evolution

the girl

she was the daughter of a knight maiden from avon descended from the courtesans of arden. she was never told the identity of her father. her mother took advantage of her new identity to hide the fact that she, in her previous incarnation under the power of a demon, sired the children she gave birth to. the girl was told that she had a twin who died at birth, but not that it was a boy. the girl also did not know that she had an aunt, uncle, two cousins and a grandmother on her “father’s” side. at least until the aunt died, when her mother married the uncle in order to give the girl ties to her other living relatives as a step-daughter. as far as anyone knew, her eldest step-sister was the heir to the royal bloodline of the dawn branch of the phoenix house, but the girl had a stronger claim—should her “paternity” be revealed. she was turned over to her mother's protege at the age of seven to be trained in the arts of sword and sorcery. for ten years she alternated between initiate studies at the academy in the autumn and winter while traveling in the summer.

her mother

she was her mother’s heir and elder twin to her sister, both of whom were initiated at the academy. her sister became pregnant and married her academy intimate when she was seventeen. her mother remained at the academy to fulfill her companionship under her mentor, taking a protégé of her own. when she was nineteen, she was captured by a rogue master who called himself the exile. she was possessed by the demon the exile offered her to hoping to turn her into an avatar. the demon infected her former intimate with familiarity, turning him into a were-woman. the demon pursued and raped the were-woman in an attempt to force her to submit to its control. the were-woman laid a trap using her own soul as bait that destroyed the demon’s host body. the demon foiled the trap by claiming the soul of the were-woman’s unborn child instead, loosing the soul of its fomer host into the were-woman’s body. the were-woman sped to the headmaster of the academy for help. the headmaster attempted to split the were-woman’s two forms, restoring the man to normal and giving the woman a new body. the headmaster realized she was pregnant when the attempt appeared to fail, and concluded that the embryo had been divided instead. once the children were born, the headmaster was able to separate the two companions. her resurrection severed her ties to her old life, with the person she had been recorded as the father of her daughter and the person she had become on record as the mother. she had been reintroduced to society as the man’s “cousin” by his aunt to suppress the fact that she was technically his “offshoot”. the family the girl’s mother had been reincarnated into found her existence rather unsettling, and supported her only because they knew the girl was the legal heir to royal bloodline of the phoenix house of the kingdom of arden. the mother called on the protégé of her former incarnation, offering to complete her initiation if she would be her daughter’s mentor in turn.

her mentor

the boy

he was the son of a knight from arduin and a courtesan from arden. he was never told the identity of his mother; only that she was a courtesan who had given him up to his father. raised by his father with the help of his father’s protégé, he spent much of his early life on the road accompanying his father on his exploits. he had superficial relationships with dozens of cousins produced by various aunts and half-uncles. through his father, he was a member of the dragon house and an heir to one of its martial traditions. as a result, he was trained in the martial arts almost from birth. through his grandmother, he was also descended from the royal bloodline of the phoenix house. his grandmother was a bastard of the royal phoenix line and one of the few people who knew that the girl’s eldest step-sister was actually third in line, one step behind the girl. the girl’s grandmother had proposed the union of the girl and boy to restore the throne of arden and the boy’s grandmother had plans to take control of it through them. he was turned over to his father’s protege at the age of seven to be trained in the arts of sword and sorcery. for ten years he alternated between initiate studies at the academy in the autumn and winter and training while traveling in the summer.

his father

he was the son of a knight adept from arduin and a courtesan from arden. his father was initiated the academy in aeryn and recruited by the avon academy by its founder and headmaster for his companionship. he was slain in the rift invasions before the birth of his son and sole heir. the boy was raised by his courtesan mother until he turned seven and began his initiation at the academy in avon. his mother arranged for him to marry his academy intimate, but she chose to pursue her companionship at the academy instead. denied the woman he loved, he committed to his own companionship and a life of adventure and duty. at nineteen, when she fell into the hands of the exile, he defied the orders of the academy to go to her rescue. when she attacked him, he realized he had arrived to late to prevent her sacrifice to a demon. he escaped the trap he had blundered into, but soon discovered the curse inflicted upon him when he turned into a girl. the demon pursued her and when it caught her, it raped her each time it tried to bend her to its will. she called upon forbidden knowledge of conjury and demonology to etch a trap into the floor of her prison, and another into her body and soul. the first trap consumed the flesh of the demon’s host, provoking it to try possessing the were-woman. the demon recognized the second trap and relinquished the soul of its host to the trap in her body before it could be caught by the trap in her soul. she believed the demon to be destroyed and retreated to the academy. the headmaster attempted to exploit the curse to resurrect the soul she had saved only to discover the soul that had been conceived. she continued to share her body with the soul of her former intimate, through pregnancy and birth, as the sister-by-magic of her former self. the headmaster as able to divide the two companions following the children’s birth, restoring the man to normal. unwilling to be seen as the uncle of his son, he choose to claim the boy as his son by an anonymous courtesan.

