

Chronicles of Terre: Setting Documents

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1 Preface

Hi.

2 About

Terre is a continental land surrounded by an infinite oceanic expanse, a land of opportunities, wonders, magic, and unrest. From the start of time, the ruling power of Terre has changed multiple times, but none is as large of a threat to the entire world and its inhabitants as what is currently threatening the entire continent: the Corruption, the Enemy, the Iris Mist. For now, the frontier bastion of Bladefall, and its High Wall, forms a line of fortification against the Corruption to the east and the savagery of the Barrens to the north, defending the civilized world in the west from the march of the Enemy. Whether with blade, sulphur, or arcane mysts, the land channels all its might and potential into its inhabitants, to lend itself an edge against the Enemy, but is it enough to unite the people, fend off the Corruption, let alone eradicate this intruder? Only time can tell.

3 Geography

The continent of Terre is a huge landmass surrounded by a seemingly infinite oceanic expanse. The landmass is approximately 4000 km from west to east, and 2000 km from north to south. To the center of the land towards the east a bit, a piece of land connects three major peninsulas together, dividing Terre into three large parts.

To the north is a large desert known as the Barrens or the outlands. Resource is scarce, and survival is a challenge. Many outlander races resides in the Barrens, forming feral tribes and societies, sometimes assaulting each other and other parts of Terre, but under circumstances they can be reasoned with.

To the east, the Lost Lands span almost one third of Terre, its territory lost to the Corruption. Little is known about what the Lost Lands currently looks like, as few have even ventured over the High Wall, not to mention deep enough and survive and come back sane.

To the west is the currently civilized territories of Terre. A great wall, known as the High Wall of Bladefall, separates and defends civilized Terre from the Corruption in the Lost Lands and the tribal assaults in the Barrens. The namesake of this defense, Bladefall, is a great frontier bastion on the southern part of the High Wall, housing many adventurers, many realized and broken dreams.

Immediately to the west of the Highwall lies the lands of Maltross and Verza. Maltross is to the north, consisting of deserts, savannas, and grasslands. The Nomadic State of Maltross controls this region, its inhabitants roaming and grazing on the flora and fauna. Verza is to the south, a land of green and nature, filled with forests of all kind. A giant fairy oak, several hundred meters tall, known as the Viridian Grove, is located in the northern part of Verza, irrigated by the mountain springs of Hollunberg, and houses the druidic forces of the Verzae Legion.

Hollunberg is a mountain range directly west of Bladefall, between Maltross and Verza. Dwarves have resided inside the mountain since the beginning of history, forming their kingdom named Underdebirgsreich. They do not claim much territory and have largely remained neutral and friendly towards other regions.

To the west of Maltross, lies the massive lands of the Divine Glorian Empire. An theocratic empire of Gloria worshippers claims the largest piece of land on civilized Terre, spanning almost half of the horizontal length of the entire continent. Its territories houses various geographical features, from the grassy hills on the border with Maltross, home of many settled-down gnomes and halflings of Maltross, to the temperate forests in the middle, to the taigas in the westmost part, where the highest mountain peak, the Crest of Terre, sits just above Crestfall, the capitol

of the Divine Empire, and the Jewel of Terre, a large beautiful lake with frequent water travels.

Another river originating from Hollunberg flows west bordering the northern part of Verza from the Divine Glorian Empire, as well as the land of Astartia. Astartia is a fertile land full of agricultural activities, in the shape of a long west-east strip, bordered from the north by the Divine Glorian Empire, the south by the Gulf of Serene Waves.

On the westside of the Gulf, bordering Astartia, is a barren and exploited land named Peran. The Perani Trading Corporation tapped the land out of most of its natural resources, leaving dead trees and famished grasses, with machinaries abandoned everywhere. The capitol Barohaven sits on the other side of the Jewel of Terre, across from Crestwatch and the Divine Empire, establishing heavy trade and travel on the Jewel.

To the very southern west of Terre is a dense jungle known as Yharn. Tribes of skinwalkers resides within, with little contact to the outside world, living off their ancestral knowledges and experiences. Most of the few visitors end up in Mecatli, a city of stone and vine on the border of Yharn and the Divine Empire. The dense canopy covers the sky, nurturing unique flora and fauna, friendly and dangerous alike.

North of Astartia, over on the other side of the Divine Glorian Empire, is the treacherous peninsula of Labyrinthine, occupied and named by the Mages' Guild who built the Clock Tower of Labyrinthine on this land. Dark and bare mountains span most of its land, leaving little for common folks, but plentiful mysts for casters and adventurers alike.

To the north-west of the Divine Glorian Empire and Terre, a large series of snowy-peaked mountains isolates Okeanos from the rest of civilization. This provincial region of the old Forgotten Empire is all that the Empire left behind after its crumbling, due to its natural defenses and its demographical extremity. The land itself is filled with natural beauty, capable of capturing the heart of any that treads in.

4 Demography

Humans.

Humans are as usual one of the most prevalent species in Terre. They constitute the popular mass of Terre, presenting opportunities, potentials, and a capability at anything thrown at them. They are mostly populated in the Divine Glorian Empire and the Kingdom of Astartia; Perani Trading Corporation, Nomadic State of Maltross, and the Verzae Legion contains a reasonable amount of humans as well.

Dwarves.

Dwarves are tenacious creatures that prefers the comfort and dimness of the underground. They tend to form societies and communities, valueing order and strength. Dwarves have an affinity to Fire and Earth. Most dwarves on Terre resides in Untergebirgsreich, their kingdom under Hollunberg. Dwarves are welcomed on most places, but especially in Astartia, with the crafting masteries they are usually known for.

Elves.

Elves on Terre are much less populous than they usually are. They are still wild and unpredictable, with an affinity to Earth and Wind.

Wood elves form the majority of the Verzae Legion, fighting against the corruption on the frontline, often taking druidic practices. High elves are unnaturally scarce, most of them in hermitian isolation or as nomadic scholars, while those more sociable or power-hungry resides in Labyrinthine as powerful arcane casters.

