronation/Royal Peerages)



Compiled and edited for the benefit of the Kingdom of Caid by

Baron Cormac Mór, OP

Crescent Principal Herald

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# Vigils and Peerages

The vigil is an optional preparation to elevation to a peerage. As a further option it may include at some appropriate and convenient time an invocation, such as the ones that follow. The Crescent Principal Herald or another senior herald should give the invocation.

## Invocation of the Knight’s Vigil

I have come to address you concerning certain aspects of knighthood and chivalry. It is often said that knighthood is an honor. It is surely that -- but more, it is a responsibility, a responsibility which you take upon yourselves, not in gladness, but with sobriety and sincerity. The oath you will soon swear will bind you in fealty to Crown and Kingdom, a fealty to be renewed with each reign; and it is meet and right to understand well what you are about to promise.

To accept the status of knighthood is not to accept honors, but to undertake the burdens that such status brings. As a knight, you must undertake to continue in your individual roles of living by the Code of Chivalry. This code is your rule and guide in your conduct with others in the noble company of knights, as well as the general plan of your conduct with all other worthy people: to deal with them justly and fairly, regardless of station, to be gracious and courteous to all, to be an example to whom others can look.

The responsibility of knighthood translates into service, each Knight performing to the best of his ability and then -- and then -- to that point of performance where sacrifice is made. A knight must want to do good works for humanity, must be willing to do them, and will do them more frequently and more extensively than his friends who are not knights.

To accept knighthood is to accept these responsibilities. I pray you keep these words in your heart as you prepare for your new status.

## Invocation of the Laurel's Vigil

I have come to address you concerning certain aspects of the peerage you are about to enter. Many say it is an honor to be made a Master or Mistress of the Laurel, and it is surely that. But it is more than that: it is a heavy responsibility that you take upon yourself not in gladness, but with sobriety and sincerity. The oath you will soon swear will bind you in fealty to Crown and Kingdom, a fealty to be renewed with each reign; and it is meet and right to understand well what you are about to promise.

In the ceremony where you are created a peer, it is stated that the kingdom is supported by three things: chivalry, service and art. Like a three-legged stool, if any of the three are absent, the kingdom topples. The same is true of each individual peer: these three elements should be found in every order of peerage.

The knights are the Order of Chivalry. But no less chivalrous behavior will be expected of you: as a Peer of the Realm, you must endeavor to live, as you have until now, by the rules of courtesie, of gentle behavior. This courtly ideal is your guide in your conduct with others: to deal with them justly and fairly, regardless of station, to be gracious and courteous to all, to be an example to whom others can look.

The Order of the Pelican is the Order of service. But each Laurel too has the responsibility of service, performing to the best of his or her ability and then -- and then -- to that point of performance where sacrifice is required. A Laurel must want to do good works, must be willing to do them, and will do them more frequently and more extensively than his or her friends who are not Laurels.

The Order of the Laurel is the order most noted for artistry and scholarship. Knights and Pelicans, as Peers of the Realm, are expected to have some small measure of talent or skill. But a Laurel exemplifies this artistic talent to a degree greater than that of the other peers and greater still than that of the populace at large. Rightly or wrongly, a Laurel is taken as an authority, whose words carry considerable weight; and this will be a heavy burden on you.

To accept elevation to the Order of the Laurel is to accept these responsibilities. I pray you keep these words in your heart as you prepare for your new status.

## Invocation of the Pelican's Vigil

I have come to address you concerning certain aspects of the peerage you are about to enter. Many say it is an honor to be made a Master or Mistress of the Pelican, and it is surely that. But it is more than that: it is a heavy responsibility that you take upon yourself not in gladness, but with sobriety and sincerity.

The Order of the Pelican is unique among the three orders of peerage. Every Peer of the Realm, be he Knight, Laurel or Pelican, is expected to serve the kingdom and society. But the service expected of a Pelican is far greater than that expected of the other peers and greater still than that expected of the populace at large. To accept elevation to the Order of the Pelican is thus not to accept an honor, but to accept the burdens implied in your new status.

As a Peer of the Realm, you must endeavor to live, as you have until now, by the rules of courtesie, of gentle behavior. This courtly ideal is your guide in your conduct with others: to deal with them justly and fairly, to be gracious and courteous to all, to be an example of worth to whom others can look.

Each Pelican has the responsibility of service, performing to the best of his ability and then -- and then -- to that point of performance where sacrifice is required. A Pelican must want to do good works, must be willing to do them, and will do them more frequently and more extensively than his friends who are not Pelicans.

To accept elevation to the Order of the Pelican is to accept these responsibilities. I pray you keep these words in your heart as you prepare for your new status.

## Elevation of a Duke and Duchess

It should be ascertained beforehand the titles the new Duke and Duchess wish to use: Duc, Herzog, etc.; and these should be substituted for "Duke" and "Duchess" in the Ceremony, where appropriate.

HERALD

May it please Your Majesty, Your loyal subject, His Most Noble Grace, Duke (New Duke), having by his valor, skill and strength at arms twice won the Crown of this Kingdom, and thus, of his own ability, having earned the title and estate of a Duke of this Realm, makes bold to approach you, that he may receive the Royal Accolade and be invested with the dignities of his high office. And in token of his continued loyalty to the Crown and Throne of this Kingdom, His Grace Duke *N.* here yields his sword into Your Majesty's keeping.

The new Duke's entourage enters. It shall be led by the Duke's sword bearer, with the Duke's personal sword; and shall include a banner bearer, a coronet bearer, and a mantle bearer. The last two should, if possible, be Dukes themselves; if none are available, their places shall be taken by worthy Counts. If only one Duke is available, he shall bear the coronet. (The procession may include such other persons as please the new Duke.)

The entourage approaches the Thrones; the sword bearer presents the sword to the King with a bow, then retires to the side. The King and Queen stand, and the King lays the sword across the arms of the Throne.

KING

People of Caid, that you may know the worth of this, Our Duke, His Grace Duke *N.*, let the Herald read forth the Proclamation of Investiture.

If a scroll has been prepared, the Herald reads it to the populace. If not, he continues, modifying the text below as appropriate:

HERALD

Be it known to all men that *N.* , having been knighted on the (n)th day of (month), A.S. (year), and having twice won the Crown of this Realm, being first crowned on the (n)th day of (month), A.S. (year), and again on the (n)th day of (month), A.S. (year), We hereby proclaim that by his valor, skill and strength at arms he has earned and deserves the honorable and noble title and estate of a Duke of this Realm, with all the honors and dignities pertaining to this rank. In acknowledgement whereof, We hereto set Our Hand and Seal, this (n)th day of (month), A.S. (year), being the (n)th of the Common Era*. N.* Rex, *N.,* Regina, King and Queen of Caid.

The Duke here approaches the Thrones, and kneels before them.

KING

In token of his new estate, let His Grace be vested as becomes his station.

The mantle bearer comes forward and places the mantle around the new Duke's shoulders, then retires to the side. The King unsheathes the sword and gently strikes the new Duke thrice with the flat of the blade -- left shoulder, then right shoulder, then crown of the head -- saying:

My Lord Duke, it pleases Me greatly that you should receive the Ducal Accolade at my hand.

DUKE

My Liege, from Your hand I am most heartily pleased to receive it.

The King sheathes the sword. The Duke remains kneeling.

KING

Let His Grace be crowned with the coronet symbolizing his new estate.

If the coronet bearer is a Duke, he places the coronet on the new Duke's head; if not, he gives the coronet to the King, who places it on the new Duke's head.

Henceforth, be known as Duke *N.* in this Our Realm.

The new Duke stands. The King presents the sheathed sword to the new Duke, saying:

I return this sword into your keeping, My Lord Duke, charging you to use it henceforth as you have hitherto, in a noble, knightly, and chivalrous manner.

DUKE

My Liege, upon my honor, I pledge to do so.

The new Duke girds himself with the sword. If the King is himself a Duke, he extends His right hand to the new Duke, saying:

KING

Welcome, Brother Duke, into our most noble order.

If the King is not a Duke, the coronet bearer or the ranking Duke present performs the office. If there are no Dukes present, the office is omitted. When congratulations have been concluded, the new Duke and his entourage move to the side to await the Duchess's procession.

HERALD

In this Realm, a fighter enters the field of honor to gain the privilege of crowning his chosen consort with rosemary and roses, proclaiming her Queen of Love and Beauty. It is therefore fitting that a Lady whose grace and beauty have twice inspired her champion to win her the Crown of this Kingdom should be created a Duchess in her own right.

May it please Your Majesties, Your most loyal subject, Her Most Noble Grace, Duchess (New Duchess), having by her beauty, grace and virtues twice inspired her champion to win her the Crown of this Kingdom, and thus having earned the title and estate of a Duchess of this Realm, makes bold to approach You, that she may receive the Royal Accolade, and be invested with the emblems and dignities of her high office.

And in token of her loyalty to the Crown and Throne of this Kingdom, Her Grace *N.* here yields this golden rose, as a symbol of her past estate as Queen and membership in the Order of the Rose, into Your Majesties' keeping.

The new Duchess's entourage enters. It shall be led by the Duchess's rose bearer, with a yellow rose; and shall include a banner bearer, a coronet bearer, and a mantle bearer. The last two should, if possible, be Duchesses themselves; if none are available, their places shall be taken by worthy Countesses. If only one Duchess is available, she shall bear the coronet. (The procession may include such other persons as please the new Duchess. It is particularly fitting that Ladies of the Rose attend the new Duchess.)

The entourage approaches the Thrones; the rose bearer presents the rose to the Queen with a bow, then retires to the side. The King and Queen stand.

QUEEN

People of Caid, that you may know the worth of this, Our Duchess, Her Grace Duchess *N.*, let the Herald read forth the Proclamation of Investiture.

If a scroll has been prepared, the Herald reads it to the populace. If not, he continues:

HERALD

Be it known to all men that *N.,* having twice inspired her champion to win for her the Crown of this Realm, being first crowned on the (n)th day of (month), A.S. (year), and again on the (n)th day of (month), A.S. (year), We do hereby proclaim that by her beauty, grace and virtues she has earned and deserves the honorable and noble title and estate of a Duchess of this Realm, with all the honors and dignities appertaining thereto. In acknowledgement whereof, We hereto set Our Hand and Seal this (n)th day of (month), Anno Societatis (year), being the (n)th year of the Common Era. *N.*, Rex, *N.,* Regina, King and Queen of Caid.

The new Duchess approaches the Thrones, and kneels. The banner bearer and coronet bearer step slightly to the side.

KING

In token of her new estate, let Her Grace be vested as becomes her station.

The mantle bearer comes forward and places the mantle around the new Duchess's shoulders, then retires to the side. Then the King may either kiss the new Duchess on each cheek, or else dub her with His scepter, in the manner of a knighting -- left shoulder, right shoulder, crown of the head.

My Lady Duchess, it pleases me that you should receive this accolade from me.

DUCHESS

My Liege, I am most heartily pleased to receive it.

QUEEN

Let Her Grace be crowned with the coronet symbolizing her new estate.

The coronet bearer hands the coronet to the Queen, who, with the King, places the coronet on the Duchess's head. (As an option: the Duchess's Lord may crown his Lady. If so, he takes the coronet and holds it over her head, saying:

DUKE

As it was my honor to twice win you the Crown of Caid, so it is my joy today to create you a Duchess.

The Duke then places the coronet on his Lady's head. End of OPTION.) The Queen gives the rose back to the new Duchess.

QUEEN

Receive this Rose, My Lady Duchess, and bear it henceforth as you have hitherto, with grace and dignity.

DUCHESS

My Queen, upon mine honor I pledge to do so.

If the Queen is herself a Duchess, she embraces the new Duchess, saying:

QUEEN

Welcome, Fair Lady, into our most noble order.

If the Queen is not a Duchess, the coronet bearer or the ranking Duchess present performs the office. If there are no Duchesses present, the office is omitted.

When congratulations have been concluded, the new Duke and Duchess join hands before the Thrones.

HERALD

Duke *N.* and Duchess *N*., will you now swear fealty to the Crown and Kingdom of Caid?

DUKE & DUCHESS

We will.

The Seneschal brings forward the Great Sword, which the King unsheathes and holds horizontally. The Duke and Duchess kneel and place their hands on the Sword.

