Marianita Lucia de Leon y Valdez

Master Diplomat of the Foreign Chancellery

AC 1014

By Michael Berry

'I prefer metaphysics to theology. You see, there's no guilt in sex, and it's never boring.'

I. Appearance

Marianita though human has a distinctly elfish appearance to her. She is both small and slight at 5' and is just a hair over 100 pounds. She has slightly pointed ears making many wonder if she is half-elf and has long straight black hair she wears down to her waist. Even though she is in her mid-40's she still appears to be to be in her mid-20's and still has the body that landed her into Glantri's Playmage magazine as its featured mage for Ambyrmont 989. It did cut her to the quick however that she had to recently had to take her first potion of longevity to keep her perfect skin and combat the first signs of sag in her bosom. Though her body, hinted for all with her manner of dress, is thought by many men (and women) to be perfect it is her large deep black eyes that have led many a person to lose themselves staring into that is considered her most striking physical attribute.

Fond of expensive of brightly colored and form fitting spider silk gowns Marianita is always on top of the latest trends in Glantrian fashion. She has a love of hats and it is said she has several hundred in her closet and is rarely seen in public without elaborate headdresses and accourtements. She rarely wears gems or jewelry outside of the elaborate bejeweled headpiece. She is noted for the hand carved ivory fan she always carries which she uses to accentuate speech, flirt, or simply to keep cool.

II. Personality & Quirks

Marianita has long loved to be the center of attention. Be it at parties as a student, court functions as an Ambassador, or still today as the highest ranked Diplomat in the Chancellery she revels in upstaging other ladies. She has a hair trigger on her temper, but it easily soothed often by flattery. Her charms, beauty, and well known appetite for hedonistic pleasure can often lead one to overlook that Marianita is a fearfully intelligent woman, if a bit cynical, with a quick mind and with a firm attention to detail.

Marianita is fond of both men and women as sexual partners and is currently involved a relationship with the assistant commander of the 1st Grand Army Division Lieutenant General Anja Höppner.

Marianita will admit that she has a weakness for a man or woman in uniform. Though often addressed by foreigners as Dona she is not noble born but she never bothered to correct the misconception the Karameikan court and others have had that she was a Glantrian noblewoman. Marianita knows her

current position could lead to her becoming a real noble but is more interested in diplomacy than politics but if she does one day become a noble, she will likely prove to be an effective one.

III. History & Background

Marianita was born in 970 in the town of Nyra and was the 3rd child of Manuel Lucientes y Leon and Francesca Romero y Valdez both Belcadiz Human commoners. Her father was a successful merchant and was one of the leading Belcadiz Human leaders in Nyra and served on the town council for many years. Her mother was a locally famed stage actress in Nyra prior to marrying Manual and becoming a domestic engineer. Marianita grew up in a lively and loving home and was the apple of her father's eye. It was with great shock to her parents when enrolling for her first day of school at the prestigious Nyra Academy of Education, even though Marianita was an obviously intelligent and quick minded child, that she tested positive for magical ability in the 80th percentile and was enrolled in the Academies school of magic in addition to her normal academic classes.

For the next 5 years Marianita thrived at the school in her academic and magical studies and became a 1st level Magic User. During breaks in her classes, she would accompany her father on his trips around the known world and grew to love seeing new places and meeting new people. When she turned 11 the Headmaster of the Academy advised her parents that in his opinion Marianita would be best served to seek a place that would not only challenge her but allow her to grow to her fullest potential and that they should consider sending her to the Great School of Magic. While Marianita was thrilled at the possibility of studying there and living in Glantri City her parents were torn at the idea. Her father was against letting his daughter go and her mother just as strongly for it. In end, as it almost always does, the wishes of the mother won out and it was decided their daughter would leave home and enroll at the Great School of Magic. Already being a Magic User of the 1st level the 12-year-old Marianita was accepted without the need of an exam was assigned to the Owl dormitory.

