



EUWEN, KING OF ANGOWRIE



Euwen Derc Jaraslas is the youngest of the Seated Kings of the Sun Court, though because of his rebellion and the aid he has given to the Imperial invasion of the Middle Kingdoms he has been censured and his Seat placed in jeopardy, pending his arrest and trial before the Inquisition. His middle name means *tower* in the language of Old Éduinan, the ancient tongue of the Maelites, and his supporters indeed call him *Euwen the Tower*. His enemies refer to him as *Euwen the Terror*, though they pronounce his name more with scorn than with real fear.

His birth was rumored marked by ill omens, and though his youth did not generally mark him as a great traitor-to-be, his passage to adulthood was nonetheless influenced by two strong rivalries. The first grew between the young Prince Euwen and **Edrick, Crown Prince of Auria** and heir to the throne of the High King. Prince Euwen spent several years at the High King's Court in Therapoli as a ward of the High King – not uncommon for the sons of a Seated King of the Sun Court, but nonetheless a great honor – but his time there was not particularly pleasant, as Prince Edrick took a strong disliking to this particular ward of his father's. Most said it was because they were markedly similar – blond-haired, competitive at sports and the knightly arts, and narcissistic.

The knights and nobles of Angowrie had long moved away from the rustic, outdoorsy ways of their fellow Watchtower Kings and had developed a small aristocratic and urban culture centered in Angora and Enidmore, a culture that imitated the court life of the High King's Court. Euwen was observably embarrassed and angered to arrive in said Court and be derided by the Crown Prince as a “country cousin,” lacking in manners and sophistication, and the humiliations heaped upon him by the Crown Prince and his sycophants were many and varied. After much goading Prince Euwen nearly killed the Crown Prince during their knightly training, and he was sent back to Angowrie lest either of them attempt the other's life again in a way less accidental.

The second rivalry to mark Prince Euwen was inherited, a rivalry between his father, **King Adelwen Jaraslas**, and the most famous of the current generation of Watchtower Kings, **Derrek of Warwark**. Warwark had long stood as the central hub of western vigilance, at the juncture of both the Great Wall of Fortias and the long sea coast of Watchtowers, on guard against both the dangers of the Wastes and the sails of invading Imperial Thessid ships. Warwark had given rise to a long line of stalwart and warlike Kings, who were often held above the other Watchtower Kings for their wisdom and bravery, and the latest of them was Derrek, son of Dominik. Kings Adelwen and Derrek had little liking for each other (or for **King Aramo of Dain Dania**), as they competed to be the greatest of the Kings of the West. This rivalry grew heated after the death of

Prince Elgias, eldest of King Adelwen's sons, during a joust with **Ser Morgis**, a knight of Warwark, at the Tournament of Stones in i1457. Prince Euwen did not take the death of his brother gladly, and he is believed to have urged his father onward in his increasingly tense and combative relationship with both his neighbors and with the High King in Therapoli.

King Adelwen and Prince Euwen were widely believed to be behind the Watchtower rebellion of i1465, when the Watchtower Kings of Har Gail, Derc Dalved, and Derc Abrage refused tribute to the High King and made war against Derc Tannis, Calan Toss, and Warwark. Had their rebellion proved successful the three rebellious Citadels would no doubt have made common alliance with their neighbor, Adelwen of Angowrie, giving him complete control of the Pavas Peninsula; but the knights of Angowrie did not take to the field to support the rebellion and Derrek of Warwark crushed it within a season. The next year Adelwen was dead; universal rumor said by poison, though some thought the deed done at the hands of the High King's Agents, and others thought it the work of Prince Euwen, angry at his father's caution during the Watchtower rebellion.

At first upon assuming the throne, King Euwen took up his father's simmering feuds with gusto. He became infamous for his black moods, and the skirmishes between his forces and those of Derrek of Warwark reached a pitched battle in i1468 on the Pavas Road east of Har Gail. Dozens of landed and landless knights were killed, enough to draw the attention of the High King. Within a month the **Grand Duke, Owen Lis Red**, had arrived with a small army to enforce peace between the two. King Euwen made a great show of deference to the Grand Duke (who was well known as a friend to Derrek of Warwark, and so likely to take his side in any argument), and withdrew his knights and vassals from the field. The next few years saw peace along the Western borders of the Middle Kingdoms (at least between the High King's own subjects), and many thought that perhaps King Euwen had reined in his anger after the Grand Duke's chastisements.

His outward public behavior was sufficiently well mannered that by i1471 King Euwen was betrothed to **Fiona**, daughter of **King Eolred of Erid Dania**, a match most thought would cement King Euwen back into the mainstream politics of the Middle Kingdoms. Hopes for the marriage were dashed, however, when Fiona eloped with **Liaman**, son of **Porloss**, the exiled Earl of Blackstone who had become the leader of the bandit knights of the Manon Mole. Some have blamed her for King Euwen's treacherous decision to aid the invading Thessid armies, but others have pointed out that likely years of contact and planning were necessary to prepare for so massive and swift an invasion.