

Summer 2021



# WALTZ

The Official FC Newsletter

**Member Interview**  
**Hydri Paradus**

**Flare Interview**  
**Diana Waters**



*In This Issue: Housing - Gpose - Quarterly Recap - Events - Glamour - And More!*



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# Interview with . . .

# Diana Waters



**Hello there Diana, you always leave a mark and I'm talking about art, when did you first step into that field?**

It's the classic boring story. I started art when I was a kid, as soon as I could draw. I grew up on anime so I would try to imitate it and the rest is unfortunately history.

**Are there any tips you want to give to those who want to get into art or are at the beginning stages of it?**

The most important thing I've learned through a million art classes and art teachers is, **LEARN HOW TO CHEAT**. Yes, you need to know fundamentals (measuring, anatomy, values, etc.) but sticking to some unspoken "rules" is just gonna make you slower in achieving higher levels. For example, they say "NEVER TRACE!" Yes, never post something you trace and call it your own--but trace to **IMPROVE**. Copy to improve. Steal how other people paint their things. Do they always start with a blue underpaint? Steal that! Try it for yourself! Once you're comfortable, develop your own art style with the things you've copied. Stop remaking the wheel by yourself for no reason. Use the lessons already taught by others to boost yourself to better art fast and not waste your time!

**Do you remember which anime really influenced you growing up?**

Cardcaptor Sakura, Pokémon, Sailor Moon, Naruto, Inuyasha, Shaman King, and Yu-Gi-Oh.

**Those are fantastic tips, Diana! I'm sure new artists are going to really appreciate some veteran advice! Now speaking of veteran: we noticed that you got into raiding, what was that like?**

I only got into it because my boyfriend got into it and then was like "you should come with me," so I begrudgingly went. I'm a healer main, and I guess the mounts are cool, but sometimes I do want to scream a little!





**Is there something that you want your fellow FC mates to know about you that they probably did not know about before?**

No, I don't have hidden talents because I'm not really talented. Something interesting is that I'm half Japanese and half Chinese and I've been to both countries. They're pretty cool. Also I have a cat called Sushi.

**Ok, now to the question on everyone's minds. Number #1 Thancred fan, besides his looks, what is it about this NPC that has you up in the clouds?**

This would require an entire essay to explain but I'll try to summarize. Basically, I only really play video games for the plot and the characters. If I don't like the plot or the characters, I don't care about the game. So when I started to play the critically-acclaimed FFXIV, I was only really interested in the plot and NPCs. At first I thought the characters were pretty flat in A Realm Reborn and I actually really disliked Thancred. I thought he was just an annoying playboy.

However, once I got into Heavensward and further on, the character development for him was insane. For one, I have a bias for moody, edgy boy characters, but I really have a soft spot for characters that have a lot of pain inside that they try to deal with by deflecting or trying to not let others know. It just makes me want to give them a hug and tell them they don't have to be alone! And watching him grow from a lost orphan child, to finding a father figure in Louisoix, and then finding Minfilia like his own adopted little sister, and then of course everything that happens in Shadowbringers... It's obvious that his character is about his deep need for some kind of family. He's a tough boy but really inside he's a softy, and I want to cherish and protect that! So I couldn't help but adore his character. Like he's also cute appearance-wise, but really it was his story that I truly love.



**Truly a heartwarming answer, Diana. Back to your art for now though; so what do you want to do in the art field?**

I got a BFA specializing in Art and Technology in college since I thought I wanted to do 3D art (animation, movies, and games) but the more I delved into it, the more I hated it. 3D is not my favorite thing. So I'm now in a diploma course learning Illustration and Character design. I think I want to do illustrations for games or movies or character design, but I honestly might just become a weird social media freelancer. I make enough from commissions right now (because of this amazing community!) and I'm thinking of expanding into making merch like keychains and things like that.

**We noticed that you met an online friend in person, what was that like?**

Oh yeah, I met Emerald Noble like a year and a half ago. Honestly, it was super awkward but super wholesome. We traded gifts and she gave me a super cute tote and pins. We then went shopping and I got a shirt with a cat on it. 10/10 would do again!

**You're very good at Gpose and comics, do you find that relaxing? Are you going to make more awesome FFXIV comics?**

I just like making my ideas into visuals but I hate how time consuming comics take, so no I'm probably not going to make more. Or at least if I do make more, they're gonna be like two panels long.

