

ENCYCLOPÆDIA ÆOULICA



A
DICTIONARY
OF
ARTS and SORCERIES,
COMPILED ERE ÆOUL FELL.
IN WHICH
The different SORCERIES and ARTS
are digested into distinct Treatises or Systems;
AND
The various TECHNICAL TERMS, &c.
are explained as they occur in the sequence
of the Alphabet.

A.V. 88-9X
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Encyclopædia Æoulica;
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Key to Source Abbreviations, Written

A.S. - Artist Statements

Bl Ang Med - The Blindfolded Angel & the Mediatrix
(poetry collection)

BLands - "The Borderlands" (Artist Statements #321-
340)

Chrom - "Chromoluminarism" (Artist Statements #85-
95)

Glas Swan - "The Upside-Down Glasses of the Swan
Princess" (Artist Statements # 105-126)

Idols - "Idols of Aeoul" (Artist Statements #351-405)

Isa - "Isadore" (Artist Statements # 256-299)

Mir Az - Mirrors of Azazel (poetry chapbook)

Purg - Purgations (poetry collection)

Vil Min Proph - "In the Village of a Minor Prophet"
(Artist Statements # 207-239)

Key to Source Abbreviations, Visual

Ab Abs - The Abyss of the Absolute (comic)

Ant Par - Anti-Parables (painting series)

Art - Artists of Aeoul (drawing series)

D - Drawing

Ld Chrom - The Land of Chromoluminarism (drawing
series)

P - Painting

Sns Ael - Scenes from Aeoul (painting series)

So Si Ni - The Song of the Silent Nightingale (painting
series)

Spells - Spells & Spellifiers (comic)

A.A. - See *Army of Aeoul (A.A.)*

Abbimazie's garden - A garden on the outskirts
of the village of Shorhanos in eastern Aeoul. *Isa*

Abbot Reparatus - See *Reparatus*

Absolute Abstraction - See *Abstraction*

Abstraction - A mental exercise in which some
attribute of an object is conceptually separated
(i.e. the "redness" of an apple or the "sharpness"
of a knife), in violation of the nature of the object
as an inseparable whole, for the purpose of
analysis, identification, etc. An Abstraction can
exist only in the mind of an intelligent being.
There are two basic categories of Abstraction:
Relative & Absolute. A Relative Abstraction is
one that exists within the network of signifiers
that make up the Symbolic Order of social
"reality," i.e. signposts, representations and other
instruments of hegemonic "reality pedagogy."

The Absolute Abstraction, on the other hand, can
take only one form: a being separated not just in
attribute but in substance, from existence itself, a
being devoid of all characteristics whatsoever.
Theologians call this being God, the unmoved
mover who created the universe from
Nothingness. *Mir Az*

The Abyss of the Absolute - An ancient mystical
Messi'ist text written by an author known today
only as "the Redactor of Visions." The first line of
the book reads, "When Division is overshadowed [or
in some codices, "overshadowed"] by emptiness,
meaning multiplies like fire lilies in the sun." *Ab
Abs*

Acheron River - A river that runs through much
of northern Aeoul, including along the eastern
border of Plutopolis, and then through the city
itself, in eastern Aeoul, where it meets with the
River Cocytus. *Idols / Ab Abs ; P: "Map of
Aeoul"*

Aeoul - (Old tongue: "the ancient now") The age-
old kingdom that occupies the entirety of the
northernmost continent of Aeoula. The origins of
Aeoulian society predate recorded history, and the
nation has known many political iterations over
the centuries. In its current form, known as the
Sacred Empire of Aeoul, it has become the

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dominant military & cultural power of Vesperos under the near-total authority of its empress, Mediatrix I. *Bl And Med*, "Behold the Mediatrix of Aeoul!" ; *BLands* ; *Isa* ; *Purg*, "Empire of the Mind" ; *Vil Min Proph / Ab Abs* ; *P*: "Map of Aeoul" ; *Sns Ael* ; *So Si Ni* ; *Spells*

Aeoula - The northernmost continent of Vesperos. *Vil Min Proph / P*: "Map of Aeoul"

Aeoula Apocályptica - The northernmost tip of the continent of Aeoula. *Ab Abs / P*: "Map of Aeoul"

Aeoulian Black-Winged Nightingale - A variety of passerine bird native to the Aeoulian continent, known for its deep black wings & crown which resemble a cloak & hood. *So Si Ni #8*

Aeoulian Idolatry - A popular television program in which contestants compete for the honor of being "crystalized," i.e. made into an idol & object of worship. *Vil Min Proph*

Æsauwyn Alric - See *Alric*, *Æsauwyn*

Age of the Blindfold - See *The Blindfolded Angel*

Akashic Files - A network of worldwide servers said to store all of Vesperos' combined information, including that which survived the Day of Negation, largely under the control of the Aeoulian governing authorities. "Owned by all, accessible by none" is its well-known corporate slogan. *Isa*

The Alchemist's Lair - A pub in Nighthill. *Isa*

Alchemy - The art & science of transmutation. *Idols* ; *Purg*, "Beads of Mercury" / *Sns Ael*, "Digitization Working"

Alric, Æsauwyn - Member of the Alric merchant family of Shorhanos, dealers in software for the UNConS, the Akashic Files, and related digital media. Æsauwyn, a fashionable youth, was killed by his wife-to-be Isadore Flatsphere, while attempting to rape her in A.V. 89. *Isa*

Altar of Lucireptor - The nuclear no-man's-land occupying the center third of the continent of Aeoula, smoldering in an unstoppable nuclear chain-reaction since the Conceptual Realignment. Also known as the Elysian Fields, the Hole, or the Wastelands. The outer edges of the uninhabitable

zone, where the landscape transitions back into normal health, are known as the Borderlands, and plant & animal life do exist there, as well as tribes of primitive people known colloquially as "animal-men." Some claim that the animal-men are the cause of the continuous nuclear blasts. The entire region is said to be 999 miles across. *BLands* ; *Idols* ; *Vil Min Proph / Ab Abs* ; *P*: "Map of Aeoul" ; *Sns Ael*, "Altar of Lucireptor: Eastern Frontier"

Amphelice, Alphaeus - Son of Gunnor Amphelice of the Shaded Village. *Vil Min Proph*

Amphelice, Gunnor - Known as "Gunnor the Glutton," the town drunk of the Shaded Village circa A.V. 88. *Vil Min Proph*

Ana Nisi Masa - Incantation for the summoning of spirits from inanimate objects, or for the creation of homunculi, or any other technique for the animation of dead matter pursued by alchemists & other workers of occult sciences. *Bl Ang Med*, "Abstraction of a Memory"

Anabasis - The cry of the executioner, it's meaning largely forgotten, except that it refers to an ancient military campaign. *Isa*

Ananoa - See *Moonchild*

Animal-Men - A mysterious race of tribal people rumored to possess strange abilities & to leave in their wake various unexplainable paranormal phenomena, and who inhabit the borderlands around the Altar of Lucireptor. They are thought to descend from the pre-Conceptual Realignment tribes that once dominated the middle lowlands of Aeoul. Animal-men are said to not have fingernails or toenails, a possible effect of close proximity & continual exposure to atomic radiation. *Blands / P*: "Xuurosians with Dragon Foxes"

Anno Existere - (Old tongue: "Year of Existence") The calendar system of the now-defunct Aeoulian Republic. Though it was officially suppressed in the early days of the Conceptual Realignment circa A.E. 6167 (the equivalent of A.V. 1) and replaced with the Anno Verum calendar, it is still utilized in certain isolated pockets of Aeoul today, particularly

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among Messi'ists. It was once widely believed that its dating issued back to the creation of the world. *Vil Min Proph*

Anno Verum - (Old tongue: "Year of Truth") The calendar system of the current Sacred Empire of Aeoul, the current year being A.V. 90. The name "year of truth" was clearly meant to call to mind one of the early unofficial titles of Mediatrix I during her ascension to the world stage, "the Shower of Truth," a popular rallying cry of supporters of the new order then coming into being. *Vil Min Proph*

Anti-Parable - A common teaching tool employed by Yeshua, the historical (some say mythical) founder & center of the Messi'ist faith. If a common parable can be said to utilize concrete elements for abstract ends, an "anti-parable" reverses the formula, seeking to reveal concrete truths from the abstract elements of perception, cognition and awareness. Put another way, a parable moves from the particular (a narrative of specific people, places or things) to the general (some moralistic or spiritualistic lesson), while an anti-parable moves from the general (representation of constituent elements) to the particular (an individual's personal apprehension of being). Debate regarding the true meaning of many of Yeshua's key anti-parables has been a major instigator of schismatic conflict throughout the history of the Church, though a new spirit of conciliation has entered in of late due to common persecutions suffered by all Messi'ist sects. *Ant Par*

Apophatos Towers - Two nearly identical, massive guard towers built up side-by-side on opposite sides of the border between the rival warring tribes of Entros & Kophos in ancient Aeoul, one tower erected by each tribe. Considered one of the architectural wonders of antiquity, the two towers came into existence gradually, each tribe building its tower higher in response to construction by its rival on the other side of the border a very short distance away, until eventually the towers became the tallest structures ever constructed up until that time. It is

unknown whether it was Entros or Kophos who initially instigated this unprecedented game of architectural "one-upmanship," but it is believed that the process took several hundred years before the towers reached their full heights. At this time the towers were known as, respectively, Entros Tower & Kophos Tower. Eventually the two civilizations fell into decline and the towers were abandoned, later to be claimed as a pair for the Republic of Aeoul, and renamed "Apophatos Towers." Nearly 1100 years ago (A.E. 5167) both towers were destroyed in a single morning under mysterious circumstances, the targets of massive energy discharges of unknown origin, collapsing into their own footprints. A few scattered witnesses reported seeing an unidentified black magician perched upon the rocky crags overlooking the scene. At the time, only the barest assemblage of settlement structures had begun to spring up around the base of the towers & along the River Acheron. This settlement would eventually grow & incorporate into the modern city-state of Plutopolis. Today, Minotaure's Obelisk, skyscraper headquarters of the Multinational Magicians, stands at what is believed to have been the precise location of the dual structure. At the time of their destruction, the significance of the Apophatos Towers was already largely symbolic, as guard towers served little purpose since the Republican Kingdom of Aeoul, by then, already controlled the entire surrounding territory. In their absence they became a more powerful symbol still, one of the instability of the Aeoulian monarchy of the time & of the unseen, fate-dealing finger of God, ever ready to humble man's aspirations when He deems he has risen too high above his appointed station. *Sns Ael, "The View from Milkmaid's Bluff"*

