

Edward Newbute

Baron of Oxhill
3rd Circle Red Dracologist

AC 1014

By Michael Berry

'Never again will the Newbute family be absent from their rightful place in Glantri's nobility'

I. Appearance

Edward is quite recognizable in public for his love of the color red. He is rarely seen wearing anything but his trademark expertly tailored blood red wizard robes. He does own one outfit for ultra-formal events, a black Ethengarian silk Mönkhbayar suit. He is fond of wearing jewelry that complement his red robes, often preferring pieces set with Black Onyx and White Pearls.

Physically Edward is an extremely attractive man standing 6'2" and has a well-defined body which is all muscle and little body fat. He has long sandy brown hair that goes down to his shoulders and deep blue eyes. He has a prominent square jawline to go along with his distinctive and attractive square face. Not surprisingly given his virtuoso talent on the piano he has large hands able to span 12 piano keys from the tip of his little finger to the tip of his thumb.

II. Personality & Quirks

Edward has been driven to point of obsession since he started studying magic to uphold his families honor and regain their rightful place in Glantrian high society. Once he achieved that in 1009, his obsession merely mutated to a need to cement that place and not just having an heir but many heirs to ensure he will not be one off return to the nobility for the Newbute family. Edward uses the lure of a potential marriage to entice female magic users to his bed and so far, has had 8 children out of wedlock with various women. Several of his children have tested positive for magical ability in preliminary tests but results are not conclusive until children reach the age of five which means it will be several more years before he knows for sure how many of his children have the talent for magic and which of their mothers, he might choose to be his wife, and Baroness of Oxhill.

Newbute is reputed to be an excellent duelist and specializes in combat orientated spellcraft. He believes mundaners to be 2nd class citizens of Glantri who exist to serve the spell casting arcaners. Since becoming a registered wizard, and graduate of the Great School of Magic, he has refined his worldview to include mere low level arcaners better than mundaners but still little more than mere servants to those who have reached mastery in the arcane arts. With his friends Edward can be warm and affection but he has few true friends and with those he rates below his social and magical level he can be cruel and haughty. With those more powerful than him he keeps a respectful air but will not hesitate to use weaknesses indirectly through plots or agents.

III. History & Background

In Edward was born in 986 at his family's home in the Ducat Precinct of Glantri City, the 1st born son of Phillip and Elizabeth Newbute nee Seasor. The Newbute family along with being one of the most prominent old Fen families in Glantri had been Glantrian nobility for generations with Edward's grandfather having risen to the Count of Soth-Kabree before his tragic death at age 29 in 963 and as his son Phillip had not graduated the Great School and since there were no other legal heirs the family lost its noble title and rank.

His mother was an Arcaner but had quit her magical studies upon marrying Phillip, but Phillip continued his studies and to grow in power as a wizard even after graduating the Great School in 968 and made it his mission, even while later working as an Inspector of the Utterance to regain his families noble status. Edward tested very highly in magical ability, in the 80th percentile, when formally tested on his 5th birthday and was immediately enrolled into the Great School of Magic by his parents. Young Edward was placed in the Swan class and immediately alienated most of his classmates with his derogatory attitude towards the Swans based on his families three generations of being the more socially elite Jays. While Newbute struggled socially based on his haughtiness to his 'common' classmates he did prove a talented student of magic and excelled academically. Due to his lack of friends Edward kept to himself for his first years at the school until he lost his father in an attempt to win the open Barony of Egorn. Both his father and a Belcadiz elf, Isabella de Montebello had won enough support for their petitions and faced off at the Dueling Court with the winner becoming the new Baron(ess) of Egorn. Edward brashly predicted his father would beat the official Dueling Court time of 8.3 seconds and would have no problem at all dealing with the elven woman. He placed all kinds of bets upon his father with students all over the school and was in attendance to watch what turned out to be a tense and drawn-out duel and after 15 minutes the 11-year-old was taken away in tears by his master, Yuri Atropov, at the end of the duel but not before seeing his father's magical defenses fail and watching Isabella disintegrate him.