CRESCENT for DUKE & DUCHESS to repeat:

Here do we swear, by mouth and hand, fealty and service to the Crown and Kingdom of Caid. As we have ruled this Realm in faith, so shall we keep that faith henceforth, that we may, by our example, foster chivalry, courtesy, and honor throughout the land; until the Crown depart the throne, or death take us, or the world end. So say we, *N.*

KING and Queen

And We, for Our part, swear fealty to these Royal Peers of Caid, and to all their households, to protect and defend them against every creature with all Our power, until We depart from the throne, or death take Us, or the world end. So say We, *N.*, King of Caid.

And so say We, *N.*, Queen of Caid.

The King returns the Great Sword into the Seneschal's keeping. Their Majesties raise up the new Duke and Duchess, while Crescent Herald exhorts cheers from the populace. Their Graces, along with their parties, bow and retire.

## Creation of a Count and Countess

It should be ascertained beforehand the titles the new Count and Countess wish to use: Earl, Comptesse, etc.; and these should be substituted for "Count" and "Countess" in the Ceremony, where appropriate.

HERALD

Their Majesties call before the Throne *N.* and *N.*, for they have done great service to Caid and We would honor them.

The two enter, attended by such Royal Peers as please them; the attendants bear the coronets and personal banners. They kneel before Their Majesties, who stand.

KING

*N.*, having by your valor, skill, and strength of arms won the Crown of this Kingdom, and having served this Realm as King, We do hereby affirm you as a Count and Royal Peer. Will you accept this honor, vowing your continued fealty to the Crown you have lately worn?

COUNT

I will, Your Majesty.

KING

Let the scroll be read.

If a scroll has been prepared, the Herald reads it to the populace. If not, he continues:

HERALD

Be it known to all men that *N.*, having been knighted on the (n)th day of (month), A.S. (year), and having won the Crown of this Realm, We hereby proclaim that by his valor, skill and strength at arms he has earned and deserves the honorable and noble title and estate of a Count of this Realm, with all the honors and dignities pertaining to this rank. In acknowledgement whereof, We hereto set Our Hand and Seal, this (n)th day of (month), A.S. (year), being the (n)th of the Common Era*. N.* Rex, *N.,* Regina, King and Queen of Caid.

KING

Let His Excellency receive the coronet of his new rank.

Another Count (or the King) places the coronet on the new Count's head. The King raises the new Count to his feet.

*N.*, henceforth be Count *N.* in this Our Realm.

The new Count stands beside the King.

QUEEN

*N.,* having by your beauty, grace, and virtue inspired your champion to win you the Crown of this Kingdom, and having served this Realm as Queen, We do hereby affirm you as a Countess and Royal Peer. Will you accept this honor, vowing your continued fealty to the Crown you have lately worn?

COUNTESS

I will, Your Majesty.

QUEEN

Let the scroll be read.

If a scroll has been prepared, the Herald reads it to the populace. If not, he continues:

HERALD

Be it known to all men that *N*., having inspired her champion to win for her the Crown of this Realm, We do hereby proclaim that by her beauty, grace and virtues she has earned and deserves the honorable and noble title and estate of a Countess of this Realm, with all the honors and dignities appertaining thereto. In acknowledgement whereof, We hereto set Our Hand and Seal this (day)th day of (month), A.S. (year), being the (n)th year of the Common Era. *N*., Rex, *N*., Regina, King and Queen of Caid.

QUEEN

Let Her Excellency receive the coronet of her new rank.

Another Countess (or the Queen) places the coronet on the new Countess' head. (As an OPTION: The new Count may crown his Lady. If so, he first holds it over her head, saying:

COUNT

As it was my honor to win you the Crown of Caid, so it is my pleasure to invest you in this estate.

The Count then places the coronet on his lady's head. End of OPTION.) The King raises the new Countess to her feet, and kisses her hand.

KING

*N.*, henceforth be Countess *N.* in this Our Realm.

The Queen presents the new Countess with a yellow rose.

Queen

Countess *N*., be welcomed into the Order of the Rose, whose token this is.

The Count rejoins his lady.

HERALD

Count *N.* and Countess *N.*, will you now swear fealty to the Crown and Kingdom of Caid?

COUNT & COUNTESS

We will.

The Seneschal brings forward the Great Sword, which the King unsheathes and holds horizontally. The Count and Countess kneel and place their hands on the Sword.

HERALD for COUNT & COUNTESS to repeat:

Here do we swear, by mouth and hand, fealty and service to the Crown and Kingdom of Caid. As we have ruled this Realm in faith, so shall we keep that faith henceforth, that we may, by our example, foster chivalry, courtesy, and honor throughout the land; until the Crown depart the throne, or death take us, or the world end. So say we, *N.*

KING and Queen

And We, for Our part, swear fealty to these Royal Peers of Caid, and to all their households, to protect and defend them against every creature with all Our power, until We depart from the throne, or death take Us, or the world end. So say We, *N*., King of Caid.

And so say We, *N*., Queen of Caid.

The King returns the Great Sword into the Seneschal's keeping. Their Majesties raise up the new Count and Countess, while Crescent Herald exhorts cheers from the populace. Their Excellencies, along with their parties, bow and retire.

## Order of Chivalry

HERALD

Let all members of the Order of Chivalry come forward, and attend Their Majesties.

The Knights come forward and kneel, including those who will escort the Candidate. A central aisle is kept open.

Since ancient times, it has been recognized that there are certain warriors who are much deserving of high honor, not only by their skill at arms, but by their noble behavior, which came to define the meaning of chivalry.

For a Kingdom is supported by these three things: service, art, and chivalry. And without any one of these, the Kingdom topples.

Therefore was created the Order of Knighthood of our Society, to recognize those who, possessing all the other skills, virtues, and attributes appropriate to members of the Peerage, shall also have distinguished themselves by their prowess at arms and chivalrous demeanor.

This Order is formed like unto the Knightly Orders of old, with the accolade passing in unbroken descent from knight to knight. And the symbols of this Order are a white belt and an unadorned chain. For the white belt betokens the honor with which the knight girds himself, and the chain, the duty he accepts. This Order ranks in precedence with the Orders of the Laurel and of the Pelican, and carries with it a Patent of Arms.

KING

Sir *N.*, please bring forward *N.*

The escort leads his brother knights of escort to the rear of the assembly, where the Candidate is waiting with his accoutrements. The knights escort the candidate before the thrones, arranged with the candidate in the center, flanked by the sponsor and the shield/banner bearer, followed by the bearers of the candidate’s sword and spurs.

The procession halts and all bow. The two escorts kneel; the candidate and his escort remain standing. As an OPTION, the Sponsor may here say:

ESCORT

My Liege, it is my privilege to present *N.* that he may be made a part of our noble brotherhood.

KING

Sir *N.*, do you and your brother knights affirm his worthiness for this high honor, accepting him as your peer in chivalry, honor, and valor on the field?

ESCORT

I do, my Liege, as do my brother knights.

KING

My Lady Queen, is it your judgment that *N.* fulfills all the requirements of a true knight?

QUEEN

It is my Lord. Further, I have inquired of many ladies of this kingdom who know *N.*, and find him to be esteemed greatly as a gentleman.

(End of OPTION. As an alternate OPTION, representatives from each of the bestowed peerages and a Royal Peer, usually a Lady of the Rose, may be prompted by the herald to speak for the candidate.)

HERALD

Is there here a knight of Caid who will speak of *N.*’s understanding of the virtues of chivalry?

(Pause while Knight speaks)

Is there here a Companion of the Laurel who will speak of *N.*’s commitment to the arts?

(Pause while Laurel speaks)

Is there here a Companion of the Pelican who will speak of *N.*’s service to Caid?

(Pause while Pelican speaks)

Is there here a Companion of the Rose who will speak of *N.*’s virtues and gentle demeanor?

(Pause while Rose speaks. End of OPTION.)

KING

*N.*, well pleased with your prowess on the field and your gentle conduct at all times, and responsive to the wishes of your peers, we are minded to create you a knight. Will you accept from us this honor, and these badges of your ability and knighthood, and will you swear fealty to this, our Crown and Throne in all matters concerning this realm?

CANDIDATE

I will, Your Majesty.

KING

Let the scroll be read.

The herald reads the scroll (or promissory, if no scroll is available. If preparing the ceremony beforehand and there is no scroll, use the standard scroll text from the College of Scribes. Promissory text appears below).

HERALD

*N.*, whereas this day we have made you a knight, it gives Us great pleasure to affirm your right to bear arms by letters patent. In witness whereof We do set Our hand this (n)th day of (month), Anno Societatis (year).

*N.*, Rex Caidis, *N.*, Regina Caidis.

He hands it to the Crown, who hands it to the candidate. (It may be given to one of the candidate's entourage, or back to the herald if necessary.)

KING

Let the candidate be vested with the spurs.

HERALD

The spurs are a symbol of a knight's vow to guard the honor of the Knightly Order, to keep faith, to speak the truth, and to live for honor and not for reward. May they never be hacked off in shame and degradation.

The sword-bearer hands the sword to the banner-bearer or another knight, and kneels to buckle the spurs to the candidate's heels, assisted by the sponsor. The king returns the Great Sword of Caid to the Seneschal, who remains nearby. The sponsor returns to the candidate's side, and the sword-bearer retrieves the candidate's sword.

KING

Let the candidate's sword be brought forward.

The sword-bearer presents the sword to the king, who gives it to the sponsor. The sponsor girds the candidate with it.

Remain forever worthy of this sword, *N.*, and remember that the sword has two edges, Justice and Mercy.

HERALD

Be mindful that a knight guides, not only by his word, but also by the example he sets for others. Continue to live by the Code of Chivalry: to protect the weak and defenseless; to respect and defend the honor of ladies; and to teach these values to others that may seek the true standard of knighthood.

Their Majesties stand.

KING

With what sword do you wish to be knighted?

The candidate answers. The king receives the named sword, and lightly strikes the candidate thrice with the flat of the blade: first on the right shoulder, then on the left shoulder, then on the crown of the head.

Be thou a true knight, Sir *N*.

The King returns the sword to its rightful place, then raises the new Knight. (As an OPTION: If the new knight wishes to receive the buffet, the king at this point braces him, then delivers it: a good solid punch to the right shoulder, of sufficient strength to stagger the recipient.

Let this be the last blow you receive unanswered.

End of OPTION.) The queen receives the white belt, and girds it around the new knight's waist.

QUEEN

Wear this belt, Sir *N.*, in token of your chivalry.

Once girded with the belt, the new Knight kneels.

NEW KNIGHT

Your Majesties, I wish now to pledge you my fealty.

KING

On which sword do you wish to swear?

The new knight answers. The named sword is presented hilt-first to the king, who holds it across his palms. The new knight lays his hands on the king's hands, with the blade between them. (As an OPTION, the new knight may swear fealty by placing his hands between those of the king.)

NEW KNIGHT

Prompted as needed by the herald.

Here do I swear, by mouth and hand, fealty and service to the Crown and Kingdom of Caid: to speak and to be silent; to do and to let be; to come and to go; to strike and to spare, in such matters as concern this realm; in need or in plenty, in peace or in war, in living or in dying, until the Crown depart their throne, or death take me, or the world end. So swear I, *N.*

KING and Queen

And this do We hear, Sir *N.* And We, for our part, swear fealty to you and to all your household, to protect and defend you against every creature with all Our power, until We depart from the throne, or death take Us or the world end. So say We, *N.,* King of Caid.

And so say We, *N.*, Queen of Caid.

The new knight remains kneeling as the sword is returned to its proper place. The king receives the chain of Knighthood from whoever is providing it, and places it around the neck of the new knight.

KING

Take now this chain, and let its weight ever remind you of the fealty you have sworn.

The new knight raises his joined hands, and the king raises him up.

Congratulations, Sir *N.* Go now to your brothers.

The new knight joins the other knights, who all turn back to the thrones.

Thank you, my lords and ladies. You may retire.

The Knights bow, draw theirs swords, salute, sheath their weapons, and retire, while the herald exhorts cheers from the populace.

## Order of the Laurel

HERALD

Their Majesties command the presence of all Masters and Mistresses of the Order of the Laurel.

The Laurels assemble, kneeling before the Throne to either side, leaving a center aisle.

It has long been recognized that there are those among us who are much deserving of high honor but who, by reason of the nature and direction of their services and achievement, come not to the glory of warrior or Throne, yet without whom our Kingdom would not be half so blest.

