

The Formation of Von

Henrich Von Steeplebottom VI was born to Lord Henrich Von Steeplebottom V and Lady Veronica Von Steeplebottom of the coastal region on the Mavi Ocean of Tatherna. Although just a 7 years old when the war ended, Henrich has faint memories of the elves he knew losing family members and seeing what war can do to a people. The city of Bochen has remained relatively unscathed by the war due mostly to the cunning of Lord Henrich. Being the oldest son and in line to take the throne, Henrich was expected to follow in his fathers footsteps as his father and his father to the 5th generation. While Henrich's life was easy and comfortable, the common folks of Bochen did not have it so good and have been pushing back against the aristocratic families leading to revolt.

Henrich grew up very comfortably. He could not help to notice that his lifestyle was uncommon to the land which was ruled by his family. From his youth he would often take from the royal family's excess and give it to those he saw outside of the Lord's Keep walls. Although his father did not approve, he had to admit that his son was creating good will with those in his land and for that, he was pleased. Because of this, Henrich VI was a favorite of the common folk and his family preferred over many other upper class families in the city.

At 16, Henrich began spending more and more time out hunting with his brothers and cousins in the local forest. His older cousins were the marksmen. Henrich took a liking to sneaking up as close to the target as possible. Once the arrows were loosed by the rest of the party, Henrich would spring into action and track the injured animal to quickly put it out of its misery. On one such hunting trip, the animal being pursued proved to have more life left than expected. It was a deep journey into lesser-known forest and away from the hunting party. When Henrich finally caught up to the newly expired buck, he stood over his prize panting and then heard the sound of training over a hill close by. He snuck up to see what lived over the hill.

He was amazed to see that he had happened upon the hidden monastery. He quietly hid and watched them train for what seemed to be a moment. Amazed at the skills these monks possessed, he pondered if he could possibly learn their ways without upsetting his family or his role as Heir to the lordship. He then heard a voice from behind him say, "Do you like what you see, young man?" Henrich jumped up, sword drawn to face an older man in a robe. "What is your name and why have you come to our monastery?" "I'm....Von." Henrich said nervously. "That's not your whole name, but it will do." Smiled the old man. "Join me for a cup of water and I will tell you more about who we are.

Henrich began to see the old man every chance he could. He told his family that he would be hunting alone to prove his valor and making frequent trips into town to improve his diplomatic skills as a leader in the community. What he was actually doing was learning the ways of Chathi, the sage monk of this monastery. He would spend all his time working on swordplay and learning how the monks care for the people of the low-town. Although he could not live with them, he was soon accepted into their family and would sneak into town wearing his hooded robe to feed and care for the poor. He would bring resources from his families supplies to the monastery to then be distributed to the people.

As Von (which is what he went by with his monk brethren) grew in skill and understanding, he was approached by Chathi one day with a task to complete. He was to represent the monastery and lend aid to those at Baldtop Library to protect the knowledge of the ages and work to preserve the monastic traditions that they, until now, have freely followed and pursued. Von had met Chalal, a well-known scribe and emissary from the library on a couple occasions both as Von at the monastery and as Henrich Von Steeplebottom representing his prominent family.

Upon arriving home to the family keep one evening, he was summoned by his father for a private audience. Lord Henrich V mentioned that he had met with Chalal and was told about his sons meeting with Chalal in 2 different personas. Von confessed to all he had done and learned over the past 11 years training with the monks as well as representing the family. They discussed his possible role in working at Baldtop Library. Lord Henrich said that the future of their family in town is at great risk due to the uprisings and that young Henrich should go represent the family at Baldtop to try and secure a different future for them all if that proves necessary.

Young Henrich told his father that he would be willing to represent the family with his fathers blessing as long as he could also fully embrace his new identity as Von, student of Chathi, monk of Bochen. With some apprehension, Lord Henrich V agreed and Von made his way to the library to begin his employment at Baldtop Library as both an Nobleman and a Monk.