his mentor

the were-girl

in her realm, the were-woman’s trap was not complete when the demon entered it. the body of its host was destroyed, but it was able to possess the were-woman and claim hers. the demon carried the child to term and abandoned her once she was born. when she was discovered by academy scouts and brought to the academy, she endured the trauma of the massacre and confrontation with a demon, tearing open a rift to escape its assault. she took refuge on the streets and in the underworld, avoiding the academy and its agents, which she associated with her ordeal. the were-girl fell in with the wrong crowd while growing up. her amazing agility earned her an unwilling, street-wise apprenticeship in cat burglary, disguised initially as training in gymnastics, acrobatics and fighting known as shadow-dancing. she did such a good job of obscuring her life as a thief that she somehow ended up with a reputation in the underworld as an unusually competent young assassin.

the demon

the dragon king

a boy who was originally an athean slave girl. she had escaped from slavery though the use of the magic artifact after it transformed her and allowed her to escape from her master. he was recruited by academy scouts and brought to avon for initiation. he had assumed he’d been turned male permanently, but nine years later, after he lost his virginity, he reverted to female form when he slipped the ring on inverted. she tried to use the ring to become male again, but again the effect seemed permanent. when she confronted her mentor with her transformation, he explained to her that it was a powerful and useful artifact, cursed by its demonic origins. it captured the soul of its wielder and altered his, or her, very nature to force that person to explore both sides of human existence in order to unlock the soul's full potential. to reclaim her official identity, she turned to her friend and roommate. knowing him as well as she did, it was easy to seduce her roommate, and because he turned out to be an attentive and talented lover, she was able to lose herself in the moment long enough to dispose of her virginity and satisfy the ring's requirements. unfortunately, two things happened. his roommate fell in love with the girl who made him a man and then he discovered the cursed ring and was turned into a girl.

the muse

the boy the dragon lost “her” virginity to stumbled across the ring and tried it on, becoming female. the ring's owner was forced to explain to his panicked roommate what "she" would have to do in order to regain her manhood. suddenly realizing who the girl “he” had given “his” virginity to had been, she asked him to return the favor. unfortunately, she was discovered in the dorm before they could have sex, and she was escorted off campus. posing as a girl, she sought shelter from her mother, a courtesan. in the days that followed, while she tried to rendezvous with him, her mother worked overtime to make a lady out of the "hopeless tomboy" unaware that she was her son. her efforts to accept and embrace herself had an unexpected effect on him, complicated by two things. first, she felt oddly comfortable in her new body, and while that disturbed her it had caused her to wonder if she would have been happier as a girl. second, she had fallen in love with the girl who took her virginity as a boy. she had always been an androgynous and sensitive person, mistaken often for a girl as a child, and had been capable of passing for one if she tried. many times in her life she had been told, in a playful way, that “he” should have been born a girl. on becoming a girl, she had been both frightened and eager to explore her new condition. in the moments they had spent together, as he eased her into bed, soothing, calming and arousing her, the feelings she had felt for his female side had reattached to his male side. worse, he had made it clear that he had no intention of reverting to his native sex. the initially frightening notion of remaining a girl, in order to be with the person she loved, grew more attractive the longer she was subject to her mother's guidance. when she finally arranged to sleep with him, with a little help from her mother, she tested him with a barrage of nervous questions trying to gauge his feelings. after sex, while she waited for the spell to come undone, she asked him what he intended to do with the ring. he told her he wanted nothing more to do with it, since he was no longer at risk of reverting to female form. when she had done what was necessary to revert back to male form, he asked if he could keep the ring. when asked why, he pointed out that the other boy had given up being a girl in order to pursue his dreams. he then explained that he had a dream he was willing to give up being a boy for. the other boy found it odd, but could not argue, so he gave him the ring. when he used it to became female again, he other boy asked her what she hoped to gain from her transformation, and she took a deep breath, looked him in the eye and told him "love". he was shocked as he realized what she meant. unable to accept the sacrifice she was offering to make for him, he tried to discourage her, going as far as breaking her heart. devastated, she turned to her mother for solace, revealing the whole story to the shocked woman. after recovering and demanding an explanation for her transformation, the woman took her son turned daughter in hand and offered her unconditional love and support. she advised her to confront the boy with the ungarnished truth. so, heart in hand, she went back to him and explained everything, but this time he confessed that he simply did not have strong enough feelings in return. he was a man on a mission, and he could not allow himself to be side tracked by love, or even a devoted lover. shattered, she resolved to abandon her old life. determined to move on, she recorded her experiences in a journal, then hid the ring in a secret place in their room at the academy.

inspirations

andrea morgan

a girl haunted by a childhood demon

andrea vael morgan - dreamer in the dream, child of paradox, demon within

human female - 5'9" - 139lbs - 15:17 - she was living in the shadow of a tragedy and haunted by something dark and dangerous - following in the footsteps of her murdered mother, she attends an elite school of the arts and probes the mystery of her mother's death - she is drawn into a group devoted to the pursuit of the magical arts - she is stalked by an entity exiled to the abyss - she survives and continues to struggle with its attempts to break through her mind

vaiel

a girl who is also incarnated as a boy

she is orphaned and raised by the founders of two different arts

he is raised by his family and trained in one of the arts

a girl is haunted by a childhood trauma - ariel

she is driven to seek out her brother

her quest leads to a deadly ordeal

she is killed and resurrected in him

her new life in a different realm is shattered by the exile

her quest continues, as a search for her mother

andrea kinkade

a girl with a childhood trauma

she confronts her fears on an outing with two of her friends

they become trapped in an underground bunker during a storm

a girl hunting the murderer of her twin [or older sister, or mother]

