The Pearls of Vigil



A CLOSELY GUARDED TREASURE OF THE ROYAL COLLECTION

The history

The Pearls of Vigil are a closely guarded collection of small orange fire opals held within the Royal Collection. Their name honours the vigilance of Guardianship: a watch that does not cease merely because it is unseen.

Said to have passed between rival treasuries before their final restoration to the King's keeping, the Pearls possess a provenance distinguished chiefly by the reluctance of anyone to discuss it. The Crown maintains that their acquisition was entirely legitimate. Despite repeated summons, no earlier custodian has come forward to offer a competing account.

At the time of publication, only the King and two other living people know their true nature. The identities of those two remain undisclosed. The full extent of the collection has likewise never been declared, and no authenticated imitation or replica has ever come to light.

At their exclusive source, the location of which remains secret, an identical sister supply is held within a concealed vault. This reserve ensures that a backup of the Pearls of Vigil remains available to the Royal Atelier.

A portion was enclosed within the Orb of Guardianship, where the Pearls were entrusted with a particular royal duty: to sound the King's summons when the Orb is shaken. The remainder is held separately within the Royal Collection, retaining the name and mystery of the greater treasure.

Those within the Orb command attention. Those remaining in the Collection invite questions. His Majesty has made provision for the former and accepts no obligation to answer the latter.

DESIGN & SYMBOLISM

VISIBLE CHARACTER

Tiny, rounded forms in translucent orange, with warm highlights and subtle variations in size.

VIGILANCE

Their name honours the watch of Guardianship, maintained even when it goes unseen.

ROYAL CUSTODY

A portion gives voice to the Orb. The remainder is held separately; the full extent is undisclosed.

Catalogue illustration based on the supplied photograph.