Wood and high elves are not very in accord - the conflicts between Netheric arcane energy and druidic leylines renders the twin species separated by ideology.

Half-elves as a result also extremely rare, and mostly of wood elf origins. High elves more or less look down on other species and very rarely accompany other species, accelerating their population problems.

Tieflings.

What used to be the ruler of eastern Terre has now fallen from grace. Tieflings have never been the most populous race, but they certainly held the most power, as the founding and aristocratic race of the Forgotten Empire, ruled over all the other inhabitants of Terre. In the current time, most aristocratic Tieflings retreated with the falling of the Empire into Okeanos, isolating themselves with the rest of Terre, rejecting outsiders and foreign technologic advances. Some of

the more open-minded remained outside, either living in seclusion around the land, or travelling between cities and settlements of Terre, attempting to mend the tear in their old territory.

Although tieflings are of Netheric heritages, they are not inherently evil - the Okeanosian tieflings' selfishness comes from their aristocratic background and their xenophobia. They are, however, historically (although not mechanically) outsiders of this land, and thus are not the most welcomed kind in certain places. They often attune themselves to Netheric arcane magic as opposed to druidic energies, and tend to have an affinity to Fire and Earth.

Gnomes and Halflings.

Gnomes and halflings in Terre are two closely intertwined race. From the beginning of history, the two races have formed communities together due to their mutual hospitability and good-minded nature. Everyone stepping into their territory is treated with a warm welcome, and thus their presence is welcomed in most parts of the civilized world.

Despite this, gnomes and halflings are not numerous in this world, and most of them find comfort in the savannas of Maltross, some of them roaming the land, and a small portion of them residing near the borders of Maltross and Divine Glorian Empire among small hills and valleys.

Plane-Touched: Aasimars, Genases.

The plane-touched are rare occurrences of Terre, carrying a lineage not of this world. Their existence and origin are mythical in nature, spawning tales and nightmares alike. Aasimars and genases bear marks of their patron, often taking the form of ghastly visages or tattoo-like elemental circuits, that are most visible when they use their powers. Plane-touched can take the physical characteristics of any race, depending on their lineage, so they are scattered around Terre, often times hiding themselves from the world. A lot of Aasimars have joined the Verzae Legion, fighting against the Enemy and the evils of Terre.

Skinwalkers: Aarakocra, Centaur, Lizardfolk, Minotaur, Tabaxi.

Skinwalkers, a collective name for races with beast-like features, do not often wander the civilizations of Terre. Most of them resides in the jungles of Yharn, using their survival instincts to their full advantage, and those with druidic interests and curiosity of the secrets of the world often end up near the Viridian Grove in Verza. Many would consider their features and mannerism feral and uncivilized, a stereotype they suffer together with the outlander races.

Dragonborns.

Dragonborns are rare and solitary. They tend to live in secluded regions like mountain tops or deep within the forest, as those who attempt to walk the roads are met with cautious respect and sometimes fear.

Outlanders: Orcs, Goblinoids, Kobolds.

The Barrens are not pleasant to live in, and those residing in those parts are forged by the harsh environments. After the erection of the High Walls, many of the more temperate and civilized outlanders settled down for the nomadic lives of Maltross, while others continue their lives in the Barrens, fending off the Corruption together with the unhospitability of the land. While outlanders seldomly wander far from their homelands, some orcs are met with relative respect, or at least non-hostility, for their valor in fighting the Corruption.

5 History

5.1 Calendar

The current calendar of Terre is based on the one used by the Forgotten Empire, starting on approximately the date of their ancestor's ascension to Terre through the Shattered Gate. The current year is about AC (Ascendant Calendar) 1411. The beginning of a year is in fact the summer solstice of Terre - the day when Helios is at its zenith and Fire dominates over the elements. There are eight months in a single year, in the following order:

- Yondar;
- Ertos;
- Santra;
- Silour;
- Vupen;
- Lylix;
- Quivea;
- Helind.

5.2 Pre-Ascension

In the beginning, Terre does not have a lot to offer. There are scattered civilizations and settlements around the continent, with primitive weapons and tools. Constant warfare between tribes, civilizations, and races taints the land with bloodshed and suffering.

5.3 The Forgotten Empire

For the first time in thousands of years, order is brought onto Terre - albeit from outside of this plane. The Forgotten Empire - then simply known as 'The Empire' - under the rule of Ascendants, divided western Terre into a dozen provinces, each with its own imperator, while the Ascendant rules over all of them in their palace in the Shattered Gate.

The Tieflings are not intrinsic evil creatures. In fact, they are much more civil than the inhabitants of Terre at that time. The Empire's settling down was met with resistances, numerous but futile, as stone and cold iron are no match against netheric arcana. The aboriginals soon found out that the rule of the Empire is more of a boon than a misfortune: the technology level of Terre grew rapidly with the Empire's help, as blades are forged and spells are cast.

The Empire's expansion left two points of interests intact: The dwarves of Hollunberg by then has already established Untergebirgsreich under the mountain, and the jungle of Yharn proved too unruly to conquer. In the land under the Empire's rule, Tieflings have largely established themselves as nobles and local aristocrats, and while racial hierarchy exists, for the most part Tieflings and aboriginal races get along rather well, and many Tieflings slowly adopted the local culture and merged with their own that they brought from the nether realms.

A few hundred years into the Empire's reign, a fairy oak sprouted under Hollunberg, which grew into the Viridian Grove. Wood elves before this are largely nomadic and hermitian, but they soon aligned themselves under the shades of the great fairy oak. The leylines of Terre are established against the invasion of netheric arcana, and focused itself under the Viridian Grove, and gave rise to druidic practice. The residents of Viridian Grove are not exactly in accord with the Empire's use of Netheric arcane energies, considering them unnatural and invasive, as opposed to the leylines' life forces, but to seek conflict with the Empire will not benefit anyone.

