

On the Alchemical Composition of the Anchors

*Lecture notes from Professor Hallie Lumm 'Physical Alchemy'*

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'Hello class! I'm honored to be giving this guest lecture today. As you all probably already know, my lab is the foremost amongst the civiled realms in the study of Anchors. Now, it probably goes without saying that in an introductory class like this, I'll be shaving off some of the more complicated alchemy, but in truth, it's really not all that much. The anchors are widely considered one of the greatest unsolved mysteries of this era!

So how do we know anything about them? Well, as you know, the anchors in IWTC-sanctioned realms are protected by the Axis Treaties, but our lab has been given special access to remove small pieces for research! It may surprise you, but the anchor material itself, which we have been referring to in the lab as Mysterinite—do you think it'll catch on?? The, um, the Mysterinite is soft! Nearly as soft as gold, and conducts both electrical and magical energy even more potently! Despite, this, the material is almost entirely alchemically inert—it won't rust, dissolve, or react with nearly anything.

The primary defining element that makes Mysterinite unique, of course, is its behavior when exposed to the material that makes up its paired anchor. Without fail, when a sample of the material is brought towards the realm, or as we know, the 'w-plane' of its complement, both the sample, and a piece of that anchor in the realm grow dramatically until the moment that the exact point in realmspace is reached, at which time the link is broken, even if the sample is brought back to its realm of origin! To attempt to explain this phenomenon, we're forced to postulate...'