The highly charismatic young lady made an immediate impact on her dormitory mates and even with other students from the other dormitories including the noble students with her easy manner and quick wit and soon found herself the center of attention which she enjoyed immensely. In addition to easily finding her place socially among the young elite of Glantri Marianita also took easily to her studies. Her masters found her to be an excellent student of magic quick to grasp difficult concepts and with great creativity in her spellcasting. She also excelled in her academic studies seemingly, as with her magical studies, with a natural ease and without having to work too hard. The next four years proceeded for Marianita as they had for many socially adept, highly intelligent, and magically talented students who were destined to become leaders in Glantri, but her life changed and she discovered herself when she was honored by Prince Alfonso of Belcadiz, who as part of a program he championed to promote the overlooked Belcadiz Human population in Glantri, offered to host a gala to honor her coming of age on her 16th birthday.

No expense was spared and the guest list included many powerful and famous Glantrians, and her gala was a dream come true for Marianita. She dazzled not just with her easy sophistication, intelligence, and wit but also in a royal blue dress by Pertegaz that was both beautiful yet left little to the imagination as

to the physical attributes of the beautiful young woman. The highlight of the evening for many was her dancing the Paso Doble with the heir to Krondahar Borjigin Virayana who was representing his father, Prince Jherek III, who was the Grand Master of the Great School of Magic. The highlight of the evening for Marianita however came later. One of the guests was a handsome Banner captain of Alphonso's Division and Marianita was instantly attracted to him and danced with several times during the evening. With both having imbibed in a bit too much Albariño during the evening the young officer thought nothing of inviting Marianita home his tenement and she thought everything of accepting the offer and thus she experienced a seemingly endless night of unbridled passion.

For the next several years Marianita was consumed by her discovery of the joys of pleasures of the flesh and put so much of her attention to it that her grades started to suffer. Her personal life was a years long series of flings with no thought of love or commitment and were not restricted only to men as she found women to be the most satisfying of lovers even if men were in her opinion the most fun. Her studies deteriorated to the point in 989 that the 19 year old Marianita who was at the cusp of graduating from the Great School was summoned to the personal quarters of the recently reinstalled Grand Master Etienne d'Ambreville and was told that in no uncertain terms that regardless of her magical abilities which were indeed formidable and admittedly had not suffered because of her focus on her personal life she would not be allowed to attempt the Graduation Test if she did not improve her focus on her academic studies over the next upcoming term. Marianita improved her focus and her grades just enough to satisfy the Grand Master and was allowed to take her Graduation Test which she easily passed in 990 and became a newly minted Glantrian Wizard with the all-important diploma from the Great School of Magic. With her love of foreign cultures and knowledge of international relations it was a non brainer for her to apply to the Foreign Chancellery and she was immediately hired and assigned to Glantri's embassy in Thyatis as a cultural attaché. Though having graduated from the Great School and obsessed as ever with satisfying her hedonistic pleasures she did not neglect her magical abilities and strove to increase her power as a wizard as it not only came easy to her, but she simply enjoyed learning and displaying the power that a high-level wizard was capable of wielding. After several years of bouncing between assignments at the four major foreign embassies of Glantri in Thyatis, Alphatia, Darokin, and Alfheim she was sent back to Glantri City in 996 and promoted to Assistant Secretary of Culture at the Chancellery Centre. Her professional life continued without incident until for a 2nd time her insatiable need for pleasure changed the course of her life.