Army of Aeoul (A.A.) - Imperial domestic police force of Aeoul, occasionally called upon, alongside the Knights of the Sun, to serve in a military capacity against external foes, as for example in the Woelgaazian War of A.V. 89. They are known for their distinctive black body armour

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& helmets, and transparent plastic visors & shields with the word "POLYCE" emblazoned across them in bold type, as well as for their rough bearing & ill-manners. Also known as centurions, riot polyce, etc. *Bl Ang Med*, "*Footprint*"; *BLands*; *Isa*; *Vil Min Proph / Ab Abs*; *Sns Ael*, "*Allegory of Authority & Servitude*"; *D*: "*Encounter at the Edge of the Field*"; *P*: "*Portal out of Aeoul*"

Ars Moriendi - (Old tongue: "art of dying") A fallen angel who usually takes the form of a sphinx wearing a headdress of seven rays, but who has the ability to take numerous forms. *Ab Abs*

Azazel - Trans-dimensional fallen angel said to have once been the teacher of mankind, in the far distant reaches of prehistory, of many & diverse arts & technologies including, but not limited to, the principles of mirrors, metallurgy, cosmetics, written language and holography. He is sometimes known by the title "Lord of Percepts." *A.S. #181*; *Idols*; *Mir Az*

The Ballad of Inamorata - An Aeoulian drinking song about a strange & seemingly unattainable woman. The ballad is seen as having strong mystical overtones by most scholars of Aeoulian folk culture. *Isa*

Bandits - Outlaws & thieves who roam in packs upon the open highways of Aeoul. Also called freebooters. *Idols*

Bard - A professional storyteller & musician, ranging in success from the wandering vagabond variety to the massively-famous pop star. *Bl Ang Med*, "*Mediatrix Minstrel*"; *Idols*

The Baroque Broomstick - The first talking holographic picture, released in A.V. 1 & still in holoprint today. The film starred Milton Kimmolathe & Maribeth Gilgarod, was directed by Norman Wilde, and was produced by Gloaming Owl Images. The film's plot centers around a poor orphan girl (Gilgarod), and her chance meeting (and subsequent blossoming romantic entanglement) with a wealthy baron of the old republico-positivist days (Kimmolathe). Stumbling upon an old book of sorcery in the

baron's library called "The Key of Caayne Set-Abaal," the girl acquires ancient magical knowledge, which she proceeds to employ to become the country's biggest vaudeville star, forsaking her one-time benefactor the baron in the process. The holographic film was the first to employ a synchronized dialog track, making it an instant hit with audiences & cultural historians alike, grossing over 16 million djalls in its initial theatrical run. *Vil Min Proph*

Beatrix - A young peasant woman of the village of Moresheth, remembered by Rægenhere the Prophet in his semi-autobiographical work "The Song of the Silent Nightingale." The time period in which she appears in the work is estimated to be around A.V. 10-20, at which time she would have been in her late teens to twenties. It has been speculated that Beatrix was a love interest of Rægenhere in his pre-monastic youth. *So Si Ni #5*

Behinders - See *The Mind I Left Behind*

The Black Lion - Will personified; lion due to its strength, black due to the dark compact one must make with oneself in order to fully awaken one's will and free it from "the illegitimate shackles of conscience." Though normally known simply as "the Black Lion," this creature, which speaks like a man and is at least twice the size of a natural lion, has also been known to go by the name of "Samael." Many have reported dreaming of the Black Lion, and that these be not normal dreams, but rather, that the creature has visited them upon that venue from without. His motivations may not always be as clear as the above descriptions indicate. *Bl Ang Med*, "*The Black Lion*"; *Glas Swan*; *Idols*; *Purg*, "*Thirty-Three Poems*"; / *Ld Chrom*, "*The Black Lion*," "*MDCCLXXVI (Night Journey)*," "*Untitled*"; *Sns Ael*, "*The Pious Bride & the Black Lion*"

Black Magick - Any inversion or exploitation of natural law for the purpose of personal gain or the harming of others. Black magick can take many forms, be they psychological, scientific, artistic, militaristic, or otherwise, and thus can easily confound any observer looking for the expected "supernatural" manifestations of the traditional

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conception of the magical arts. In fact, this very technique of misdirection is central to most successful spellcastings. A more accurate description of magic in general would be, perhaps, "hypernatural," in that it utilizes the natural laws in uncommon ways, but by no means does it violate those laws, nor could it. *Blands ; Idols ; Isa ; Vil Min Proph*

Black Rain - Atmospheric effect of the nuclear blasts of the Altar of Lucireptor. *Idols*

Blandina - Young orphan girl who grew up living on the streets of Plutopolis after her parents disappeared in the so-called "Rapture." In A.V. 87, at about eight years of age, she was visited by a being calling itself Ars Moriendi, who by a series of visions guided Blandina into association with Johannes of Grasmere. After successfully completing his quest in Plutopolis with Blandina's help, Johannes then took her home with him to Grasmere Abbey where she was to be raised & trained in the religious life. *Ab Abs*

The Blindfolded Angel - Herald of the pierced Veil, Dweller on the Threshold, and ordained angelic messenger of God to seers on occasions of objective historical consequence or personal illumination or both. She is usually described as a breathtakingly beautiful, fair-skinned maiden with long, raven-black hair (or sometimes fair hair -Ed.), wearing nothing but a crude blindfold of sackcloth or canvas, and occasionally a thin sheet wrapped around her loins, with two magnificent white-feathered wings that glow like that of a swan's in moonlight. Legend has it that Yeshua's death on the cross was the final worldly sight she beheld before donning the blindfold, which was given to her by a grief-stricken witness to the event, renouncing sight until the day that He should return in glory. Thus in the Messi'ist faith this current age (the period between Yeshua's death & return) is sometimes referred to as "The Age of the Blindfold." *Bl Ang Med, "Hallucination," "Icarus & Daedalus," "The Black Lion" ; Idols / P: "The Crucifixion of Yeshua"*

Bluebird, Artichoke - A bard of Aeoul, and

apprentice to the Mind I Left Behind. *Idols*

Body of Dirt - The worldly self-image cultivated by spiritually-disinclined individuals in place of genuine spiritual or inner growth. The Body of Dirt is a conceptual conglomerate of all the personality & image-based traits that functions to (arbitrarily) differentiate individuals in the realm of the Symbolic Order, but which has no real substance outside of that relativistic system. *A.S. #301-303*

The Book - The central Messi'ist holy text. It is said to contain the full revelation of God to mankind. Once, legend has it, the entire Kingdom of Aeoul, and much of the rest of the world, was governed by its sacred law. Today, the most common version is the King Faactimos translation. *Idols ; Isa ; Vil Min Proph*

Book of the Prophet Rægenhere - A short prophetic text distributed in the form of hand-printed broadsides by Rægenhere the Morasthite, in which is prophesied, amongst other things, the fall (both literal & figurative) of the Mediatrix & her Inverted Palace. *Vil Min Proph*

The Borderlands (Place) - The semi-inhabitable, purple-hued region surrounding the Altar of Lucireptor in central Aeoul. *Blands ; Idols*

The Borderlands (Poem) - A prose-poem, written by Lyulderis of Charleville in A.V. 90, and claiming to be an account of the author's travels in the mysterious inner-reaches of the Altar of Lucireptor, in which he makes any number of unsubstantiated claims about hidden kingdoms & nefarious conspiracies involving Her Most High, the Mediatrix. Usually taken as a yarn of fantasy, it is nonetheless seen as a work of considerable merit, pointing the way toward numerous avenues of future Aeoulian literary development. *Blands ; Idols*

Call of the Moonchild - A folk ballad. *Idols*

Categorical Relativism - A way of being-in-the-world in which a given object or concept is always defined, known or experienced in terms of its relationship to other objects, and not in terms of its own innate qualities.

Catherinian Order of Monks - A Messi'ist

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religious order of ordained monks whose headquarters lies east of the Salisbury Desert at Grasmere Abbey in eastern Aeoul. Aside from the usual duties of prayer & contemplation, Catherinians place a strong emphasis upon study and the keeping of great libraries, and are known as one of Vesperos' best repositories of rare tomes. *Ab Abs* ; *Sns Ael*: "*Digitization Working*"

Catherinian Prayer - A short prayer recited by Catherinian monks: "Forgive me, O Lord; I am but a man, blind by nature; Forgive me, O Lord, my chaotic mind." *Ab Abs*

Centerpointe - The central city square of Moonchildland, marked by a pyramidal monument. *Idols*

Centurion - See *Army of Aeoul (A.A.)*

Charleville - An Aeoulian provincial town, and birthplace of Lyulderis the Poet. *BLands*

Chromoluminarian Canon - The natural laws which govern the Land of Chromoluminarism, many of which are highly theoretical & empirically unverified, and perhaps unverifiable. Study of these laws is more-or-less equally divided between the scientists & the mystics of Vesperos. *Chrom / Ld Chrom*

Chromoluminarism - See *Land of Chromoluminarism*

Chyldeluve Sisters - Three orphaned, teenaged sisters who live alone in the Shaded Village since their parents were killed in a lightning storm in A.V. 85. *Vil Min Proph*

City Prayer - A prayer recited by Messi'ists who find themselves wandering in large cities: "Lord God, keep the powers of darkness from my door; Bathe me in your saving Light."