she follows in her sister[mother]'s academic footsteps

at the art academy she investigates the murder

lauren

a girl orphaned by murderous theives

sets out to avenge the murder of her family and retrieve the artifacts created by her father

lauren - avenging orphan

fighter, avenger - human female - 5'11" - 149lbs - 15:18 - st14:cn16:dx16:ag11:ps11:in11:ws10:ap18:ch06lk12 - youngest of eight and her father's favorite - father was a retired artificer - at the age of fifteen, she came home from (herding, sic) to find her family slain and her father's magical items stolen - she gathered her personal belongings set out to avenge her family and recover her father's creations - armed with a longsword, collapsable composite longbow, elbowsticks - skilled in throwing, sling, dart, naked dance, .pressure points, riding, forrest.survival, .stealth, .stalking, .ambush, .traps, and .tracking

andrea jean - shapedancer, catalyst

a girl with the power to shapeshift into anything

born to genetically augmented parents

a psychic entity with the ability to manipulate matter, force and energy

<profile\_ 0344.jpg to profile\_0354.jpg>

caitlyn

a girl who studied swords and sorcery

used her magic to turn into a tiger

caitlyn aria - witch tiger, template for avonlea

animagus - human female - 5'10" - 145lbs - 17 - st9|27:dx14|15:iq13:ht11|13 - an instinctive naturalist, she taught herself to swim and survive in the forested areas - in addition to her animal empathy and natural ability with magic, she was a squeamish, stubborn, attractive, double-jointed, acrobat with a high pain theshold, combat reflexes and feline instincts who was trained in evasive, grappling and striking forms of hand to hand combat, as well as using a knife, staff or spear - decent at slight of hand, her agility, flexibility and cat-like tendencies helped her become a skilled climber, stalker and escape-artist - she cultivated her natural talent with animals and healing magic, learning animal handling, first-aid, vetrinary medicine, falconry, lending and healing, seeking, purifying and creating water, soothing, summoning, and speaking with birds and beasts - instead of taking a familiar, however, she learned to transform into a tiger - bloodlust and violent moodswings were added to her already stormy temperment - prominant cainines, faint tiger stripes, overconfidence, a tendency to “mark” her territory also came with her transformation

avonlea

a girl raised as a circus acrobat

born a were-tiger

a girl blamed for the death of her lover

her persecution ends with a taste of death

sent to her grandmother by her mother

a girl named the heir to an empty title

she is the mistress of a haunted manor

she was courted and challenged over her title

she recruits help to explore the manor

dark and powerful things reside in the manor

a girl transported to a fantastic realm

avonlea - tiger phoenix, unpromised, nexus

avatar - human female - 5'9" - 141lbs - 17:19:27 -

lauren sinclair

a girl intrigued by the powers of the mind

a girl with a dual major in physics and metaphysics

a girl confronted by the reality of mythos creatures

dark young, in the redwood forests of humboldt county

deep ones, in lake merrit and the san francisco bay area

a girl slain in combat with the deep ones escapes death into the dreamlands

a girl who dreamed herself back into existence

recruited into an order of mythos investigators

she was infected with the life program [a demon]

lauren sinclair - dreamer in the dream, phoenix, great young one

morgan wildmuir - abyss

a girl haunted by a childhood trauma

her family was wiped out in a massacre

the manifestation of her powers trapped a demon within her mind

a girl confronting her past

to claim her inheritance she must visit her childhood home

she explores her powers as she confronts her past

she learns what her parents were part of and begins to follow in their footsteps

a girl confronting other powers

morgan wildmuir - vampire phoenix

a girl who restored the power of a psionic exile

and had her own power locked away

a girl who had insight into the mystery of existence

a girl who pursued education and enlightenment in spite of social obstacles

she found her way into the company of radical thinkers

her intuition and pursuits caught the attention of an unusual patron

a girl turned into a vampire

her sire, unknown to her, was an angel

her sire isolated her from other vampires

her sire drove her beyond the limits of her sanity

a girl who wanders for a hundred years

her isolation ends when wolves destroy her sanctuary, driving her into the city

she becomes a pawn in the bloody politics of the vampire underworld

she survives the coup and is placed on the throne of the city

she discovers that she is the fount of a new bloodline

inspirations combined

a girl haunted by a childhood demon

andrea morgan

morgan wildmuir

morgan erin wildmuir - abyss

her family was wiped out in a massacre

the manifestation of her powers trapped a demon within her mind

her normal life is shattered by the threat from within

a girl who restored the power of a psionic exile

morgan wildmuir

and had her own power locked away

a girl who is also incarnated as a boy

vaiel

she is raised by the founders of two different arts

he is raised by his family and trained in one of the arts

a girl haunted by a childhood trauma

ariel

andrea kinkade

she confronts her fears on an outing with two of her friends

they become trapped in an underground bunker during a storm

a girl raised as a circus acrobat – gymnast, dancer, martial artist

avonlea

born a were-tiger

a girl who had insight into the mystery of existence

morgan wildmuir

a girl intrigued by the powers of the mind

lauren sinclair

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dark and powerful things reside in the manor