5.4 Tides of Steel

The collapse of the Forgotten Empire started in the coastal province of Okeanos. Sitting on the north-western most corner of the Empire and Terre, Okeanos is renowned throughout the aristocratic hierarchies of the Empire for its natural beauty and bountiful lands, and throughout the years attracted nobles around the Empire to tour, reside, and eventually settle down. In the last hundred years of the Empire's rule, the demographic concentration of Tieflings in Okeanos has risen to an alarming state, with little to no other races, and its original inhabitants almost completely ousted. Those within Okeanos slowly succumbed deeper and deeper into the euphoric abyss of this paradise land, while those without more than ever only care about their opportunities and possibilities to relocate to their promised utopia. As an obvious consequence, the Empire declined rapidly into staleness, with more and more unrest and more and more unjust that follows each other.

The introduction of firearms only exacerbated the Empire's downfall. The dwarven craftsmen of Untergebirgsreich fueled their forges and polished their anvils, and brought powder and steel to the people of Terre at a convenient time. The aristocrats of the Empire scoffs at the idea of cold

steel against their magic and arcane, and dismissed the technology without much thought - like they always do - as another trinket of minimal threat.

By the time the Empire realized the gravity of their mistakes, it is already too late. With firearms in hand, soldiers and adventurers, both martially and magically inclined, flooded Empire territories like a tide of sulphur and steel. Within a few years around AC 951, the Empire shrunk under martial and arcane assaults, as the partakers of its downfall sign treatises, set borders, and establish new orders upon western Terre.

The final remnants of the Empire fled to Okeanos, the only province untouched by warfare and conflict, thanks to its geographical and demographical defense and impracticality of annexation. Losing all prowess and morale and will to recover, the Empire sealed shut its gate and succumbed to the peace and safety of the coastlines of northwestern Terre. The collapse of the Forgotten Empire started in Okeanos, and finally ended in Okeanos.

5.5 The Awakening

The Awakening in AC 1273 brought the Enemy to the playing board, but the Enemy does not intend to cease its aggression and expanded westward, devouring and corrupting everything in its path. The first to respond is the Verzae Legion, mustering their strength into the eastern front, taking the Shattered Gate into their hands before the Enemy arrives. The Nomadic State of Maltross mobilized most of their forces and foundations and migrated west inland to fortify and slow down the corruption. Political entities further west sent what they can to help, but the Corrupted attacked with bodies and magic, like a tidal wall of flesh and horror, and hope seems to be lost.

The march continues west, until a figure wielding a blade, now known as the First Guardian appeared, and led the battle against the Enemy on the plains. In a miraculous and decisive fight, he punished the Enemy for their advances, with no casualty but his own vanishment. With the enemy weakened, the heroes of Terre constructed the bastion of Bladefall in memorial of the First Guardian, and extended its east walls into the High Wall of Bladefall, now the border between civilized Terre and the Lost Lands, where deep within the dark Iris shadows the Enemy slumbers, waiting for its chance to reenter the stage, patiently, inevitably.

6 Regions & Factions

6.1 Bladefall & the High Wall

- Capitol: Bladefall
- Official Language: Infernal Common
- Inhabitant Races: Various
- Approximate Form of Government: Meritocratic Autocracy
- Head of State Title: The Guardian

Bladefall is an independent city-state with the sheer purpose of serving as the frontier bastion against the corruption. It is located at the eastmost point of the High Wall. Terre's most elite soldiers and magicians are summoned to fight off the corruption, and adventurers from all over the continent converges here to seek glory and fortune. Fighting the Corruption is no stroll in the park however, and many perish without return.

The High Wall of Bladefall is a defensive structure spanning from north to south across the middle of Terre, to protect the civilized world from the dangers of the Corruption in the Lost Lands, and sometimes the feral dangers of the Barrens.

The Guardian of Bladefall is a position assigned to the greatest individual of a time. To hold this position one must excel at martial as well as arcane arts, and to hold this position is to dedicate oneself to the most noble purpose of all, to defend against the corruption and to preserve the civilizations of Terre. In the events of a guardian's death, a new guardian will be appointed according to either the old guardian's will or a conveying of the political leaders of Terre.

Bladefall was rapidly but painstakingly constructed soon after the Awakening in AC 1273. while the remaining political entities mustered what force they can to stop the Enemy's march west, it was only a matter of time when doom will fall upon them. Then, an individual crowned posthumously as the First Guardian led a miraculous battle against the wall of Corrupted forces and singlehandedly eliminated most of the Enemy's pawns, at the cost of his own life. His sacrifice earned precious time for Terre to fortify and build defenses. Bladefall and the High Wall was constructed in this period and named in his memory.

History on the first Guardian...

6.2 Divine Glorian Empire

- Capitol: Crestwatch
- Official Language: Infernal Common
- Inhabitant Races: Various
- Approximate Form of Government: Theocratic Monarchy
- Head of State Title: Holy Emperor / Empress
- Current Head of State: Holy Emperor Ulrico Valeri

An empire devoted to the goddess Gloria, of mostly humans but also a mixture of other humanoid races.

The largest political entity geographical wise on western Terre, spanning two thirds of the civilized territory behind the High Wall. Glorian territories include a lot of diverse landscapes, including the savanna bordering Maltross, the grasslands and forests across the middle, the jungle to the southwest near Yharn, the mountain ranges separating Okeanos from the rest of the world, and the Crest and Jewel of Terre surrounding Crestwatch, the capitol of the Divine Glorian Empire.

Capitol: Crestwatch. A city of glorious gold and ivory, sitting on shore of the Jewel of Terre, the largest lake, and just below the Crest of Terre, the highest mountain peak. A large port sits on the Jewel, one unusual in size for a freshwater lake port, to conduct naval trading with the Perani and especially Barohaven. The entire city is decorated with domes, spires, towers, and cathedrals, where devout Glorians from the Divine Empire and all other parts of Terre travel to worship their goddess.