For a Kingdom is supported by three things: chivalry, art, and service. And without any one of these, the Kingdom topples.

Therefore was created the Order of the Laurel to recognize those who, possessing all the other skills, virtues, and attributes appropriate to members of the Peerage, shall also have distinguished themselves by outstanding achievement in the Arts and Sciences.

And the symbol of this Order is a medallion bearing a Laurel wreath; for the chaplet of laurel has long been acknowledged as a mark of superior achievement. And this Order ranks in precedence with the Order of Chivalry and the Order of the Pelican, and carries with it a Patent of Arms.

(As an OPTION: The Escort will here say:

ESCORT

Your Majesties, having consulted with the Order, is it Your desire to increase our numbers at this time?

KING

It is. Please bring the candidate forward.

The Escort, and such other Laurels as the Candidate will have selected, stand and walk to the Candidate, who will be at the rear of the hall or otherwise have arranged to easily come forward. As they escort the Candidate forward, the Herald announces the Candidate's name.End of OPTION.) If the OPTION is not taken, the Herald says:

HERALD

Their Majesties call forward *N*.

The Candidate comes forward and kneels before the Throne. As an OPTION: The Candidate may process into court under a canopy, borne by two or more of the Candidate's choice. This canopy is part of the regalia of the Order. If used, it should stand aside during the ceremony, as the Candidate approaches the Throne.

Also as an OPTION: The Candidate may choose to present tokens of his art or science, representing the skill which has earned elevation and as a token of continued fealty. These may be purely symbolic (a pair of scissors for a seamstress, for instance) -- or quite literal (examples of their work). The tokens should be small, portable enough to be brought forward on a pillow. The Candidate bears the tokens forward, as the Herald states:

Your Majesties, in token of his craft, and in pledge of his continuing fealty, *N*. here renders up to you these symbols of his artistry and expertise into Your Majesties' keeping.

The tokens are presented to Their Majesties, who take them and set them aside. (As an OPTION, representatives from each of the bestowed peerages and a Royal Peer, usually a Lady of the Rose, may be prompted by the herald to speak for the candidate.)

HERALD

Is there here a Companion of the Laurel who will speak of *N.*’s commitment to the arts?

(Pause while Laurel speaks)

Is there here a knight of Caid who will speak of *N.*’s understanding of the virtues of chivalry?

(Pause while Knight speaks)

Is there here a Companion of the Pelican who will speak of *N.*’s service to Caid?

(Pause while Pelican speaks)

Is there here a Companion of the Rose who will speak of *N.*’s virtues and gentle demeanor?

(Pause while Rose speaks. End of OPTION.)

KING

*N.,* right mindful of your achievement and service to Our Realm, and responsive to the wishes of your Peers, We are minded to create you a Master of the Laurel. Will you accept from Us this honor, and the badge of your achievement, and will you swear fealty to this, Our Crown and Realm?

CANDIDATE

I will, Your Majesty.

Queen

Will you, to the best of your ability, continue your quest for artistic excellence, as you most surely have until now, and seek to increase your labor and talents nobly, as befits a nobleman, and train any dependents you may have to do likewise, so far as is within your powers?

CANDIDATE

I will.

KING

Let the scroll be read.

The herald reads the scroll (or promissory, if no scroll is available. If preparing the ceremony beforehand and there is no scroll, use the standard scroll text from the College of Scribes. Promissory text appears below).

HERALD

*N.*, whereas this day we have made you a Laurel, it gives Us great pleasure to affirm your right to bear arms by letters patent. In witness whereof We do set Our hand this (n)th day of (month), Anno Societatis (year).

*N.*, Rex Caidis, *N.*, Regina Caidis.

He hands it to the Crown, who hands it to the candidate. (It may be given to one of the candidate's entourage, or back to the herald, for safekeeping if necessary.) The King then receives the medallion from that member of the Order who is providing it.

KING

*N.,* take from Our hands this token of your achievement, and Our esteem.

The King places the medallion around the Candidate's neck. (As an OPTION, the Order may present the new Laurel with a cope of the order; The cloak bearers come forward and place the cope on the candidate's shoulders.

QUEEN

As this cope folds you in warmth, so does the Order of the Laurel enfold you in companionship.

End of OPTION.) The King dubs the Candidate with his sword or with his scepter by lightly striking the candidate with the flat of the blade or with the scepter first on the right shoulder, then on the left shoulder, then on the crown of the head. If the King is not a Laurel, the designated Laurel can place his hand upon the sword, or if that is not possible then the shoulder of the King.

KING

Henceforth be Master *N.* in this Our Realm.

HERALD

Place your hands between Their Majesties' for the Oath of Fealty.

NEW LAUREL

Prompted as needed by the herald.

Here do I swear by mouth and hand fealty and service to the Crown and Kingdom of Caid: to speak and to be silent, to do and to let be, to come and to go, to serve and to teach, in such matters as concern this Realm; in need or in plenty, in peace or in war, in living or in dying, until the Crown depart their throne, or death take me, or the world end. So say I, *N.*

KING and QUEEN

And this do We hear, Master *N.* And We, for Our part, swear fealty to you and to all your household, to protect and defend you against every creature with all Our power, until we depart from the Throne, or death take Us, or the world end. So say We, *N.*, King of Caid.

And so say We, *N.*, Queen of Caid.

The King raises the new Laurel. (If the OPTION had been taken of presenting tokens of skill, the Queen returns them to the new Laurel at this time, saying:

QUEEN

Receive back these symbols of your fealty and achievement, and keep them well, as you have hitherto.

End of OPTION.)

KING

Congratulations, Master *N.* Go now to your Peers.

The new Laurel joins the rest of the Order.

KING

Thank you, my lords and ladies. You may retire.

The Laurels bow to the Throne and retire, while the Herald exhorts cheers from the populace.

## Order of the Pelican

HERALD

Their Majesties command the presence of all Masters and Mistresses of the Order of the Pelican.

The Pelicans assemble, kneeling before the Throne to either side, leaving a center aisle.

It has long been recognized that there are those among us who are much deserving of high honor but who, by reason of the nature and direction of their services and achievement, come not to the glory of warrior or throne, yet without whom our kingdom would not be half so blest.

For a kingdom is supported by three things: chivalry, art, and service. And without any one of these, the kingdom topples.

Therefore was created the Order of the Pelican, to recognize those who, possessing all the other skills, virtues, and attributes appropriate to members of the Peerage, shall also have distinguished themselves by sustained and exemplary service to the Society.

And the symbol of this Order is a medallion bearing a Pelican in her Piety. For it was believed in ancient times that the Pelican would, when necessary, revive her young with blood from her own breast. Hence, the Pelican represented sacrifice, and in time became the symbol of the good servant. And this Order ranks in precedence with the Order of Chivalry and the Order of the Laurel, and carries with it a Patent of Arms.

If the Candidate does not choose an escort, the herald calls the Candidate forward.

Their Majesties call forward *N.*

The candidate comes forward and kneels before the thrones .If the candidate has chosen to be escorted, the escort will here say:

ESCORT

Your Majesties, having consulted with the Order, is it your desire to increase our numbers at this time?

KING

It is. Please bring the candidate forward.

The escort and such other Pelicans as the candidate will have selected, stand and walk to the candidate, who will be at the rear of the hall or otherwise have arranged to easily come forward. As they escort the candidate forward, the herald announces the candidate's name. The Candidate comes forward and kneels before the thrones. (As an OPTION, representatives from each of the bestowed peerages and a Royal Peer, usually a Lady of the Rose, may be prompted by the herald to speak for the candidate.)

HERALD

Is there here a Companion of the Pelican who will speak of *N.*’s service to Caid?

(Pause while Pelican speaks)

Is there here a knight of Caid who will speak of *N.*’s understanding of the virtues of chivalry?

(Pause while Knight speaks)

Is there here a Companion of the Laurel who will speak of *N.*’s commitment to the arts?

(Pause while Laurel speaks)

Is there here a Companion of the Rose who will speak of *N.*’s virtues and gentle demeanor?

(Pause while Rose speaks. End of OPTION.)

KING

*N.*, right mindful of your achievement and service to our realm, and responsive to the wishes of your peers, we are minded to create you a Master of the Pelican. Will you accept from us this honor, and the badge of your achievement, and will you swear fealty to this, our Crown and Realm?

CANDIDATE

I will, Your Majesty.

Queen

Will you, to the best of your ability, continue in the cause of service, as you most surely have until now, and seek to increase your labor and talents nobly, as befits a nobleman, and train any dependents you may have to do likewise, so far as is within your powers?

CANDIDATE

I will.

KING

Let the scroll be read.

The herald reads the scroll (or promissory, if no scroll is available. If preparing the ceremony beforehand and there is no scroll, use the standard scroll text from the College of Scribes. Promissory text appears below).

Herald

*N.*, whereas this day we have made you a Pelican, it gives Us great pleasure to affirm your right to bear arms by letters patent. In witness whereof We do set Our hand this (n)th day of (month), Anno Societatis (year).

*N.*, Rex Caidis, *N.*, Regina Caidis.

He hands it to the Crown, who hands it to the candidate. (It may be given to one of the candidate's entourage, or back to the herald, for safekeeping if necessary.) The King then receives the medallion from that member of the Order who is providing it.

KING

*N.*, take from our hands this token of your achievement and our esteem.

The king places the medallion around the candidate's neck. As an OPTION, if the king is not a member of the Order of the Pelican, a member of the Order may assist the king in placing the medallion around the candidate's neck.

With what sword do you wish to be dubbed?

The candidate answers. The king receives the named sword. If the king is not a member of the Order of the Pelican, a member of the Order places a hand on the hilt of the sword. The king lightly strikes the candidate thrice with the flat of the blade: first on the right shoulder, then on the left shoulder, then on the crown of the head.

Henceforth be Master *N.* in this our realm.

As an OPTION, the Order may present the new Pelican with a robe of the Order. The robe bearers come forward and place the robe on the candidate's shoulders.

QUEEN

As this robe folds you in warmth, so does the Order of the Pelican enfold you in companionship.

HERALD

Place your hands between Their Majesties', for the oath of fealty.

NEW PELICAN

Prompted as needed by the herald.

Here do I swear by mouth and hand fealty and service to the Crown and Kingdom of Caid: to speak and to be silent; to do and to let be; to come and to go; to serve and to teach, in such matters as concern this Realm; in need or in plenty, in peace or in war, in living or in dying, until the Crown depart their throne, or death take me, or the world end. So say I, *N*.

KING and QUEEN

And this do We hear, Master *N.* And We, for our part, swear fealty to you and to all your household; to protect and defend you against every creature with all Our power, until We depart from the throne, or death take Us, or the world end. So say We, *N.*, King of Caid.

And so say We, *N.*, Queen of Caid.

The King raises the new Pelican.

KING

Congratulations, Master *N.* Go now to your peers.

The new Pelican joins the rest of the Order.

KING

Thank you, my lords and ladies. You may retire.

The Pelicans bow to the Throne and retire while the herald exhorts cheers from the populace.

# Grant-Level Ceremonies

Grant of Arms Promissory:

*N.*, whereas it has come to Our notice that through diverse great efforts you have considerably enriched Our realm, it is thus Our pleasure to reward you with a Grant of Arms.

We at this time grant you the rights and charge you with the responsibilities of this rank.

By Our hand this (n)th day of (month), Anno Societatis (year).

*N.*, Rex Caidis, *N.*, Regina Caidis

At the Crown's pleasure prior to the ceremony the herald shall assemble the Companions of the Order. Unless there is some need to avoid this custom, it is done automatically. Using the phrase, “At this time, Their Majesties summon the presence of all members of the Order of N.,” the herald then proceeds with the ceremony as the Order forms, and only pauses before summoning the new Companion only if the Order has not yet settled. Because of the uniformity of this action, the notes for each ceremony have been omitted.

## The Order of Chiron

At the Crown's pleasure prior to the ceremony the herald shall assemble the Companions of the Order.

HERALD

At this time, Their Majesties summon the presence of all members of the Order of Chiron.

As the members of the order assemble, the herald continues.

The art of archery is an ancient one, and many are its practitioners. Among them are those who combine great skill with the bow with exceptional manner and deportment, thereby promoting honor and chivalry in this Our Kingdom; these archers are especially deserving of reward.