**Why Au Ra, have you ever tried being another race?**

I just like how they look. The scales are really cute and unique. I love the short/tall dynamic between males and females and also my lizard is the perfect height to hug Thancred in the chest! And sure I've been forced to "try" other races but I won't ever change from Au'ri, sorry!

**And lastly, any heartfelt words for your FC mates?**

Just chill and have a good time.



# SCREENSHOTS CORNER!

View some of the stunning screenshots created by your FC mates recently!



Diana Waters

Isaudorel Lanverlais





# SCREENSHOTS CORNER!



Zaruku Shizu



Kellin Silverwillow



Kanda Yozo



# SCREENSHOTS CORNER!



Brock Hampton



Erma Morgan



Moonlight Mura



# SCREENSHOTS CORNER!

Momiji Inubashiri



Dhen Sunblade



# SCREENSHOTS CORNER!



Hydri Paradus

Lotti Ahdulari





# THE BLACK WALTZ ART GALLERY

Take a moment to gaze upon art made by your fellow FC mates.



◀ Laureall



Sienna Marigold ▶





◀ Mufio Pemstein



Vahn'a Minerva ▶



Zara Thustra ➤



◀ Kouya Kaji





◀ Kaja Ruen



Kai-Lee Tsuchiya ▶





Pearlescent Light ➤



◀ Diana Waters



◀ Lilith Solare



Hydri Paradus ▶



Tora ▶

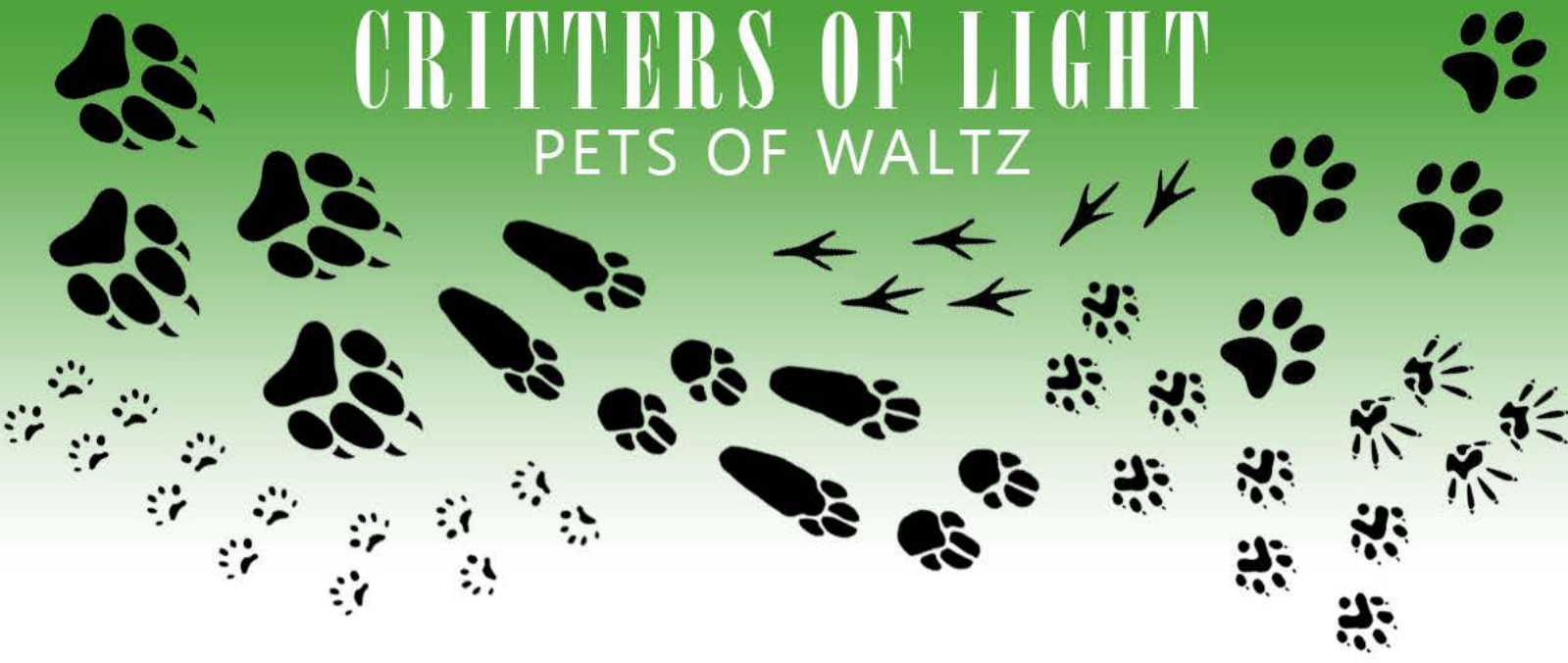


◀ Erma Morgan



# CRITTERS OF LIGHT

## PETS OF WALTZ



Featuring: **SUSHI**





**Hello, Sushi! What are your favorite tasty snacks?**

Hello, madam Mufinella. Mine favorite treat would most certainly be tuna or salmon flavored dental delights. Their aroma is smooth and the slight crunch is delectable.

**Are you a good girl?**

scoffs Tis a wasted question! Why of course I am what they call a "good girl." I am but a model cat for all catkind.

**Do you like going for walkies?**

Indeed, I do fancy a walk occasionally. It is refreshing to roam outside and nibble upon the grass.

**Do you have a favorite toy?**

Certainly. Tis my prized rat on a wire! It is one of a kind and specifically made for my tastes. I like how it whizzes by.



**What are your feelings on Thancred Waters?**

Pah. I do not understand my subordinate's adoration for him. I chew on his coat hem when it is available to me.

**How long have you been with your subordinate, Diana Waters?**

Ah, what fond memories. It has been roughly two years. How time flies by.

**What are your favorite activities, Sushi?**

I am a cat of many experiences. I enjoy sleeping on my fat cat bed, sleeping on my subordinate's bed, sleeping on the table, partaking in zoomies, and licking myself.

**Anything else you want to share with our readers?**

I wish thee a good day. Please subscribe to my Onlynyans and my Patreon.



# THE OPEN HOUSE

Tour around in these fabulous housing designs!



Lavender Beds 22/1

Lhei Tayuun



Mist 11/52

Anuwen Latsho



# THE OPEN HOUSE



Brock Hampton (Decorated by Yuki Hart)



