

## Update 4/24/2009: - Regarding Leben's Return

Written by Serenity  
Friday, 24 April 2009 12:31 -

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Dear Nodeka Players -

It has come to my attention that some players have voiced their concern regarding the return of Leben. I have decided to write a brief memo explaining the "why" of his return.

As many of you know, enforcing the Nodeka rules is a primary concern that we take very seriously. In the past, I have gone to great lengths to ensure the rules of Nodeka have been followed. In some of these cases, I have had to make extremely difficult decisions that involved deleting my own staff members since they had been caught breaking the rules. In other cases, I have reversed decisions that I had personally made because the evidence against the person was not sufficient. Leben falls into the latter category.

For the last month, Leben has been appealing the sentence we placed on him. In the ten years I have been running Nodeka, I have seen a variety of pleas for leniency. Many of these pleas are out of regret for breaking the rules. Leben's plea was not. Instead, his plea was a request to be heard as he had argued from the beginning that we were making a mistake. As I continued to see his requests, I revisited our evidence against him and saw the weakness of our initial argument.

Yesterday, I spent an hour talking to Leben on the phone. After he clearly explained the situation to me, I realized I had made a mistake and that he was innocent. The initial evidence we had was weak and Leben's story moved the evidence from being weak to worthless.

As a prior MUDder, I know what it means to dedicate hours, days, months and years into building your character. I also know what it means to lose all of that in seconds due to a discrepancy or difference of opinion. For the last 10 years, I have run and created Nodeka in the way I feel is best for everyone. Sometimes these decisions will hurt you, sometimes they will help you. But no matter what the decision, you will always know that the decision I am making is what I believe is in the best interest of Nodeka. Leben's case is no different. I have treated Leben in the same way I would treat any Nodeka player; with patience and fairness.

I know these decisions can be frustrating for players who believe they have insight that I lack. I ask that you trust my judgement, as you have for the last decade, and know that every decision I make is made in the most fair,

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ethical and rational way I can.

Thank you for continuing to support Nodeka.

Best Regards,  
Nijlo