

## Lake Eversong Region



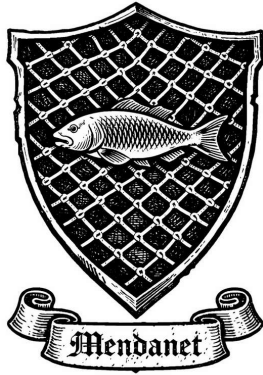
The five baronies ringing Lake Eversong represent footholds of power from three duchies. Each of them struggles with rivalries and challenges of their terrain. And each hosts industries that feed into the ecosystem of the region.

Meanwhile, Lyre sits at the center as the main controlling power. At its command are the Castle Balladeer garrison, customs and tolls, lake shipping routes, guild regulation, and the cultural authorities of the Cathedral of the Canticle and the Sardonic bardic college.

- Baronies around Lake Eversong
  - [Barony of Reedlam](#) - serves Duke Herlen in Pelham (Wolder)
  - [Barony of Mendanet](#) - serves Duke Stalworth in Cerrulea (Swintan)
  - [Barony of Blackbog](#) - serves Duke Stalworth in Cerrulea (Swintan)
  - [Barony of Driseldell](#) - serves Duke Sivvian in Lyre (Harthan)
  - [Barony of Waterlupp](#) - serves Duke Sivvian in Lyre (Harthan)
- Merchant Companies
  - [Silver Moon Trading Company](#)
  - [Headwind Trading Company](#)
  - [Heralds of Provender](#)

Map of Eversong regional powers:

<https://www.albinjohnson.com/d&d/campaigns/wergild/map-lake-eversong-region-powers.jpg>





### **Reedlam (Wolder Duchy)**

**Baron:** Lord John Selwyn

**Sigil:** Reeds and dragonfly

**Terrain:** Marshy northern lake shore and river delta

**Resources:** reed fiber (willow), waterfowl hunting, fish traps and eel fisheries, papyrus-like writing reeds, sweet flag (calamus) boat-building reeds and marsh timber (osier willow)

**Strategic importance:**

Reedlam controls the northern inflow of Lake Eversong, making it important for river traffic and fisheries.

**Strengths:** Control of wetlands (strong food supply), skilled marsh guides and boatmen, hard terrain to invade

**Weaknesses:**

Poor farmland, isolation from major trade roads, disease in marshlands

**Conflicts:**

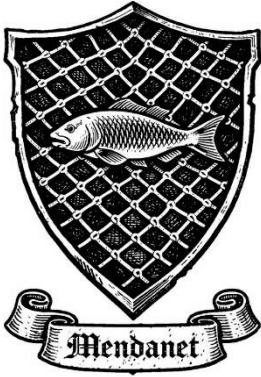
Waterlupp fishermen claim Reedlam woven fish traps claim too many fish upstream

The Wolder duke taxes their river trade heavily

**Description:** Reedlam folk live in wetlands and shallow channels, abiding beneath the willow trees and among the tall rushes. They move by boat and pole more than by road, and children learn to pole flat-bottom boats before they can ride horses. Locals are known for the wide woven reed hats they make and wear keep off rain and insects. Reedlam baskets, mats, and eel traps are considered the best around the lake. Here folk are patient, quiet, and observant. Instead of loud greetings, Reedlam folk raise two fingers to the brim of their hat. Speaking loudly in marsh country is considered foolish.

Every spring the locals harvest the willow trees, both the osier and sallow, cutting branches which they call polling. The rods are peeled and the wood tied into bundles. The bark and leaves of the willow are astringent, and the bark used for tanning (preferred over oak in some parts, for creating superior leather). The wood is used for pill-boxes, cart saddle-trees, and half-pikes; harrows, shoemakers' lasts, heels, clogs for pattens, forks, haymakers' rakes (especially the teeth), perches, rafters for hovels, ladders, poles for hop-vines and kidney-beans; to make hurdles, sieves, lattices; for the turners in making great platters, small casks and vessels to hold verjuice; for pales, fruit-baskets, cans, hives, trenchers, trays, boards for whetting table-knives, particularly for painters' scribbles, bavin (bundles of firewood), and excellent sweet firing without smoke.

