

Venue: Lady's Park

Type: Park

Description: Situated in a lesser part of the Ring, betwixt low income housing, the Lady's Park is a pleasant breath of fresh air and emotional solace for those most in need of it. Though a fairly small affair in overall size and not seeing the sort of meticulous care as the pristine parks higher up, the park still manages to muffle the sounds and smells of the city and offer a breathing space for anyone to enjoy.

The park paths are covered in coarse coral flake, the stuff which would otherwise be ground into fine beach sand by the waves and time, and offers the visitor a rather bewildering sight as the different hues, ranging throughout the spectrum, mingle with each other like a rainbow path. Soft meadowy fields of green grass, kept a bit longer and shaggier than in the more pristine parks, make up the majority of the park's surface area, dotted by stalwart oaks and other trees that offer shade in the heat of the Selenian sun.

Flower arrangements flank the winding paths, carefully maintained and colorful, with layered plants cohabiting the same spaces so that the 'displays' change along the seasons as old plants wither and new ones bloom. The scent of the park in late Spring, when the most vivid flowers are in bloom is an intoxicating experience in its own right, whilst the somber sight of frost-bitten winter flowers amidst an otherwise barren and still ambiance is a breathtaking beauty one has to see in order to believe.

Venue: Statue of Our Martyred Lady

Type: Statue

Description: Standing in the center of the Lady's Park, the Statue of Our Martyred Lady was erected in remembrance of Arcona's past Consul, Atyiru, though the public may not be aware of this pedigree as the commemorative plaque only speaks of a martyred Saint of Selen. The statue itself has been seamlessly carved out of a single piece of grey basalt, offering an excellent material for details of shadow and light within the relative twilight of the oak-shaded plaza that it occupies.

The shape of the statue is that of a winged woman, dressed in flowing robes and blindfolded, her hair interwoven with flowers. The very same flowers which can be found around the park throughout the year. The statue's arms are spread wide, palms upward, in a gesture thought to either symbolize generosity, kindness, caring or servitude. Meanwhile, the feathery wings, also swept wide, have been marred by a sharp and pronounced angle, as if a great weight upon her back was constraining their movement. This has been thought to symbolize the weight of our sins which she carries and is being crushed by.

Though the statue is rather unremarkable in terms of artistic quality in its chisel work, looking a touch too industrial and lacking in absolute fine detail, the way in which the light and shadows play upon the woman's face depending on the season and time of day offer a novel experience

almost any time one visits the statue. As if it were an old friend, yet constantly bubbling with subtle novelty.

As a result, it has become somewhat popular among the local inhabitants and some have even taken to leaving small tokens by the statue's base, hoping for some small boon or blessing in their lives or in those of others. At times, small puddles of red condiment, upon which a ribbon of cloth has been placed, have been found on or near the statue; a trend which has annoyed the janitorial corps to no end.