a girl eclipsed by a childhood demon

a boy turned girl, as a demon's familiar

a girl blamed for the death of her lover

avonlea

her persecution ends with a taste of death

ariel

she is driven to seek out her brother

ariel

her quest leads to a deadly ordeal

a girl confronting other powers

morgan erin wildmuir - abyss

a girl confronted by the reality of mythos creatures

lauren sinclair

dark young, in the redwood forests of humboldt county

deep ones, in lake merrit and the san francisco bay area

a girl slain

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series :: major threads ::

aeirn

perhaps the greatest oversight in the development of this project has been a tendency to overlook one of its earliest inspirations. aeirn began as the setting for a story in which, among other things, the male and female incarnations of the protagonist meet and merge into one. the mechanism for this was a manifestation of paradox, the rift. instead of pondering how those two ideas disintegrated, it is time to look at the ideas that have emerged to see how they are affected by the restoration of that inspiration.

aes yv adha

one of the first inspirations about the world of aeirn focused on an the insights gained by a human raised among the children of gods. these immortals had learned a harsh lesson under the influence of a jealous peer who turned them against their parents by holding them accountable for all the evils of the world. the evolution of the idea transformed the war against the gods into war among the gods, precipitated by the belief that the powers of creation were divided among the seed souls, each one the victim of demonic possession torn from their lives in the outer realm and cast into the abyss of its soulless mind. the challenge for dominion sparked a conflict that forced the gods to hide themselves among the mortal inhabitants of the splintered realms of their creation. many, uncertain who among them could be trusted, went into complete isolation, while others banded together for mutual protection, the rest embraced the challenge, dueling each other, preying upon the weaker souls, conspiring together in unstable alliances to bring down the strong. they learned how to exploit their greatest weapons and defenses, angels, creating lethal demon assassins capible of destroying their creators.

eia ama aemo zai

the orphan adopted by the gods stunned them by discovering the potential of her own soul, cultivating the development of her mind, body and spirit to harness it to transcend her mortality. caught off guard by this accomplishment, some of them opposed her in fear of her intention to share her discovery with the rest of humanity. the first true artist in the art, she was untouchable and the gods were forced to acknowledge her as an equal. her efforts to enlighten humanity met with mixed success, however. most humans viewed her as a god, or perhaps an angel, to be worshipped and obeyed but she would not abide their willingness to depend on her when her objective was to give them true independence. among those who accepted her humanity, many disregarded her because of her sex and refused to acknowledge her power or wisdom. thus, she was able to teach only a few, who in turn were able to initiate others only a few at a time. some of her teachings were adopted as the revelation of a new religion, one that formed a dangerous interpretation of the realm’s demon host as a singular and exclusive god. the church of the revelation failed to prevent the founding of the academy but succeeded in supplanting the old religions in a portion of every nation on aeirn, becoming the first world-wide, organized religion. once the academy was established, the orphan chose to work within it, shaping the institution by shaping its most gifted and successful initiates. the true purpose of the academy was to create artists in the art, in which mastery of the art resulted in self-mastery.

the rift

the rift is the manifestation of the shattering blow that splintered reality. the evolution of the demon-within premise features the resurrection of aeirn in the demon’s domain even as the original aeirn is being consumed by the cataclysm of a celestial war. the second cataclysm, the creation of the rift emerged as the climax of the purge and a conflict among the inner gods that marks the end of the age of creation and the beginning of the age of ruin. in one approach, the demon-god—the host of the realm—was drawn into the conflict by the destruction of the soul of its focus.

splinters of reality

the splintering of reality provides an explanation for the existence of different versions of the same people. in particular, it allows the vampire and were-tiger threads to be isolated yet based on the same character. it even works out, in a threshold variant, that the game construct exploits the splintering of aeirn, which is potentially infinite, as if the splinters of reality were different servers.

the gods, by chance and choice, originate above and become scattered among the splinter realms. they had the ability to cross the rift between splinter realms, and used it to hunt or hide from each other in the contest that followed the purge.

it was always part of the initial inspiration for the boy to be a rift walker and the development of the story established a point where he and his father crossed over to a splinter of reality where he was born as a girl. initially set when the boy is seventeen, it also works to have the boy and his father to have crossed over when he is seven; the father ending up in a triangle relationship with the native version of himself and his lover. the girl's mother was originally depicted in such a relationship. even with the origin and division of the boy and girl established in the same realm, there can be splinter realms where the division did not occur and the child was born a were-girl. incorporating this will help preserve and promote threads exploring the impact and implications of the rift. [see splinter-realm notes for general breakdown.]

a demon daughter

the splintered-realms approach instantly lends itself to absorbing threads in which the child is born a were-girl.

demon within, demon without

the demon originated in the domain of aegis and the souls it captured gave rise to the domain of aeirn in the demon's shadow. the point of collecting souls was to find a soul of its own; unfortunately, the demon was intent on assimilating the soul it sought, instead of allowing itself to be assimilated. in the threshold approach, the demon incorporated part of itself into the net, using the system to screen and harvest souls of the aegis. as players, souls of the aegis unwittingly created new incarnations of themselves into which they are drawn at death.

the demon within thread is a key part of the story and is usually established in a childhood tragedy, at which time the girl managed to eclipse the demon attempting to possess her. it was always part of the girl's thread that she possessed and used her psychic potential to eclipse a demon, resolving the demon within thread. there are a number of explored options for defining the circumstances of her childhood trauma. what is certain is that the event happens when she is seven.