In 998 she entered a passionate, though hardly monogamous, relationship with the Baroness of Egorn Isabella de Montebello. While none of Marianita's other lovers felt threatened unfortunately the same could not said of Isabella's for she was also having involved with the most notorious of Glantrian vixens one Dona Carmina de Belcadiz a distant cousin of Princess Carnelia of Belcadiz. One the most notorious and by all accounts of those present hilarious (yet erotic as all hell) incidents of the year soon happened when Carmina, with her boy toy Henri d'Ambreville in tow, confronted Marianita while she was having dinner at the Silver Tower Inn with her own boy toy the then Mage Banner Captain of Vanserie's Division Chanash Teval. Harsh words (slut!!) led to verbal insults (your inferiority complex and FULLY justified) to 100 dc glasses of wine dumped over heads to finally the ultimate cat fight as the women grappled and in the process of trying to scratch each other's eyes out fell onto the table of fellow diner that night

Archduke Harald Haaskinz spilling food and drink all over those at the table. After a few minutes of shocked gasps, a few bets taken and much general laughter the two were finally pulled apart and removed from the establishment. Both were the process of planning deadly revenge on the other the next day when both received summons to attend Princess Carnelia *immediately* at the Belcadiz House. Carnelia being no fool saw the women separately and left instructions that they were to be kept waiting in separate waiting rooms on different floors. Carnelia first saw her cousin and denied her any revenge (including curses), on the pain of cutting off her financial support, on the 2nd most prominent Belcadizan Human in Glantri (behind Juan Manuel Cagigal y Monserrat who was a Banner Captain in Carnelia's Division at the time) but vowed to punish Marianita thus Carmina left satisfied. Marianita was then called into the presence of the Princess and told to pack her bags for she was leaving Glantri City the next day, and oh by the way, congratulations for the promotion to the position of Glantrian Ambassador to Karameikos. Carnelia also warned that if Dona Carmina so much as cut herself shaving before she left Marianita would spend the rest of her life in Il Cesso. The next day and without incident Marianita left vibrant cosmopolitan Glantri City for backwoods Karameikos and the filth and stink, with not one Teatro, of its capital Specularum.

While for many Glantrians of high culture and tastes serving a prison sentence in such a place as Specularem might have seemed the punishment it seemed to Carmina and Carnelia it was a blessing for Marianita as she quickly came to dominate the latter lame and strait-laced court of the Duke Stefan Karameikos III. She became the center of attention which suited her quite finely and yet with little to do as Glantri and Karameikos had no real ties economically or otherwise she was left with plenty of time to invest her magical studies and progressed multiple levels of advancement during her years serving as Ambassador. However, after five years of little to do but find her pleasures as she wished and gain levels of mastery in spellcraft her time of relative boredom ended when she received an emergency summons back to Glantri City where she was informed, in a meeting with Chancellor Volospin and the Thyatian Ambassador to Glantri Lord Michele Karandas, of the rapidly deteriorating relations and likely war between Glantri and its powerful rival to the east Alphatia. She was instructed work closely with the new Thyatian Ambassador as the two were to be allies if war should break out. Soon after coming back to Karameikos a party of Glantrians burned much of the Alphatian city of Aasla to the ground and war was declared between Alphatia and Glantri and a day later its ally Thyatis.

Both Marianita and her new Thyatian counterpart, Lord General Lucious Julius Sulla, tried with no success to have Stefan join the coalition against Alphatia and soon were dismayed to learn that an Alphatian had arrived in Specularum and had papers announcing himself as the new Ambassador of Alphatia to Karameikos. Upon accepting the credentials of his newest ambassador, he called both the Glantrian and Thyatian Ambassadors into his royal chamber and stated that he would tolerate no less than complete civility between the Ambassadors of the three nations and he intended to remain neutral, and his court was not going to be a proxy battlefield. For the next year the Karameikan court remained peaceful if tense as Thyatis and Alphatia fought on the Isle of Dawn and Alphatian and Glantrian terrorists unleashed campaigns of terror and death upon each other's lands. With no warning however in 1006 Stefan Karameikos stabbed his friend and countrymen in the back and declared himself the first King of Karameikos and after selling off his allegiances and honor for a mere magic school and

allying his new nation with Alphatia. Diplomatic relations were immediately severed between Glantri and Karameikos with the Karameikan Ambassador to Glantri expelled and Marianita recalled back to Glantri but not after an ugly incident when she told the tin pot King in very undiplomatic language what she thought of his betrayal.