Cocytus River - A river that breaks off from the River Acheron along the eastern border of Plutopolis in eastern Aeoul. *Ab Abs* ; *P*: "*Map of Aeoul*"

CoMPUTE - Collective Matrix for Programmable Unitarian Telekinesis. A virtual reality system, accessed through a set of VR "blindens" worn on the head. Only members of the upper classes can afford such higher technologies as these; the peasants generally have to be content with simple

television viewing. CoMPUTE's provided virtual sites have become known for the rampant sexual activity that takes place there, especially amongst teenagers, who see it as harmless recreation without consequences. *Isa*

Conceptual Realignment - The multi-pronged, guided, highly-mediated transformation of Aeoulian society ushered in by the Mediatrix I & her agents at the dawn of the Anno Verum era in a very rapid timeframe, in response to the devastation wrought by the Kurumakan conflict & the challenges of rebuilding in the aftermath. It consisted of sweeping reforms in the areas of military, culture, the arts, theatre, bureaucracy, finance, and much else. *BLands* ; *Vil Min Proph / Ab Abs*

Confession by Clone - A common practice in Aeoulian law courts, in which a clone of the guilty (accused) is grown for the express purpose of forcing that clone to confess to the guilty's alleged crime. The practice is based upon the Aeoulian common law equating of an individual with his or her DNA. *Isa*

Count Relativos - See *Relativos, Count of Nighthill*

Crintree - A type of tree indigenous to the continent of Aeoula. *Idols* ; *Vil Min Proph*

Cross - An X-shaped implement of torture and execution in ancient Aeoulian-controlled territories, and since become the central symbol of the religious movement known as Messi'ism. *P*: "*The Crucifixion of Yeshua*" ; *So Si Ni #6*

Cross'd-One - Shrine to the Dwellers on the Threshold, a pseudo-Messi'ist form of public sculpture dating back to Aeoul's pre-Republican period. The shrine, usually composed of stone or wood, and in rare cases marble or bronze, usually takes the form of a cross, or two *I's* (ones) diagonally overlapping each other, creating what is believed to be a portal into another realm. The artistry of one of these shrines can range from the very simple to the quite sophisticated & ornate. *P*: "*Neglected Shrine to the Dwellers on the Threshold*"

Crossroads - See *Plutopolis*

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Cynwise - An elderly widow & owner of a small seamstress shop in Nighthill, Cynwise provided lodgings, in exchange for assistance in the daily operation of her shop, to Isadore & Nephi during their time of asylum in the city. Cynwise's husband of forty-four years, as well as her four sons, all died within a short span of time, leaving her alone in her old age before the coming of Isadore and Nephi. *Isa*

Dagon - God of the Krawn, as well as other, smaller nomadic tribes that wander the Aeolian countryside, Dagon is usually portrayed as having the upper body of a man, & the lower body of a fish. Dagon's followers, as a rule, offer him regular sacrifices, the most precious of which being their own children, in exchange for prosperity, plentiful crop yields, and also forbidden knowledge. *Isa*

Dagonus Vrilhu - (Krawni: "Day of Dagon's Power") The most important holy day of sacrifice & festival in the Krawni calendar, the Dagonus Vrilhu takes place in the late summer or early autumn, and always falls on a full moon. *Isa*

Damaris House - Before the persecutions, a boarding school for young maidens from upper class Messi'ist families, and now a swan farm located in Northern Aeoul. *Idols*

Damaris, Lady - Governess of Damaris House. *Idols*

Danyul of Swandale - A monk of Swandale Abbey. *Idols*

Dark-Sparks - Flies the eating of which causes hallucinatory visions, and other narcotic effects. *Idols*

Day of Negation - In the spring of A.V. 1, the storming of the Aeolian Hall of Records by Separatists led by Maxwell Gilgarod which resulted in the irrevocable loss of the greater part of Aeoul's records of the ancient world. *Vil Min Proph*

Death to Truth Movement - A youth protest and political organization, popular with Aeolian students, particularly those familiar with Nomenclaturist ideas. Those who profess the beliefs of the movement hold that what society

has always called "Truth" is, in reality, nothing more than a mere tool of control, instituted by the ruling powers, for the maintaining of "a status quo of unjust oppression, endless wars, and economic terrorism upon the whole world," etc. Thus, they proudly proclaim that genuine liberation can only be achieved by the rejection of all Truth (so-called), and the entering into of a mindset in which nothing is true. *Isa*

Digitization Working - A way of utilizing the seven alchemical processes, in which physical books can be transmuted into digital information. *Sns Ael, "Digitization Working"*

Djall - Aeolian unit of currency. The djall receives its value from the Spell of the Eye, which is printed on each paper note, reading thus: "Omniscient, Numinous, Eternal." *Idols ; Isa ; Vil Min Proph*

Dragon Fox - A type of mammalian creature, similar in most ways to the common fox, save that it possesses an unusually elongated torso. Native to the wastelands, and in command of an exceptionally intelligent nature, it is said that the dragon fox can enter into "psychic rapport" with its co-habitants & namesakes the dragons. *Blands / P: "Xuurosians with Dragon Foxes"*

Dragons - Creatures adapted to high levels of radiation found primarily in the central wasteland of Aeoul known as the Elysian Fields, the Altar of Lucireptor, and simply the Hole, but have also been reported in other inhospitable environs such as deserts or even the vacuum of outer space itself. Some dragons are as intelligent as men, while others scarcely more so than the common beast. Because of their usually-limited habitat, and consequent rarity of sightings, there are many who believe dragons to be nothing but a myth. Due to their nature as mutated creatures, dragons are considered a symbol of rebellion against God's natural order. *Bl Ang Med, "Quetzalcoatl," "The Black Lion" ; Blands ; Idols ; Vil Min Proph / Spells*

Dwellers on the Threshold - The class of beings inhabiting the borderlands between dimensions, numerologically associated with the number 11,

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and with repetitions of that number, to whom the Blindfolded Angel is said to belong. According to differing traditions, these beings have been alternately regarded as angels or demons, but the signs they present are always ultimately left up to the individual experiencing them to interpret & act upon accordingly. Shrines to the Dwellers on the Threshold, known as "Cross'd-Ones," can be found scattered throughout the Aeolian countryside, remnants of a less secular age. *Bl Ang Med*, "*Dwellers on the Threshold*"; "*Icarus & Daedalus*" / *P*: "*Neglected Shrine to the Dwellers on the Threshold*"; *P*: "*Portal out of Aeoul*"

Elysian Fields - See *Altar of Lucireptor*

Emptiness - The ground or ultimate nature of Being. As all phenomena are transient, Emptiness is the only permanent condition of the material world. In Messi'ist theology, God is also said to be "empty" in that He does not possess being so much as He is the source of all Being, transcending being.

Entros - An ancient tribal civilization, rival of Kophos, which once occupied a sizable territory on the Aeolian continent. *Sns Ael*, "*The View from Milkmaid's Bluff*"

Entros Tower - See *Apophatos Towers*

Epistile of the End - A Messi'ist text, contained within the larger work known as the Book, that deals with prophecies & beliefs concerning the end of the aeon. *Idols*

Eternal Commune of Aeoul - See *Sacred Empire of Aeoul*

"Existence Existeth" - A Messi'ist saying which is said to be the simplest formula for the expressing of the Messi'ist faith. *Idols*

Externalization of the Hierarchy - Revelation of occult method. *Isa*

Eyeball - The most popular sport in all Aeoul. Teams representing cities & provinces from all over the Empire compete each year in the Sacred Feast of the Eyeball Aeon Championship. *Idols*

Eyebot - Multipurpose polyce homunculi/robots used for diffusing bombs or other dangerous tasks. *So Si Ni #2*

Faactimos - The last king of the Republic of Aeoul, killed, along with the entire monarchy, in the Kuromakan nuclear attack. The translation of The Book he authorized during his reign is now considered the standard amongst the few Messi'ists that remain in Aeoul. *Idols* ; *Isa / Vil Min Proph*

Farysham - A town in northeastern Aeoul. *Idols*

Final Mirror - The final "gift" it is prophesied Azazel will give to mankind: an illusion so powerful it will finally unite the world completely under Lucifer's (or alternately Lucireptor's) rule. It is not said what form this "Final Mirror" will take, so believers in the prophecy watch diligently all manner of phenomena in fear of its dreaded advent. It is generally believed that the reign of the Mediatrix will usher in this "gift." *Idols* ; *Mir Az*

Fireclouds - Distinctive, mushroom-shaped clouds of debris & smoke that result from the atomic explosions of the Altar of Lucireptor. *Blands* ; *Idols*

Fireswan - A type of phoenix closely associated with the archangel, the Fireswan is a mythical birth which dies and is reborn in an endless cycle which mirrors man's cycle of self-directed destruction through history. *Bl Ang Med*, "*Fireswan*," "*Annuit Coeptis*" / *Ab Abs* ; *P*: "*The Appearance of the Phoenix in the Dead of Night*"