Soliloqui Asantiani

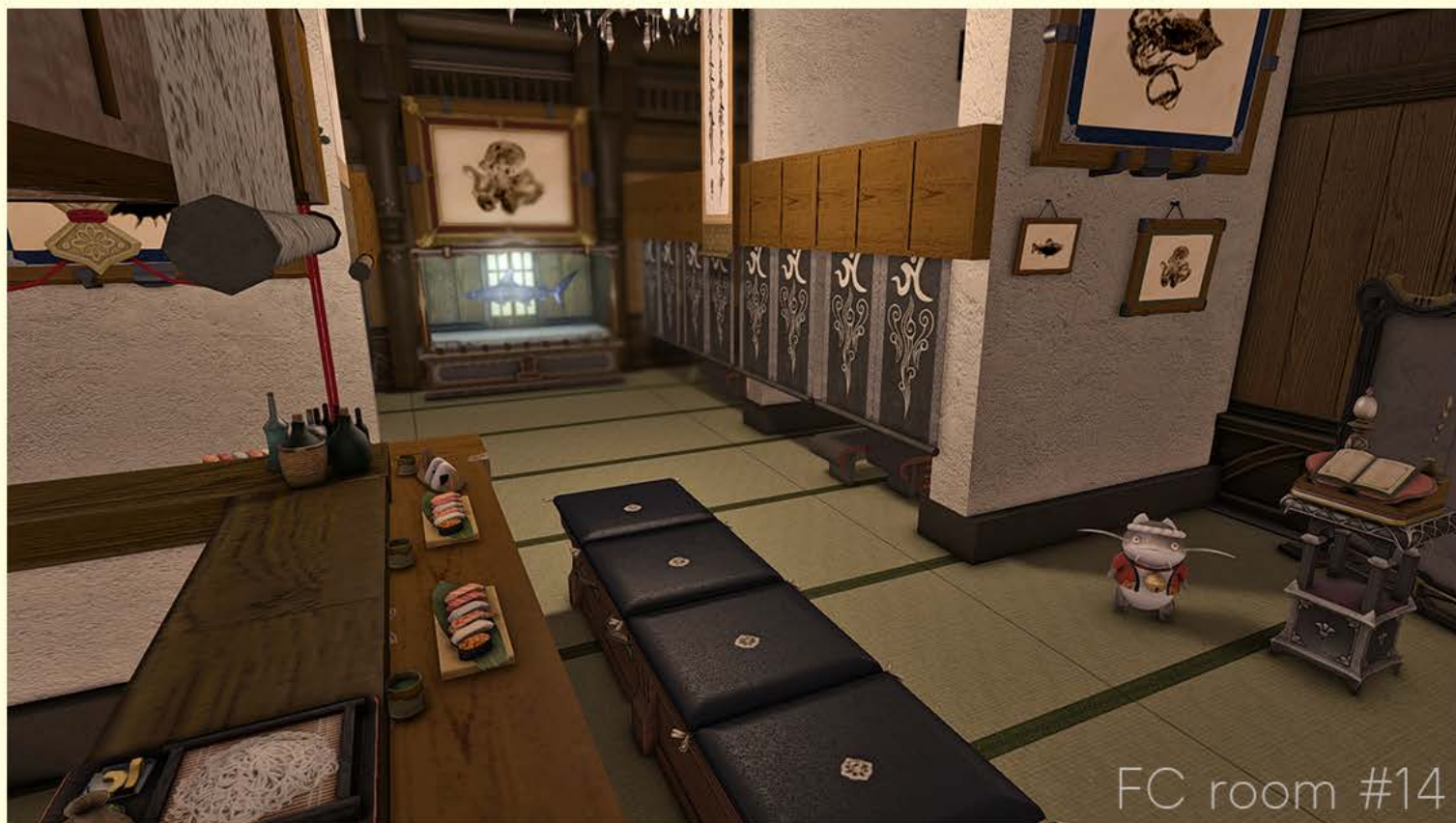


# THE OPEN HOUSE



FC room #15

Kellin Silverwillow



FC room #14

Kouya Kaji



# THE OPEN HOUSE



FC room #54

Rosalie Forrester



Mist 20/32

Sienna Marigold





Oswaldyn Ze



# Interview with . . .

# Hydri Paradus



**How did you get into the game?**

I heard about FFXIV multiple times during the years, but never really looked much into it as I was playing other things. But I met a group of friends who all decided they wanted to play FFXIV and they kept nagging me to get into it as well. It took a while but I did at last start the critically acclaimed free trial and found out I actually did really enjoy it.

**What's your favorite part of the game?**

The people I meet along the way are definitely a big factor in what keeps me playing, especially now that I've joined the Black Waltz and host MAP NIGHTS at 7 PM EST every Monday and Wednesday. But it's also just the feel and atmosphere of the game that I love.

**What is your favorite class to play?**

Picking a favorite is always hard for me. I get in the mood for different things depending, but currently Ninja would be my "favorite" main at the moment, until the next expansion that is. As far as non-battle class I would rank them all the same; they are all very useful to have for different things.

**Which expansion has been your favorite so far?**

I would absolutely say Shadowbringers; I enjoyed the story in each expansion but Shadowbringers really hit a home run with the quality and how deep it gets. I was on the edge of my seat the entire way through, especially near the end.