The monarchy of the Divine Glorian Empire is associated with the goddess Gloria, acting as the representative of her divinity on Terre. The theocracy is also close and almost inseparable from the monarchy, with all archbishops directly nominated by the monarch, whether out of their own will or the Church's. Priests and inquisitors carry out both the martial laws of the government and the religious laws of the Church, essentially acting as the army on a level both physical and spiritual.

While the Church of Gloria is a monotheistic worship, most other deities are not outlawed by the Divine Empire. Shrines to other gods can still be seen and visited in other, albeit more minor places around Glorian territory. Even certain evil-inclined deities can be worshipped in private with justified reasons - Tiefling worship of Goetia, for example, is reasonable and only slightly frowned upon, if it's not for their racial history.

Although many departments of the Church are rather inclusive and reasonable, or at least try to be, one sect in particular can only be described as fanatical at best, or even rather extreme. The sect calls themselves Purity Enforcers, while most out of the Church just refer to them as 'the Fanatics'. Those with extremist views tend to join in on their crusade, condemning nearly all deities and worships not approved by Gloria - or their own - views, with measures questionable even to their evil god worshipping victims. The Church and the Inquisition tries their best to keep these fanatics in check, but still the Purity Enforcers snatch every chance they can to enact their vision of a religious Utopia.

6.3 Untergebirsreich

- Capitol: Unterbergstadt
- Official Language: Dwarvish
- Inhabitant Races: Dwarves
- Approximate Form of Government: Meritocratic Elective Monarchy
- Head of State Title: King / Queen
- Current Head of State: King Laurin Guttenberg

The Undermountain Kingdom of the dwarves, one of the oldest political entity on Terre. The ancient dwarven clans under Hollunberg has witnessed much, from the forging of the Shattered Gate, to the Tide of Sulphur and Steel, to the Awakening most recently, and they have mostly maintained their neutrality, helping the people in need to their best ability.

Capitol: Unterbergstadt. Through thousands of years of excavation and construction, this dwarven capitol city under Hollunberg was expanded multiple times to accommodate the growing population of the Kingdom. The city is divided vertically into multiple layers, shaping like a funnel, with the upper level focused on more economical and residential purposes, while the lower level focused on industrial development.

The King of Untergebirsreich is not inherited through blood, but elected by merit.

6.4 Yharn

- Largest City: Mecatl

- Official Language: Various dialects of Oldtongue
- Inhabitant Races: Skinwalkers
- Approximate Form of Government: Distributed Tribalistic Autocracy
- Head of State Title: Chieftain
- Current Head of State of Mecatli: Highchief Xiuhpilcoatli

The region of Yharn is controlled by a collection of loosely connected tribes of Skinwalkers. From the beginning of Terre's civilizations, the tribes of Yharn have not externally communicated much, and focused on spiritual pursuits, and occasional internal conquering.

Yharn and nearby Divine Glorian Empire territories are covered by tropical jungles. Wildlife, aggressive flora, disease, all these run rampant in Yharn, making it rather hostile for unprepared foreigners to explore. The tribesmen deal with them just fine however, given the experiences passed through generations of wisdom and trial-and-error.

Capitol: Mecatli. The oldest tribe in the jungles of Yharn, Mecatli is more or less respected by other Skinwalkers as the diplomatic capitol of Yharn. Any visitors to Yharn on any business will most likely end up in Mecatli, if not lost to the dangers of the jungle.

The technological level of Yharn has not changed throughout the centuries, due to an extreme lack of communication and trade with other civilizations. Mistake not primitiveness as weakness, however, as with bow and magic, stone and metal, their tribal warriors can be as fiercely effective as those with steel and sulphur. Contrasted to the Tieflings of Okeanos, if ever presented with firearms and advanced metals, most tribes will still gladly accept and attempt utilize them - it is just that training and experience passed through generations makes them more efficient at traditional methods of warfare.

6.5 Kingdom of Astartia

- Capitol: Urakyo
- Official Language: Infernal Common
- Inhabitant Races: Various
- Approximate Form of Government: Feudal Monarchy
- Head of State Title: Emperor / Empress

- Current Head of State: Emperor Horoku

An agricultural based society located along the coast of Clearwave Gulf, using the ocean's bounty and the fertile lands. Its inhabitants value honor, balance, and harmony, and are usually friendly and hospitable to visitors.

Astartian economy relies on exporting their agricultural products and their expert smithing proficiencies. Trading with neighboring countries is a major part of the kingdom's focus.

Astartian warriors makes great mercenaries, due to their honor-abiding culture, loyalty, and martial focus.

Worships of goddess Astarte, the namesake of this land, is prevalent.

Capitol: Urakyo. The 'Gulf Capitol' of Astartia is a beautiful city with oriental architecture and surrounding fields.

6.6 Perani Trading Corporation

- Capitol: Barohaven
- Official Language: Infernal Common
- Inhabitant Races: Various
- Approximate Form of Government: Plutocratic Oligarchy
- Head of State Title: The Board of Directors
- Current Head of States:
 - Director Drigar Brock
 - Director Claq Pocket
 - Director Duhmehilde Longbrand
 - Director Giuliana Vito
 - Director Prakius Letchford

The lands of Peran are occupied by a group of merchants, traders, and craftsmen. They proclaims themselves as the Perani Trading Corporation, and rules over this land, utilizing the abundance of mineral resources and potential trading routes, both on land and naval.

On contrast with their neighbors in Astartia, the Perani Trading Corporation focuses more on industrial, technological, and economical efforts. Trading plays a large role in Perani's diplomatic and societal structures, and trade routes has been established to most corners of the civilized world, even some exotic good caravans to Mecatli.

