Oberon would want him to gather the spear... The first in this excellent series is In Cold Blood ($29.95). Recommended.

Urban fantasy

TAPESTRY

Paris, 1324. wheat and barley. It is summer and the wheat is ripe. The harvest has been bountiful and the peasants are happy. The countryside is at peace. But in the city, things are not so calm. The Duke of Orleans is planning a military campaign against the English, and the city is preparing for battle. The Duke's army is large and well-equipped, but the French are not prepared for war. The king of France is not in Paris, as he is on a hunting trip in the countryside. The people of Paris are worried about the war and the possible invading army.

The people of Paris are gathered in the main square, listening to the Duke of Orleans speak. He is dressed in a fine black coat and hat, and he is holding a sword in his hand. "We are prepared for war," he says. "We have trained our soldiers and we have provisions for them. We will fight to defend our country."

The people cheer and applaud the Duke. They are grateful for his leadership and his commitment to defending their country. The Duke gives a speech about the importance of unity and courage in times of war. He reminds the people that they are not alone and that they have the support of the king and the whole country.

The Duke then turns to face the town hall and addresses the mayor and the other officials. "We need your help," he says. "We need you to mobilize the people and the resources of the city. We need you to prepare for war."

The mayor and the other officials nod in agreement. They know that the Duke is right. They are ready to do their part and to support the Duke in his efforts.

The Duke then turns to the people again. "We are ready," he says. "We are prepared for war. We will fight to defend our country."

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