From the past we draw the example of Chiron the Centaur, teacher of heroes and healers, who at his death was set in the heavens where we see him to this day as a centaur with drawn bow, in the constellation men call Sagittarius.

Thus was created the Order of Chiron, to honor those whose skill with the bow is exceptional, and is equally matched by their gentle deportment and manner. This order bears with it a Grant of Arms and ranks equally in precedence with all other Grant-bearing Orders of Caid.

At this time Their Majesties summon *N.* to present himself before the Throne of Caid.

Promissory:

*N.*, well pleased by your skill at archery, and by your courteous demeanor, We are moved to admit you to the Right Noble Order of Chiron.

By Our hand this (n)th day of (month), Anno Societatis (year).

*N.*, Rex Caidis, *N.*, Regina Caidis.

## The Order of the Crescent

At the Crown's pleasure prior to the ceremony the herald shall assemble the Companions of the Order.

HERALD

At this time, Their Majesties summon the presence of all members of the Order of the Crescent.

As the members of the order assemble, the herald continues.

The crescent set upon the Crowns of Caid is a symbol of the service owed to the Kingdom by its Monarchs. It now has come to be a reminder of the unselfish service done by others.

The Order of the Crescent is thus given to honor those persons who have served the kingdom for many years, giving their time and efforts generously and courteously. This order bears with it a Grant of Arms and ranks equally in precedence with all other Grant-bearing Orders of Caid.

At this time Their Majesties summon *N.* to present himself before the Throne of Caid.

Promissory:

*N.*, in recognition of the great service you have given our realm, we are well pleased to admit you to the right noble order of the Crescent.

By Our hand this (n)th day of (month), Anno Societatis (year).

*N.*, Rex Caidis, *N.*, Regina Caidis.

## The Order of the Gauntlet of Caid

At the Crown's pleasure prior to the ceremony the herald shall assemble the Companions of the Order.

HERALD

At this time, Their Majesties summon the presence of all members of the Order of the Gauntlet.

As the members of the order assemble, the herald continues.

There are those who show great prowess on the field of combat over a span of years, yet whose skill at arms is surpassed by their chivalry and honor. These warriors know that victory without honor is empty and without value. Such persons not only bring honor to themselves, but also to the kingdom.

Therefore was created the Order of the Gauntlet of Caid to recognize them, and this order bears with it a Grant of Arms and ranks equally in precedence with all other Grant-bearing Orders of Caid.

At this time Their Majesties summon *N.* to present himself before the Throne of Caid.

Promissory:

*N.*, well pleased by your skill and chivalry upon the field of honor, We hereby admit you to the Right Noble Order of the Gauntlet of Caid.

By Our hand this (n)th day of (month), Anno Societatis (year).

*N.*, Rex Caidis, *N.*, Regina Caidis

## The Order of the Golden Lance of Caid

At the Crown's pleasure prior to the ceremony the herald shall assemble the Companions of the Order.

HERALD

At this time, Their Majesties summon the presence of all members of the Order of the Golden Lance.

As the members of the order assemble, the herald continues.

In the 39th year of the Society, the Order of the Golden Lance was created in the Kingdom of Ansteorra to recognize and promote excellence in all aspects of the equestrian arts. In the 43rd year of the Society, by treaty with the Kingdoms of Ansteorra, and Trimaris, the Crown of Caid established the Order of the Golden Lance in Caid.

This order bears with it a Grant of Arms and ranks equally in precedence with all other Grant-bearing Orders of Caid.

At this time Their Majesties summon *N.* to present himself before the Throne of Caid.

Promissory:

*N.*, well pleased by your mien and gentle deportment on horseback, We hereby admit you to the Right Noble Order of the Golden Lance of Caid.

By Our hand this (n)th day of (month), Anno Societatis (year).

*N.*, Rex Caidis, *N.*, Regina Caidis

## The Order of the Lux Caidis

At the Crown's pleasure prior to the ceremony the herald shall assemble the Companions of the Order.

HERALD

At this time, Their Majesties summon the presence of all members of the Order of the Lux Caidis.

As the members of the order assemble, the herald continues.

From time to time it comes to the attention of the Crown that an artisan has displayed surpassing skill in some art or science for a span of years, and has thereby enriched the kingdom and enhanced the enjoyment of all.

It is meet that such persons should be recognized and praised. So therefore was created the Order of the Lux Caidis, for such artisans are the light of the kingdom. This order bears with it a Grant of Arms and ranks equally in precedence with all other Grant-bearing Orders of Caid.

At this time Their Majesties summon *N.* to present himself before the Throne of Caid.

Promissory:

*N.*, well pleased with the skill you have long shown in (art form), We are minded to admit you to the Right Noble Order of the Lux Caidis.

By Our hand this (n)th day of (month), Anno Societatis (year).

*N.*, Rex Caidis, *N.*, Regina Caidis

## The Order of the White Scarf of Caid

At the Crown's pleasure prior to the ceremony the herald shall assemble the Companions of the Order.

HERALD

At this time, Their Majesties summon the presence of all members of the Order of the White Scarf.

As the members of the order assemble, the herald continues.

In the 14th year of the Society, the Order of the White Scarf was created in the Kingdom of Ansteorra to recognize and promote excellence in all aspects of the art of rapier combat, courtesy, honor, and chivalry. In the 31st year of the Society, by treaty with the Kingdoms of Ansteorra, the Outlands, Trimaris, Atenveldt, An Tir, and Atlantia, the Crown of Caid established the Order of the White Scarf in Caid.

This Order recognizes those whose skill in the art of fence is worthy of renown, but which exceptional skill is exceeded by the courtesy, honor and chivalry of the recipient.

The order bears with it a Grant of Arms and ranks equally in precedence with all other Grant-bearing Orders of Caid.

At this time Their Majesties summon *N.* to present himself before the Throne of Caid.

Promissory:

*N.*, insofar as your skill with the Rapier is well-matched by your invaluable efforts and courteous mien, We hereby admit you to the Most Noble Order of the White Scarf of Caid.

By Our hand this (n)th day of (month), Anno Societatis (year).

*N.*, Rex Caidis, *N.*, Regina Caidis

# Award-Level Ceremonies

Award of Arms Promissory:

*N.*, whereas it has come to Our notice that through diverse great efforts you have considerably enriched Our realm, it is thus Our pleasure to raise you to the rank, estate, and title of a Lord/Lady of Our realm, and award you arms.

We at this time charge you with the responsibilities of this rank, and to consult with Our heralds to determine suitable and unique arms.

By Our hand this (n)th day of (month), Anno Societatis (year).

*N.*, Rex Caidis, *N.*, Regina Caidis

## Court Barony

HERALD:

There are those within the Kingdom whose noble demeanor and special contributions have enriched Our Realm in ways indefinable within the usual system of awards, and yet who are much deserving of honor.

It is the prerogative of the Crown to recognize such individuals with the title of Court Baron(ess).

So, therefore, do We call before Us: *N.*

Promissory:

*N.*, insofar as your noble mien and deportment have well pleased us, we have determined to confer upon you the title Court Baron(ess).

In witness whereof we set our hand this (n)th day of (month), Anno Societatis (year).

*N.*, Rex Caidis, *N.*, Regina Caidis.

## The Order of the Argent Arrow

HERALD

The art of archery is ancient, and renowned in song and legend. It requires skill, strength, and patience to excel in this art. Many may achieve this excellence.

There are those, however, who combine the archer's skill with praiseworthy demeanor, doubly promoting the spirit of these Current Middle Ages; and these archers are especially deserving of reward.

Therefore was created the Order of the Argent Arrow, honoring those individuals whose skill with the bow and authenticity in appearance bring compliment to themselves and glory to Caid.

Those so recognized, shall be known by an arrow between two crescents of silver, displayed upon a blue medallion.

Now therefore do We, *N*. and *N*., call before Us: *N.*

Promissory:

*N.*, in token of your noble demeanor and skill at archery, We hereby admit you to the Order of the Argent Arrow of Caid.

By Our hand this (n)th day of (month), Anno Societatis (year).

*N.*, Rex Caidis, *N.*, Regina Caidis

## The Order of the Chamfron

HERALD:

The equestrian arts are prehistoric, and renowned in song and legend. It requires skill, strength, and patience to excel in this art. Many may achieve this excellence.

There are those, however, who combine the equestrian's skill with praiseworthy demeanor, doubly promoting the spirit of these Current Middle Ages; and these riders are especially deserving of reward.

Therefore was created the Order of the Chamfron of Caid to honor those individuals whose skill with equestrian activities and authenticity in appearance bring compliment to themselves and glory to Caid.

Those so recognized shall be known by a silver chamfron within an embattled border, all displayed upon a blue medallion.

Now therefore do We, *N*. and *N*., call before Us: *N.*

Promissory:

*N.*, well pleased by the prowess and elegance you have displayed in the equestrian arts, We are pleased to admit you to the Right Noble Order of the Chamfron of Caid.

By Our hand this (n)th day of (month), Anno Societatis (year).

*N.*, Rex Caidis, *N.*, Regina Caidis

## The Order of the Crescent Sword

HERALD:

Many may pursue their fortunes upon the tourney field, or defend their Kingdom in time of war.

There are those, however, whose prowess in combat inspire their companions-at-arms, and promote the spirit of these Current Middle Ages. These few, then, are especially deserving of reward.

Thus was created the Order of the Crescent Sword, to recognize those individuals whose praiseworthy appearance and skill at arms bring glory and honor to themselves and to Caid.

Those who have been so recognized shall be known by a sword surmounting a crescent of silver, displayed upon a blue medallion.

Now therefore do We, *N*. and *N*., call before Us *N.*

Promissory:

*N.*, well pleased by the prowess and elegance you have displayed upon the tournament field, We are pleased to admit you to the Right Noble Order of the Crescent Sword of Caid.

By Our hand this (n)th day of (month), Anno Societatis (year).

*N.*, Rex Caidis, *N.*, Regina Caidis

##

## The Order of the Dolphin

HERALD:

The Order of the Dolphin was first given in the second year of Caid, during the reign of Prince Gregory and Princess Vivian. This award is intended to honor those persons who have served Caid above and beyond the normal expectations of their offices or ranks.

At this time, Their Majesties summon *N.* to present himself before the Throne of Caid.

Promissory:

*N.*, in recognition of the service you have provided Our Realm, We hereby admit you to the Right Noble Order of the Dolphin of Caid.

By Our hand this (n)th day of (month), Anno Societatis (year).

*N.*, Rex Caidis, *N.*, Regina Caidis

## The Order of the Duellist

HERALD:

The art and skill of swordsmanship is valued in all parts of our Society as an accomplishment worthy of recognition. But even as the sword's form did evolve from the broadsword to the rapier, so too did swordsmanship ever increase its reliance on quickness of reflex and precision of movement.

Such skill with the rapier came to be reflected in the code duello, which emphasized both personal honor and mastery of fence; and those who practiced this code were called duellists.

Therefore was created in Caid the Order of the Duellist, given by the Crown to recognize those persons who have shown their skill in rapier and fence. And its symbol shall be two rapiers on a medallion in the colors of Caid.

Now therefore do We, *N*. and *N*., King and Queen of Caid, call before Us: *N.*

Promissory:

*N.*, in recognition of the prowess and efforts you have demonstrated in the art of Rapier fence, We by these presents admit you to the Right Noble Order of the Duellist.

By Our hand this (n)th day of (month), Anno Societatis (year).

*N.*, Rex Caidis, *N.*, Regina Caidis

## The Order of the Harp Argent

HERALD

It is one of the more pleasant duties of the Crown to encourage the development of artistic skills and scientific expertise among its subjects. When an artisan has excelled consistently in a particular art or science, and has shared that beauty and knowledge with others, to the greater enrichment of the Realm, then it becomes not only the duty, but the joy of the Crown to recognize such endeavor.

Therefore was created the Order of the Harp Argent of Caid. Its symbol shall be a silver harp on a blue medallion, hung from a silver cord.

And it shall be given as a sign of the Crown's recognition that the recipient has shown exceptional skill in a particular art form or scientific field, which shall be specified at the giving of the award.

So therefore do We, *N.* and *N.*, King and Queen of Caid, call before Us *N.*

Promissory:

*N.*, in recognition of the skill and knowledge you have demonstrated in the area of (art form), We are minded to admit you to the Right Noble Order of the Harp Argent of Caid.