The devastated Edward took a leave of absence from the school and spent it with his mother and his two younger sisters. Edward was burned by the twin flames of loss and embarrassment and vowed someday that he would become a noble and avenge his father and kill or ruin the Baroness. His mother had decided that she could no longer live in Glantri City and sold their Ducat Precinct home to a subminister of Justice and the family moved to a large mansion in the best of part of the village of Wellington in the Duchy of Fenswick. Edward took classes at the Fen Academy of Enlightenment for two years before he decided that he would return to the Great School and complete his studies and set himself upon a path to bring honor back to his family name and avenge his father. Almost immediately upon returning his Master noticed the change in Edward upon returning the school, the air of superiority and brashness had been cut cleanly away from him and rather than showing an interest in many different subjects Newbute became focused on spells of combat, especially lethal offensive spells. After taking a class with Professor of Dragon Studies, Mikael Zirchevski, Edward became fascinated with dragons and their formidable combat abilities. At the end of the term Mikael invited his promising student into the Secret Craft of Dracology and Edward struck up friendships with several of his fellow Red Dracologists as well some of the Greens and Blacks. In 1002 Edward graduated from the Great School scoring a decent but unexceptional score of 18,250. With his graduation Edward turned his eyes on his future and how best to achieve his goals.

The 16-year-old Newbute decided that he would be best served gaining experience and possible future contacts working in the Glantrian government rather than as a private spellcaster or as an adventurer which had no appeal to him. He decided to follow in his father's footsteps and applied to the Ministry of

Records to become an Inspector of the Utterance. His youth and boyish appearance appealed the Subminister of The Utterance, Felipe Jacinto y Domenech, and was hired with the goal of using his youthful looks to work undercover where older agents might not succeed. Edward was directly involved in one of the biggest coups the Department of the Utterance ever scored when in 1003 when he was summoned to his supervisor's office at the House of Ministers during the annual Arcanium wizards festival and informed that a large number of visiting wizards were complaining about stolen scrolls and spellbooks which were taken from their quarters during the night. The City Constabulary had hired a group of adventurers to investigate. Newbute was informed that the Supreme Judge himself had taken an interest in the case and believed the infamous People's Spellcasting Company (PSCC) might be involved and personally asked the Minister of Records to get his best Inspectors of the Utterance involved to help end this thievery. Edward was selected due his youth to go undercover and act as an adventurer and join the adventuring group which he did and helped discover a plot by the PSCC to gather enough magic to raid the Great School of Magic. Edward was pivotal in executing a trap planned by the Subminister of The Utterance which dozens of illegal spellcasters and other criminals were captured including most of the leaders of the PSCC effectively breaking the organization's back. Newbute was rewarded handsomely for his part, getting a substantial cash bounty and a medal directly from the Supreme Judge of the Council Prince Jherek Virayana IV. However rich the material rewards were, his greatest reward came later that year when he received a mysterious invitation to attend a dinner at the city mansion of the Verlien family. Intrigued by the invitation Edward accepted the invitation but was surprised upon arriving and being taken to a private sitting room to not meet the Countess but her uncle Lord Aart Verlien. Verlien heaped praise on not just Edwards actions earlier in the year but commented favorably on Newbute's distinguished family name. Lord Verlien appealed to Edward on the need for loyal and trustworthy wizards to defend the Magocracy from threats both external and internal and asked if Edward might like to join such a group. Knowing instantly what group Lord Verlien was talking of, the secretive and elite Glantrian Secret Service (GSS), Edward without hesitation told Lord Verlien he would be honored to serve with such Glantrian patriots and would be willing to do anything and everything to protect the Magocracy. Edward quietly resigned his position as an Inspector of the Utterance and became an agent of the GSS.