the specific events need to be retailored to support the current version of the story; for example, some of the integrated threads feature a strong and persistent relationship between the girl and her mother but the usual foundation of the demon within thread is the massacre of her family. this is tentatively resolved by having the girl resurrect her parents as vampires -- which also serves to introduce her to the underworld they become part of. the further development of the story led to the conception of the main character through the demon’s interference, possessing a woman, turning a man into a were-woman, conceiving the child when it raped her and then taking refuge in the child’s soul when slain by the were-woman. the child’s division tears the demon in half, incapacitating it until intimacy between the boy and girl revive it. the resurrection of the girl’s mother establishes her in a new identity eliminating the need for her death to make the girl her grandmother’s heir. this also reserves the vampirism ordeal for the girl to endure.

the original point of allowing the demon to take possession of the girl's body is that it allows the boy to be turned into a familiar, thus gaining the ability to assume the girl's form. in addition, the girl’s ordeal triggers his; turning into a girl is his half of the demon within thread. the fact that being possessed can allow the girl to experience life in another realm, and thus a completely different environment, is a bonus. in a threshold varient, the method used to restore her to her proper self is a method that could be used to liberate aeirn from whatever intelligence had harnessed and exploited it as a game. or, looked at from the other side of the threshold, it could arguably destroy the entire world.

a girl possessed and eclipsed by a demon

when she is seventeen, the girl returns home and is forced to confront her childhood demons. among the obligations she faces are the duties to her house and an arranged marriage. the boy to whom she has been engaged is the son of the man her mother was supposed to marry, a pact between houses that had been put off for a generation. the girl's childhood trauma has long been a cause of nightmares and blackouts triggered by random flashes of memory. the details of her ordeal return to her as the demon strives to overcome her from within. this struggle for possession presents an opportunity for the boy to gain the girl's form by becoming a familiar -- it can also serve as a motive for rival immortals to cooperate to destroy her.

a demon within - variant

one approach for establishing the demon within hails back to the war of the gods and incorporates the exile thread. the exile thread is the original inspiration for the demon within thread, featuring a demigod who was banished to the abyss, the deepest depths of the soul of creation. in the revision, he is not the only entity imprisoned there. the demon and the exile could actually have become trapped in the abyss together, the one used as a weapon against the other. in the original version, the exile was slain, his physical access to the realm destroyed, and its spirit bound or banished.

another option would be for the demon within to be a fragment of the demon of the realm, allowing her assimilation of that fragment to be a step toward assimilating the demon entirely, a credible threat -- and opportunity -- in the demon's point of view. this would be a combined demon-within, demon-without scenario

in addressing the demon's origin, this approach would most likely involve the demon claiming a host soul originating in the realm of aegis. by claiming the soul of an outer god—perhaps a dragon—the demon would have been marked in the eyes of the inner gods as a deadly threat. this alone is cause enough for it to be exiled to the abyss, but there was more. during the war of the gods, the demon collected souls aggressively, and those souls became trapped in a dream-like realm, where they were immortal, and had offspring who, by virtue of being born native to that realm, were mortal and helped to give the realm more reality. the aspects of both worlds are engraved in the host's mind, providing a template for the world within.

a demon without

this variation of the demon within works with the thread where the girl takes possession of the demon she confronted during the massacre, turning it into her angel and saving her parents by turning them into vampires. the integration of the angel makes her an avatar of the goddess, bringing her to the attention of the demon of the realm.

avatars

a significant amount of the avatars story arc fits directly into working designs, up to and including the possession and eclipse of the main character.

a boy-turned-girl

this thread has evolved as the complement of the demon within thread, exploring the boy's ordeal of gradually assimilating his female counterpart. her assimilation leaves the demon in possession of her body; in some cases until her body is slain and the demon takes possession of his body. another benefit is that in this approach the demon within and the demon of the realm are separate entities. the demon within would have originated in the mind of an eclipsed soul of the aegis and most likely would have fallen during the purge or the age of ruin. the world within this demon is still taking shape, inspired by the dreams and memories of souls native to both aeirn and the aegis. with the division of male and female incarnations established through a were-woman familiar raped by the demon, the mechanism to turn the boy into a girl is the ring of insight or psyche-switch with an undivided splinter incarnation.

a boy-turned-girl is raped by the demon

originally -- a girl confronts a boy bitten by the demon and turned into a girl -- the problem here is that this is essentially the establishing event in the demon familiar origin of a person who is divided into male and female incarnations; in order for this boy to be the girl's counterpart, something of this nature has to have already occurred. this becomes the parent’s thread. as a singular duality origin, this rape would result in the conception of the main character. a conception under the most explored circumstances would be parthenogenic.

a girl helps the boy cope with being a girl

this was an original main thread -- a boy-turned-girl -- and can be adapted to resolve a childhood division or merge two splinter incarnations.

a gang of orphans - accidental assassin

the psychic gang from avatars, the wild-side, resonnates with the street orphans of avon, children cultivating psychic abilities to survive in the shadow of the underworld, among exiles, immortals, avatars and demons. this is the group the splinter-incarnation of the protagonist would have ended up among, hiding from the demon that gave birth to her.