By Our hand this (n)th day of (month), Anno Societatis (year).

*N.*, Rex Caidis, *N.*, Regina Caidis

# Non-Amigerous Awards

## The Order of the Acorn

HERALD:

Children have been called the hope of the future, and it is an honorable task and worthwhile to bring them to the paths of noble demeanor. And when one of tender years shows especial promise and enthusiasm, it is an event worthy of the Crown's notice.

Thus was created the Order of the Acorn, to recognize those youths who have displayed outstanding service beyond the mean of their years. And the symbol of the Order is an acorn; for as the tiny acorn grows to the mighty oak, so will such children become the seed of tomorrow's Society.

Now therefore do We *N.*and *N.*, King and Queen of Caid, call before Us: *N.*

Promissory:

*N.*, In recognition of the service, enthusiasm, and noble demeanor you have displayed to those of Our realm, We are pleased to admit you to the Order of the Acorn.

By Our hand this (n)th day of (month), Anno Societatis (year).

*N.*, Rex Caidis, *N.*, Regina Caidis

## The Order of the Argent Star

HERALD

It is an honorable task and worthwhile to encourage and foster Chivalry in the area of Youth Combat and when one of tender years shows such nobility of spirit it is an event worthy of the Crown’s notice. Thus was the Order of the Argent Star created to recognize those youths, whose courtesy of spirit, virtuous acts and noble demeanor upon the field of Youth Combat bring glory and honor to themselves and to Caid. And the symbol of the Order is a star of silver charged with an azure crescent, within an embattled border displayed upon an azure field; for as a tiny star may guide one’s path, so will such children become the martial leaders of tomorrow's Society.

At this time, Their Majesties summon *N.* to present himself before the Throne of Caid.

Promissory:

*N.*, in recognition of your outstanding chivalry and honor in the youth combat lists, we are pleased to admit you to the Order of the Argent Star.

By Our hand this (n)th day of (month), Anno Societatis (year).

*N.*, Rex Caidis, *N.*, Regina Caidis

## Augmentation of Arms

HERALD

Without the devotion and dedication of its subjects, a kingdom cannot prosper and grow. For this reason Caid provides its subjects with recognition through Kingdom Awards and Peerages.

However, on this rare occasion, there is an individual who, through their tireless efforts, humbles Us by their example.

We are therefore honored to provide them with an Augmentation of Arms, whereby We permit them to display upon their personal arms the Caidan Cross.

Therefore do We, *N.* and *N.*, call before Us: *N.*

## The Order of the Crescent and Flame

HERALD:

It is one of the more pleasant duties of the Crown to encourage the pursuit of the Arts and Sciences and when one of tender years shows talent and enthusiasm in such endeavor it is an event worthy of the Crown’s notice. Therefore was created the Order of the Crescent and Flame, to honor those youths who have displayed outstanding artistic or scientific achievement beyond their years.

At this time, Their Majesties summon *N.* to present himself before the Throne of Caid.

Promissory:

*N.*, in recognition of the surpassing enthusiasm and artistry you have demonstrated in Arts/Sciences/area of expertise, We do hereby admit you to the Order of the Crescent and Flame.

By Our hand this (n)th day of (month), Anno Societatis (year).

*N.*, Rex Caidis, *N.*, Regina Caidis

## Corde de Guerre

HERALD

In song and literature through the ages, bards have praised those great warriors whose heroic actions on the battlefield have inspired their comrades-in-arms in time of war. These outstanding warriors are worthy of praise and their Monarch's recognition.

Therefore was created the Corde de Guerre of Caid, to acknowledge those fighters who have distinguished themselves at time of war. And its symbol is a fourragere\* in the colors of Caid dependent from the left shoulder.

Now therefore do We, *N.* and *N.,* King and Queen of Caid, call before Us *N.*

\* A fourragere (pron. FOOR-eh-zhâr') is "an ornamental braided cord usually looped around the left shoulder of a uniform, sometimes awarded to an entire military unit."

## The Crossed Swords of Caid

HERALD:

When a Kingdom goes to war, its fighters array themselves, not as individuals as upon the tourney field, but as groups of warriors banded together for the purpose. Such fighting groups may, through their united efforts, accomplish more than the sum of their individual efforts. And in time of war, there will be those groups whose martial prowess on the battlefield are notable and praiseworthy, and merit renown.

Thus was created the award known as the Crossed Swords of Caid, to recognize those fighting groups that have so distinguished themselves in time of war.

And therefore does it please Us, *N.* and *N.*, King and Queen of Caid, to call before Us: *N.*

## The Legion of Courtesy

HERALD

In the investiture of the King and Queen of Caid, a yellow rose is given to the Queen as a sign of Her patronage of the arts, and She is reminded of Her responsibility to be an example of honor and gentle grace for Her people.

She is, therefore, First Lady of Courtesy in the Realm; and thus it is fitting that She should, from time to time, find means to honor those persons who, by their uncommon pursuit of the ideals of honor and courtesy, display gentle behavior as a way of life, and provide inspiration for us all.

And this Order is called the Legion of Courtesy: because those who aspire to the high ideals of this Order should be legion, or without finite number.

And the symbol of this Order is a golden heraldic rose dependent from a ribbon in the colors of Caid, and it is given by the Queen to such as She finds courteous and gracious to all in the Realm, and whose example enriches us all.

Now, therefore, do We call before Us: *N.*

Promissory:

Be it known that *N.* is hereby admitted to the Order of the Legion of Courtesy by virtue of his uncommon pursuit of the ideals of Honor and Courtesy, and display of gentle behavior.

By Our hand this (n)th day of (month), Anno Societatis (year).

*N.*, Regina Caidis

## l'Honneur de la Chanson

HERALD

Of the many beautiful sounds in the world, none are more pleasing than the sounds of song and melody. Not only does music fill the soul of the musician with joy, but it adds a measure of grace to a Kingdom renowned for its artists.

It is therefore fitting that those who share unstintingly of their musical talents should be rewarded. Thus was created l'Honneur de la Chanson, whose name means the honor of the song, and it is given to those in the Realm who have performed with exceptional skill in the bardic, vocal and instrumental arts, to the joy of those around them.

So therefore do We, *N.* and *N.*, King and Queen of Caid, call before Us: *N.*

Promissory:

By virtue of your unwavering dedication to fill Our fair realm with sounds of song and melody, it is thus Our pleasure to bestow upon *N.* L’Honneur de la Chanson, for exceptional performances in (field). Your skill not only fills the soul of the musician, but brings joy to those around you, and adds a measure of grace to Our realm.

By Our hand this (n)th day of (month), Anno Societatis (year).

*N.*, Rex Caidis, *N.*, Regina Caidis

## Right Noble Guild

Promissory:

Unto all those whom these presents come, We, *N.* and *N.*, king and queen of the sovereign realm of Caid send greetings. It is our command that *N.* should enjoy the rights and privileges of a Right Noble Guild of Caid unto Our royal charter.

They shall continue, as they have to date, to abide by the commandments of any ancient guild charters, to add to the culture of Our realm, to welcome any who wish to increase their proficiency in the guild’s craft, and to provide service unto Our realm and its several subjects as need may arise.

By Our hand this (n)th day of (month), Anno Societatis (year).

*N.*, Rex Caidis, *N.*, Regina Caidis

## Right Noble Household

Promissory:

Unto all those whom these presents come, We, *N.* and *N.*, king and queen of the sovereign realm of Caid send greetings. It is our command that *N.* should enjoy the rights and privileges of a Right Noble Household of Caid unto Our royal charter.

They shall continue, as they have to date, to abide by the commandments of any ancient charters and traditions, to add to the culture of Our realm, and to provide service unto Our realm and its several subjects as need may arise.

By Our hand this (n)th day of (month), Anno Societatis (year).

*N.*, Rex Caidis, *N.*, Regina Caidis

## Royal Recognition of Excellence

HERALD

Throughout the Kingdom, there come deeds or acts that bear recognition outside the regular structure of awards. For such deeds does the Crown grant a Royal Recognition of Excellence.

Therefore, in recognition of their outstanding efforts and contributions to the realm of Caid, do We, *N.* and *N.*, call before Us: *N*

Promissory:

Be it known to all these presents that we, *N.* and *N.*, King and Queen of Caid, do hereby recognize Our loyal subject, *N.* with a Royal Recognition of Excellence for limitless service to the Kingdom of Caid, especially in the area of (area).

By Our hand this (n)th day of (month), Anno Societatis (year).

*N.*, Rex Caidis, *N.*, Regina Caidis

## Sigillium Rex

HERALD

A King is charged with many responsibilities during his reign. He is the arbiter of treaties, commander of the army, patron of the chivalry, protector to His Lady, and liege Lord of the realm. To Him do all look for example, to be the embodiment of chivalry, honor, and noble virtue.

Inherent measures of all these qualities sustain Him through His reign, as does the strong support of His Lady, the Queen. But there are those of His subjects without whom the King could not rule half so graciously, whose aid and support make light the day-to-day details of ruling and ease their Sovereign Lord's tasks by their tireless devotion to His service.

Thus it was determined to create a new award to honor those subjects who have so served the King during His reign, giving of their time and assistance and devotion in even greater measure than that expected of any loyal subject.

And the badge of this award shall be a silver Cross of Caid engraved with the sigil of the King; and it shall be known as the Sigilium Regis.

Now therefore do We, *N.*, by right of arms King of Caid, call before Us: *N.*

## Signum Regina

HERALD

A Queen is charged with many responsibilities during Her reign. She is arbiter of love and beauty, patroness of the arts, counsel to Her Lord, and first Lady of the realm. To Her do all look for example, to be the embodiment of courtesy, grace, and gentle virtue.

Inherent measures of all these qualities sustain Her through Her reign, as does the strong support of Her Lord, the King. But there are those of Her subjects without whom the Queen could not rule half so joyously, whose aid and support make light the day-to-day details of ruling and ease their Sovereign Lady's tasks by their tireless devotion to Her service.

Thus it was determined to create a new award to honor those subjects who have so served the Queen during Her reign, giving of their time and assistance and devotion in even greater measure than that expected of any loyal subject. And the badge of this award shall be a silver crescent engraved with the sigil of the Queen; and it shall be known as the Signum Regina.

Now therefore do We, *N.*, by Grace of Love Queen of Caid, call before Us: *N.*

## Signum Regni

HERALD

The Crowns are charged with many responsibilities during Their reign. The King is the arbiter of treaties, commander of the army, patron of the chivalry, protector to His Lady; liege Lord of the realm. To Him do all look for example, to be the embodiment of chivalry, honor, and noble virtue.

The Queen is the arbiter of honor, love and beauty, patroness of the arts, counsel to Her Lord, and liege Lady of the realm. To Her do all look for example, to be the embodiment of courtesy, grace, and gentle virtue.

Inherent measures of all these qualities sustain Their Majesties throughout Their reign, as does the strong support They give one another.

But there are those of Their subjects without whom the King and Queen could not rule half so joyously, whose aid and support make light the day-to-day details of ruling, and ease their Sovereigns' tasks by tireless devotion to Their service.

Thus was it determined to create an award, known as the Signum Regni, to honor those subjects who have so served the Crown during Their reign, giving of their time and assistance and devotion in even greater measure than that expected of any loyal subject.

Now therefore do We, *N.* and *N.*, by right of arms and grace of love, King and Queen of Caid, call before Us: *N.*

## Vanguard of Honor

HERALD

There are several ways in which one can gain renown upon the field: by demonstrating great skill at arms in the lists, or through teamwork and ferocity upon the battlefield. However, there are those combatants at any level of skill whose equitable and noble actions upon the field stand out and provide a good example for others to follow.

Thus the Vanguard of Honor was created to identify those whose honorable conduct and continuing leadership upon the field are worthy of recognition.

The symbol borne by those who have been so recognized is a braided armband of orange and black cord.

At this time Their Majesties summon *N.* to present himself before Them.

## Captain of the Vanguard of Honor

HERALD

From the ranks of the Vanguard of Honor, a captain may be chosen by the Crown to advise on such matters as seem appropriate. Their Majesties choose, at this time, to name *N.* to this role.