Edward was immediately given a cover as a newly commissioned Senior Sergeant in the Grand Army and assigned to Fort Nordling and underwent GSS basic training with the elite Aufklärung of Jaggar's Division who were specialists in reconnaissance, scouting, and stealth. Upon graduating the 3-month class Edward was sent to his first duty station at Fort Monteleone and assigned to a hunter killer group scouting humanoid movement and tracking and eliminating would be raiders. This life and cat and mouse on the southern border of Glantri went on for Edward throughout 1004 even as word arrived of worsening relations with Alpathia until finally war was declared between the Glantri and Alpathia in early 1005. Edward and his squad were recalled from the southern border and assigned to Glantri City and instructed by the head of the GSS, Lord Aart Verlien, that orders had come from the Council of Princes to undertake surveillance upon all Alpathian nobles and watch for any potential treachery or outright treason. Extreme care was to be taken in spying upon the nobles and any suspicions were to be reported directly to Verlien and unilateral actions such as arrest was to be untaken only in extreme cases. While the rewards would be substantial for success, failure and acting without orders from above and being wrong, would be punished most harshly and likely given at the hands of the offended noble. Newbute's squad was assigned to the Viscount of Redstone Arbana Jerbat.

As the Viscountess was known to split her time between a rented suite at the Silver Tower Inn and her home tower in Redstone Edward's squad was split into two teams both to cover each of her residences. Newbute was assigned to Jerbat's tower in Redstone and over several months established a cover as a

lower-level wizard looking for a guard position and was eventually hired to augment the Tower Guard of the Viscountess. It was uneventful duty tinged with a real doubt that any Glantrian noble, even one of Alphatian ancestry, would betray Glantri and the months dragged on into 1006 until the Viscountess made a fatal error in judgement. The Viscountess, who had indeed always been a spy for Alphatia, discovered the existence of a secret brotherhood working on Radiance based spells including one that would limit teleportation into protected areas thus preventing sneak attacks, and Jerbat was in such a hurry to pass this information to the Empress via her contact she broke her normal security protocol and called her contact directly to her tower one night. Edward happened to be on guard duty that night and upon seeing the stranger enter the tower he followed and using magic was able to listen in to the Viscountess betraying some of the greatest of Glantrian secrets to the Alphatian Empire. Realizing this was indeed the exact kind of situation Lord Verlien had spoken of, Newbute acted immediately and surprised the two and managed to immediately slay the courier and subdue the Viscountess physically before he could be blasted into particles. He immediately teleported the unconscious Jerbat to the GSS safe house in the Sovereign Precinct of Glantri City. A secret trial was held for the Viscountess by the Council of Princes with only Newbute and his team, along with Lord Verlien being a party to the proceedings as witnesses. Newbute was indeed richly rewarded by the Council for catching this most vile of traitors to Glantri and was promoted several grades to section chief and assigned to Glantri City.

Newbute spent the rest of the war in Glantri City leading a section dedicated to hunting down any elements of the Followers of the Claymore that might be in the city. Tragedy did strike Newbute however as the plague of 1008 claimed the life of his mother and the eldest of his younger sisters. Edward inherited a substantial amount of wealth from his mother which he showered upon his youngest sister, Diana, who nearing graduation herself from the Great School of Magic. Through all his experiences and successes as a fixer and agent of Glantri Edward never forgot his vows to both honor and avenge his father and when the Council of Princes announced its decision to create two new Viscounties and four new Baronies Newbute decided it was time he take his successes and notoriety with the Council of Princes and try to cash in on it. When the Barony of Oxhill came open for an Awards Festival Edward surprised many lower nobles when he declared his intention to compete for it. Most nobles were not aware of Edwards deeds or even that he was an agent of Glantri and had been off the social radar since his father's death. The relatively rich and prosperous Barony drew many wizards to compete for it and Edward decided that while his family honor was everything to him, his personal honor would never get in the way of redeeming his family's. Edward used his deep reserves of wealth and contacts in the underworld to have the three leading contenders poisoned or outright murdered. By the time the anointed time for the Council to vote had arrived the only competition Edward had was a Krondaharian wizard and Edward easily won the Council's approval and the Krondaharian was rejected thus Edward Newbute fulfilled one of his two promises to his dead father and brought the Newbute family back into the rolls of Glantrian nobility as he became the Baron of Oxhill. He quietly resigned from the GSS but was thanked for his service to Glantri by Lord Verlien and the Council of Princes with a large financial severance payment.

