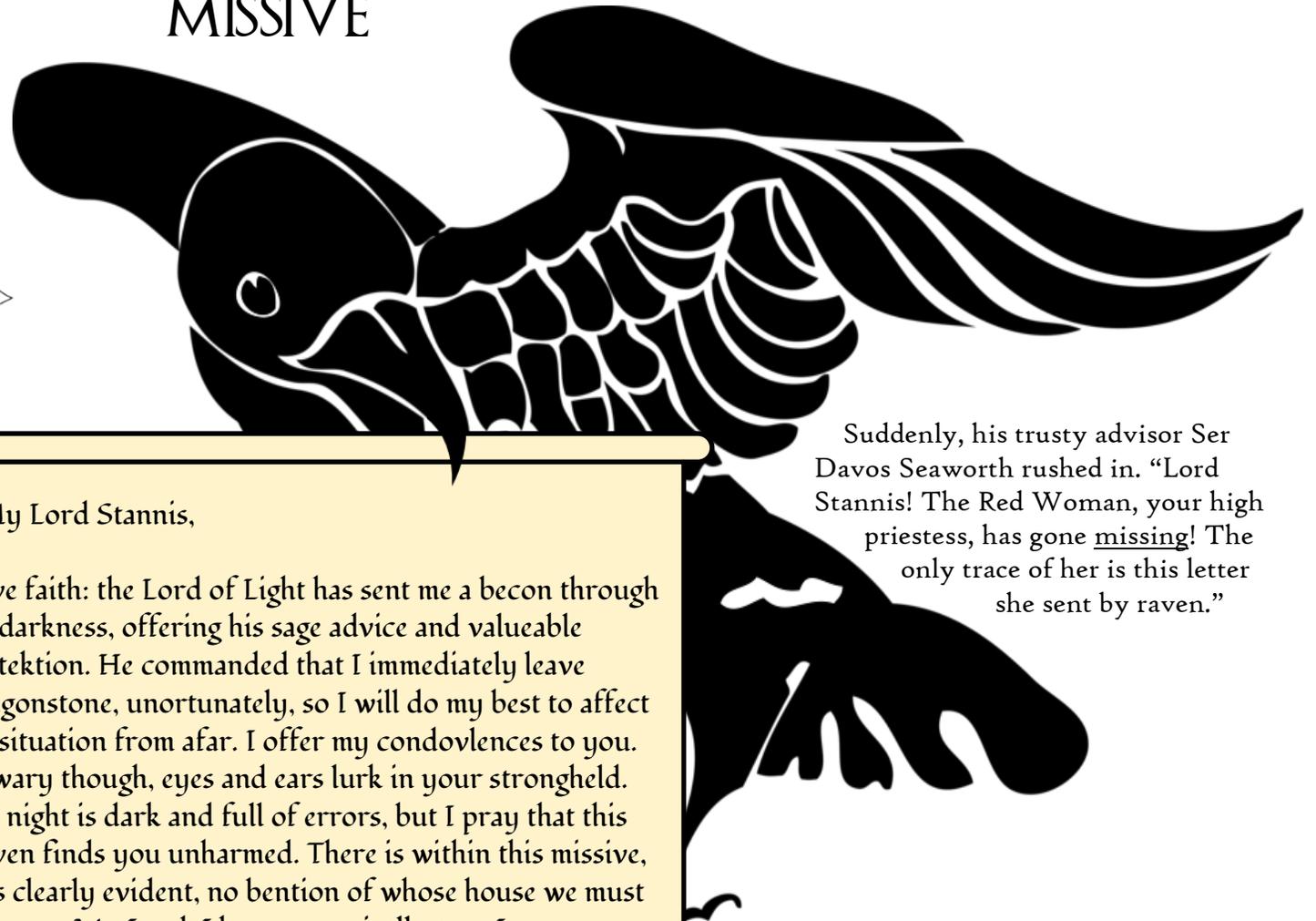




MELISANDRE'S MISSIVE



Lord Stannis Baratheon was poring over a chart in his castle, Dragonstone. One of his sworn houses had turned against him, but he didn't know who.

"I cannot strike without Lady Melisandre by my side," Lord Stannis responded, snatching the letter from Ser Davos. He scowled and added, "I need her prophecies to determine which house must be punished in the name of the Lord of Light."

My Lord Stannis,

Have faith: the Lord of Light has sent me a becon through the darkness, offering his sage advice and valueable protektion. He commanded that I immediately leave Dragonstone, unfortunately, so I will do my best to affect the situation from afar. I offer my condovlences to you. Be wary though, eyes and ears lurk in your stronghold. The night is dark and full of errors, but I pray that this raeven finds you unharmed. There is within this missive, as is clearly evident, no bention of whose house we must discover. My Lord, I know your intllect, so I am sure that you can detrerminе which house has betrayed you, though I have not penned their family name in my letter. In my pophecies I foresee a house sigil: wooden beams, enveloped in a field of payle tawny brown. If nothing else, remember you mey not have heard of this house before.

Lady Melisandre

Suddenly, his trusty advisor Ser Davos Seaworth rushed in. "Lord Stannis! The Red Woman, your high priestess, has gone missing! The only trace of her is this letter she sent by raven."

Ser Davos considered remaining silent, but changed his mind. "Perhaps she has left you some sort of message in her letter? After all, her catchphrase is 'The night is dark and full of *terrors*,' isn't it?"