## Creation of a Barony and Investiture of First Baron & Baroness

HERALD

Your Majesties,Your people of the (Canton/Shire) of *N.*, having petitioned You that they might be elevated and created a barony, wish to inquire whether Your Majesties have reached a decision.

KING

We have.

If there is a written proclamation the king hands it to the herald to be read. If there is no written proclamation then the king continues:

We hereby proclaim these our lands of *N.,* henceforth to be a barony, with all the rights and duties of this status, from this time forward.

HERALD

Long live the Barony of *N.*! Hip-hip--

The populace cheers the new barony.

HERALD

Your Majesties, having been granted the honors of baronial status, Your people of *N.* now beg that you appoint two good gentles to be their baron and baroness.

KING

Do they have candidates for these positions?

HERALD

They do, Your Majesty.

KING

Let the candidates come forward.

(OPTION: If the Barony has already been established, start the ceremony here.)

HERALD

Their Majesties command *N.* and *N.* to present themselves before the thrones that they might receive this fief from Their Majesties' hands and pledge their fealty and homage.

The new Baron and Baroness come forward, along with such retainers and personal banner bearers as they may wish, and kneel before the Thrones

KING

*N.,* and *N.*, well pleased with you, and ever concerned with the welfare and wishes of Our subjects, We are minded to invest you as Baron and Baroness, and grant unto you the Barony of *N.*, to hold as a fief from Our hands. Will you accept this charge, pledge us your homage, and swear fealty and service to this, Our Crown and Kingdom?

NEW BARON/NEW BARONESS

Your Majesty, I will.

*The King and Queen hold the new Baron and Baroness's hands between Their own;*

Herald (for NEW BARON/NEW BARONESS to recite)

Here do I swear homage to the King and Queen of Caid, and become Their true vassal, pledging to defend, represent, and answer for all my people with honor and dignity, to administer them and the affairs of this Barony with the same justice which the Crown would tender, to serve and honor our Lord King and Lady Queen in all matters concerning this Realm, and to guard Their rights with all my strength, until the Crown depart from the throne, or death take me, or the world end. So say I, *N.*

KING and Queen

And We, for Our part, do make known to all present and to come, that We do receive *N.* and *N.* as Baron and Baroness of *N.*, and accept them as Our vassals; and that We will guarantee to them this Barony held of Us against every creature with all Our power; until We depart from Our throne, or death take Us, or the world end. So say We, *N.,* King of Caid.

And so say We, *N.,* Queen of Caid.

The Great Sword is sheathed. The coronets are here presented to Their Majesties, who hold them over the Baron/Baroness's heads.

KING

Wear now this circlet, Baron *N.,* as a reminder of your oath.

His Majesty places the coronet on the New Baron's head.

QUEEN

Wear now this circlet, Baroness *N.,* as a reminder of your oath.

Her Majesty places the coronet on the New Baroness's head.

HERALD

Be it known this day that We, *N.* and *N.*, do grant unto Baron *N.* and Baroness *N.* the lands and honors of the Barony of *N.*, with all the rights, powers, and obligations thereof, and that they hold these lands and titles as sworn vassal to Us and to Our heirs to come.

If there are any baronial mantles or other tokens of the fief then at this time they are given to Her Majesty, who in turn presents them to the new Baron and Baroness.

QUEEN

My Lord Baron, My Lady Baroness, please accept these as token of your fees.

Their Majesties raise the new Baron and Baroness to their feet. The Baron and Baroness and their entourage retire as the herald exhorts cheers. (OPTION: the Baron and Baroness assume their thrones next to the King and Queen and proceed with court).

## Succession of Office

At the King's convenience, the Herald shall summon the Retiring and Incoming Officers.

RETIRING OFFICER

Your Majesties, I, *N.*, (officer) of Caid, for reasons of which your Majesties have been apprised, do beg leave to be relieved of my duties.

(Option: If the retiring officer cannot be present, a letter shall be read by the Herald in his stead.)

KING

Have you then nominated a successor to this office?

RETIRING OFFICER

I have, your Majesty, and here present *N.*

KING

*N.,* are you prepared to accept and execute the duties of the office of (office)?

INCOMING OFFICER

I am, your Majesties, and pledge faithfully to serve you.

KING

Let the title pass.

The King and Retiring Officer invest the Incoming Officer with the emblems of the office, if any.

Before the Populace of this Realm, I do here invest you, *N.,* as (officer). May all good fortune and good will attend you.

The Incoming Officer places his hands between those of the King to swear fealty.

HERALD

Do you, the (officer) of Caid, swear fealty and service to the Crown and Kingdom of Caid, that you will faithfully discharge your office, obeying Their Majesties' lawful commands in all matters concerning this Realm; and, mindful that the harmony of Caid springs from your own deeds, that you will deal courteously and fairly with those of every degree, until the Crown depart the Throne, or death take you, or the world end?

INCOMING OFFICER

I so swear.

KING and Queen

And We, for Our part, swear fealty to this, the (officer) of Caid, and to those who serve him; to protect and defend them against every creature with all Our power, until We depart from Our Throne, or death take Us, or the world end. So say We, *N.,* King of Caid.

And so say We, *N.,* Queen of Caid.

## The Creation of a Pursuivant/Herald

SPONSORING HERALD

Your Majesties/Excellencies; I know that You have need of heralds and pursuivants to carry Your messages in peace and war, to be Your voice, to learn and to teach the noble arts of heraldry. I here present to You Your faithful servant *N.* as a gentleman skilled in the arts of honor, that You may create him as Your Pursuivant/Herald.

The candidate is brought forth, being led by the hand by a senior herald and flanked by other heralds or pursuivants bearing the necessary paraphernalia – a book, a goblet of water, and a tabard. The company kneels in the royal or baronial presence. If necessary, the number of attendants can be expanded or shrunk. Attendant moves forward with book/sword to swear an oath upon so that the candidate can place his hand upon it.

Will you, *N.*, of your own free will, swear to serve Their Majesties/ Excellencies as a Pursuivant/Herald?

CANDIDATE

I will.

SPONSORING HERALD

(Aside) Place your hand upon the book/sword. (Aloud) Do you, of your own free will, swear to serve your office as follows in these articles?

Following each of the articles, the candidate responds “I so swear.”

First, you shall swear that you be true to our high and most excellent prince, our sovereign lord that here is, and to him that makes you a herald. And if you should have any knowledge or hear any imagination of treason, you shall discover it to His High Grace or to His noble council; and counsel it in no manner.

And you shall promise and swear that you shall be serviceable to all gentle persons to do their commandments to their worship of noble deeds; and to excuse their worship by your good counsel, and ever ready to offer your service to them.

And you shall promise and swear to be secret and keep the secrets of knights, squires, ladies, gentlewomen, and all manner of gentle folk; a confessor of arms; and not discover them in any wise except treason abovesaid.

Also you shall promise and swear if any fortune finds you in divers lands and countries where you go or ride, if you find any gentle of name and arms that has lost their goods in service of his lord or of noble acts and has fallen into poverty, and if they ask of your goods for sustenance, you shall give them of your goods to your power and as you bear.

Also you shall promise and swear if you be in any place where you hear debate or peril between two gentles which you shall be privy to, if so be it that you be required by prince, judge, or any other to bear witness, you shall not be without license of both parties, and when you have leave, you shall not testify for any good favor or awe, but say the truth to your knowledge.

Also you shall promise and swear that you shall pursue learning, and teach officers of arms under you, all manner of things pertaining to nobility.

Also you shall promise and swear that you shall forsake all places of dishonesty and hazard and dishonestly going to common taverns and places of debates and all manner of vices, and take to virtues as much as you are able.

This article and all other articles abovesaid you shall truly keep, so help you God and the saints.

Attendant moves forward and gives the goblet of water to the Sovereign/Baron. Sovereign slowly pours a bit of water from the goblet over the candidate’s head while speaking these words:

KING/BARON

Then, by your oath, I do create you a Pursuivant/Herald by the name of (Title). As you shall serve Us as Pursuivant/Herald, we shall you award you according to your merit.

Here the creating nobles may add such other words of exhortation as seems to them appropriate. When done, the creating noble gives the cup to the candidate.

SPONSORING HERALD

Let the Pursuivant/Herald be invested with his tabard of office, and let him wear it as befits his rank of Pursuivant, and in no other way.

Attendants move forward and put a tabard on the candidate. If a Pursuivant, the tabard should be put on so that the arms of the tabard are on the candidate’s chest and the front and back drape over the candidate’s shoulders and arms. If a Herald, the tabard should be put on in the manner described above, then rotated 90 degrees to its proper configuration.

KING/BARON

You may go.

## Personal Heraldic Title

HERALD

Since ancient times, heralds have been known by titles chosen by, and referring to their patrons, the great nobles who employed them. This custom has continued in our Society, with heralds' titles being chosen by, and the property of the Kingdom or territory the herald serves.

However, it is the privilege of the Crown to grant to a herald of exceptional worth and long service the special recognition of granting an heraldic title in the herald's own person, allowing the herald to own their title rather than it being the possession of the territory they serve.

Today, in recognition of the long and continuous service given to Caid and the Society in the varied arts of heraldry, the Crown exercises this privilege.

Therefore the Crown summons *N.* (preferably by heraldic title).

Promissory (if title is registered):

Let it be known to all that we *N.* and *N.*, King and Queen of Caid, in recognition of his long, faithful and excellent service to Caid and the Society. do hereby grant and transfer to our trusty and well beloved servant *N.* the title (Title), hitherto belonging to Our Kingdom of Caid, to be his own forever, and We charge him to continue to keep to the duties of a true Herald, as he has so nobly done aforetimes.

Promissory (if title is not registered):

Let it be known to all that we *N.* and *N.*, King and Queen of Caid, in recognition of his long, faithful and excellent service to Caid and the Society. do hereby grant and transfer to our trusty and well beloved servant *N.* the right to a Herald’s title, to be his own forever, to consult with Our heralds to select a title becoming their dignity, and We charge him to continue to keep to the duties of a true Herald, as he has so nobly done aforetimes.

# Royal Succession

## Commencement of Crown Lists

At the appointed time, the Herald shall assemble all participating fighters before the Throne, armed and ready for combat in the Lists. At the King's command, the Herald shall say:

HERALD

My lords and ladies, you know well that true gentles enter combat not for their own personal glory and honor, but rather to advance the honor of their consorts; and to prove, by their courtesy and valor on the field, their worthiness of that honor. Be mindful, as you fight, of your consort's honor as well as your own. For your consorts personify all honor and loyalty, beauty and truth. Their gallantry and steadfastness bear you up, as your prowess at arms is tested -- they embody the love that is worthy of great honor. Therefore, today you fight in the Lists not to gain power for yourself, not for your own glory and honor, as you may in other lists. You fight instead for the honor and glory of the one whose favor you bear upon the field, whom you would advance by your valor, skill and courtesy. And should victory be granted you this day, you will declare and crown your consort as Lady (or Lord) Caid, and heir to the Kingdom by your side for the days to come.

KING

You have heard the reason of Our Lists. Does each of you here affirm that you fulfill all the qualifications for participation in today's lists, as set forth for this Society and in Kingdom Law?

The fighters acknowledge.

Let the candidates swear their fealty to the realm.

HERALD

Do you, the fighters and consorts of this Crown Tournament of Caid, swear fealty and service to the Crown and Kingdom of Caid, that you will truly and faithfully adhere to the rules of the list, obeying their Majesties' lawful commands in all matters concerning this Realm, and, mindful that your success or failure as a monarch relies on the confidence of the populace in your own honor and courtesy, that you will bear yourselves with the grace and dignity of that station to which you aspire, until the Crown depart Their Throne, death take you, or the world end?

Fighters/Consorts

I so swear.

KING

This do we hear. And we, for our part, swear fealty and service to these, Our subjects who seek to be Our Heirs, to protect and defend them against every creature with all Our power, until We depart from the throne, or death take Us, or the world end. So swear We, etc.

The King returns the sword of state.

**Fighters, bear your favors bravely into battle, and prove the worth and virtue of your consorts, whether in victory or honorable defeat.**

**Creation of Al-Caid and Lady Caid**

When the Crown Lists have been completed, the victor shall be borne forward before Their Majesties, and the Herald shall summon the populace to witness what shall follow.

HERALD

*N.,* victor of the field, Their Majesties command you to present yourself and your lady before the Throne of Caid.