**Who would you say is your favorite NPC?**

Emet-Selch is easily my favorite character. I've rewatched all the cutscenes involving him because I could literally listen to him talk nonstop--he has a good voice while also always having something interesting to say.

**What are you most looking forward to most with 6.0?**

For sure my all-time most-looked-forward-to thing is the new jobs, specifically the melee one, but I'm also very interested in what they are going to do with the story both in the MSQ and in the new raid tier, and also what they will do afterwards once it's all done.



### **Do you have a favorite minion?**

There is one minion, and one minion only, that I use until a time comes where they release a map minion: Rosa is my number one girl. A more recently released minion on the Mog Station, I won her from a Twitch raffle and have had her out ever since.

### **Why don't you let everyone know a little bit about how you chose your name?**

I was browsing some generators seeing what looked cool, which led me to start looking up names from space where I found Beta Hydri, which is a star in the southern circumpolar constellation of Hydrus with an apparent visual magnitude of 2.8, and is the brightest star in the constellation. My last name Paradus was just from a generator as I was looking for a name that sounded good with Hydri.

### **What is your favorite hangout spot in the game?**

To be honest I generally just hang out at the FC house. Either that or my FC room, it's all been decorated very well so it's my go-to place to chill and chat. (Room number 19 if anyone wants to give it a look.)

