# The Inscrutable Flame

Fire is the First of the tools given to mortal races. It can be used to stave off cold and dark things, and to drive great works of industry. For these gifts, however, something must always be consumed. Wood, coal, and other things are all rendered to ash.

It is given to initiates to know that the most basic form of fire is given freely to the uninitiated to sustain, dazzle, and mislead them. Though the errant alchemist may produce, for example, Green Flame by means of exposing weathered copper to the lower flame, it lacks significance to any but at least an adept.

And just as there can be no profit without consumption, there can also be no profit without consumption. It is true that the sword would not be forged without the flame, but there would be no flame without the forge. In what direction, then can causality be said to flow? With wisdom, then, one sees that causality is an illusion.

The nature of flame determines its aspect and potency. Red remains, a lingering reminder of what was. Orange is of Mundane things. Yellow, of illuminated mysteries. Green, of distant things. Blue, of future pending.

Indigo is of a rarefied power. Pure and transcendental.

Violet is forbidden. It is The Secret of another place. Some have dabbled, and rendered their own fate.

Some, often madmen and women, suggest fires beyond. An invisible art.