The victor and his lady approach the Thrones, bow, and kneel. The King and Queen stand, taking the crescent pendants in Their hands; the rosemary wreaths will be held close at hand, in readiness.

KING

*N.*, by your valor and skill, you have most nobly advanced the honor of your lady, and won to yourself the office and estate of al-Caid, Crown Prince of this Kingdom.

The King places the crescent pendant around the victor's neck. Taking the rosemary wreath, he holds it over the victor's head, saying:

Receive this wreath of rosemary in token of the valor and skill which brought you victory.

The King places the wreath on the victor's head.

QUEEN

Lady *N.*, by your gentle grace and beauty, you have inspired your champion to victory and a Crown this day.

The Queen places the crescent pendant around the lady's neck. Taking the rosemary wreath, she turns to the Crown Prince, saying:

Prince *N.*, I pray you to take this wreath of rosemary and roses, and to crown your lady Queen of Love and Beauty, Lady Caid, Crown Princess of this Kingdom.

The Crown Prince takes the wreath and places it on his lady's head. They rise and are invited to their places on either side of the Thrones, as the Herald exhorts cheers from the populace.

## Caid Coronation Ceremony

(Note: The terms OLD-SOVEREIGN and OLD-CONSORT refer to the outgoing monarchs, and NEW-SOVEREIGN and NEW-CONSORT refer to the incoming monarchs. The current wording assumes the sovereigns are male; obviously the ceremony will need to be re-worded should a sovereign be female. Likewise some references to officers may need to have the pronouns modified.)

Their Majesties, OLD-SOVEREIGN and OLD-CONSORT, wearing the crowns, are seated on Their thrones, and are attended by such members of Their household as They wish. Her Majesty's Guard and Court have been released from formal service. The scepters have been previously been given into the keeping of the Seneschal and the Crescent Herald, to be returned to the Crown during the ceremony. The sword and tabard of the King's Champion have also been returned to the Crown, as have (optionally) the regalia of the Queen's Champions.

*As the last item of business for the previous court, the herald will summon the Landed Baronage to stand as de facto court and guard, in the following manner:*

CRESCENT HERALD

Their Majesties summon their vassals, the landed Barons and Baronesses of Caid, to attend them.

The Landed Baronage processes in, in Order of Precedence, and array themselves as court and guard. If there is a break between last court and this court, the Baronage will return to these spots after the break. At the appointed time, the ceremony shall begin.

OLD-SOVEREIGN

My Lord Herald, are Their Highnesses ready to assume their station?

CRESCENT HERALD

They are, Your Majesty, and they request leave to approach the Throne.

OLD-SOVEREIGN

Let Their Royal Highnesses approach.

The Royal procession, lead by the Golden RoseHerald, begins to process towards the Thrones.

Golden Rose HERALD

Your Majesties, now comes al-Caid, His Royal Highness, Prince N., with his lady, the Princess N., to claim from Your Majesties' hands the Crowns and Thrones which are rightfully theirs. This he claims by right of arms, and by the honor of his lady whose token he bore victoriously upon the field of battle. In token whereof, he here renders up his sword into Your Majesty's keeping as pledge of the loyalty he vows to these People of Caid.

The NEW-SOVEREIGN's sword-bearer approaches and kneels before the OLD-SOVEREIGN. The sword is presented to the OLD-SOVEREIGN, who takes it. The sword-bearer withdraws, and the Kingdom Earl Marshal steps forward and drops a gauntlet, delivering this challenge:

EARL MARSHAL

Be there any in the Realm who would challenge this Prince, that He be the true and rightful Heir to the Throne of Caid, let him step forth now and take up this gage, or else remain forever silent.

After a moment, the Earl Marshal picks up the gauntlet and approaches the OLD-SOVEREIGN. The OLD-SOVEREIGN delivers the NEW-SOVEREIGN's sword into the Earl Marshal's keeping, and the latter withdraws.

OLD-SOVEREIGN

Prince *N.* and Princess *N.*, by law and by custom, what you ask shall be yours. Approach now, and swear on the Great Sword of Caid, won in battle by Caid's first Prince, that you will be true and gentle lieges to these people of Caid.

CRESCENT HERALD

Let representatives of the Chivalry, the Laurel and the Pelican come forward to stand with the Baronage of Caid as witnesses.

The Peerage Secretaries approach, bearing their charters, statutes, or other tokens of peerage. OLD-SOVEREIGN and OLD-CONSORT stand. NEW-SOVEREIGN and NEW-CONSORT approach the Thrones and kneel before Their Majesties. The Seneschal brings forth the Great Sword and presents it to the OLD-SOVEREIGN. The OLD-SOVEREIGN unsheathes the Sword and holds it horizontally for the Prince and Princess to lay their hands upon it. The Seneschal withdraws.

NEW-SOVEREIGN and NEW-CONSORT

Here do We swear by mouth and hand, to serve and protect the Crown and Kingdom of Caid, to uphold the Law of this land, to confirm all the ancient privileges of its peerage, and to serve its people always. Faith and truth will We bear unto these, Our subjects of Caid, in all matters concerning this Realm, until We depart Our Throne, or death take Us, or the world end. So say We, *N.*

OLD-SOVEREIGN

All this We have heard and witnessed, *N.* and *N*. May you ever remember what you have sworn this day.

OLD-SOVEREIGN returns the Great Sword to the Seneschal. OLD-SOVEREIGN and OLD-CONSORT remove their crowns. OLD-SOVEREIGN stands holding his crown over NEW-SOVEREIGN's head. The Seneschal stands with the Great Sword unsheathed and raised, in symbol of his defense of the Kingdom during the transition of power.

OLD-SOVEREIGN

We, *N.*, King of Caid, acknowledge you, *N.*, as lawful heir to this Realm. Wear this crown in honor, and let its weight remind you of your duty to these your people.

OLD-SOVEREIGN places the crown on NEW-SOVEREIGN's head.

Arise, *N.*, King of Caid.

As NEW-SOVEREIGN rises and turns to face his people, his personal banner and the banner of al-Caid are furled. OLD-SOVEREIGN's personal banner is unfurled at the same time.

CRESCENT HERALD

People of Caid, behold *N.*, your undoubted King. Long live the King!

The Seneschal lowers the Great Sword and withdraws. OLD-CONSORT presents the Queen's crown to NEW-SOVEREIGN.

OLD-CONSORT

My Lord King, as I do acknowledge this lady lawful heiress to this Realm, I offer up this symbol of that estate, that you may crown her Queen of Caid.

NEW-SOVEREIGN receives the crown and stands holding it over NEW-CONSORT's head.

NEW-SOVEREIGN

My lady, as it was my honor to win you this estate, so it is my pleasure to crown you Queen.

NEW-SOVEREIGN places the crown on NEW-CONSORT's head.

Arise, *N.*, Queen of Caid.

As NEW-CONSORT rises and turns to face her people, her personal banner and the banner of Lady Caid are furled. OLD-CONSORT's personal banner is unfurled at the same time.

CRESCENT HERALD

People of Caid, behold *N.*, your undoubted Queen. Long Live the Queen!

NEW-SOVEREIGN and NEW-CONSORT exchange places with OLD-SOVEREIGN and OLD-CONSORT, assuming their thrones. OLD-SOVEREIGN and OLD-CONSORT retire, with their household. The new royal household takes its place.

The populace has Their Majesties' leave to be seated.

Golden Rose Herald replaces Crescent Herald as Court Herald. Court continues.

Golden Rose HERALD

Let the Royal regalia be brought forward.

The Great Officers of Caid will process forward, in the following order: Seneschal, Minister of Arts and Sciences, Earl Marshal, Minister of the Exchequer, Chronicler and Crescent Herald. The Seneschal presents the Great Sword of Caid.

Your Majesty, the Seneschal here delivers into Your hands the Great Sword of Caid, the Sword of Justice and the Sheath of Wisdom. With its steel defend the defenseless, and strike down the enemies to the peace of this Realm. May it never be drawn save in honor, for its appointed and rightful task.

NEW-SOVEREIGN

My Lord/Lady Seneschal, We thank you, and return this into your keeping until such time as We require it.

*The Seneschal withdraws. The Minister of Arts and Sciences presents a golden rose.*

Golden Rose HERALD

Your Majesty, in the name of Your loving subjects, the Minister of Arts and Sciences begs You, as First Lady of Courtesy in this Realm, to accept this rose, bright as the purest gold, as a symbol of Your patronage of the arts in Caid.

NEW-CONSORT

My Lord/Lady, We thank you.

The Minister of Arts and Sciences withdraws. The Earl Marshal comes forward with NEW-SOVEREIGN's personal sword, and kneels to present it.

Golden Rose HERALD

Your Majesty, the Earl Marshal returns Your own sword, by which Your chivalry is gauged. Now that Your personal honor and the honor of Caid are one, may You always keep both unstained.

The Earl Marshal withdraws. The Minister of the Exchequer comes forward and kneels presenting a chest or pouch, representing the Royal Treasury, to the Queen.

Your Majesty, the Treasury of Caid, to be used in the service of this Realm.

NEW-CONSORT

We thank you, My Lord/Lady of the Exchequer, and We return it into your good keeping.

The Minister of the Exchequer withdraws. The Kingdom Chronicler and the Crescent Herald come forward and kneel, bearing the books of law and ceremonies, respectively.

Golden Rose HERALD

My Lord King, receive the Book of Law, the written code by which the Crown governs the realm. Remember that Your Majesties are the Law, and only by Your just and honorable example may You truly serve all Your liege folk equally. Yours is the strength upon which the Kingdom rests.

NEW-SOVEREIGN views the book of law and returns it to the Chronicler.

My Lady Queen, take the Book of Ceremonies, which contains the words by which the Crown bestows awards and honors upon the populace. May the hand of the Queen nurture what the hand of the warrior has won. Make fruitful that which is barren, restore that which has gone to decay, nourish that which is beautiful and just, and recognize and reward the deserving.

NEW-CONSORT views the Book of Ceremonies and returns it to the Crescent Herald.

Golden Rose HERALD

Let all Kingdom Officers of Caid come forward, and kneel before Their Majesties.

As they come forward, Golden Rose continues

The Officers of Caid ensure the smooth running and functioning of this noble Realm. For this reason do they swear fealty.

The Kingdom Officers approach and kneel before the thrones. The King receives the Great Sword from the Seneschal and places it across His palms for the Officers to touch.

Do you, the Officers of Caid, swear fealty and service to the Crown and Kingdom of Caid, that you will faithfully discharge your offices, obeying Their Majesties' lawful commands in all matters concerning this Realm; and, mindful that the harmony of Caid springs from your own deeds, that you will deal courteously and fairly with those of every degree, until the Crown depart Their throne, or death take you, or the world end?

OFFICERS

I so swear.

NEW-SOVEREIGN and Consort

And We, for Our part, swear fealty to these Officers of Caid, and to those who serve them, to protect and defend them against every creature with all Our power, until We depart from the throne, or death take Us, or the world end. So say We, *N.*, King of Caid.

And so say We, *N.*, Queen of Caid.

The King returns the Great Sword to the Seneschal. Their Majesties raise each officer by taking his hands into Their own. Each Officer is presented with a token. After Their Majesties have returned to the thrones, the Officers bow and retire.

Golden Rose HERALD

Let the Landed Barons and Baronesses of Caid, being the representatives of the Crown in their baronies, and embodying honor and justice, come forward to swear fealty to their liege lord.

The Landed Baronage (or their representatives) approach and kneel before the thrones. Golden Rose continues

Barons and Baronesses of Caid, will you now I swear homage to the King and Queen of Caid, and become Their true vassals, pledging to defend, represent, and answer for all your people with honor and dignity, to administer them and the affairs of this Barony with the same justice which the Crown would tender, to serve and honor your Lord King and Lady Queen in all matters concerning this Realm, and to guard Their rights with all your strength, until the Crown depart from the throne, or death take you, or the world end?

BARONAGE

I so swear.

NEW-SOVEREIGN and Consort

And We, for Our part, do make known to all present and to come, that We do receive these Barons and Baronesses of Caid, and accept them as Our vassals, and that We will guarantee to them the Baronies held of Us against every creature with all Our power, until We depart from the throne, or death take Us, or the world end. So say We, *N.*, King of Caid.

And so say We, *N.*, Queen of Caid.