### **Are there any other games you play outside of FFXIV?**

I tend to focus on one game at a time and MMOs generally keep you busy, but there are a few games I'm looking forward to in the future like Elden Ring, FF7 Remake Part 2, and God of War: Ragnarok.

### **What hobbies do you have outside of gaming?**

I do enjoy watching other people play games because there are a lot I wouldn't play but still want to see. I also like skateboarding and other sports like hockey and baseball.

### **Are there shows/films or songs you would recommend?**

Supernatural was a really solid one that I enjoyed. As far as music goes I'm super open to all kinds, but I mostly listen to game soundtracks. One thing I've always liked about not only Final Fantasy, but any Square Enix games in general: their stellar soundtracks.

### **Tell us a little bit of what you love to eat?**

I loooove chicken. It's definitely my meal of choice when possible. As a snack though, kettle chips, almonds, and pears are all really good.

### **If you were able to, would you be down to meet people outside of this game?**

Despite how it may look, I am actually an extremely shy kind of person. It's not at all that I wouldn't want to. My first reactions would certainly be speechlessness and lots of blushing and smiling!

### **If you have a pet, what kind of pet is it?**

I have had dogs all my life, usually three at a time, and occasionally some extras like a hamster or fish. One of my dogs is a Corgi, another is an Australian Shepherd, and lastly a hound mix. Their names are Tucker, Toby, and Sam.

### **The game is coming to an end, you have thirty minutes to an hour to do one last thing, what would it be?**

Farm Diamond EX for the dragon I still won't have in the year 2030...

I would very likely just be spending it in-game with all the friends I've made along the way, joking around until the end, and then continue joking around afterwards in Discord or maybe other games, because at this point it's more than just FFXIV that connects us.

### **Last question. Share with us a quote you live by.**

"Today only happens once, so make it a good one." I feel oftentimes people can become too focused on what's to come that they let the "right now" slip away, so I like to focus on each day as it is and make the best of the here and now.

### **WOULD YOU LIKE TO PLUG MAPS ONE LAST TIME FOR THE FC IN CASE PEOPLE MISSED IT BEFORE?**

I would love to! Come join me for map nights every Monday/Wednesday at 7 PM EST where we can line your pockets with gil, glam, and all sorts of other treasures! It's a real blast of a time made better by all who come, so be sure to join in on the fun and make it a special time.







# A Hydri Fashion Journal



Spring  
into Summer





# 1: Fiery Elegance



**Head:** Bonewicca Whisperer's Mask

**+Dye:** Soot Black

**Body:** Indigo Ramie Robe of Casting

**+Dye:** Dalamud Red

**Legs:** Evenstar Tights

**+Dye:** None

**Feet:** Antiquated Duelist's Thighboots

**+Dye:** None

**Hands:** Darklight Gloves of Casting

One of my favorite caster outfits, everything but the boots can be used on any dps caster job. The outfit gives off an elegant yet demonic caster look which I love.



## 2: Far Eastern Cleric



(Weapon is Hyperconductive Majestas)

**Head:** None

**+Dye:** None

**Body:** Red Moonfire Happi

**+Dye:** None

**Legs:** Dai-ryumyaku Tsutsu-hakama of Healing

**+Dye:** Soot Black

**Feet:** Carborundum Boots of Healing

**+Dye:** None

**Hands:** Dirndl's Wrist Torgue

**+Dye:** Snow White

I really love a comfy look for all my Healers and I've always liked these boots, Sigmascape has some of my favorite raid gear for all roles so naturally had to make something using them.



### 3: Blaque Regalia



(Weapon is Suzaku's Flame Kissed Revolver)

**Head:** None

+Dye: None

**Body:** Oschon's Mail of Aiming

+Dye: Soot Black

**Legs:** No.2 Type B Leggings

+Dye: Soot Black

**Feet:** Adept's Thighboots

+Dye: Soot Black

**Hands:** Oschon's Gauntlets of Aiming

+Dye: Soot Black

PVP has some of the most unique and interesting gear, in my opinion. I've wanted to use this top for so long that I had to level an aiming job. Every piece in this set is usable by all Physical Ranged jobs.



