Chapter 4

The Iustium and You

Greetings Imperial Child! A we discussed in earlier chapters, the Empire is an extremely large place with vast millions of citizens on the hub worlds alone. As a member of our great and esteemed society it is your responsibility to be aware of the many peoples and cultures under the rule of our magnanimous Elven Emperor. We who are ruled by the Emperor are formed from four major peoples. The three unified peoples, as you might know, are the Valiant Alliance, the Arkturrian Sovereignty, and the Umo Ranga.

First among us all are the Inexstinctus Elves themselves who unified the rest in centuries past and have since led us to great prosperity and strength. They founded the Iustium Imperium, which in their tongue means "Just Empire," after they defeated the Valiant Alliance in the First War of Unification. Before that time, we Valiant were a wild and dangerous people whose wanton, unprovoked attacks against the Inexstinctus left them no choice but to tame us or destroy us. Through their kindness in choosing not to destroy us who brought war to them, we have become the great people we are today.

The Inexstinctus Elves are a long lived and high-minded people. They have taken it upon themselves to unify the most civilized races of the worlds and protect them from each other and themselves. Their powerful position allows them to enact paternalistic laws that keep the other peoples in a state of order, and this is a role they execute with all sobriety. Inexstinctus are the most honest and honorable people among the stars. Due to their clear physical and intellectual superiority, they are burdened with the duty of governing the other peoples. All we under their rule owe them a deep duty of loyalty and obedience, and you should not hesitate to believe that such loyalty and obedience will be justly rewarded!

These old, venerable elves value tradition and conservation. Their beautiful, ancient homes commonly feature vast collections of technological artifacts that date back hundreds of years. Their knowledge of mechanics and magic is centuries ahead of all other peoples, so they have no need for the commonplace trinkets and inferior baubles of the rest. Anyone deemed worthy of visiting an elf's home finds the experience not unlike touring an opulent museum.

When dealing with Elves, even Elves your own age, remember that they value, above all else in their interactions, protocol and manners. They have spread this through the Empire, and you will encounter it throughout the Imperial infrastructure for the rest of your short life. Every day, when you have tea promptly at three, you do

this in honor of our Elven leaders. When dealing with Elves, submit to their judgment and give heed to their advice. Even when it seems they are playing favorites, trust in their wisdom and you will find them to be kind and protective of the likes of you. Do not attempt to make light of the situation, as an elf's sense of humor is far more refined than yours will ever be and you will only embarrass yourself in the attempt. Instead, as in all things, rely on the wisdom of the elf to guide you through what will surely rest among the most memorable encounters you will ever have.