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## **Uncommon East Kingdom Awards: The Tyger of the East**

*Mistress Eloise of Coulter*

And you thought I'd get distracted by stepping down as Baroness and forget. No such luck! Onward with Uncommon East Kingdom Awards!

Tonight is an award that is uncommon by its very definition: the Tyger of the East!

Let's remind ourselves what we're working with, because it's been a couple of weeks:

East Kingdom Law and Policy

IX.D

1. There are Orders of Honor in the East Kingdom, and their recipients are known as Companions of their respective Orders.

- a. Companions of each Order of Honor will rank equally with Companions of the other Orders of Honor in the Order of Precedence.
- b. Except as otherwise expressly stated below, scrolls for induction into Orders of Honor are optional.

And tonight's contestant:

7. Tyger of the East (established April 26 A.S. 37, 2003, by Darius II and Roxane II)

- a. The Tyger of the East may be awarded by The Crown to the individual who most embodies and personifies the ideals of the East Kingdom.
- b. During any one reign, no more than one individual will be bestowed with the Tyger of the East.
- c. An individual may be recognized in this way no more than once.
- d. The recipients of this award will be entitled to a scroll.

This is an award that is very individual to the Royalty bestowing it, as everyone will interpret "embodies and personifies the ideals of the East Kingdom" differently. I swear that I recall that when it was first instituted, the language read that it would be given "rarely." Perhaps, perhaps I am misremembering. Be that as it may, there have only been four reigns that have not chosen to give one since it was created. While it carries no precedence of arms, by custom its social precedence is enormous.

So what does that MEAN to the layman: embodies and personifies the ideals of the East Kingdom? To ME, that is a person who is synonymous with the East. Whom I cannot imagine the East without, and whom I cannot imagine being anywhere BUT the East. The one who always defines what this order should be in my mind is Mistress Caitlin Davies. Not only was she an embodiment of grace and courtesy (albeit with a \*wicked\* sense of humor if you were lucky enough to see it,) she kept the East Kingdom Order of Precedence for years. In many ways she WAS the OP, as it was her passion and knit into her nerve endings. We referred to her as "Mistress Memory," because she was the living embodiment of the history of the East. When she passed, we lost not only a wonderful woman, but a piece of our Kingdom's soul. Even the people who didn't know her personally were touched by her impact on the Kingdom. To me, that is a Tyger of the East.

So, given how special and personal this award is to the Royalty, should you write people in for it?

HECK YES.

You should write people in for anything you think they deserve. Especially in the case of this award and anything that polls (who knows – we may get to those...), you want to be sure to write a GOOD letter. Perhaps we'll cover those basics when I've run out of awards to talk about. But when you look at someone and say "That person personifies what I think the East is/what I think the East should be/I cannot imagine the Kingdom without that person's influence/I can see that their influence will still be felt years from now" – put those feelings in a letter, and send it to the Royalty. Maybe they will feel the same.

A current subject of the Barony Beyond the Mountain who is a Tyger of the East: Ernst Nuss von Kitzingen.

The various East Kingdom awards are described here:

<https://seneschal.eastkingdom.org/docs/EKLAW.pdf>, beginning on page 24.

The Order of Precedence may be found here: <https://op.eastkingdom.org/op.php>.

You can recommend people for ANY award here:

<https://surveys.eastkingdom.org/index.php/945932/lang-en>.

#uncommoneastkingdomawards

EDIT: Ack! I'm out of practice - I forgot the badge! (Fieldless) A demi-tiger rampant azure.