A common saying around these parts: "If it floats, a Reedlam man built it."



### **Mendanet (Swintan Duchy)**

**Baroness:** Lady Isolde Oldham

**Sigil:** Net and fish

**Terrain:** Northern lake fisheries and river mouths

**Resources:**

large commercial fisheries, salted and smoked fish exports, superior net craftsmanship, fish meal grinding farms, hemp crops net makers here soak the hemp in fish oils and employ distinctive knot patterns; they also use distinctive floats made from carved wood or cork

**Strategic importance:**

Mendanet controls the largest fishing fleet on Lake Eversong

**Strengths:**

Wealth from fish trade, skilled sailors, large fleet of kake boats

**Weaknesses:**

Dependent on fish stocks, vulnerable to storms, fishing disputes with neighbors

**Conflicts:**

constant fishing border disputes with Reedlam

Tensions with Blackbog, whose swamp runoff sometimes kills fish

**Description:** Mendanet is a sprawl of huts on the water where nearly every family is tied to nets, boats, or the hemp fields. People here rarely hurry, but they are hard workers. Their boats cast off before dawn and only return at sunset. Fishermen sing long rhythmic work songs while working. Some they can hear these songs miles away across calm water.

After long working days, villagers gather in the main boat house to smoke hemp and mend their nets, which the fishwives craft with unique knots and an artisan's touch. These gatherings are slow, quiet, and full of storytelling. Children paint unique symbols on their family's floats. From the water you can tell who owns which nets.

A common saying around these parts: "The lake waits. So can we."

While others say of the place: "A Mendanet net holds fish like a miser holds coin."



### **Blackbog (Swintan Duchy)**

**Baron:** Lord Watt Grimshaw

**Sigil:** Frog in a bog

**Terrain:** Southern boglands and swamp forest, all in the shadow of the Comely Mountains

**Resources:** bog iron, peat fuel, peat ash fertilizer, swamp timber (cypress, oak), medicinal herbs, woad dye plant (blue pits have horrendous smell), waterfowl and wild foods

**Strategic importance:**

Bog iron provides cheap iron for tools and weapons throughout

the region.

**Strengths:**

resource diversity, iron production, hard terrain to invade

**Weaknesses:**

poor roads, low population density, disease and insects, goblins from mountains

**Conflicts:**

fishermen accuse blackbog of polluting the lake

Swintan tax collectors demand higher iron tribute

**Description:** Blackbog folk are practical and tough. Life in the bog requires endurance, and outsiders often find them blunt and grim. What humor they have is dark. The average peasant spends their time in the marshes, either mining bog iron, dredging and hauling peat, or foraging for plants like woad or medicinal herbs.

Folk here wear tall, oiled leather boots stuffed with moss for warmth. Homes here burn peat instead of wood. The smoke gives the entire region a distinct earthy smell. Travelers often recognize Blackbog folk by scent alone. People carry small iron charms believed to protect against sickness, calamity, swamp hags and fairies. Bog workers often travel at night with blue lanterns. From afar, the marsh sometimes looks filled with floating lights, and this has inspired more than a few local ghost stories.

A common saying in these parts: "May the bog swallow your enemies before it swallows you."



### **Driseldell (Harthan Duchy)**

**Baron:** Lord Walter Hakwell

**Sigil:** Rain storm

**Terrain:** Stormy southern lake shore and open plains

**Resources:**

wheat and barley, flax, cattle grazing, grain exports, lake marl dredged and dried on shore for lime fertilizer

**Strategic importance:**

feeds Lyre and the lake towns, provides war horses for the duke

**Strengths:**

rich farmland, open trade routes, large population

**Weaknesses:**

vulnerable to raids, flooding during storms, difficult to defend

**Conflicts:**

grain prices clash with Waterlupp fishermen

baron resents Lyre taxation

**Description:** Driseldell is the most traditional and orderly of the baronies. Their lives revolve around harvest cycles and livestock. Folk here wear linen shirts with wool vests, breeches tucked into riding boots, broad leather belts with tools, and felt hats colored to match their familial clans.