## 4: Supersoldier



(Weapon is Torigashira Eureka)

**Head:** No.2 Type B Goggles  
+Dye: None

**Body:** Jacket of the Rising Dragon  
+Dye: Jet Black

**Legs:** Althyk's Cuisses of Striking  
+Dye: Wine Red

**Feet:** Deepshadow Greaves of Striking  
+Dye: None

**Hands:** Gloves of the Rising Dragon  
+Dye: Wine Red

A hardened warrior ready for anything the world may throw at you, and you'll do it with STYLE.



## 5: Off-Duty Knight



**Head:** None

**+Dye:** None

**Body:** Hraesvelgr Jacket

**+Dye:** Snow White

**Legs:** Collegiate Slacks

**+Dye:** Jet Black

**Feet:** Brand-New Boots

**+Dye:** None

**Hands:** Hard Leather  
Ringbands

**+Dye:** Soot Black

Some more casual wear for when you're out on the town or simply training.



# Forzean Chronicles

## A deeper look into the lore of FFXIV

### 9: Louisoix Leveilleur

(Warning: contains spoilers for the Binding Coils of Bahamut storyline)

Born in Sharlayan to the prestigious Leveilleur family, Louisoix was destined to become a talented mage like his forefathers. During his early days, Louisoix was an impish youth with a sweet tooth and a competitive nature. He shared a heated rivalry with Matoya at the Studium, competing viciously for top marks. After graduating with honors, he became an Archon and was granted the use of the staff Tupsimati - a treasure of Sharlayan.

Post-graduation, he began to take on apprentices as many Archons do. One of his finest pupils was the stoic Lalafell Papalymo Totolymo, who graduated second in his class at the Studium prior to becoming Louisoix's apprentice. Louisoix also became the patron of an orphaned street urchin named Thancred, a youth found in Limsa during a failed pickpocketing incident. Louisoix brought the orphan back to Sharlayan to be trained in the art of espionage.

Though he was a devoted learner and teacher, Louisoix made time for family. He married and had several children later in life, the eldest and most well-known being his son Fourchenault. His rebellious ideals did not pass down to his son, however, leading to a life of conflict between the pair. This discord continued long into Fourchenault's adult life, where he became a member of the Forum, Sharlayan's government head. Despite the differences he had with his son, Louisoix would always love his grandchildren, the twins Alphinaud and Alisaie.





During his time in Sharlayan, Louisoix studied many ancient prophecies, becoming a believer of one such prognostication, "The Divine Chronicles" writ by Mezaya Thousand-eyes. It foretold the coming of a Seventh Umbral Calamity that would wipe out all known existence. In response to this prophecy, Louisoix took twelve of his greatest and most loyal pupils and established the Circle of Knowing, a group dedicated to the salvation of all Eorzea. Sending his pupils out into Eorzea, he made contact with the three major city states in order to encourage the rebuilding of the Grand Companies, which would strengthen the Eorzean Alliance for the battles to come.

Not long after his grandchildren were admitted to the Studium at age eleven, Louisoix had decided he could no longer continue his work from the confines of Sharlayan and their non-interventionist policies. Not wishing to leave his grandchildren to repeat the mistakes of their forefathers, and seeing much of himself in Alisaie and far too much of his son in Alphinaud, he gifted the pair with Adelphoi. When read together, the set of grimoires formed a single tome. It was his hope that these grimoires would help the siblings understand each other and share a common goal, thus breaking the cycle of familial discord.



Leaving Sharlayan for good, Louisoix made his new home in Gridania, working with the Eorzean Alliance as their chief tactician. With the aid of the Warrior of Light, he hunted down and stopped primal summonings in the land, attempting to lay the groundwork to prevent such disasters from occurring again. These attempts would prove to be in vain, as the lesser moon Dalamud began to fall from the heavens, a plan set in motion by the Legatus of the VIIIth Imperial Legion, Nael van Darnus, who wished to use the moon's power to cleanse the lands of the beastmen's primal rituals.



After failing to halt Dalamud's descent, Louisoix gathered the forces of Eorzea for battle in the Carteneau Flats. As the Eorzean Alliance did battle with the enemy forces, Louisoix traveled the realms to entreaty the aid of the people of Eorzea to offer their prayers for salvation, hoping to invoke the power of the Twelve to seal Dalamud's power and return it to a dormant state. Before his plan could be set in motion, the lesser moon cracked in half, releasing its prisoner, the elder primal Bahamut. Louisoix's magicks, though the most powerful attempted in all Eorzean history, were no match for Bahamut's wrath. In a last ditch effort to preserve the future, Louisoix sent the Warrior of Light into an aetherial rift before sending up a final prayer for salvation. His will, combined with that of the people of Eorzea, filled Louisoix with aether and transformed him into the primal Phoenix, giving him the strength to defeat Bahamut and end the Seventh Umbral Calamity.