Flatsphere, Isadore - Young maiden from the village of Shorhanos, and member of the Flatsphere merchant family, who, fighting off an attempted rape, killed her attacker in self-defense (Æsauwyn Alric, whom she was to be given in marriage), but who nevertheless feared reprisal from the law, and therefore fled, with her lifelong matron Nephi by her side, to the sanctuary city of Nighthill. There she hoped to secure the protection of Relativos, Count of Nighthill, which she did for a short period, before finally being handed over to the authorities and sentenced to death by beheading. The execution was carried out on the day of the Dagonus Vrillhu, A.V. 89, in Isadore's eighteenth year. Isadore's execution gained her short-lived posthumous fame as martyr

to the Youth Protest Movement, and in particular the Death to Truth Movement, though her allegiance to either has been seriously called into question by researchers. Still, Isadore Flatsphere remains a household name in Aeoul to this day.
Idols ; Isa

Fluoride Water - A witch's brew which puts anyone who drinks it into a hypnotic, lethargic state, making them highly susceptible to outside influence. *Isa*

Gate of Horn - The eastern entrance to the city of Plutopolis. *Ab Abs*

Gate of Ivory - The western entrance to the city of Plutopolis. *Ab Abs*

Geon - A peasant lad of a small village south of Swandale. *Idols*

Gilgarod, Chantel - An actress, pop singer and niece of Lord Gilgarod; her popular songs include "Serfs Just Wanna Have Fun." *Isa ; Vil Min Proph*

Gilgarod, Lord - High Minister of the Unified Kingdom of Aeoul and current patriarch of the noble Gilgarod family dynasty. *Vil Min Proph*

Gilgarod, Maribeth - In addition to belonging to the noble Gilgarod bloodline, Maribeth Gilgarod gained fame as a leading female holofilm star of Moonchildland's Conceptual Realignment era, and co-star of "The Baroque Broomstick." *Vil Min Proph*

Gilgarod, Maxwell - Leader of the Separatists during the Conceptual Realignment, and key inciter, both through his philosophical treatises & through direct action, of the fall of the Republic of Aeoul. His infamy lives on today mainly as a result of his part in the Day of Negation in which great stores of Aeoul's records were lost forever. *Vil Min Proph*

Gloaming Owl Images - A holographic picture production company headquartered in Moonchildland, Aeoul. *Vil Min Proph*

Grasmere Abbey - Home of the Eastern Aeoulian Catherinian Order of Monks, this abbey is situated beyond Salisbury Desert & the Interstices, making it fairly secluded despite its relatively close proximity to Plutopolis. *Ab Abs ;*

P: "Beyond the Monastery Walls" ; P: "Map of Aeoul" ; D: "Messi'ist Scribe with Abbot Reparatus" ; Sns Ael, "Digitization Working"

Guild of Free & Indentured Television

Cobblers - An association of artisans who specialize in the repair of televisions. It is considered a highly specialized trade since, though televisions are plentiful, access to electricity is scarce, and information scarcer still. Only through membership in the Guild can one gain access to the secret of the television's functionality, a closely guarded & regulated secret. *Vil Min Proph*

Guillotine - The most common implement of execution in Aeoul. *Isa*

Guilted - The designation used to refer to one accused of a crime, or one who has been "guilted," that is, saddled with the burden of an assumed guilt, which must then be disproved. While awaiting sentencing, the guilted wears a robe of brown, red, and white, as well as a matching curved, pointed hat. *Isa*

Holofilms - One of dominant forms of entertainment in Aeoul, the vast majority of which are produced in the city of Moonchildland. *Idols ; Isa ; Vil Min Proph*

Homunculus - A being created through alchemical means. *Idols*

How to Be One - The title of a popular book of what might be termed the "self-help" persuasion, dealing as it does with a wide range of topics from so-called "mid-modern spirituality" to finance, all with individual improvement as the goal, a definitively Aeoulian piece of literature. *Ab Abs*

Hyperborean Brotherhood - A secret society instrumental in the founding of the Sacred Empire of Aeoul, and still in existence today. *Bl Ang Med, "Kazimir Malevich" / Ab Abs*

iDol - A portable electronic music devise popular in the cities of Aeoul, but virtually unattainable to the Kingdom's countless peasants. *Isa / Ab Abs*

The Image of the Minotaure - A politico-theoretical text by Guy de Maldorpasse (of Nomeclaturist fame), on the topic of "mass black

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magick," and its role in the creation of a society governed & mediated by what he calls, borrowing from the popular vernacular, "spells & spellifiers." *Vil Min Proph*

Imperial Anti-Falacy Office (IAFO) - An organization within the Aeoulian government that specializes in information-gathering, often employing torture and the dark arts as tools in the furtherance of this pursuit. *Isa*

Interstices - A wilderness region located in eastern Aeoul, situated between the Rivers Cocytus & Acheron. *Ab Abs ; P: "Map of Aeoul"*

Inverted Palace - In appearance somewhat resembling a pyramidal cathedral flipped upon its axis so that its apex is pointed downward, and floating in the air above Aeoul, the Inverted Palace serves as the imperial headquarters of the Sacred Empire. The apex, or lowermost point of the structure, is known colloquially as "the Skythorn." The Palace drifts ever-so slowly above Aeoulian territory, so slow that its drifting movement cannot be perceived by the human eye. It is said that it brings famine wherever it happens to be. *Bl Ang Med, "Mediatrice Minstrel" ; Idols ; Vil Min Proph / Ab Abs ; Art I, "Minstrel Below the Inverted Palace" ; P: "Map of Aeoul"*

Iris - A being of the photons who inhabits the Land of Chromoluminarism. *Ld Chrom, "Iris Descends Upon a Chance Meeting of Two Travelers"*

Isadore - See *Flatsphere, Isadore*

Jeruna - A Mindbinder maid with green hair. *Idols*

Johannes of Grasmere - A Catherinian monk of Grasmere Abbey who holds the office of High Librarian of the grounds' library. In A.V. 87, on his 33rd birthday, he left the abbey for the first time since childhood at the order of Abbot Reparatus, to venture into the dense urban sprawl of Plutopolis to retrieve a rare & ancient book called "The Abyss of the Absolute." His quest was successful, having procured a copy from M.M., and he returned to Grasmere Abbey approximately two months later with the book, and hasn't ventured beyond the Abbey grounds

again since. *Glas Swan / Ab Abs*

Jophas of Kophos - Winemaker & merchant, and sole survivor of the Kophos village dragon attack of A.V. 77. *Spells*

Julinora Tea - Tea steeped from the leaves of the julinora plant, and said to produce a calm, serene sensation in the drinker. *Isa*

The Key of Caayne Set-Abaal - An ancient magical text, now lost, dating from a thousand years before the time of Yeshua. *Vil Min Proph*

Kimmolathe, Milton - A leading male hologram star of Moonchildland's Conceptual Realignment era, and star of The Baroque Broomstick. *Vil Min Proph*

Knights of the Sun - An elite fighting force distinct from the A.A., though who oftentimes work alongside them, or lead them into battle, and rare institutional vestige of the old Republic, though in those days they are said to have been called "Knights of the Son." *Vil Min Proph*

Kophos - An ancient tribal civilization, rival of Entros, which once occupied territory on the eastern Aeoulian continent. *Sns Ael, "The View from Milkmaid's Bluff"*

Kophos Minor - A prosperous and happy port village situated on a fertile peninsula in a bay on the southwest coast of Aeoul. It was home to many vineyards, until it was destroyed completely by a wayward dragon in the late summer of A.V. 77. For a dragon to have ventured so far from the Altar of Lucireptor was seen as a bad omen, and for this reason the village was never rebuilt, and remains a black & charred ruinous heap today. The village settlement was originally founded by a traveling remnant of the ancestors of Kophos. *Spells ; P: "Map of Aeoul"*

Kophos Tower - See *Apophatos Towers*

Krawn - A race of wandering mutants who share a common mutation, as well as a common cultural heritage, and who are ruled by a Council of Elders. The Krawn are worshipers of the fertility god Dagon, a god to whom they frequently sacrifice their own sons and daughters, and occasionally, unfortunate outsiders, on seasonal ritual festival days. The average Krawni man or

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woman stands about three feet tall, with blue-grey skin, and a large head with large, pointed ears which stick out sideways from the head. *Isa*

Kuromaku - (Kuromakan: "black curtain") The second great kingdom of Vesperos, and key instigator in the events of the Aeoulian Conceptual Realignment. The kingdom denies to this day that it launched the nuclear attack that wiped out the central region of the Aeoulian continent, and since records from that era are fragmentary, it cannot be stated with any degree of confidence that this is not the case, though the Mediatrix's government denies this possibility vehemently. *Blands ; Vil Min Proph*

Kuromakutown - A neighborhood of Plutopolis with a large Kuromakan population, which has in recent years become the site of many new, up-coming art galleries. *A.S. #320*

Labyrinth - Mystical type of the world of man, that is, civilization, the Symbolic Order, the totality, et al. At the center of the Labyrinth is found the Minotaure, the repressed Luciferian core & id of all civic dialectical materialist philosophies. (It is rumored that deep below Moonchildland there is found a labyrinth. Further research is needed. -Ed.) *Bl Ang Med, "Icarus & Daedalus," "Minos" ; Idols / So Si Ni #9*

Lalli - A peasant maid of a small village south of Swandale. *Idols*

Land of Chromoluminarism - An interstitial realm composed entirely of photons. Governed by its own localized physical laws known as the Chromoluminarian Canon, the substance of all "matter" in the Land of Chromoluminarism is generated by the vibratory juxtaposition of various types of photons, each with a different wavelength & properties. This land is populated by all manner of beings not normally found in Vesperos proper, and is prone to violent sandstorms as well as magnificent mirages. *Glas Swan ; Crom ; Vil Min Proph / Ld Chrom*

Land without Sunrise - The western region of Aeoul in which the sunrise cannot be seen, due to being obscured by the fires of the Altar of Lucireptor, consisting of harsh & desolate salt

flats plagued by alternating seasons of monsoon & scorching dryness. *Idols ; Bl Ang Med, "A Crying Statue"*

