

Epilogue II

The Reign of King Jonathon Lancaster

A chronicle of the early years of his rule

Written for the Tribunal Records by historian Daniel Hugo.

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King Jonathon Lancaster took the crown at the age of 25, making him the third youngest Lancaster ruler after King Cassius II (22) and King Atlas (17). His mate, Queen Serena Lancaster née Basco, was only 19. Both have Gold Ranks, a royal coupling that hasn't been seen since King Symon IV and Queen Soledad. The circumstances of their claiming had already been discussed in the previous chapters.

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He joins a short list of monarchs who had forgone a crowning ceremony. King Jonathon's father, King Armand IV, abdicated his rule during a war council meeting and had tasked his son to declare and lead the War against the Rogues as a King. King Jonathon left his brother Prince Patrick as regent to rule in his absence.

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His reign was christened by bloodshed and victory, as King Jonathon successfully defeated the Rogue King Vanir Vanaheim after a yearlong war campaign in the North—thus ending the quarter century exile of the rogues to beyond the Northern Border. It was said that King Jonathon gifted a necklace of the Rogue King to his sister-in-law Princess Valeen Lancaster, owing to the fact that Princess Valeen had defected to Lightwing after escaping her father, the aforementioned Rogue King.

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Notable is Queen Serena, who, unlike many Queens in history during wartime, took an active role in the War against the Rogues. She led a small, elite team of warriors across the border to rescue around thirty female rogues being kept prisoner by the rogue King. After leading them to safety, she arranged for their rehabilitation, establishing a care center for them near her hometown in Eastern Claw pack.

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After the war, King Jonathon worked on rehabilitating the rogues, and established many laws to deal with runaways from packs. He also worked with the tribunal to make sure criminal wolves would be dealt with properly, aiming not to repeat his father's mistakes. He created a program to re-integrate the rogues into pack life. This program was met with suspicion and resistance at first, but eventually found success in the long term.

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In the fifth year of their reign, King Jonathon (30) and Queen Serena (24) were blessed with an heir, Prince Henrik Lancaster II. Five years later, twin princesses were added to the royal family, Princess Penelope and Princess Medea.

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Queen Serena spent a good few years of her reign campaigning to eradicate the Rank Evaluation, and to reform the Claiming Ceremony. She succeeded in changing the rules of the Claiming so that: one, the punishment for claiming outside the ceremony was not too severe, and two, a female who did not wish to fight could appeal to the tribunal if she did not approve of the man who had claimed her or won her hand. The Rank Evaluation, however, stayed the same, but the panel was made to accommodate equality in gender. In the years following these reforms, two more females have been granted a Gold Rank.

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King Jonathon made very great changes in his council. He championed diversity in pack origins and gender, and created a very democratic system when it came to his legislation. He would also work with Alpha Adam Storm to demolish the imposing borders in the north, as these were no longer needed. He campaigned heavily against werewolf involvement in human criminal acts such as smuggling, organized crime, and the like, and tightened the laws regarding these.

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The King and Queen continue to exert their rule. They are well-known for delegating control to local pack Alphas, while making sure to keep leaders in check so to avoid abuse of power. They have also established programs to integrate werewolves with humans, as they firmly believed that werewolf isolation caused the xenophobia that led to the unreasonable fear of rogues. Queen Serena's wrote the legislation that led to requiring young werewolves at least three years of education in the human school system.

The royal family currently resides in Lightwing Palace.

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A/N

How's that?

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How do you feel about the epilogues? Did you like the whole story?

Any thoughts about Serena and Jon's relationship?

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Stay tuned for the summary and a sneak peek chapter of The Alpha's Solterra!

Continue to next part