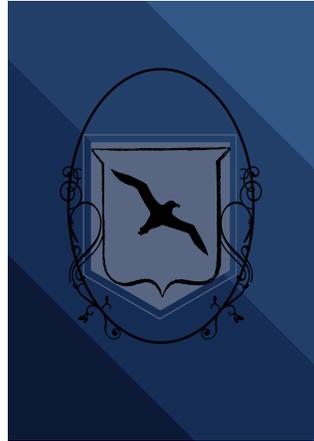


The Order of the Cerulean Storm



What is the Order of the Cerulean Storm

The Order of the Cerulean Storm is a Kingdom Knightly Order founded in 613 by the Lord High Protector, Hero of the Scenarious Rebellion, Head of the Orders of the Golden Lion and Cerulean Storm, Azriel Thorin II (Steward of the Crown Prince, Oversees the Protection of the Kingdom Via the Knightly Orders). The First Knight and head of the Order is Dame Jade Thorin, First Knight of the Knightly Order of the Cerulean Storm, Kingdom of Lorne, Assigned as First Knight, Barony of Rage Hollow, Knightly Order of the Golden Lion (Member), Loremaster of Lumberton, Hero of the Scenarious Rebellion.

The Order of the Cerulean Storm was created to see to the protection of the Kingdom of Lorne and its ideals. To this end, the Knights of the Order often travel on their own to their assigned lands, where they live for several years at a time and at times remain permanently. Squires to the Order will often travel the lands and then be assigned to their original lands, with the idea they are familiar with the lands and the peoples found there. At times, Knights and Squires of the Cerulean Storm will travel abroad, outside the Kingdom, on specific missions. At all times, they are to remember they are representatives of the Kingdom of Lorne and the Royal Family.

Symbol of the Order

Colors: Gray Shield, Black Flying Albatross, on a background of 4 storm-colored blues

Joining the Order

In order to become a Squire to a Knight within the Cerulean Storm, the individual must have served as a Knight within a Barony or County within the Kingdom of Lorne for a period of at least two years. A Knight within the order must be willing to accept the Squireship and bear the burden of supplying the Squire during their tenure. Furthermore, the Knight takes full responsibility for the actions of the Squire.

Squireship

A Squire within the Order of the Cerulean Storm will remain a Squire for at least two years, with no exceptions. They may be assigned to a locale, where their Knight will oversee them from afar, or they may be required to travel with their Knight. During this time, they will be afforded the title Squire. While Squire typically affords no noble status, in squiring to the Order of the Cerulean Storm directly from Knighthood elsewhere, Squires within the order maintain their noble status and shall act in accordance with the section Traveling. Squires are to follow the words and orders of their Knight without question. While a Squire should never fear to ask questions, the time is not in public and is not to serve as a challenge to their Knight. There is no defined “quest” to achieve Knighthood within the Order, but a Squire must pass five tests – Diplomacy, Leadership, Strategy, Combat, and Knowledge. The scope and duration of the tests will be decided upon by the Squire’s

Knight, in conjunction with Dame Jade Thorin, First Knight of the Cerulean Storm. The tests are to be designed in order to help strengthen the individual, not to cause embarrassment or failure. There are also no weapons or abilities requirements for Squireship, save the individual must be able to martially defend themselves and be able to read and write. Decision to Knight a Squire must be approved by the individual's Knight and Dame Jade Thorin.

Knighthood

Once an individual achieves Knighthood within the Order of the Cerulean Storm they will typically be assigned to a specific Barony or County. While there, they are to serve in whatever capacity the King or Kingdom has dictated to them. They are able to join the local noble house (though they do not always choose to do so) and serve alongside the local nobles, so long as it does not interfere with the mission or any Kingdom Orders. While serving within this capacity they are able to take Baronial or County Squires if they so choose, just as any Baronial/County Knight would. While assigned to an area a Knight of the Cerulean Storm is to graciously make their presence known and further the presence of the Kingdom within the area – this will often take the form of charitable work, traveling the area and speaking with farmers/groups/cultures, organizing groups and entertainment, offering aid where needed, etc.