Lord Gilgarod - See *Gilgarod, Lord*

Lord of Percepts - See *Azazel*

Lucid Dreaming - The practice of cultivating awareness while dreaming. *Glas Swan ; Vil Min Proph*

Lucemara - See *The Tale of Nicanora and Lucemara*

Lucifer - (Old tongue: "Light-Bearer") Fallen angel, lord of demons & the underworld, adversary of man & Yeshua. With his twin-brother Lucireptor, one half of the Devil (according to Messi'ist doctrine). Alternately, the chief spiritual aide to man in his ongoing quest for godhood. *Idols ; Isa ; Vil Min Proph*

Lucireptor - (Old tongue: "Taker of Light") The negative manifestation of Lucifer, the "Light-Bearer." Or, according to Messi'ist doctrine, the future, physically-manifest form of Lucifer on Vesperos, "hierarch of this [material] world" who longs to rule not only the hearts of men, but also a physical, literal kingdom for all time. With his twin-brother Lucifer, one half of the Devil. *Blands ; Idols ; Isa / Sns Ael, "Altar of Lucireptor: Eastern Frontier"*

Lyulderis the Poet - Also known as Lyulderis of Charleville, self-proclaimed "first poet in the world," and author of "the Borderlands," which was published in A.V. 90 to much fanfare & controversy, owing to its chaotic, unmetered style full of tonal inconsistencies & personal asides, yet full of an undeniably penetrating depth & power. The poem's publication notwithstanding, Lyulderis himself remains an elusive soul, nearly impossible to track down or even contact, leaving his many admirers to sort out the ramifications of his poetic work for themselves as he wanders anonymously through the poor provinces of central Aeoul. *Blands ; Idols*

M.M. - Founder & First of the Multinational Magicians & powerful member of the Aeoulian ruling class, this strange, mouse-like, mutant sorcerer resides at the highest point of the

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cityscape of Plutopolis, the 144th floor of the skyscraper known as Minotaure's Obelisk, which he never leaves. A master of many ancient occult arts & magickal systems, M.M. passes his days attending to his duties with the Multinational Magicians and other fraternal orders to which he owes allegiance, working magickal rites to the point of boredom, meditating, studying ancient occult & mystical texts, enjoying the favors of his sizable harem of concubines, and pouring over the surveillance network of the A.A., to which he has full access. His true name unknown, or even what the moniker "M.M." truly represents, he often expresses his fondness for these initials by alluding to other examples of their usage, such as "meaning multiplies," (from "The Abyss of the Absolute"), the aforementioned Multinational Magicians (which he named), Master Mason, Mysterium Magnum, and countless other instances. *Vil Min Proph / Ab Abs*

M.M's Riddle - A riddle in the form of a poem M.M. was forced by Ars Moriendi to recite to Johannes of Grasmere before relinquishing to him possession of the book "The Abyss of the Absolute" in A.V. 87. The riddle reads thus: "I permeate all thou know'st, yet am nowhere found,/Æthereal as sky, yet solid as the ground;/I build or break empires, yet never lift a sword;/Dictate all poetry, yet never speak a word;/I see all but mineself, like a mirror, or eye,/Fountain of Understanding, Cradle of the Lie;/I'm riches to wise men, a burden to the fool;/Like a ladder to Heaven, on Earth, God's Footstool;/What am I?" The riddle's answer is "mind." *Ab Abs*

Maldorpasse, Guy de - An Aeolian Writer & theorist, and chief proponent of the controversial Nomenclaturist school of political philosophy. His most famous work to date is "The Image of the Minotaure," an examination of what he calls "mass black magick" through the lens of mid-modern economics & radical political theory. *Vil Min Proph*

Malidor of Kophos - Wife of Jophas. Malidor was a winemaker killed in the Kophos Minor

dragon attack of A.V. 77. *Spells*

Many Worlds Interpretation of Quantum Physics - The theory, deduced from the observation of the behavior of quantum particles, that there must exist a multitude of universes, or multiverse. *Idols*

Marie - Comatose female companion of Lyulderis the Poet, whom he devotedly cares for, proclaiming her to be a descendant of the Xuurosian peoples, and that she will awaken one day with information to tell that will shatter the very social order as we know it. *BLands*

Maya-Ros - A port town near the Shaded Village, Maya-Ros is a regional capital & Guild hub. *Idols ; Vil Min Proph*

Meadow - A Mindbinder maid. *Idols*

Mediation Station - A video game system, playable on one's home television. *So Si Ni #7*

Mediatrix I - Founder & empress of the Sacred Empire of Aeoul (A.V. 1), this mysterious woman, if a woman she can be so called, enthroned in the Inverted Palace, draws upon diverse & largely unknown sources of black magick to envelope her realm in a thick mist of illusion, characterized by idolatry, slight-of-hand spectacle & distraction, seduction, and exploitation of her subjects' own vanity & other failings, the end result being a unified "Symbolic Order," a nearly-complete totality, in which a sizable majority of her enslaved subjects feel themselves to be free and, indeed, with a sort of religious fervor, feel greatly indebted to her for her "benevolent" intervention into what was becoming a "corrupt & decadent" republic, while an ever-diminishing minority who have retained at least a modicum of clear-headedness are routinely & ubiquitously subjected to all manner of subliminal intimidation & spiritual warfare carefully disguised as "tolerance" & "common sense." In this she is chiefly aided by the conjurer's wand of holly reed wielded symbolically by the holographic picture industry headquartered at Moonchildland. Her true name & origins shrouded in hearsay & disinformation, the title "Mediatrix" is said to be an amalgamation of the words "media" &

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"matrix," and further, this is said to provide insight into her complex magickal control grid. In the ninety years in which she has been in the public eye, she has not aged a day, retaining the freshness and loveliness of a springtime maiden, causing many to speculate that she is, in fact, immortal. Consequently, she is often referred to as the "Queen of Heaven," & "Most High." Further, and recent, radical changes to Aeoul's cultural & political landscape suggest that her plans for the Empire are far from complete, though her endgame is a thing that can only be speculated about. Growing in the land is a belief that she is none other than the emissary of Lucireptor on Vesperos, and that she prepares the way for his coming kingdom of darkness. *Bl Ang Med, "Mediatrix Minstrel," "Behold the Mediatrix of Aeoul!" ; BLands ; Idols ; Isa ; Purg, "Empire of the Mind" ; Vil Min Proph / Ab Abs*

"Mediatrix Knows" - A common saying, the equivalent of "who know?" or "no one knows but the Mediatrix, who knows all." *Isa ; Vil Min Proph*

Messi'ism - The Religion of the followers of Yeshua, who believe him to be the savior of all humanity and the incarnation of God on Vesperos. Once the dominant religion of Aeoul as well as Woelgaazia, today Messi'ists are a barely-tolerated minority who tend to keep their identities secret & to worship wherever the walls do not have eyes. In Aeoul, though many Messi'ist churches today stand as abandoned structures, Messi'ist monasteries & convents can still be found, mostly in rural areas well outside of large population centers. In urban culture, Messi'ists have the reputation of being troublemakers, extremists, and even terrorists. *Bl Ang Med, "Behold the Mediatrix of Aeoul!" Isa / Ab Abs ; D: "Messi'ist Mendicant" ; P: "Portrait of a Young Messi'ist"*

Metanoia - (Old tongue: "changing one's mind") According to Messi'ist doctrine, repentance, and the mystical, "true" name of Vesperos. *Idols ; Vil Min Proph*

Metanoia-Vospheros - "Sinners repent; for your world is empty." A traditional saying in the Messi'ist religion.

Mid-Modernism - A theory of culture & thought in which systems of organization assume primacy over that which is organized. *Vil Min Proph*

Milkmaid's Bluff - A steep precipice overlooking Plutopolis just outside of the Gate of Horn, known for its view of the cityscape & named for the tragic folktale of the Sleepwalking Milkmaid. *Ab Abs ; Sns Ael, "The View from Milkmaid's Bluff"*

The Mind I Left Behind - A psychedelic minstrel band with a cult following, notable for their promotion of mind-altering substances as part of a larger agenda of cultural transformation. Their devoted coterie of fans, known as Mindbinders (who can be identified by their large mushroom hats & revealing spider-web tunics), usually refer to the band as "The Behinders." *Idols / D - "Mindbinder"*

Mindbinder - See *The Mind I Left Behind*

Minotaure - A spiritual entity (or is it physical, a product of the dark arts? -Ed.) who the Mediatrix occasionally calls upon to engage in hallucinatory sexual rites which seem to be at least a partial source of her black magick. The true identity of this figure remains a mystery, though it is known that its favors always require a precious sacrifice, such as a first born child. *Bl Ang Med, "Minotaure & the Mediatrix," "Icarus & Daedalus" ; Idols / So Si Ni #9*

Minotaure's Obelisk - The tallest skyscraper in Plutopolis & indeed all of Aeoul, and headquarters of the M.M.-led Multinational Magicians. Its street address is 667 Baalim-Ra Way. *Ab Abs*

Monsieur Millennium - A female pop singer whose stage theatrics reveal that she has, at the very least, dabbled in the dark arts. *Vil Min Proph*

Moonchild - A mysterious figure, also called Ananoa, said to be the matron of Moonchildland. *Idols*

Moonchildland - Founding place & capital of the Aeoulian holographic picture industry, in

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continuous operation since the days of the Republic, with the one exception of an imposed stoppage of 33 days during the height of the Conceptual Realignment, at the end of which time Ur the Mystic assumed control of all productions. Moonchildland is sometimes referred to as the "second capital" of Aeoul, due to the extent of its cultural & spiritual influence. Travelers from the east, upon reaching the border of the province, are greeted by the famous sight of the "Moonchildland Sign," a 13-letter spelling of the city's name in massive white capitals, situated atop a cliff overlooking the sea. *Idols ; Vil Min Proph / P: "Map of Aeoul" ; So Si Ni ; P: "Ur the Mystic"*

Moonchildland Sign - See *Moonchildland*

Moonflower - A night-blooming flower indigenous to Aeoul.