The monetary focus of the Trading Corporation trains its citizens to be in general greedy, cunning, and egocentric businessmen. They can be ruthless, apathetic, or on rare circumstances, amiable, all depending on how much they value and how well they can utilize the other party. When hard work and honesty can often propel one's life to success elsewhere, in Perani, such efforts will only render yourself the stepping stone of the rise of more cunning and ruthless individuals.

Capitol: Barohaven. A major inland trading hub of Terre, Barohaven sits on the shore of the Jewel of Terre, across from Crestwatch. Caravans, airships, and vessels pour in and out of Barohaven each day, bringing the materials in and the goods out. The city itself is a monstrosity of metal and steel, efficient, indifferent, without unnecessary, just like its inhabitants.

6.7 The Verzae Legion

- Capitol: Viridian Grove
- Official Language: Elven (Wood Dialect)
- Inhabitant Races: Wood-Elf
- Approximate Form of Government: Stratocratic Oligarchy / Military Junta
- Head of State Title: Generals of the Emerald Council
- Current Head of States:
 - General Caralis Affielle
 - General Ailred Yllglor
 - General Haryk Sylhorn
 - General Wistari Farra

A legion of military soldiers with druidic powers. A majority of the legionnaires are Wood-Elves, but there are also a few Aasimar regiments.

The lands of Verza are scattered with hastily set up encampments and barracks, as well as ruins of an old civilization. The old Tiefling Forgotten Empire's citadel was located in the region,

before their eventual downfall to the other powers hundreds of years ago. What remains of the old empire now isolated themselves on the far other end of Terre - the province-turned-empire of Okeanos.

The Verzae Legion used to be a military clique - a mixture of independent soldiers, druidic adventurers, and mercenaries centered around Viridian Grove and it's link to nature.

The legion aligns with nature and balance. The diplomatic relationship between it and the Provincial Empire of Okeanos, is thus rather tense due to their utilization of the Shattered Gate. In the moment, however, the Gate is under their control, Okeanos sealed itself from the world, the full extend of the Legion's ire is focused on the Enemy - the Corruption beyond the High Wall. It is one of the more - if not the most - active in the fight against the Corruption.

Capitol: Viridian Grove. The Viridian Grove - a great tree of natural power - along with the city that surrounds it, houses the center political mass of the Legion. The Grove is a great fairy oak tree reaching hundreds of meters in height, irrigated by the mountain springs of Hollunberg from above and the leylines of Terre from beneath. It is said that Faeven themselves planted the seed of the grove millenias ago, and no matter myth or truth, the druidic abilities of Terre is thanks to this Grove.

The Emerald Council governs Verza and the Legion from within the hollow chambers of the Viridian Grove. Generals of different armies of the Legion are appointed via special protocols, and held central power over the Legionnaires. Generals are usually appointed for life, so one may hold the title until their retirement - although this seldom happens, as many Legion marshals fight themselves on the front line and succumbed to the Enemy's corruption.

Shattered Gate is the other major city in Verza under control of the Legion. Previously the capitol of the Forgotten Empire, most of its architecture is kept intact together with added districts and buildings, forming rings of different histories around the Shattered Gate in the center. The Gate is a broken-down rune-carved stone structure, used in the height of the Forgotten Empire to commence travel between Terre and the Nether Plane. Destroyed in the Empire's downfall, now the Legion keeps it under their hands, to stop netheric entities from leaking into Terre.

6.8 Nomadic State of Maltross

- Capitol: Crestwatch
- Official Language: Infernal Common
- Inhabitant Races: Outlander Races, Gnomes, Halflings

- Approximate Form of Government: Representative Democracy
- Head of State Title: Farseer of the Nomad's Committee
- Current Head of State: Farseer Lokostrich

A society of nomadic warriors of mixed races. Most civilized outlander races on this side of the High Wall resides here.

Maltrosians are nomadic by nature. Different groups, by family, race, status, or friendship, roams the grasslands and savannas of maltrosian territories to graze and travel, or fight the Corruption if they ever wander close to the High Wall.

Capitol: Fleethall. Fleethall is a giant floating megastructure serving as the capitol city of Maltross. Fleethall roams the western region of Maltross, serving as more or less the final supply station on the Maltross side of the road to Bladefall and the High Wall.

The Nomad's Committee is the major legislation of Maltross. Each race with recognized presence within Maltross elects a representative to serve within the committee. One representative each year is elected Farseer of Maltross, cycling between races annually.

6.9 Provincial Empire of Okeanos

- Capitol: Monosios
- Official Language: Abyssal
- Inhabitant Races: Tieflings
- Approximate Form of Government: Aristocratic Autocracy
- Head of State Title: Emperor
- Current Head of State: Emperor Vagos Pateridis

An isolated aristocratic empire located on the far north-western side of Terre, along the coast of the oceanic expanse. Society here has little to no contact with the outside, maintaining a xenophobic and technophobic attitude.

Remnants of the Forgotten Empire, a Tiefling monarchy that ruled over western Terre long ago. Okeanos is the only province unconquered by the empire's downfall due to its defensive capabilities.

The lands of Okeanos are known for their natural beauty. In the times of the Forgotten Empire, Okeanos is the vacation resort for aristocrats and nobles all around Terre, an unfortunate attraction that led to the downfall of the Forgotten Empire.

Almost all Okeanosians are conservative, xenophobic Tieflings. Their aristocratic pride and prejudice against the outside world, as well as their history with them, does not work well towards the favor of other races in here. Although foreigners and foreign technologies are not outright outlawed, they are held against extreme prejudice, and often endangered by hostility. Capitol: Monosios.

6.10 Mages' Guild at Labyrinthine

- Capitol: Clock Tower at Labyrinthine
- Official Language: Infernal Common
- Inhabitant Races: Various
- Approximate Form of Government: Aristocratic Oligarchy
- Head of State Title: Lords of the Clock Tower
- Current Head of States:
 - Lord Benedict **Kellerhals** Faroin
 - Lord Elliott **Strahdholme**
 - Lord **Wollovique** Jasae-Ri
 - Lord Camille **D'Alessandro**
 - Lord Matthijs **Van Der Borre**
 - Lord Karsten-Frederik **Westergaard**
 - Lord Felix **Aslingarde** De Meyer
 - Lord Sjolvick **Mannerheim**

A Mages' Guild controlling the region of Labyrinthine.