slain lover

a boy-turned-girl confronted by the demon-turned-boy

this is the crisis point of the conflict and the opening part of the climax of the demon within thread.

a boy-turned-girl slays the demon

this is the turning point and escalation of the climax employing one of the oldest inspirations, the slain twin. when the boy-turned-girl slew the demon, its body automatically reverted to its original female form in a desperate attempt to repair itself but the demon was still impaled.

a boy-turned-girl is possessed and eclipsed by the demon

this is the revealed mechanism of the slain twin thread. as its host body died, the demon took possession of the only other body available, leaving the girl's corpse to be discovered.

a boy-turned-girl crosses the threshold

this element has been developed in several forms, each suitable for the main story line. the ordeal she goes through here is potentially a book in its own right. it can easily be developed as a sequel, however. the original demon within thread involved a struggle for dominance; the girl's possession is intermittent and the boy's transformation gives the demon a way to edge her out and force him to assimilate her.

unpromised

the unpromised arc initially featured background concerning her return home, an episode involving her education and household obligations passed on from her mother, who had fled from them. even though there is an option to have the demon assimilated instantly, the experiences the main character has while eclipsed by the demon sheds light on how people from the realm of aegis gained access to the realm of aeirn. this allows most of the unpromised story arc to be resurrected, up to and including the preparation of the main character to confront the demon and face destruction.

threshold, eve of paradox

the follow-up to the unpromised arc is the threshold story arc, which is set up in the opening story. some characters and elements of the threshold can be introduced in the first book, along with characters and elements of the accidental assassin.

loose threads & variations - the ideas that are being tapped for this project have been in development for decades and each concept has many variations.

the girl crosses the rift

it is possible that it was the girl who crossed over with her father following the death of her mother. her father was a rift walker, like his counterpart, and entered the rift to rescue his daughter when she fell into the rift to escape from the demon that was trying to possess her. this approach causes the girl's mother to be eclipsed and take on the role of the goddess of mystery in the unpromised thread. the girl's adversary is her mother's personal demon -- her own is currently in possession of her body. her mother's demon seeks to seduce her into embracing the demon within her.

in her own world, the girl and her father were the only survivors of the massacre that wiped out their entire extended family. in part, it was having nothing to return to that compelled her father not to try finding their way back home. in both worlds, the mother was the protégé of the father's mother. officially, the girl is an orphan and a protégé of the boy's mother. her father was presented as his counterpart's twin, at his mother's insistence -- to claim the girl as her own heir.

the other boy

the engagement the girl is thrust into does not need to involve her male incarnation; in fact, the engagement is a threat to her relationship with him, or more accurately, her relationship with him is seen as a threat to her engagement. the boy she is engaged to is actually a player character, as in the threshold thread.

the boy the girl ends up engaged to was introduced through the game as an orphan. her father takes him on as his protégé and heir to establish his own tradition in the art. he employed the art and the skills of an assassin as a hunter of immortals, and taught them to the boy. the boy took an interest in the girl when she became caught up in the world of assassins and immortals.

this approach also lends itself to a version of the wager, involving her in events that lead up to the ruins becoming the site for the trials, through her helping to reveal what is lurking within them. it would involve her in events that end in her death -- or possession by her demon and complete assimilation by her other half, incorporating elements of his transformation. both of them endure a trial of transformation as she struggles with being infected with vampirism and animorphism, eclipsed by her demon, redeemed by her other half and finally merging with him.

child of fusion : familiarity variant

the child of fusion impulse established a child of natural conception who, under normal circumstances, would have been born a girl. as a result of the demon’s interference, the child of fusion manifested in her parent’s generation, able to adopt male and female form. this approach was an alternative to using a time-loop or reality-split, when those options had been exhaustively explored without satisfaction. the extraordinary aspect to the situation was the mother being possessed by the demon of creation early in her pregnancy. the most logical time for her possession to occur—at seventeen, an age when she could reasonably be pregnant—would be during an ordeal at the conclusion of her initiation that brings her to the attention of the demon of creation. the demon bites the father, while in possession of the mother -- infecting them with familiarity. the child’s embryo acted as a catalyst during the manifestation of familiarity between the demon and the father. the child’s genome served as the template for a complex fusion of the parents’ combined genome. as humans with avon ancestry, the parents each carried the dormant genetic material necessary to resurrect the avon sex chromosome. the child manifested in the avon form, as the alternative to the male and female forms exchanged by familiarity. the demon escaped the consumption of the mother’s body by taking possession of the father’s body, which was also affected by the revised manifestation of familiarity. apart from being displaced and eclipsed—a condition that places them among the inner gods—the parents remain present, and normal.

child of fusion : familiarity - splinter incarnations variant

this approach takes advantage of the splintered realms to establish male and female incarnations of the main character, applying the child of fusion events to them. the concept was adapted as a way to merge the two incarnations, but excludes the conception of a catalyst embryo. that element can be reintroduced, however, modified and incorporated into the hunger and thirst thread.

the cabal

originally envisioned as a group conspiring to raise a demon or god of death, it evolved into a faction of inner gods or lost souls collaborating in a plot conquer the demon of the realm. the cabal is a conspiracy of adversaries, each seeking to dominate and devour the demon in the hopes of becoming the soul of creation, each needing the help of others to make the demon vulnerable to such an assault. this makes for an unstable alliance of opportunistic rivals at best. they cooporate to create a situation to their advantage and then compete to exploit it.