Moonseed - A much sought-after crop, and quite difficult to harvest, moonseeds are reaped from the night-blooming moonflower, and lose most or all of their nutritional potency if exposed to sunlight. Moonseeds are usually transported for commerce, packaged in light-tight black bags, only on nights of a full moon, as this is said to increase their potency, though many attribute this practice to sheer superstition. *Isa*

Moresheth - A village in western Aeoul, known as the birthplace of the prophet Rægenhere. *Vil Min Proph / P: "Map of Aeoul"*

Multinational Magicians - A conglomerate of powerful corporate bodies representing the three great nations of Vesperos. While its precise membership list is shrouded in mystery, the Multinational Magicians are said to be managed by no more than a score of the world's most powerful sorcerers & bankers, four known members being M.M., Count Relativos, Ur the Mystic, and Zor-Eris, with Lord Gilgarod also strongly suspected of being a member. *Idols ; Isa ; Vil Min Proph / Ab Abs ; P: "Ur the Mystic" ; P: "Zor-Eris over Plutopolis"*

Museum of Modern Art, Plutopolis (MoMAP) - One of the largest, most influential mid-modern art museums on Vesperos. The MoMAP was

located in the Aeoulian city of Plutopolis until its tragic destruction at the hands of PLEROMA suicide bombers, wielding a dirty mini-nuke & disguised as art students, in the year A.V. 89, resulting in the loss of countless masterpieces as well as lives. *Isa / Art*

Nalesog Fine Art Talismans, Ltd. - An art gallery in Kuromakutown, Plutopolis. *A.S. #320*

Nalesog, Tam - Art critic and proprietor of Nalesog Fine Art Talismans, Ltd., an art gallery in Kuromakutown, Plutopolis. *A.S. #320*

Nausea - An incurable illness in which the sufferer loses all will to exist, and it is said that the will itself dies, taking with it the patient. Outbreaks of the Nausea occur from time to time, particularly in poor, hopeless fiefdoms. *Vil Min Proph*

Negative Dialectic - According to Messi'ist doctrine, "the mind of the deceiver," or rather, a method of that mind. To put it in overly-simple terms, a kind of "reverse psychology" employed by Lucifer for the enlistment of soldiers in his unholy war against God. In sociological terms, the basic principle of Negative Dialectics is that civil society & the rule of law are based on "ideologies of oppression" (truth, beauty, love, et al.) that only seem benign because of one's social conditioning. Therefore, in order to free oneself, and resist the dominant paradigms, one must embrace a value system of opposite principles (lies, ugliness, hate, et al.). *Vil Min Proph*

Nephi of Shorhanos - A matron, midwife, and domestic hand by trade, and a lifelong Messi'ist, from the village of Shorhanos. After watching her beloved Isadore's death by guillotine, Nephi renounced the world, becoming a nun in a convent in the woods of Ohrkova Province, where she wrote "The Tale of Isadore." *Isa*

Nicanora - See *The Tale of Nicanora and Lucemara*

Nighthill - A walled sanctuary city in eastern Aeoul, as well as a bustling merchant hub with multiple market places & shops which sustain a thriving trade, barter and currency-based economy. Nighthill is overseen by Relativos,

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Count of Nighthill, who rules from his tower located on the hill at the center of the city, called the Trumpet. Nighthill has three gates through which all outside traffic flows, one in the north, one in the southwest, and one in the southwest portion of the city wall. *Isa / P: "Map of Aeoul"*

Nomenclaturism - A school of radical political thought based largely on the writings of Maxwell Gilgarod, and advocating open class warfare against the Mediatrix & her ruling oligarchy. Though the name "Nomenclaturist" is not always recognized by the poor & uneducated, the group's ideas exert a growing influence. The most prominent Nomenclaturist of today is Guy de Maldorpassé. *Vil Min Proph / Sns Ael, "Olympia & Her Captor (The Nomenclaturist's Gambit)"*

Nomenclaturist Gambit - A practice, advocated within the Nomenclaturist school of thought, in which two people are blindfolded with the same piece of cloth, thereby binding them together in symbolic union. The purpose of this exercise (or performance art, as it is sometimes referred) is the forming of an interpersonal, shared, experiential bond, transcending the "alienating & atomizing tendencies of Mid-Modern life" (Maldorpassé). The Gambit's participants, oftentimes a male & female pair, may stay tied together in this way for several hours to several days, or even weeks, sitting or standing back to back, passing various objects back & forth to compare descriptions based on touch alone, reading aloud, or any number of other activities meant to synchronize experience. The Gambit is meant, in part, as a critique of various Messi'ist blindfolding practices, as these are seen as pushing an individual deeper into himself, as opposed to cultivating participation in a wider social or cultural milieu. *D: "Nomenclaturist Gambit" ; Sns Ael, "Olympia & Her Captor (The Nomenclaturist's Gambit)"*

Nothingness - The opposite or lack of being, a concept having meaning only in relation to being. Not to be confused with Emptiness.

Novaren - The birth nation of Yeshua. *Vil Min Proph / P: "The Crucifixion of Yeshua"*

Nuttage - A simple but popular food prepared from ground nuts. *Isa*

Nymphs - Beings of Chromoluminarism who take the form of beautiful young women, generally unclothed yet free of shame, with brightly colored hair (usually turquoise, magenta or baby blue) who spend their days singing, laughing and generally frolicking in woods & lakes and playfully seducing unwary souls who happen into their enchanted habitats. *A.S. #82 ; Chrom*

Ohrkova Province - A southeastern province of Aeoul covered in great & dense forests, situated at the foot of a large mountain range. *Isa / P: "Map of Aeoul"*

One the Frogman - Half-man, half-frog mutant Eyeball player for the Plutopolis Astrals, and perhaps one of the greatest centers to ever play the game. His nickname is derived from the number on his jersey. *Idols*

Orphos, Brother - A monk of Swandale Abbey, originally from Maya-Ros. *Idols*

Palace of Chromoluminarism - A mysterious & awe-inspiring structure sometimes glimpsed by travelers through the duststorms & photons of Chromoluminarism. *Ld Chrom, "The Palace of Chromoluminarism"*

Paranomasia - Also known as the pun, paranomasia is the dominant form of poetic expression in any society, such as that of the Sacred Empire of Aeoul, in which Categorical Relativism is widespread, as it relies on an audience's familiarity with a closed system of signifiers more so than with an unmediated encounter with the innate qualities of existence-in-itself.

Peacock-Shaped Peaks - The mountain range that marks the southeastern border region of the Sacred Empire of Aeoul. *Idols / P: "Map of Aeoul"*

PLEROMA - A Fundamentalist Gnostic terrorist sect. "PLEROMA" is an acronym for the phrase "Perfected Light of the Everyman Ready and Ordained to Manage Aeoul." PLEROMA carried out a string of deadly & destructive terrorist

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bombings & other acts in the summer of A.V. 89 (a period known as the "Summer of Terror"), actions the carrying out of which was believed to have been aided by the nation of Woelgaazia. In response, the Empire of Aeoul declared war on Woelgaazia, achieving complete victory by summer's end. Though officially designated a terrorist organization by the Mediatrix, PLEROMA is viewed positively amongst a large contingency of the peasant class of Aeoul, as well as sympathetically by many in the Youth Protest Movement (YPM). *Idols ; Isa / Ab Abs*

Plutopolis - (Old tongue: "city of wealth/city of the dead") Financial & cultural center of Eastern Aeoul. It is called "sovereign city-state," mostly for ceremonial purposes, though in reality it is a part of the Sacred Empire of Aeoul, but due to its great wealth & cultural influence its city magistrates have been permitted certain indulgences of rank & title that carry no real weight in the higher ruling strata of Aeoul. Despite its exorbitant wealth, Plutopolis possesses a sizable homeless population, most of which congregate in the central-neighborhood slum known as the Crossroads. *Idols ; Purg, "Empire of the Mind" / Ab Abs ; P: "Map of Aeoul"*

Plutopolis Astrals - One of the more successful Eyeball teams. *Idols*

Pneumatikoi - (Old tongue: "spirituals") In Gnosticism, the highest order of human, along with the lower orders psychics (soul) and hylics (matter).