Traveling

While traveling, Squires and Knights will always act in accordance and be respectful of local cultures, laws, and nobility. If assigned to an area within the Kingdom of Lorne or if traveling within it, Squires and Knights will adhere to and support the local nobility in all matters and manners, except in two specific cases – if it is in direct violation of an assigned mission or the tenets of the Kingdom of Lorne, as defined by the laws. Otherwise, Squires and Knights will follow all laws, uphold all rulings made by the local nobility, etc. Upon arrival in new lands both Squires and Knights are required to present themselves to the highest ranking noble they are able to find, present their writs and a small gift. If assigned to a specific area, only the first time arrival warrants a gift, but one should present oneself regularly upon arriving/returning to the area and make it known they are available for aid. Squires and Knights are to always openly wear their colors, no exceptions. They may also bear the colors of Guilds and such, if they so choose.

The Codes

At all times, Squires and Knights will know the Kingdom of Lorne Knightly Code, learned when they were a Squire/Knight within a Barony or County, before joining the order:

Thou shall respect the weak and thou shall constitute thyself the defender of them.

Thou shall love the country in which thou hast sworn fealty.

Thou shall not recoil before the enemy.

Thou shall make war against evil without cessation.

Thou shall scrupulously perform thy noble duties, if they be not contrary to the laws of the land.

Thou shall never lie and thou shall remain faithful to thy word.

Thou shall be generous and thou shall give freely to everyone.

Thou shall be everywhere and always the champion of the right and good against injustice and Evil.

The Code of Conduct for Knights and Squires of The Order of the Cerulean Storm is further defined, though does not require memorization:

Truth - Thou shall speak the truth, seek the truth in every situation before making judgments, value the truth over personal agendas or the immediate benefits which falsehoods may offer.

Honor - Thou shall keep your word, know yourself, uphold your beliefs, act with keen moral judgment and maintain high standards of conduct.

Justice - Thou shall defend the helpless, challenge evil where ever you encounter it, and come to the aid of those who are in need of so doing.

Valor - Thou shall have not the lack of fear but the ability to set aside self-interest when faced with evil, to be willing to fight for what is right, regardless of what other people may say or do to you.

Loyalty - Thou shall choose for yourself the Worthy One or Ones, whether they be your Liege, your loved ones, your country, your leader or your cause and to dedicate yourself to the protection and fulfillment of those Ones.

Largesse - Thou shall give freely of what you have without impoverishing yourself, show generosity to friend and stranger alike and be merciful and fair in all your dealings.

Trust – Thou shall trust the individuals of the Order of the Cerulean Storm and the tenets of Lorne, and give themselves to their protection in an unwavering fashion

Humility - Thou shall have all of these qualities without ever proclaiming them, bear the heavy burden of Chivalry without so much as a breath of exertion, be a silent strength which supports and sustains us all in times of need.

In the words of Lord Palinor Lorne, August 581, on Noble Intent:

All nobility shall place the defense of the land and her people above any and all personal interests. It is the true noble's duty to uphold the laws of the land, to defend her from invasion both internal and external, and to protect the common people against savagery and vileness of all sorts. The respect and elevation accorded to the nobles in return for performing this necessary duty should always be required of the commoners, but never abused. Let any nobleman who would use such power to belittle, degrade, or otherwise compromise the integrity of any goodly commoner be stripped of his title and lands in the most shameful and derogatory manner. Let only the truly noble hold title, for without this trait our leaders shall become tyrants.

*All Squires and Knights are to carry a copy of this document upon them at all times. It serves as a noble writ and defines the scope of Squireship and Knighthood.

On this day _____ in the month and year of _____ this document is to serve as notification and identification that _____ is a _____ within the Order of the Cerulean Storm, Kingdom of Lorne.

By my hand, I swear it so (Prince Talumar Lorne) _____

By my hand, I swear it so (Azriel Thorin II) _____

By my hand, I swear it so (Jade Thorin) _____