The defeat left Louisoix vulnerable as the aether left his body. In his final moments, Bahamut enthralled Louisoix's essence, enslaving his spirit. What remained of Bahamut spirited away to a fragment of Dalamud that had fallen during the battle, intending to rejuvenate its strength in the years to come. Nothing remained of Louisoix after the battle save for the remains of Tupsimati, which were collected and displayed in memorial within the headquarters of the Scions of the Seventh Dawn. His fate would not be known for years to come.

Five years after the Battle of Carteneau, Louisoix's grandchildren set out to Eorzea to determine the fate of their grandfather. Alisaie enlisted the aid of the Warrior of Light to infiltrate the fragment of Dalamud, finding Louisoix's enthralled spirit within. Joined by her brother, Alphinaud, the twins fought together to defeat their grandfather's primal spirit and liberate him from his enslavement. Finally returned to his original self, Louisoix revealed what had happened to him during the battle, giving the twins some solace before finally being able to pass on. Though Louisoix may have met his end, his legacy would live on in those still fighting to protect the people of Eorzea.





# What's New In Waltz?

## *A Quarterly Highlight*

We've had a pretty fun couple of months this Spring! Since the last issue in March, we held a Discord event "An Album Cover"! During this contest, members were tasked with recreating popular band covers in the game. We had a lot of fantastic and hilarious submissions but the following members won the contest:

- 1st: Billy Probably
- 2nd: Sorrowen Deymon
- 3rd: Anuwen Latsho



At the end of March, we held an FC-wide Amazing Race! Each participant was given a list of clues to find individuals hidden around the ARR maps, scattered from Dodo fields to dusty boulders in the desert. The task was not easy and our competitors fought long and hard to get to the final riddle. Though the challenge was difficult, we had three clever winners of this event!

- 1st: Cumbo
- 2nd: Levin
- 3rd: Nagisa Tsukimia



In April we had another Golden Powerball, this is when our powerball pot hits 50 million Gil. The first day of our Golden Powerball drawing saw a winner with Luna Valentinus taking home the whole pot! Congratulations, Luna for joining the winners club!

The month of May saw our first scavenger hunt event! For this event, items were hidden around various FC rooms in the FC house and players were tasked with locating and writing down where they found each of the hidden items. Some of the items were hidden very well, leaving our participants contorting into awkward positions trying to peer under and around furniture in search of the hidden objects. After hours of hunting, we had our winners coming out victorious - and in need of a chiropractor visit!

1st: Rhelys Infinis  
2nd: Mufio Pemstein  
3rd: [REDACTED\*]

\* We don't have record of who this was. If this was you, please contact Mufio Pemstein for correction!

Wrapping up the month of June, we held our first Town Hall of the year. The voice chat was full of listeners as we discussed upcoming changes to the FC and new features being added such as gender pronoun roles in Discord and a Thank You channel for members to share their positive experiences in the FC. We also had a lot of fun brainstorming ways to improve community interaction leading up to the next expansion in the coming months. We got a lot of great feedback and thank everyone for coming out! Together we will make the FC stronger than ever!

Since our March edition, we had several outstanding winners of the Good Samaritan award. The following upstanding citizens were our March, April, and May winners of the award:

March: Olim Atarwyn  
April: Smurgle Biscuits  
May: Hydri Paradus

The future of the FC is looking brighter every day, including our upcoming summer community event "The Magic Garden" where we invite the data center to come party with us for fun and prizes! Our other goals for the months remaining until Endwalker's release are preparing for the content to come with classes and daily activities geared to helping everyone catch up to end game. We hope you all enjoy what we have in store for the summer. Stay cool and see you out there in the field, folks!



# THANK YOU

Thank you to the following for their efforts in making this issue possible:

**Vahn'a Minerva:** Interviewer

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**Freya Stormfall:** Editor

**Brock Hampton:** Cover Design, Graphics Designer

**Soliloqui Asantiani:** Editor

**Hydri Paradus:** Content Provider

And YOU, our awesome readers!

See you next issue!