After being recalled to Glantri City in 1006 she served as special assistant to Chancellor Volospin until Marianita was soon sent back to Thyatis City in 1008 to serve as special assistant to the Ambassador to Thyatis Catherine d'Ambrevile which she did until the end of the war. In the jubilant days after the sinking of Alphatia Marianita met the man who came closest to taming her and settling her down when she began a relationship with the Hero of the Battle of Dawnpoint Senior Tribune Theodoric Anthemion of the RAF (Retebius Air Fleet). What first started as a passionate fling grew stronger as Marianita chose for the first time in her life to commit herself monogamously to one person. Their relationship lasted for a year and a half until Anthemiom got orders to move with his unit to the Isle of Dawn to support the coming invasion of Thothia. Sadly, the brave Senior Tribune was killed at the Battle of Ediaro on Klarmont 23 attacking a gigantic stone golem threatening a vital Thyatian defensive position. A heartbroken Marianita tried to deaden the pain of loss with copious amounts of Thyatian Stout and casual sexual encounters but her state of depression was noticed by her superior, Dame Catherine, who had her transferred for her own good away from Thyatis and back to Glantri City in 1012.

Upon arriving back at the Capital Marianita was again promoted to the rank of Master Diplomat and assigned to one of the three highest bureaucratic positions in the Foreign Chancellery and the most prestigious of them overseeing the Darokinian and Thyatian Embassies to Glantri. In time her grief for her fallen love faded and she has thrown herself into both her work and her magical studies again. With the death of the Baron of Egorn, Juan Manuel Cagigal y Monserrat, during the Alphatian attack in 1009 Marianita has become the most prominent Belcadizan Human in Glantri and is constantly hounded by leaders of the B.H. community to attempt to become a noble but so far, she has had little interest in becoming a noble or even with the grand sport of Glantrian politics. Today she is in a happy place doing the work she loves, finding the stimulation her body so loves, and continuing to gain power and experience as a wizard.

IV. Web of Intrigue

Marianita has few designs on political power thus has no real rivals in her life other than as holding the unofficial title as the Grand Vixen of Glantri which she lost to Dona Carmina all those years ago. However, the two have not forgotten each other but have not forgotten the still standing threat of the Princess of Belcadiz so each find their hedonistic pleasures as they do but make a point not to tread on each other's staked sexual claims.

Though she is not on friendly of terms with Prince Urmahid as she was the previous Chancellor of Princes Prince Volospin, she still enjoys a good professional working relationship with the happily married and no-nonsense Prince. She feels the Prince respects her experience and expertise and while she doesn't always agree with his decisions the respect is mutual in that she accepts his decisions are based on his experience and expertise along with need-to-know information she was not often privy to.

Her one professional rival however would be her fellow Senior Diplomat Edward Hillbatten who resents the younger Marianita got the most prestigious posting while the former Ambassador to Darokin was assigned looking after nations like Gullavia and the Heldannic Territories. Hillbatten is currently hatching a scheme to ruin Marianita personally and professional to force her demotion or even removal so he can take the position he feels he had rightfully earned.

V. Statistics & Style of Magic

Statistics: 31st Level Magic User

Str 8, Int 18, Wis 10, Dex 16, Con 12, Cha 17; AL – Neutral

Languages: Belcadizan, Thyatian (common), Alphatian, Traladaran, Elf

Weapon Proficiencies: Staff (basic), Dagger (master)

Skills: Alternative Magics (18), Magical Engineering (18), Bargaining (17), Planar Navigation (18), Alchemy (18), Persuasion (17), Knowledge of Glantrian Government (18), Knowledge of International Politics (19), Knowledge of Glantrian Society and Nobility (18), Knowledge of Karameikan Society and Nobility (18), Knowledge of Karameikan Government (18), Acting (17), Deception (17), Acrobatic Sex (16)

"The man destined to tame that woman has yet to be born"

(Saint Stefan Karameikos III after having a glass of wine dumped over his head by his just recalled **former**Ambassador from Glantri)