



Dear Ms. Empress Adélaïde de Val-d'Oise,

I am **FRIEND**. Nothing more, nothing else. The Heralds do not speak of me, because the Heralds do not speak of anything other than rumors, and **FRIEND** is less than Rumor.

FRIEND does not have masters. **FRIEND** does not have a nation. **FRIEND** has buddies. The Quorum is not **FRIEND**, though with time they may be a buddy.

FRIEND offers that which can not be gained through any other means. First reward, upon completing first task, will be something from beyond this world.

This letter does not complete first task. Write back. Get to know me. Tell me about yourself. Why are so many people mad that you are leading?

To write back, feed this letter to an animal that has tasted blood. My next reply shall be much less quick.

Sincerely,
FRIEND