Capitol: Clock Tower at Labyrinthine. The Clock Tower and its surroundings houses Terre's most prominent academy mages and their students.

Eight aristocratic families within Clock Tower each specializes in one school of magic. The leader of each family are crowned Lords of the clock tower, and their collective opinions control

the Mages' Guild and often the entire arcane society of Terre. The Eight Lords and families however fights amongst themselves for political, historical, and ideological reasons, only acting with accordance for common interest.

Labyrinthine has an Archmage - a less commonly known fact. The Eight Lords holds immense power over the arcane society of Terre, but even they reserve some respect, or even fear, to the Archmage of Labyrinthine, as even all eight of them combining their power (an unlikely event itself) would only allow them an edge against the Archmage. Perhaps fortunate for them, the Archmage has little interest in the political matters of Labyrinthine, and pretty much little interest in mortal affairs at all. They often indulge themselves in arcane researches and masteries over the mystic energies, a maddening pursuit of knowledge, and only interferes with events they deem worthy of this interruption. The aristocrats of Labyrinthine refer to the shadow above as 'The Hidden Lord' - a fitting name.

The Mages' Guild since its establishment has remained largely independent and neutral in political and diplomatic affairs. It is also the only political entity with non-trivial diplomatic relationships with the Provincial Empire of Okeanos, which recognizes the aristocracy and magical prowess of the Guild.

7 Religion & Spirituality

Available domains (To-Be-Homebrewed ones in bold): Arcana, **Balance**, **Chaos**, Death, Forge, **Freedom**, Grave, Knowledge, Life, Light, **Luck**, Nature, Order, Peace, **Redemption**, Tempest, Trickery, Twilight, **Tyranny**, War.

The residents of Terre look up to the astral sky to seek help on those matters beyond mortal grasp. Their faith connects and intertwines with each other in the hands of entities of immense power known as gods or deities, who expend this given power at their will to aid their followers or their own purposes.

The deities of Terre are loosely partitioned into three categories: *Divinus Maioris*, *Divinus Patronus*, *Divinus Pars*.

7.1 Divinus Maioris: Major Deities

Divinus Maioris is a pantheon of major deities, representing a variety of moral alignments. The major deities are widely worshipped and recognized throughout Terre, some due to being antediluvian entities, and others due to the significance of historical events.

Orobos

- Adjective: Orobic
- Alignment: Lawful Good
- Domains: Knowledge, Peace, **Redemption**
- Titles: The Redeemer; Merit Seeker; The Scaled Sage.
- Holy Symbol: A tome embedding a broken sword.

From the beginning of time, the curiosity of humanity has created the zeniths and nadirs of history, and Orobos the ancient wyrm witnessed all of them. Knowledge is a dangerous force, the pursuit of it even more so, and Orobos aims to regulate it, lead humanity to the right future, a future of peace and prosperity. Even for those who have fallen and followed the dark paths, Orobos will find the good remaining in them, and guide them on the discovery of themselves, and ultimately their redemption. With his infinite wisdom comes the ultimate understanding, of not only the reason of others, the merit that remains, but also the nature of oneself.

Orobos watches over knowledge seekers, scholars, and those seeking redemption from the dark path. Followers of Orobos are curious and inquisitive, kind to friends and strangers alike, believes in the good of humanity, and only resorts to violence when necessary.

Strife

- Adjective: Strife
- Alignment: Lawful Neutral
- Domains: Death, Forge, War
- Titles: Arbiter of War; Smith of Conflict; The Metallic Giant.
- Holy Symbol: A pair of clashing weapon.

Some actions speak louder than words, and some violences are more efficient than diplomacies. Conflict is the tendency of humanity, brewing countless wars and clashes spanning different cultures and ages. While many abhor and denounce violence and the waging of war, those devoted to Lord Strife view them as simply one of the natural laws of the world, just like the cycle of life and death. The strong shall rule, and the weak shall obey, as after all, what is merit without the strength to enact them?

Strife is the guardian of soldiers, enforcers, and weaponsmiths. Followers of Strife believes that strength is the greatest virtue, and that conflict is a necessity for advancement. They do not blindly engage in violence however, but those that they deem beneficial and progressive.

Apocryph

- Adjective: Apocryphan
- Alignment: Lawful Evil
- Domains: Grave, Knowledge, **Redemption**.
- Titles: The Hidden One; One of a Thousand Faces; The Misty Veil.
- Holy Symbol: A hand making a shushing gesture.

From aristocrats in Monosios to street urchins in the Perani wastes, everyone keeps secrets, whether a benevolent one to comfort others, or a sinister one to cover past sins. But no secret

escapes the veil of the Hidden One, who frequents the dreams of those guilty of hiding the truth. People have described them in many forms, as strangers from the streets, or childhood friends, or creatures that only exist in the wildest imaginations, but while no one can decipher the secrets of the secret keeper, the whispers assure one thing: what is hidden shall be hidden, and what belongs to the grave shall be brought to the grave.

Apocryph keeps the secrets of sinners and saints alike, watches over the safekeeping of such secrets until the day it shall be revealed, if it comes at all. Followers of Apocryph view secrets as the most powerful kind of knowledge, and the keeping of secrets a sacred act. They help those who suffers the inconvenience or misfortune of secrets, to resolve their problems discretely and gracefully.

Gloria

- Adjective: Glorian
- Alignment: Neutral Good
- Domains: Light, Order, War
- Titles: First of the Light; The Torchbearer; The Radiant Justicar.
- Holy Symbol: A radiant burning torch.

