

To the Most Magnificent and murine Sir Nibbles of the Prodigal Ratlings.

I write to you with a proposal that could benefit both our nations greatly, and I would hear your mighty thoughts on the matter.

My scouts and traders tell me the Tauhan are collapsing, and I believe the armies of Dun Sancerre plan to march on these lands from the south, expanding their domain two-fold and positioning them to strike regularly at your lands. Even if they fail, the monsters the Tauhan may threaten your people.

I do not know if you plan to intervene in the situation, but I have a suggestion. The heralds tell me that there are several large mountain ranges in the Tauhan lands, prime territory for your people. However, the Tauhan themselves will be a mighty obstacle: they are adept sailors and coastal warriors, now augmented by many wild beasts or split into desperate refugee tribes. My suggestion is that I send my fleets and armies to aid your forces in seizing the Tauhan lands for Grovel. My monster-tamers can deal with the monstrosities they have devolved into, whilst my fleets can defeat theirs at sea, bring in food to stabilise their refugees and supply your armies. Together, we should not only be able to claim Tauhan, but drive off any intervention by Dun Sancerre or Rahastan.

If we succeed, Keitan will recognise Grovel sovereignty over most of Tauhan, save the northern shore and the largest island, which would make an ideal base for the Keitan fleets and should not be as valuable to you as the mountains.

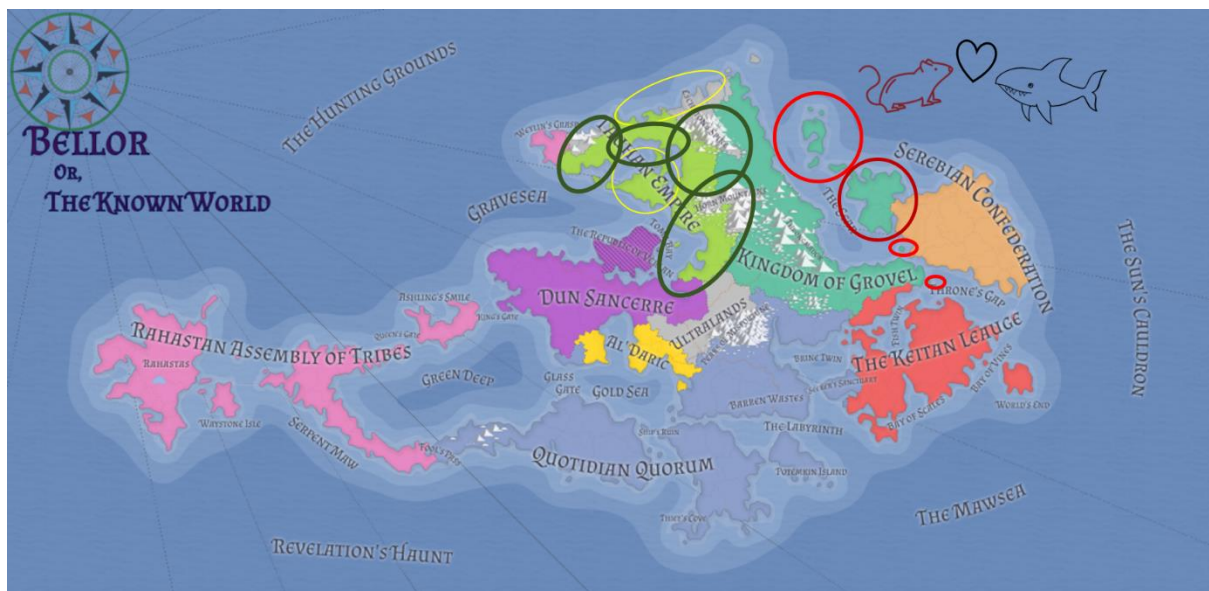
In exchange, I would ask for two boons. The first is that I be allowed to evacuate those Tauhan refugees and tribes that wish to join the Keitan league. This will remove them as a problem for you to deal with and empty the land for settlement. The second boon I would ask is that I be allowed to settle the refugees and my own people on several islands along the scar, which are claimed by the Kingdom of Grovel. It is my understanding that your people are not seafarers, and care little for shores or islands, whilst they will thrive in the mountains that the Keitan care not for. In essence, I will send my armies and fleets to claim the mountains of Tauhan, then swap them (if we succeed) for the islands of Grovel, which I assume are of little value to you. There my people can act as traders, bringing great wealth to your shores, and

also buffer you from the aggression of the Serebian confederacy or Dun Sancerre.

I would only ask these lands from you if we succeed, and we could exchange land on a 1:1 basis depending on how much is seized from Tauhan. However, if you agree to this plan, I would ask that my fleets be allowed to supply from your shores en route, as this will allow our intervention to be faster.

I hope you see the wisdom and benefit in this plan, and I attach a map of the proposed areas to be claimed for Grovel by our combined armies (green), a landing area on Tauhan I plan to claim (yellow) and island areas I would ask be granted to Keitan in exchange (red). If you agree with the plan in principle, but disagree with the specifics of the exchange, I am open to discussion.

From his majesty Mansa Sino'otollo, the Shark-Binder, Voice of the Navigator Conclave, High King of the Three Fleets, Ruler of the Four Seas, Lord of the Eight Islands, the Starblessed, Binder of Men, Speaker to Beasts, Good Buddy, Cleaner of Latrines, First Sword of the Surf, Brine-bound and Iron Willed. May the star-bound beings bless your ears and jaws so that you may squeak in praise.



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