overview : clean breakdown of key events

a girl eclipsed a demon at seven

a girl meets a boy

a girl falls in love

a girl returns to confront her childhood demons at seventeen

a girl is possessed by the demon within during her blackouts

a girl bites the boy during a blackout

a girl confronts the boy bitten by her demon and turned into her twin

a girl helps the boy cope with being a girl

a boy-turned-girl assimilates the girl

a boy-turned-girl is raped by the demon

a boy-turned-girl slays the demon

a boy-turned-girl is possessed and eclipsed by the demon

a boy-turned-girl crosses the threshold

child of fusion : demon within :: splinter incarnations & familiarity variant

the demon possess the girl during her blackouts

the demon bites the boy during one of the girl's possessions

the boy and girl are infected with familiarity

the girl's fertility is restored by the transformation

the girl becomes pregnant

the intimacy creates a telepathic rapport

the girl is gradually absorbed into the boy

the demon forces the boy to finish assimilating the girl by attacking

the girl finds herself trapped within the boy as the demon claims her body

the demon attempts to take male form to rape the tomboy

the embryo acts as a catalyst for a metamorphic fusion

the minds of the boy and girl are drawn along with their soul into the fusion

the demon takes possession of the boy's lifeless body

the spirits of the boy, the girl and the angel are fused

the avatar manifests the true sex of the goddess

the avatar caught holding the boy's dead body

the avatar is mistaken for a demon and captured

the avatar is blamed for the boy's death and threatened with destruction

the demon is forced to use the soul of its focus to revive the boy's body

the demon is now anchored to the body it claimed

the demon rescues the avatar from prison

the demon names her a goddess in her own right

the demon explains why

the demon reveals what it offers in exchange for her soul

the demon is the one god -- but not an entity in its own right

child of fusion : demon within :: first arc

the demon of the realm plays a part in the manifestation of the child of fusion

the mother was pregnant when the demon possessed her

the father was bitten in a struggle with the demon

the father is transformed into a twin of the mother

the mother's body is consumed by the manifestation of the child

the demon is forced to possess the father to escape the dying body

the demon withdraws before the child is fully manifest

the child of fusion awakes in a pool of blood

...

the child of fusion sires a male incarnation of himself

the child of fusion bears a female incarnation of herself

the boy and girl are born to separate houses

...

the child of fusion is possessed by an inner demon

the demon is torn between the boy and girl when the child of fusion is slain

child of fusion : demon within :: second arc

the rapport between the boy and girl gives the demon a way to restore itself

the demon exploits the girl's trauma, trying to possess her from within

the demon exploits their most intimate rapport to seize the boy's body

the girl's attempt to recover the boy's body goes awry

the demon attempts to rape her

the demon is slain in the struggle

the body shifted to female form but it was not enough to heal the damage

the demon escaped by possessing and eclipsing her

outline :: tripping the rift

the boy and girl travel to the city to attend the academy

the boy and girl are unwittingly following in their parent's footsteps

the girl arrives at the manor on its estate outside the city

the girl begins to have flashbacks to the night she was orphaned

the girl's family was slain in an attack on the academy during the invasion

...

the boy and girl are tested for rift potential

the trial involves visiting another version of reality

the spell targets an alternate of the girl's reality where she was not orphaned

the boy and girl switch with the same alternate incarnation

the girl switches with their alternate first

the alternate is held in stasis in the girl's body

the boy switches with their alternate in the girl's body

the boy is held in stasis in the girl's body

the alternate is held in stasis in the girl's body

the girl ends up in the boy's body on her return from her alternate's world

the girl confronts the fact that the boy is a version of her

the boy had physically crossed to the girl's world as a child

the girl is shown how to switch with the boy

the girl and the paladin decide not to tell the boy what they learned

the alternate physically crosses over to the girl's world

the boy's friends witness the boy's transformation into a girl

the friends confront the female boy

the boy confronts the prospect of being stuck as a girl

as a girl, the boy is a tomboy

the boy and girl contemplate experimenting with being the opposite sex

the demon displaces the boy, forcing him to merge with the girl

the demon rapes and murders the girl and escapes in the boy's body

...

the tomboy returns to the alternate world to start a new life

the tomboy gets in over her head at a party

the tomboy gets swept into the tides of the alternate's life

the tomboy is forced back into the vampire's household

an attack on the vampire’s household is led by a rival were

the tomboy becomes a casualty of their long, bitter conflict

the tomboy is raped and murdered

the tomboy escapes death by merging with her alternate, now part of the girl

the girl crosses over to the alternate world to investigate

the girl goes after the tomboy's murderer

the girl catches the eye of an assassin

the assassin guesses her intention and appoints himself her mentor

the girl's pursuit of the rapist/murderer leads her into the underworld

the girl is taken to be the tomboy, raised as a vampire, by those who attacked

the girl catches the eye of the vampire

the vampire learns her story and becomes her patron and ally in the underworld

the girl comes up against a were-tiger, the vampire's ancient rival

the were attempts to steal her away, biting her when she resists

the girl flees into the vampire’s arms, bitten and bleeding

the vampire cannot resist a drink, draining her to the brink of death

the vampire is tempted to indulge himself and destroy her before she can turn

the vampire decides that there is still a chance to turn her into a vampire

the girl is overwhelmed by the conflicting interests and infections

...

