

Tuesday, February 7, 2017

Chapter 1 (Part 1)

The Chentish people live a hard, bitter life; Chental is a barren rock in the middle of the Qorlean Sea, and its people have struggled to find their path in this modern world of qaa-powered streetlamps and steam-driven turbines. Once a band of proud conquerors, sending out regular raids against the Shorefolk, the Chent have in recent years turned to mercenarism. Their skills as sell-swords are highly prized, and their courage and determination in the face of overwhelming odds can be best summarized in one of their beloved folks songs, "Bid Me Not." Sung as a call/response between the Chentish men and women, this song is traditionally performed before any warband leaves the isle; it speaks of their belief in an afterlife, and demonstrates how death in valorous battle is the highest possible virtue for a Chentish man-at-arms.

MenWomen Bid me not go down my dear
Into the Summerlands I will bid you go my dear
If the Summerland doth call Bid me instead to stay my dear
To stay and hold your hand But I will sing your life my dear
As you join that storied hall Bid me not embark my dear
Towards those misty shores I will bid you sail my dear
Through mists, 'cross oceans blue Bid me instead to stay my dear
And I shall die no more But I will sing your life my dear
So that your course bears true Bid me not depart my dear
Into the deepening night I'll bid you not to stay my dear
For such is not our way Bid me instead to stay my dear
By your side, and in the light But I will sing your life my dear
To light you on the way

Posted by Ancient of Days in The Gift of the Golden Blade at 12:56