

Escape from Inside Out (solution)

by Ong Kah Kien

The clues point specifically to the names of 6 fictional characters with the given enumerations. The names are almost all unusually formed, which hints at possible wordplay. The aha is clued in the puzzle title and round name – each answer can be turned “inside out” by taking out an internal bigram and moving the first letter to the front of the word and moving the second letter to the back of the word, forming a new valid word.

The table below summarizes the answer to each clue, the word formed by the wordplay transformation and the extracted bigram:

Clue	Answer	Word formed	Bigram
"Painted Prince" also known as Jeoly (5)	GIOLO	IGLOO	IO
A Draenei jewelcrafting supplier in Icecrown (5)	ANUUR	NAURU	NU
Peruvian crew member Wac of Annex I (7)	ERICSON	CERIONS	CS
Former head of the Cobalt Guard who was succeeded by Kaladin (5)	NITER	INERT	IT
Half-elf mage in Neverwinter with the family name Farsight (6)	RIFTEL	TRIFLE	TE
Dillin of the Malpractice Household (6)	DERITO	EDITOR	ER

Reading the bigrams in order as two 6-letter words (based on the given enumeration) yields the answer for this puzzle **INCITE OUSTER**, which is a pun on the round name and what the team needs to do to distract Joyce and help them escape from Inside Out.

Constructor's notes:

As the Inside Out meta already has thematic references of a runaround, there was actually no need to include an additional runaround puzzle this year at the end. However, the answer to the meta did not really provide a conclusion to the story, or make thematic use of the round name Inside Out yet. So this short simple puzzle was written as an ending puzzle to help achieve both of these goals.