The King returns the Great Sword to the Seneschal. The Barons and Baronesses are presented with tokens of their Baronies.

NEW-SOVEREIGN

My Lord Barons and Lady Baronesses, take these as tokens of your fees.

After Their Majesties have returned to the thrones, the Baronage bows and retires.

Golden Rose HERALD

Let the Chivalry of Caid come forward, with their swords girded on, and kneel before Their Majesties.

As they come forward, Golden Rose continues

The Chivalry of the Realm are the protectors of peace and the defenders of honor. For this reason do they swear fealty and loyalty to the Crown.

The knights approach and kneel before the Thrones.

Do you, the Chivalry of Caid, swear fealty and service to the Crown and Kingdom of Caid: to speak and to be silent, to do and to let be, to come and to go, to strike and to spare, in such matters as concern this Realm; in need or in plenty, in peace or in war, in living or in dying, until the Crown depart Their throne, or death take you, or the world end?

CHIVALRY

I so swear.

NEW-SOVEREIGN and New-Consort

And We, for Our part, swear fealty to these knights of Caid, and to all their households, to protect and defend them against every creature with all Our power, until We depart from the throne, or death take Us, or the world end. So say We, *N.*, King of Caid.

And so say We, *N.*, Queen of Caid.

The King and Queen raise each of the knights by taking his joined hands in their own. Each knight is presented with a token. When all of the Chivalry have been raised, and Their Majesties have returned to the thrones, the knights draw their swords, salute, sheath their swords, bow and retire.

Golden Rose HERALD

Let all Companions of the Laurel come and kneel before Their Majesties.

As they come forward, Golden Rose continues

The Companions of the Laurel hold a special place, for they preserve beauty, art and science in the Realm. For this reason do they swear fealty.

The members of the Order of the Laurel approach and kneel before the thrones.

Do you, the members of the Order of the Laurel, swear fealty and service to the Crown and Kingdom of Caid: to speak and to be silent, to do and to let be, to come and to go, to serve and instruct, in such matters as concern this Realm; in need or in plenty, in peace or in war, in living or in dying, until the Crown depart Their throne, or death take you, or the world end?

LAURELS

I so swear.

NEW-SOVEREIGN and New-Consort

And We, for Our part, swear fealty to these Companions of the Laurel, and to all their households, to protect and defend them against every creature with all Our power, until We depart from the throne, or death take Us, or the world end. So say We, *N.*, King of Caid.

And so say We, *N.*, Queen of Caid.

Their Majesties raise each peer, presenting each with a token. The peers bow and retire.

Golden Rose HERALD

Let all Companions of the Pelican come and kneel before Their Majesties.

As they come forward, Golden Rose continues

The Companions of the Pelican, by their service, maintain and build the Realm. For this reason do they swear fealty.

The members of the Order of the Pelican approach and kneel before the thrones.

Do you, the members of the Order of the Pelican, swear fealty and service to the Crown and Kingdom of Caid: to speak and to be silent, to do and to let be, to come and to go, to serve and instruct, in such matters as concern this Realm; in need or in plenty, in peace or in war, in living or in dying, until the Crown depart Their throne, or death take you, or the world end?

PELICANS

I so swear.

NEW-SOVEREIGN and Consort

And We, for Our part, swear fealty to these Companions of the Pelican, and to all their households, to protect and defend them against every creature with all Our power, until We depart from the throne, or death take Us, or the world end. So say We, *N.*, King of Caid.

And so say We, *N.*, Queen of Caid.

Their Majesties raise each peer, presenting each with a token. The peers bow and retire.

Golden Rose HERALD

Let all Royal Peers come and kneel before Their Majesties.

As they come forward, Golden Rose continues

As they have felt the weight of the Crown, so do the Royal Peers now come forward to renew their fealty to the Crown of Caid.

The Royal Peers approach and kneel before the thrones.

Do you, the Royal Peers of Caid, swear fealty and service to the Crown and Kingdom of Caid, to continue by your example to serve and instruct, according to your means, in service to this Realm, until the Crown depart Their throne, or death take you, or the world end?

ROYAL PEERS

I so swear.

NEW-SOVEREIGN and Consort

And We, for Our part, swear fealty to these Royal Peers of Caid, and to all their households, to protect and defend them against every creature with all Our power, until We depart from the throne, or death take Us, or the world end. So say We, *N*., King of Caid.

And so say We, *N.*, Queen of Caid.

Their Majesties raise each peer, presenting each with a token. When all are raised and Their Majesties have returned to the thrones, the peers bow and retire.

HERALD

Their Majesties summon (King’s Champion) and (Champion’s Consort) before Them.

The King's Champion and his lady approach and kneel before the thrones.

*N*, whereas you have proven yourself second only to the King in prowess on the field at this time, and as yours is the skill which most severely tested our King, His Majesty is pleased to name you His Champion on the field.

NEW-SOVEREIGN

*N.*, bear this sword as a token of the trust invested in you this day.

NEW-SOVEREIGN presents the Sword of the King's Champion and vests him with the tabard.

HERALD

*N*., your beauty and grace inspired your champion upon the field of combat. It is therefore fitting that you also be recognized; for the honor won by a warrior is a reflection of his inspiration.

NEW-CONSORT

My lady, accept this token as a symbol of the inspiration you have provided.

The Queen presents a token to Champion’s Consort. Kings Champion and Champions Consort bow and retire.

If any Queen’s Champion tournaments have occurred prior to Coronation for this reign, they shall be installed in the following manner.

Golden Rose HERALD

Her Majesty summons *N.* before Her.

The named Champion approaches and kneels before the thrones.

*N.*, whereas your skill and comportment in [Form] has well pleased Her Majesty, She is minded to name you Her [Form] Champion.

**NEW-CONSORT**

***N.*, bear now this favor, and defend my honor well.**

The Queen presents the regalia, and a gift to the Champion’s consort.

Golden Rose HERALD

Their Majesties summon a representative of the Order of the White Scarf of Caid to present himself before the Thrones.

As the Order assembles, the herald continues

In the 31st year of the Society, by treaty with the Kindoms of Ansteorra, the Outlands, Trimaris, Atenveldt, An Tir, and Atlantia, the Crown of Caid established the Order of the White Scarf of Caid to recognize and promote excellence in all aspects of the art of rapier combat, courtesy, honor, and chivalry. At the founding of this Order, Their Majesties were presented with the regalia of this Order, to mark Their status as the chief inspiration of the Order.

After the representative is present, he or she presents white scarves to Their Majesties and makes such remarks as are appropriate.

Golden Rose HERALD

Their Majesties summon a representative of the Order of the Golden Lance of Caid to present himself before the Thrones.

As the representative of the Order comes forth, the herald continues

In the 43rd year of the Society, by treaty with the Kingdoms of Ansteorra, and Trimaris, the Crown of Caid established the Order of the Golden Lance in Caid, to recognize and promote excellence in all aspects of the equestrian arts. At the founding of this Order, Their Majesties were presented with the regalia of this Order, to mark Their status as the chief inspiration of the Order.

After the representative is present, he or she presents golden scarves to Their Majesties and makes such remarks as are appropriate.

Court continues with the investiture of the Queen's Court and Guard.

## Investiture of the Court

HERALD

The burden of the Crown is such that there is born the necessary pleasure of forming a Court for its service. Therefore does it please Her Majesty to call forward at this time: *(list of names**)*

And as Chief Lady in Waiting, *N*.

In addition, as special companions to the Queen, we call forward: *(list of names)*

as Ambassadors for the Crown: *(name or list of names)*

Those called forward kneel before the Thrones and receive tokens. They then withdraw to their places.

## Investiture of the Guard

HERALD

My Lords and ladies, hear the words of Her Majesty *N.*

It has ever been the responsibility of the Queen of Caid to personify the noble ideals of grace and courtesy. It is, further, the joy and duty of the Queen to foster and nurture the gentle arts among Her subjects. Towards this end, each Queen takes into Her patronage such warriors, archers, and horsemen as have pleased Her by their courtesy, chivalry, and growth as gentlepersons.

It is the function of the Queen's Guard to both guard their liege Lady and to serve Her as She may require. Beyond this, however, they must ceaselessly strive to progress as gentlepersons, and to serve as examples for those of lesser accomplishments.

Now therefore do We, *N*., Queen of Caid, call to service in Our Guard the following individuals: *(list of names)*

It is the duty of the Captain of the Queen's Guard to serve as an example of honor and grace to the rest of the Guard. Therefore does Her Majesty call before Her *N*., to serve as Her Captain.

Those named present themselves to Her Majesty to receive their baldrics. When Her Majesty is finished, all bow and exit.

# Appendix

Fealty Oaths:

**Sovereign's Fealty**

NEW KING AND QUEEN

Here do We swear by mouth and hand, to serve and protect the Crown and Kingdom of Caid, to uphold the Law of this land, and to serve its people always. Faith and truth will We bear unto these, Our subjects of Caid, in all matters concerning this Realm, until We depart from the throne, or death take Us, or the world end. So say We, *N.*

OLD SOVEREIGN

All this We have heard and witnessed, *N*. and *N*. May You ever remember what You have sworn this day.

**Royal Peer's Fealty**

PEER

Here do we swear, by mouth and hand, fealty and service to the Crown and Kingdom of Caid. As we have ruled this Realm in faith, so shall we keep that faith henceforth, that we may, by our example, foster chivalry, courtesy, and honor throughout the land; until the Crown depart the throne, or death take us, or the world end. So say we, *N.*

KING and QUeen

And We, for Our part, swear fealty to these Royal Peers of Caid, and to all their households, to protect and defend them against every creature with all Our power, until We depart from the throne, or death take Us, or the world end. So say We, *N*., King of Caid.

And so say We, *N*., Queen of Caid.

**Knight's Fealty**

KNIGHT

Here do I swear, by mouth and hand, fealty and service to the Crown and Kingdom of Caid: To speak and to be silent; to do and to let be; to come and to go; to strike and to spare. In such matters as concern this realm; in need or in plenty, in peace or in war, in living or in dying, until the Crown depart their throne, or death take me, or the world end. So swear I, *N*.

KING and QUeen

And this do We hear, and We, for Our part, swear fealty to these knights of Caid, and to all their households, to protect and defend them against every creature with all Our power, until We depart from the throne, or death take Us or the world end. So say We, *N*., King of Caid.

And so say We, *N*., Queen of Caid.

**Peer's Fealty**

PEER

Here do I swear by mouth and hand fealty and service to the Crown and Kingdom of Caid: to speak and to be silent; to do and to let be; to come and to go; to serve and to teach, in such matters as concern this Realm; in need or in plenty, in peace or in war, in living or in dying, until the Crown depart their throne, or death take me, or the world end. So say I, *N*.

KING and Queen

And this do We hear. And We, for Our part, swear fealty to these peers of Caid and to all their households; to protect and defend them against every creature with all Our power, until We depart from the throne, or death take Us, or the world end. So say We, *N*., King of Caid.

And so say We, *N*., Queen of Caid.

**Baron's Fealty**

HERALD:

We, the Landed baronage of Caid, swear homage to the Crown of Caid and become Their true vassal, pledging to defend, represent, and answer for all our people, with honor and dignity, to administer them and the affairs of our barony with the same justice which the Crown would tender to serve and honor our Lord King and Lady Queen in all matters concerning this Realm until the Crown depart the Throne or death take us or the world end.

KING and Queen

And We, for Our part, do make known to all present and to come, that We do receive these Barons and Baronesses of Caid, and accept them as Our vassals, and that We will guarantee to them, the baronies held of Us, against every creature with all Our power, until We depart from the Throne, or death take Us, or the World end. So say We, *N*., King of Caid.

And so say We, *N*., Queen of Caid.

**Officer's Fealty**

HERALD

I, the (officer) of Caid, swear fealty and service to the Crown and Kingdom of Caid, that I will faithfully discharge my office, obeying Their Majesties' lawful commands in all matters concerning this Realm; and, mindful that the harmony of Caid springs from my own deeds, that I will deal courteously and fairly with those of every degree, until Crown depart the Throne, or death take me, or the world end.

KING and Queen

And We, for Our part, swear fealty to these officers of Caid, and to those who serve them; to protect and defend them against every creature with all Our power, until We depart from Our Throne, or death take Us, or the world end. So say We, *N*., King of Caid.

And so say We, *N*., Queen of Caid.