the girl returns to her world and retreats to her estate

20081220 - key impulses

okay, here's what i remember (sorry i didn't get to it earlier!):

in this world everyone has angels and demons as a part of their soul.

gods are powerful beings who manifest angels and demons as other beings.

there is a girl and a boy who are actually alternate versions of themselves, but the boy is in the girl's world and eventually she has to take him on to save him as part of herself.

there's a struggle for identity.

she becomes powerful because of this.

there are vamp and were factions in the world.

because of her changing, both factions consider her on their side (however she is a vamp-that-is-not-a-vamp and a were-that-is-not-a-were) and want her support for things. there are magic users and psychics as two forms of power users.

i also remember you talking ages ago about paladins.

does that help?

**felicity**

a boy, an accidental incarnation of the goddess conceived by the artist in an attempt to sire a redoubt, a parthenogenic reincarnation of himself

hunger & thirst arc

he was assumed to have been conceived by the will of the goddess and was surrendered to his father at the age of seven

he assumed that the girl was simply another initiate traveling with them to the academy

he was initiated as an artist, the protégé of his father’s protégé

he was angelic, adopting the male identity imposed by his father to protect his true identity

the irony was that his previous incarnation was a nymph—neither male nor female but equivalent to both

the ordeal he faces is confronting and embracing his true identity and choosing to become female

he dreamed of being a girl and convinced himself that it was simply anticipation of the girl of his dreams

he was astonished when the only girl he wanted proved to be the one girl he could not have—his cousin and foster sister

the boy’s host father

an artist, born in secret into the ardoen branch of the phoenix house

his mother faked her death when she discovered her pregnancy

his mother assumed a new identity as a courtesan and he was officially born premature, presumably the son of her patron

he was sponsored to the academy by his mother’s patron

he was touched by the goddess—but raised in the tradition of worship of the god usurped by the church

the boy’s host mother

a muse, born into the arden branch of the phoenix house

her mother was pregnant when her husband was assassinated—their previous child, a son, was safe at the academy when the purge began

her mother took sanctuary as a priestess and the goddess delayed her daughter’s birth to obscure her paternity

she was sponsored to the academy by the sanctuary

she was devoted to the goddess—but forced to worship in secret

the artist and the muse were from rival branches of a house in exile

their lineage was concealed in the early years of the purge because children were being targeted to eliminate heirs

they were sent to the academy for additional protection

they became friendly rivals under the same mentor at the academy while they were initiates

they became a couple during their final year of initiation

a girl, an orphan displaced in time and adopted by the muse

accidental assassin arc

she was found lost in the ruins by the artist and delivered to the muse when the artist arrived to claim his son

she was the heir to her brother’s title and the only survivor of the attack upon his home

she was fostered by her aunt and initiated as a muse

she had a guardian angel, created to protect her in her first human incarnation as the boy

the irony of her situation is that she dreams of the boy she used to be—and at the same time saw as her protector

the ordeal she faces is falling in love with the boy and watching him evolve into the goddess

she becomes intimate with him at the academy, in spite of the fact that he is the son of her adopted mother

she makes his ordeal more difficult by being the girl of his dreams—and pushing him to the point of crisis

the girl’s mother

a tomboy turned courtesan with a hidden past

her arrival at the academy during a rift storm brought her to the attention of the mentor and master of the artist and the muse

her impeccable breeding was evident and her refusal to discuss her past was attributed to flight from the purge

the tomboy became caught up in the purge as part of a house in exile

the tomboy became a companion of the master of the artist and the muse

she was confronted by the master and coaxed into confiding in him

the tomboy became the paladin of the goddess

she was seduced by the artist—unable to resist the affinity the led to her inception—and became his other lover

she became an intimate of the muse—pursued by the muse as the lover of her lover

she was introduced to the older brother of the muse, who pursued her hand in marriage

the tomboy was caught in a paradox

she married into the arden branch of the phoenix house to ensure that the girl would be born into it

she knew the attack on her home was coming, but could do nothing to prevent it

she knew the manner of her own death, and had to endure it

the artist and the muse became caught up in the purge upon completing their primary initiation

the artist was chosen as the agent of the church assigned to spy on the paladin of the goddess

he was instructed to maintain the appearance of neutral lineage and remain closely associated with the woman

he was required to gain her confidence and report on her to his superiors

he was to subdue, capture and or kill her on command

the artist confronted the muse and confided his true lineage and commission

the artist, the muse and the paladin became companions, mentoring initiates under the supervision of their mentor, now a master

they became involved in the growing conflict between their master and his rivals

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| morgan gender: masculine & feminine  usage: welsh, english  from the old welsh masculine name *morcant*, which was possibly derived from welsh *mor* "sea" and *cant* "circle". as a (possibly unrelated) feminine name it was used by geoffrey of monmouth for the arthurian sorceress morgan le fay. since the 1980s in america *morgan* has been more common for girls than boys. |

random details

morgan was conceived on the eve of the autumn equinox.

morgan and logan were incarnations of the same soul.