Guests are always offered bread and salt, which should be accepted or else be seen as rude.

Farmers talk endlessly of the wind, rain, and soil conditions. Outsiders joke that Driseldell folk

are born with a special bone that tells them the weather. Every house keeps good draught

horses. Driseldell riders are considered some of the best horsemen outside of Milady and a few

are mentioned as going on to be hedge knights.

A common saying here: "Harvest smiles on the stubborn."



### **Waterlupp (Harthan Duchy)**

**Baron:** Lord Giles Winram

**Sigil:** Waterfall

**Terrain:** Western lake stepped cliffs and waterfalls with grazing pastures nearby

**Resources:**

sheep flocks in the hills, wool production, watermills powered by waterfalls, water chestnuts

**Strategic importance:**

controls wool supply to the region's weavers

#### **Strengths:**

wealth from wool, natural defenses, strong hill shepherd culture

#### **Weaknesses:**

poor farmland, isolated roads, reliance on Lyre merchants

#### **Conflicts:**

tensions with Driseldell grain merchants

**Description:** Waterlupp folk live among hills and streams. Folk here are sheep herders and wool traders. Shepherds communicate across hills with special whistles. Travelers sometimes mistake them for bird calls. Everyone wears heavy wool cloaks woven locally and are famous across the lake. Most also carry shepherd staffs that are family heirlooms and of exceptional quality. Shearing season is a special time of year, with feasts held next to the waterfalls and the stone shrines the people have set up there. Waterlupp breeds large sheepdogs that are extremely loyal and protective. Visitors quickly learn not to approach flocks.

Common sayings here: "A sheep that wanders feeds the wolves,"  
as well as "If the sheep are calm, so am I."

## Merchant Companies

The major Trevilish trade companies have positioned themselves in the Eversong region. They regularly work to outmaneuver one another to exploit the water traffic. They work in coordination with the Duke in Lyre, securing rights to move the lake's regional goods: hemp fiber, fishing nets, peat fuel, flax and linen, lake marl fertilizer, wool from Waterlupp, fish from Mendanet. They also move cargo from further north and other goods that pass through the lake's waters.

### **Silver Moon Trade Company** (based out of Novulum)

Silver Moon has no hold on any of the rivers around Eversong. They rely on overland routes to the east of the region. Their major holdings in the region are docks and warehouses in Blackbog as well as a private enclave just outside the village of Spynleah. They are wealthy long-distance merchants, opportunistic traders, political schemers. Silver Moon traders deal in luxury goods, metals, and high-value cargo. They prefer items that travel well and bring large profits. "Silver Moon ships carry more coin than grain."



**Headwind Trading Company** (based out of Myridon)

Headwind dominates the trade along the Caerwyth River to the southwest. It enjoys a royal commission to manage cargo shipped downriver to Myridon and its headquarters. Their major holdings in the region are docks and warehouses in Waterlupp and Driseldell as well as a private enclave at the head of the Caerwyth River. They specialize in shipping and seaborne trade. Their merchants are sailors first and businessmen second. "Headwind ships can sail anywhere the wind blows."



**Heralds of Provender** (based out of Illustrim)

The Heralds have a large presence at the mouth of the Provender River to the southeast. It enjoys a royal commission to manage cargo shipped downriver to the capital in Illustrim and its headquarters. Their major holdings in the region are docks and warehouses in Lyre as well as a private enclave at the head of the Provender River. They manage the bulk food supply of the kingdom. They are the most politically connected of the trading houses. "If the Heralds stop moving grain, the kingdom starves."