Poet Laureate - A ceremonial imperial office hastily created in response to the sudden popularity of Lyulderis the Poet & his poem "the Borderlands," as a means to steer the phenomenon & to benefit the Empire by its emergence. *Art III, "Poet Laureate"*

Polestar - Northernmost star in the night sky, around which all other stars revolve in a circular, fixed pattern. *Idols ; Isa*

Primary Guard - The elite private security team that guards the Mediatrix day & night, never leaving her side. The Primary Guard consists of just three mages, each in a robe representing one

of the three primary colors, red, yellow, and blue, representing the basic building blocks of "reality" in triad. A symbol of art's complicity in & guardianship of the status quo. *Idols / P: "The Primary Guard"*

Prince Unitos - See *Unitos the Wise*

Psychopomp Ministry - A highly influential, extra-governmental "club" consisting of many of Aeoul's most powerful oligarchs. *Ab Abs*

Pyramids of Zin - Three ancient, stone pyramids just beyond the northern border of Plutopolis. Little is known about these massive structures which predate even the ancient Aeoulian civilizations of recorded history. *Idols / Ab Abs ; P: "The View from Milkmaid's Bluff"*

Q'ajrodaxon - (Old tongue: "the dark night descends") The initiation rites of the Catherinian Order of Monks, which include such trials as the blindfolded traversing of a symbolic landscape with the expectation that the initiate decode the symbolism without ever seeing it. Through this trial the initiate is trailed by an ordained Catherinian monk who carries a copy of The Book & a lit lantern, representative of the belief that all instruction is ultimately inferior to one's own immediate perception, innately limited though it may be. *Sns Ael, "The Dark Night Descends on the Initiate"*

Rain Man - In esoteric traditions, a dark spiritual entity whose name is to be evoked by those seeking fame & fortune, known for his ability to "make it rain" (i.e. attract, for his conjurer & host body wealth, admiration, sexual conquest, auspicious circumstances, etc.). Many musical minstrels of the "pop" persuasion have taken up the mantle of Rain Man as a kind of implicit ritual within the genre. *Bl Ang Med, "The Sirens Featuring Rain Man" ; Vil Min Proph*

Rægenhere the Morasthite - Sometimes referred to as "the Mirror of Delusion" by his followers, a Messi'ist prophet & writer of religious texts. He was born, ordained a monk, and spent his early ministry in the small village of Morasheth. Eventually renouncing his monastic vows as too lenient, he journeyed to Moonchildland to preach

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his message upon those ungodly streets. He has since traveled far & wide across the Aeoulian countryside preaching to the poor folk of many fiefdoms & provinces, and eventually he took up residence in the Shaded Village beneath the Inverted Palace as an elderly man (he is said to be over 120 years old). It was there that he began to write & print books for the first time. Though he rarely ventured from his small shack, during his time in the Shaded Village he could occasionally be seen roaming naked down the thoroughfare, covered by nothing but his massive grey beard. *Idols ; Vil Min Proph / So Si Ni ; Sns Ael, "Allegory of Authority & Servitude"*

The Rainbow's Secret - The name of a fortune teller's tent operated by a Krawnian woman by the name of Xyla Trismagistus in the city of Nighthill. *Isa*

Rapture - In recent Aeoulian history, a mass culling of political dissidents explained by the mainstream media & official ruling channels as fulfilling an ancient prophecy of a supernatural occurrence, though in fact a common belief is that this was an act carried out by the ruling oligarchy itself, with the cooperation of the Army of Aeoul, the Hyperborean Brotherhood, the Psychopomp Ministry, Lord Gilgarod, and perhaps the Mediatrix herself. *Ab Abs*

The Real - That which exists. The Real excludes all conceptual categories & Relative Abstractions.

Relative Abstraction - See *Abstraction*

Relativos, Count of Nighthill - Nobleman and ruler of the Aeoulian city of Nighthill, and member of the elite Multinational Magicians. Due to some mysterious sorcery or pact with unholy powers, Relativos has no face to speak of, his head bearing the appearance of a common shop mannequin. Shrewd, cunning and eloquent, his intentions are always difficult to deduce, making him a dangerous man to do business with. *Isa*

Reparatus - Abbot of the Catharinian Grasmere Abbey located in eastern Aeoul. *Ab Abs ; D: "Messi'ist Scribe with Abbot Reparatus"*

Resplendence - A stray cat from Shorhanos, who eventually came to live with Isadore and Nephi in

Nighthill. *Isa*

Return of the Gods - The teaching, common to many belief systems, that Vesperos was once populated by "gods," who aided mankind in its infancy, and who will someday return to finish their work. *Isa*

Revelation - Any direct intervention by God into the world, usually consisting of a rupture in the Symbolic Order allowing for an unmediated experiencing, or unveiling, of higher truth.

Ra-Isis School of Design (RISD) - An art school of Aeoul with, among other departments, a Master of Fine Arts program. *Ab Abs*

Sacred Age of Ascension - Any Catharinian monk who passes his 33rd birthday while bound to his monastic vows is said to have reached the "Sacred Age of Ascension," and must undertake a trial of his superior's choosing. If one who is older than 33 takes the vows, he or she is excused from this obligation. *Ab Abs*

Sacred Empire of Aeoul - The official name of the current, imperial iteration of the ancient ancestral lands of Aeoul, as of the Mediatrix-led "Conceptual Realignment" of the early years of the Anno Verum calendar system nearly a century ago (Until recently, that is, the summer of A.V. 89, it was known as the "Unified Kingdom of Aeoul," and for a brief period at its founding it had also been christened the "Eternal Commune of Aeoul" by the Mediatrix & her Separatist supporters.) Aeoul is generally considered to be the most powerful nation in all of Vesperos, as its recent military conquest of Woelgaazia will attest. Aeoulian society is largely agrarian in nature, with several affluent cities dotting its territories and serving as the hubs of the more advanced technological arts & sorceries. Aeoulian society is also characterized by an extremely uneven distribution of wealth, resulting in extreme poverty existing alongside massive stores of riches. Its imperial mottos include "the Microcosm mirrors the Macrocosm" and "Dwellers on the Threshold; Mirrors on the Eye." *Isa ; Bl Ang Med, "Behold the Mediatrix of Aeoul!" ; BLands ; Vil Min Proph / Ab Abs ; P:*

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"Map of Aeoul" ; Sns Ael ; So Si Ni

Sacred Feast, Eyeball Aeon Championship -

See *Eyeball*

Salisbury Desert - A desert region in eastern Aeoul, located southeast of the Rivers Cocytus & Acheron. *Ab Abs / P: "Map of Aeoul"*

Sanctuary City - According to Aeolian common law, a city designated as a safe haven for those having committed certain qualifying crimes, such as killing in self-defense, who seek neutral territory in which their cases can be heard. *Isa*

Samael - See *Black Lion*

Second Book of the Prophet Rægenhere - A sequel, of sorts, to the first book of a similar title by the Messi'ist prophet Rægenhere the Morasthite. *Vil Min Proph*

The Secret Book of All: A Mystical Memoir - A magickal treatise & autobiography written by M.M., which is comprised of approximately 1500 aphorisms on subjects ranging from highly personal reminiscences to elucidations of theoretical and practical magick. According to the author, the book had been worked on for at least 70 years before its completion and subsequent leaked publication in A.V. 90. It is rumored to have been in circulation in elite circles for many years previous to this. *A.S. #301-303*

Seurat, Georges - Artist from another dimension who somehow found himself, mere moments before his natural death, transported to the Land of Chromoluminarism, whether in body or spirit I know not (A.V. 85). Coincidentally or not, Seurat, in his own world, was the developer of a style of painting known as pointillism, or "Chromoluminarism." It was perhaps this striking synchronicity of art theory & the many worlds interpretation of quantum physics which caused a rupture between the two realms. *Chrom*

Shaded Village - The fiefdom below the Inverted Palace, known for its poor crop yields & widespread poverty. The massive structure of the palace overhead blocks out the sun for intervals of several hours a day, which vary from season to season. *Idols ; Vil Min Proph / P: "Map of Aeoul"*

Shorhanos - A village in eastern Aeoul, 80 miles

north of Nighthill. Its most prominent merchant families include the Alrics & the Flatspheres.

Isa / P: "Map of Aeoul"

The Sirens - A pop music minstrel group based in Moonchildland. *Vil Min Proph*

Skyscraper - A mid-modern style of architectural structure, built to monumental heights while keeping the footprint as minimal as possible to sidestep real estate costs, found mainly in more affluent Aeolian cities such as Plutopolis. *Chrom ; Glas Swan ; Idols ; Isa / Ab Abs ; P: "Zor-Eris over Plutopolis"*

Skythorn - See *Inverted Palace*

Sleepwalking Milkmaid - A figure in Aeolian folklore, the Milkmaid is said to be a somnambulist who sleepwalked right off the side of a cliff & to her death, near the Apophatos Towers on the very morning they were destroyed over a thousand years ago. Whether true or not, the cliff is known as Milkmaid's Bluff to this day. *Sns Ael, "The View from Milkmaid's Bluff"*

Somnambulism - The practice of walking in one's sleep, mystical type of the average individual consciousness in the Age of the Mediatrix. *Bl Ang Med, "Abstract Fresco on a Palestinian Wall," "Icarus & Daedalus"*

The Song of the Silent Nightingale - A Messi'ist text written by Rægenhere the Morasthite in which an autobiographical account of his own early years is interwoven with a scathing critique of Moonchildland & holographic pictures in general, examining both through the lens of Messi'ist prophecy. *Vil Min Proph / So Si Ni*

Spell of the Eye - See *Djall*

"Spells & Spellifiers" - A common form of ridicule in the Aeolian peasant vernacular, indicating the idea or object being ridiculed has no real substance, that it is merely a trick of language or sorcery. *Spells*

Starday - The seventh day of the week, generally set aside as a day of rest. *Isa ; Vil Min Proph*

Statue of Nicanora and Lucemara - A monumental statue that stood upon a small island just off the northern tip of Aeoula Apocályptica until it was destroyed under mysterious

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circumstances in A.V. 76. The "official version" of events holds that the destruction of the landmark was a terrorist attack against the Unified Kingdom by the Fundamentalist Gnostic sect eventually known as PLEROMA, though there are many theories ranging from the supernatural to the "conspiratorial." Because of the statue's former position at the northernmost tip of the continent of Aeoula, it was regarded as a symbol of order by the sea-faring vessels for which it was the first glimpse of civilization upon returning from the uncharted regions to the north. Today nothing remains of the statue but the base, consisting of a hexagonal substrate & the bottom portion of the sisters' robes. *Ab Abs / P: "Map of Aeoul"*

Summer of Terror - Period in A.V. 89 when the Sacred Empire of Aeoul was besieged by numerous high-profile attacks by groups such as PLEROMA, with the most prominent example being the bombing of the Museum of Modern Art, Plutopolis (MoMAP). *Idols ; Isa*