In the five years since Newbute has become Baron he has made his first priority the begetting of an heir and finding a wife that can give him magically talented children. He largely remains in his tower in Oxhill and has installed his sister Diana as his temporary heir even though she is currently living in Thyatis City. Now that Edward has a whole slew of children out of wedlock with some of the finest high class Arcaner women in Oxhill and is merely waiting until magical tests confirm which of his children will be sent to the Great School. As he waits Edward has started to focus in on the second part of his promise to his father, and exacting revenge upon his father's killer the Countess of Soth-Kabree, Dona Isabella de Montebello. Edward has just recently hired several high priced and talented spies to watch the Countess and detail

her habits, schedule, and look for anything that could be used against her. Edward has debated confronting the Countess directly, but secretly, and has decided that she is likely more powerful a wizard than he is but also believes that destroying the Countess politically might prove sweeter revenge and even if not, it would make her far easier to kill.

IV. Web of Intrigue

Edward has very few friends but also very few enemies due to his work for Glantri and his short time actually involved in Glantrian society and politics. He has excellent relations with some members of the Secret Craft of Dracology but also has several enemies including a very powerful one in the Viscount of Amboise Michel Leconte stemming out of the ongoing philosophical debate about the future direction and goals of the Secret Craft of Dracology. Edward and many of the chaotic and even some of the neutral ones believe the Secret Craft is meant to exploit and imitate the powers of Dragons while the lawful and other neutrals believe purely in the research and protection of Dragons.

Newbute declared for House Silverston upon becoming Baron of Oxhill as he had great respect for Prince Volospin who proved himself a loyal Glantrian and seemed to have sympathies towards the Fen and their lack of political power in Glantri. While saddened at his apparent death at the end of the war it was tempered by the accession of the half Fen Dolores to Blackhill. The years since she became Princess have been a disappointment to Edward as her easy words of promoting the interests of the Fen has the inaction of apathy in the years since. The Countess of Soth-Kabree is not unaware of just who the Baron of Oxhill is and is well prepared and indeed expecting a move upon her by Newbute. She will not take preemptive action upon him but has had her own spies watching the Baron since he won the Awards Festival and included his own dominion administrator AND captain of guards who both are paid handsomely to report to the Countess on the doings of the Baron of Oxhill.

V. Statistics & Style of Magic

Statistics: 11th Level Wizard, 3rd Circle Red Dracologist;
S-13 I-16 W-9 D-16 Con-16 Chr-13; AL - Chaotic

Languages: Fen, Thyatian Common, Alphatian, Dragon

Weapon Proficiencies: Dagger (Skilled), Staff (Basic), Wrestling (Skilled)

Skills: Alchemy (16), Alternative Magics (16), Magical Engineering (16), Draconic Lore (16), Music (16), Glantrian Society and Nobility (16), Tracking (16), Stealth (Urban)

Newbrute is a well rounded spellcaster who prefers to avoid direct confrontation and when forced into combat is as likely to close to engage his enemy hand to hand using his training and strength to overwhelm an opponent as he is to cast lethal spells. He will make use of his Dracologist abilities in personal combat before casting any spells using his 3rd Circle abilities to try to quickly kill his opponent is a blast of Dragon fire.

'A rather talented man who hopefully will learn to appreciate life's gifts before he loses everything'

(Dona Isabella de Montebello)