

Magic Explained

Overview:

When the veil between planes was raised, magic was an infinite resource. It burrowed deep below the ground to form wells and streams of pure power that infused every lifeform and resource above it. As mentioned in previous documents, it worked mysterious changes in creatures- creating powerful monsters and bringing the might of dragons to near unimaginable levels. The gods realized no material creature should come close to their own power and the veil was sealed, leaving Revas with only the magic already absorbed. The supply still ran deep, allowing creatures to be born with connection to the arcane (sorcerers). In the decades that followed, others learned to find the streams of power with study and practice, using careful rituals and components to manipulate the various eddies to their whims (wizards). The knowledge was passed down, formalized, and improved, leading to schools of the arcane arts where students could learn in controlled environments under successful masters. Creatures like dragons and archfey, with enough power of their own, took to allowing warlocks a share in exchange for pacts or debts. Those who dedicated themselves to the gods were shown the strands of power by their deity, and trained under their divine guidance. For a time, even with the veil sealed, magic was equitable and powerful throughout Revas.

The imbalance began when the faefolk learned to horde the power beneath the surface. Taught unnatural secrets by dragons who remember the wards used to seal the veil, magic is being siphoned from its original resting place en masse and stored in a collective Well in one of the deep forests of Revas. Its exact location is a carefully guarded secret the Imperium is desperate to learn. As natural reserves are sucked dry, the loss is felt heavily throughout the Imperium and mountainfolk. Birth rates of those with a natural connection are at an all time low. The potential of wizards has been diminishing rapidly as it becomes more difficult for them to identify and learn to manipulate shrinking strands of magic. Warlock pacts become rare as powerful creatures learn to be more conservative with their own

might. Only those who worship the divine have been left mostly intact and that is thanks to the grace of their deities who guide them to the lingering streams. Unless the Well is destroyed, magic may become completely unattainable for the other factions in the coming decades.

How is magic accessed?

When one goes to access magic, they lower the barriers of the mind (through either instinctive or learned methods) to open their inner eye. This allows them to sense the various streams around them to absorb and manipulate to their whims with verbal, material, and somatic components. Every magic user has a threshold of power that they can contain and channel. Frequent use and dedicated training can increase this threshold. Attempting to push the limit of your own potential can lead to disastrous results. Once the body reaches its limit, it typically must rest before it can attempt again.

Some mages have learned the art of arcane transference. It allows one to share absorbed magic and channel it into a new host so they may cast after they have crossed their own threshold. This is a deeply personal experience that does require mingling of minds and is not recommended unless they trust the donor implicitly.

Enchanting and Infusing:

Magic can also be stored in items. Those who have mastered arcane transference are able to coalesce power and imbibe common items to serve a certain purpose. This is often done with runes- carved marks of power that denote a specific benefit. For example, it is not uncommon to come across Dragonguard of the Imperium with runed blades able to burst into flame at a simple command. In recent years, this has also led to the development of arcane power cells- crystals that contain a finite amount of power, often used by mages to fuel rituals that would normally be beyond their means now that magic is scarce. Those with the ability to enchant or infuse are highly sought all across Revas.