Swan - A type of large waterfowl found in Aeoula & Woelgaazia. The swan is an important & often-used symbol in Messi'ist iconography, representing the soul (in that their taking off in water is likened to our ability to perceive beyond our own bodies), or alternatively the archangel. Woelgaazian Messi'ist priests will often keep swans as pets. In esoteric lore, the Fireswan is a type of phoenix and symbolizes rebirth or regeneration. In the Empire of Aeoul, swans are kept as livestock and seasonally stripped of their feathers, which are a valuable commodity used in the manufacture of diverse goods. *P: "The Appearance of the Phoenix in the Dead of Night" ; D: "Swan (The Mystery of Perception)" ; P: "Swanherder" ; Sns Ael, "Altar of Lucireptor: Eastern Frontier"*

Swandale - A valley province in northeastern Aeoul. *Idols*

Swandale Abbey - A Messi'ist monastery located in the valley of Swandale. *Idols*

Swanherder - One who herds, feeds or otherwise tends to a flock of swans kept as livestock. In

Aeoul, swans are cultivated mainly for their feathers. *P: "Swanherder"*

The Swan Princess - A young, bespectacled woman & aspiring writer from another dimension, who touched the Land of Chromoluminarism in a series of dreams on the night of her twenty-second birthday. *Glas Swan*

Symbolic Order - A system of governance in which "reality" itself is rigorously regulated through a tightly-knit network of signifiers which, when implemented with the requisite degree of severity, precludes the possibility of independent thought in those governed. When successfully applied, the necessity of the use of violent force by the ruling class is greatly reduced, as the realm of possibility as perceived by its subjects is so greatly diminished that many avenues of revolt or autonomy would simply never occur to these imaginatively-handicapped subjects. The essence of the Symbolic Order is its continuous claim to omnipresence, and its adamant disavowal, or rather outright silence, on the possibility of anything existing outside of itself.

The Tale of Isadore - A book written by Nephi of Shorhanos chronicling what she claimed to be the true story of Isadore Flatsphere, notable for its portrayal of Isadore as an innocent merchant girl, and not a political agitator. *Isa*

The Tale of Nicanora and Lucemara - Pseudo-historical narrative of twin sisters (and princesses) who fell in love with and married the same prince (a certain Prince Unitos), and, tragically, died as the price of their sororal rivalry. As with many accounts from the days of the ancient Aeoulian Republic, the veracity of events depicted in this tale, and even the very existence of the principle players, is difficult to establish with any degree of certainty. Still, even as myth, the lovelorn sisters have had no small influence on Aeoulian culture. *Ab Abs ; P: "Lucemara," ; P: "Nicanora"*

Tam Nalesog - See *Nalesog, Tam*

Television Cobbler - A young man born in the Shaded Village, and raised in Maya-Ros as a full-fledged member of the Television Cobblers' Guild after being sold into their ranks by poor parents at

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a young age. After buying his freedom from his Guild Master, he set up his own television cobbling trade back in the Shaded Village. Eventually he abandoned this way of life to follow the Messi'ist prophet Rægenhere after being handed one of his broadsides in A.V. 88. The prophet's words stirred in him sensations he had not felt since practicing lucid dreaming as a boy, causing him to conclude that God had been guiding him all along. *Idols ; Vil Min Proph*

Television Triangle - A common arrangement of televisions designated for public viewing. Found in town squares & marketplaces throughout Aeoul. *Isa / D: "Television Triangle"*

That-Thin-Which-Nothing-Greater-Can-Be-Thought - A title for God, denoting also one definition of Him, as well as a purported proof of His existence, based on the preposition that existence in reality is greater than existence in the mind alone. *Isa*

That-Thin-Which-Nothing-Less Great-Can-Be-Thought - An inverted mockery of the traditional definition of God as "that-thin-which-nothing-greater-can-be-thought," proposed by Count Relativos. *Isa*

Third Eye Calcified - A popular Aeoulian minstrel group. *Ab Abs*

Trismagistus, Xyla - Krawni fortune teller who was instrumental in the luring into capture, and subsequent execution/sacrifice, of Isadore Flatsphere in the city of Nighthill in A.V. 89. *Isa*

The Trumpet - Stronghold tower of Count Relativos, located upon the central hill of Nighthill, and headquarters to a vast bureaucracy servicing the Multinational Magicians and, of course, the greater glory of the Sacred Empire. The Trumpet was built over a far more ancient underground dungeon which is still in operation to this day. *Isa*

Twilight People - Those who identify as neither male nor female, and oppose all binary thought in general. *Idols*

UNConS - Universal Neurochemical Consciousness Simulator. Also known colloquially as the "Collective Unconscious," an

accessible computerized network. *Isa / P: "The Adventurer"*

Unified Kingdom of Aeoul - See *Sacred Empire of Aeoul*

Unitos the Wise - An early king of the Aeoulian Republic. *Ab Abs*

Ur the Mystic - A Member of the Multinational Magicians & overseer of Moonchildland, including all holofilm production, as well as its vast television empire reaching millions of Aeoulians from all walks of life. Ur carries a holly wand affixed with five purple banners, reading, respectively, "Love," "Tolerance," "Unity," "Peace," and "Hope." In addition, from his wizard's robes dangle seven red sashes, each printed with the word "Trump." Ur desires nothing else than to entrance onlookers with the mesmerizing movements of these simple strips of fabric. *P: "Ur the Mystic"*

Valley of the Forge - An outcropping of the Altar of Lucireptor where molten lava flows in fiery rivers, and where mystics go to seek visions from the fumes. *Idols ; Purg, "In the Valley of the Forge"*

Vesperos - (Old tongue: "land of evening") Whether round or flat, the world. *Idols ; Isa ; Blands ; Vil Min Proph / Sns Ael ; So Si Ni*

Vospher - A purple flower native to Aeoul. *Idols*

Vosphæros - (Old tongue: "land of the void sphere") An obscure tradition has it that Vosphæros is the dark, hidden, twin sister world of Vesperos. If it does, indeed, truly exist, very few of the people of Vesperos are aware of the fact. *Idols*

Wastelands - See *Altar of Lucireptor*

Wilde, Norman - A Moonchildland holographic picture director from the Conceptual Realignment era. *Vil Min Proph*

Woelgaazia - (Woelgaazian: "wall-gazing") The third great kingdom of Vesperos. *Isa*

Woelgaazian War - A military campaign & invasion by the Empire of Aeoul into the nation of Woelgaazia in the summer of A.V. 89, resulting in complete, unconditional surrender by the Woelgaazian forces, and a permanent Aeoulian

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military presence within their borders. Allegations that the Woelgaazian government was aiding PLEROMA terrorists led to the Aeoulian declaration of war. *Isa*

Wormwood Station - An old nuclear power plant in Salisbury Desert, the monolithic stone ruins of which can still be seen rising from the sand dunes today. *Ab Abs*

Xuuros - One of the great tribal kingdoms to flourish amongst the nomadic peoples of the Aeoulian middle lowlands before the Kuromakan War. It is rumored that the Xuurosians, indeed, survived the surprise nuclear attack that wiped out the entire region, owing to certain alleged psychic abilities which allowed them to both shield themselves from the blasts, and also protect their bodies from radiation sickness in the aftermath. Legend has it that their kingdom exists, deep in the wastelands, to this very day, though no reliable reports have ever confirmed this. *Blands / P: "Xuurosians with Dragon Foxes"*

Xyla Trismagistus - See *Trismagistus, Xyla*

Yeshua - The Messiah from which the Mess'ist faith derives its name. Mess'ists believe & teach that Yeshua, an historical person who lived approximately 2000 years ago in the nation of Novaren, was & is the incarnate embodiment of God on Vesperos, who humbled Himself to take on existence as a human being for the purpose of redeeming all that exists. Yeshua taught that God is all-loving, desiring salvation for all men & women, and that salvation can be obtained only through faith in Him who is cloaked in obscurity, and who can only be perceived indirectly through the paradoxical intercession of Yeshua as God made flesh. During His ministry He proclaimed that salvation is bestowed through grace as a free gift to all who will receive it, and that this is the only way to be free of the sin of wrong existence. Yeshua's entire life on Vesperos is known as "the Passion," in that He willingly took on the pain of existing that all men bear in contrast to God's eternal, transcendent non-existence as Absolute Abstraction (as the source of all that exists, God cannot be said to "exist" Himself, as He

transcends such categories). This notion of being "nailed to the cross of existence" is the essence of Yeshua's Passion, and in the end it was actualized in his death by crucifixion at the hands of the Aeoulian magistrate then ruling over that region of Novaren. His final words upon the cross before He died were "I shall return," a simple phrase which many would argue has changed the course of history forever. The X-shaped implement (evoking the word "eXistence") of Yeshua's execution, the cross, is the central symbol of the Mess'ist religion today, as his faithful followers still await the promised return, though its presence has all but disappeared from public life under the reign of the Mediatrix. *Idols ; Isa ; Vil Min Proph / P: "The Crucifixion of Yeshua"*

Youth Protest Movement (YPM) - A (mostly) non-violent peasant uprising in response to the Woelgaazian conflict & other domestic grievances. Though beginning earlier, the movement began to gain a greater momentum in the summer of A.V. 89. The movement is an amalgamation of many smaller political movements, most involving students, young farmers, and other disenfranchised Aeoulian youth, one of the more prominent groups of which being the Death to Truth Movement. The murder of a YPM supporter by a polyce centurion in Nighthill further inflamed the already volatile climate, causing the movement to gain the sympathy of a wider section of the population, as well as a swelling of its membership ranks. *Isa*

Zephyr Gorge - A gorge located near Swandale in southeastern Aeoul. *Idols*

Zin - See *Pyramids of Zin*

Zor-Eris - A member of the Multinational Magicians, though little else is known about this individual, as he or she is never seen without the black-and-white checkered sheet which covers his or her entire body. The sight of Zor-Eris is said to be a portend of impending disaster. *P: "Zor-Eris Over Plutopolis"*