Order, justice, valor, such are the foundations of society. The Goddess of the Light, Gloria, safeguards over these values atop the Crest of Terre, bearing the radiant torch against the darkness within humanity. Her unshaking and unfaltering will inspires all that believes in and serves the light, for as long as there is justice, there is hope, and as long as there is hope, there is a future.

Gloria leads and inspires those that seek to bring order and justice to the world. Followers of Gloria, often times in service to the Church of Gloria in the Divine Glorian Empire, stand against evildoers and those in service to the dark gods, spreading the light of justice in her name.

Arcanum

- Adjective: Arcanis
- Alignment: True Neutral
- Domains: Arcana, Knowledge, Tempest

- Titles: The Torrential Tide; The Keymaster; The Bringer of Arcane.
- Holy Symbol: A whirlpool with an eye in the middle.

Every practitioner of netheric arcane owes a part, if not all of their magic to Arcanum, the deity that brought this power upon Terre. It is said that in a time before time, when humanity is still blinded by their ignorance, the old lords bargained with Arcanum to bring forth the opening of the Shattered Gate, flooding the arcane torrents in the skies of Terre with mana, fueling the advancing of a new age. The Gate have since then fallen into disrepair, but its Keymaster still yet linger in the land, revered for his vast knowledge and the fables he have achieved, as the father of all arcane.

Arcanum's power and legacy is passed down by all netheric arcane casters and practitioners. Followers of Arcanum studies the arcane arts, the theories of magic casting, and pursue the secrets and knowledges that he holds.

Astarte

- Adjective: Astartite
- Alignment: Neutral Evil
- Domains: **Freedom**, Twilight, War
- Titles: The Dawning Star; The Primordial Lust; Mistress of Oath.
- Holy Symbol: Rings encompassing celestial nebulae.

Wealth, power, fame, the desires of humanity knows no bound, but the most primordial of them is the desire to love, to be loved. There are many who seeks love, and many more who will not know love, it is indeed such a fickle thing. The goddess Astarte is one who witnesses the concept, which by that alone gives her dominion over many things: The war waged under the name of love, the eternal oaths made under the witness of the starlit night sky, and perhaps most important of all, the freedom to love and to be loved, to follow one's heart at self will, the greatest freedom of all.

Astarte watches over all lovers and love-seekers under the astral sky, as well as all things done in the name of love. By extension, the sacred oaths made, whether for love or for other means, is administered by her authority. Followers of Astarte are romantics, guides of lovers, supervisors of the making and breaking of oaths.

Furion

- Adjective: Furian
- Alignment: Chaotic Good
- Domains: **Balance**, Life, Nature
- Titles: Will of the Land; The World Gardener; The Druidfather.
- Holy Symbol: A great tree surrounded by vines.

In the beginning, Terre is a barren land, void of life and meaning. Then the land awakened, acquired a will of its own, and enacted it upon the world. Thus walks Furion, Will of the Land itself, who roams Terre, spreading the seed of life. His waving hand caressed the land as the wind, his footsteps left behind forests and jungles, his staff drew the leylines of Terre and irrigated it with his power, the land's power. All druids of Terre inherit their power from the legacy of Furion, the World Gardener, the Druidfather.

Furion is the god of nature, of the land of Terre itself, and gifts all druidic practitioners a fragment of his power. Followers of Furion seek balance upon the land, and are responsible of mending the leylines of the tears and incursions by either the arcane torrents or the enemies of nature.

Mizu'Karas

- Adjective: Mizu'Karan
- Alignment: Chaotic Neutral
- Domains: **Chaos**, Trickery, Tempest
- Titles: Lady of Tempest; The Siren Mother; Matron of Discord.
- Holy Symbol: A sapphire charged with lightning energies.

When the sea was still calm, ships would frequent the open seas surrounding Terre, on one hand greatly expediting trade and travel, on the other putting countless lives at the mercy of goddess Mizu'Karas, the Lady of Tempest, Matron of Discord. Her blessing and wrath come haphazardly, and those brave enough to challenge her domain are met with her ruthless trials, and often times fated to the cold, dark abyss below.

Mizu'Karas is chaotic and unpredictable, but sometimes sailors, merchants, or brave, thrill-seeking seafarers might just be fortunate enough to receive her blessings. Followers of Mizu'Karas tend to enact the protection granted by their goddess on these travellers, or call upon the surging storm and the crashing wave to punish those that dare disrespect the Lady.

Goetia

- Adjective: Goetian
- Alignment: Chaotic Evil
- Domains: Arcana, Forge, **Tyranny**
- Titles: The Demon Lord; World Ender; The Enslaver.
- Holy Symbol: A demon skull engraved with a Pentagram on the forehead.

The fiends of the Nether plane is a rare sight upon the waking realm of Terre, and a single one of them can wreck havoc unseen in a life time. But all fiends shall dwarf and bow before the Lord of Demons, the World Ender, the father of all fiends, Goetia. Exorcists and mystics travel the land in attempts to patch the tears between planes, in fear of the great demon escaping into the world, but to him, perhaps the apocalypse is only a matter of time.

Tieflings have roamed Terre for centuries since the Ascending, having risen from ruin and fallen from grace, but deep within each of them is the boiling fiendish blood, branding them as the miscreations and slaves of Goetia, who ironically watches over them with a malevolent smile, mocking the cruel fate that eventually shall fall upon the race.

Being the patron deity of Tieflings, Goetia indeed granted them the chance to be, a bitter origin met with more often resentment than acceptance. Followers of Goetia seek their master's overwhelming power for their own goals, and will often disregard that of others as irrelevant.

7.2 Divinus Patronus: *Patron Deities*

Divinus Patronus is a pantheon of deities that watches over specific races of inhabitants of Terre, whether as their creator, their progenitor, their emancipator, or their guardian.

Pandeus

- Alignment: Chaotic Good

- Domains: **Freedom**, Peace, War.
- Titles: The Chain-Breaker; The Rebel.
- Holy Symbol: A pair of broken shackles.

