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The Cursed Quill Gazette

A LITERARY GAZETTE OF FANTASY, ROMANCE, AND OTHER DANGEROUS AFFECTIONS

VOL. 1 * NO. 001 ✕ WEDNESDAY ✕ 4 NOVEMBER 2026

ROYAL TENSIONS RISE IN THE KINGDOM OF SU'LARESH

*The **Keepers of Tides** Seen in Increasingly Fractious Exchanges*

SU'LARESH – Sources within the royal household report a growing rift between the **Keepers of Tides** as whispers of political discord and personal grievance spread through the kingdom.

While the castle maintains a veil of composure, those close to the *New Moon Court* describe a marriage strained by duty, ambition, and secrets long kept hidden from the king.

With the *Eternal Ember*'s waters behaving strangely in recent days, many are left to wonder: Is this merely a royal dispute – or a sign of something far more sinister stirring beneath the tide?



PORTRAIT BY RODERIKA

In This Edition

FROM THE MANUSCRIPT

A new excerpt from A Devotion of Salt & Shadows



THE EDITOR'S DESK

On progress, word count, and what's haunting the next chapter



COMING IN 2027

A Devotion of Salt & Shadows

POSTSCRIPT TO
ARTIFACT IV "TIDES OF MOON DUST"



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Excerpt From

A Devotion of Salt & Shadows

BY JASMYN MORNING

ZAVIAN grimaced further, his morning entirely ruined now. Sunwu stepped into the dining hall in his usual slippers and silk robe, eyes already locked on the bottle of wine resting at the head of the table. **"Ah yes, thank you, Chani."**

"Shadows embrace you, *Illustrious Lord of Chaotic Whimsy*." Chan'yol bowed deeply.

Sunwu stopped beside Zavian, regarding the abandoned bowl of congee before glancing at LánHuá. **“You know, boy, there is a difference between loving someone and insisting on what’s best for them.”**

Zavian frowned. **“He needs to eat.”**

“Perhaps he would prefer to starve.”

“Then he may do so after breakfast.”

Sunwu chuckled. **“Ah, devotion. Such a charming excuse for tyranny.”**

LánHuá laughed softly into his sleeve, and Zavian shot them both a withering look.

“And what news do you have for us today?” Sunwu asked, turning to Chan'yol.

"You will be pleased to hear, *Grand Architect of Disarray and Disruption*, that the tides have maintained a steady rhythm even while His Majesty and His Grace are resting. Y'ungjae cautions against taking the reprieve for granted."

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ON PROGRESS, WORD COUNT, AND WHAT'S HAUNTING THE NEXT CHAPTER

The manuscript for *A Devotion of Salt & Shadows* continues to steal most of my attention. I've now completed Chapter 6, and I'm sitting at approximately 30,000 words already. I tend to be an over-writer but I'm on track for a first draft by the new year.

This week, I've been deep in Zavian's dream diary entries, and drafting a confrontation between him and Chan'yol xD It's as painful, petty, offensive and devastating as you'd expect.

I'm also sorting notes for a new commission featuring LánHuá and Zavian in the throne room as well as an *NSFW* of Zavian to feature in the novella. Expect more and more updates on this postscript to ***Tides of Moon Dust*** in the coming weeks!



AT A GLANCE

- Ch. 1-6 (complete)
- Ch. 7 (drafting)
- Ch. 8-19 (outlined)
- Commission art (in the planning stage)
- First draft (target: Jan 2027)