Pandeus is the patron god of Humans. He embodies the freedom and potential of humans, earned from the grasps of the Forgotten Empire only after their rebellion during the Tides of Steel.

Dolnar

- Alignment: Lawful Neutral
- Domains: Forge, Grave, Order.
- Titles: King in the Mountain (Bergentrückung); The Atlas Smith.
- Holy Symbol: An anvil and a smithing hammer.

Dolnar is the patron god of Dwarves. He is in rumors the smith that forged many divine constructs held by legends throughout time.

Sylph

- Alignment: Chaotic Neutral
- Domains: **Freedom**, Light, Trickery.
- Titles: Fairy of the Wind; The Mischievous.
- Holy Symbol: A flute made of golden strings.

Faeven

- Alignment: Chaotic Neutral
- Domains: **Freedom**, Life, Tempest.
- Titles: Hermit of the Woods; The Tenacious.
- Holy Symbol: A leaf whistle.

Sylph and Faeven are twin patron gods of the Elves. Sylph watches over High-Elves while Faeven guards Wood-Elves.

Shakari

- Alignment: Lawful Evil
- Domains: Death, **Tyranny**, War.
- Titles: The Dunestrider; The Exiled Mistress.
- Holy Symbol: The tail of a scorpion.

Shakari is the patron goddess of Outlanders. She takes the form of a giant black scorpion. She embodies the unruly culture and pride of the Outland.

Xbeltz'Aloc

- Alignment: True Neutral
- Domains: Grave, Nature, War.
- Titles: The Festering; The Nightcrawler.
- Holy Symbol: A war mask with three diamond-shaped eye sockets.

Xbeltz'Aloc is the Yharnic patron god of Skinwalkers. He takes forms of animals wearing the mask of his symbol.

Caspor

- Alignment: Lawful Good
- Domains: Knowledge, **Luck**, Peace.
- Titles: The Warm Welcome; Folk of the Hills.
- Holy Symbol: A burning bonfire.

Caspor is the patron god of Gnomes and Halflings. He is the personification of kinship, friendship, and hospitality.

7.3 Divinus Pars: *Minor Deities*

Divinus Pars is a pantheon of deities of lesser power, influence, or importance.

Strange

- Alignment: True Neutral
- Domains: **Balance**, **Luck**, Order
- Titles: The Grand Weaver, Fate's Shadow, The Clairvoyant.
- Holy Symbol: An hourglass half-finished.

Leaves falling, water flowing, people living and passing, all guided and directed by the mysterious force known as fate, propelled by the passage of time. But what do mortals have control over the prowess of time and fate? So they turn to the sky, beseeching the boon and protection of Strange. Sitting on his throne in the endless void, Strange watches silently over the mortal realm, its every single tick of the clock, every single action and their consequences, threading and weaving the fabrics with the tip of his fingers. What fate shall come from the shadows of this mysterious deity? Only time will tell.

Strange is indeed a strange figure, even among the deities. Many devote a part of their faith to him, but rarely will one worship him and receive his blessings, as time and fate is a part of everything but never the entirety of anything. He watches over everyone with disinterest and detachment, for reasons and matters beyond mortal comprehension.

The Elder Wyrn

- Alignment: Neutral Good
- Domains: Arcana, **Balance**, Grave.
- Titles: The Dragon Martyr; The Undeparted.
- Holy Symbol: A draconic claw clenching a star.

The Elder Wyrn is the last of the dragon kind, left behind to keep watch over the world they once walked.

Fass

- Alignment: Chaotic Neutral
- Domains: **Chaos**, Forge, Light.
- Titles: Helio's Rage.
- Holy Symbol: A solar eclipse.

Vome

- Alignment: Lawful Neutral
- Domains: Death, Order, Twilight.
- Titles: Lune's Pride.
- Holy Symbol: A lunar eclipse.

Fass and Vome are twin gods of the astral bodies: Helios, the sun; and Lune, the moon. They are in eternal combat over the skies of Terre.

Wondox

- Alignment: True Neutral
- Domains: **Freedom**, **Luck**, Trickery.
- Titles: The Lone Traveller; The Wanderer.
- Holy Symbol: A map scroll.

Wondox is the god of travellers, blessing them with safety and good journeys.

Paimon

- Alignment: Neutral Evil
- Domains: Death, Knowledge, Trickery.
- Titles: The Forbidden King; The Guide of Sins.

- Holy Symbol: A serpent restraining an apple.

Paimon is the counterpart of Orobos, luring and tricking seekers and scholars to the forbidden knowledge.

Flauros

- Alignment: Chaotic Evil
- Domains: **Chaos**, Tempest, **Tyranny**.
- Titles: The Mad Prince.
- Holy Symbol: A dark metallic crown of thorns.

Flauros is a maddening figure that is feared across Terre, rumored to be the source of all madness.

Oune

- Alignment: Neutral Good
- Domains: **Freedom**, Life, Peace.
- Titles: The All Muse.
- Holy Symbol: A chipped halo of enlightenment.

Oune is the goddess of music and watches over bards and performers.

Prospero

- Alignment: Lawful Evil
- Domains: **Luck**, Order, Trickery.
- Titles: The Collector; The Capricious Charity.
- Holy Symbol: A weighing scale.

Prospero is the god of coins and greed, watching over merchants and gamblers. He is held with high respect in the region of Perani.

8 Magic & Technology

8.1 Arcane Trichotomy

The arcane energies in Terre can be classified into three major categories: Netheric, Druidic, or Faith. The three forces flow independently in Terre, but can intertwine and interfere with the medium of arcane casters.

Netheric arcane. Netheric arcane represent the mystical and supernatural energies not of this world. These energies are more destructive, focusing on raw power over intricacy.

Netheric arcane energies flow above Terre in mana canals known as Arcane Torrents. The current Arcane Torrents are filled with manae from the Nether Plane, flowing out of the Shattered Gate, emanating across Terre and dissipating into the void over the Infinite Expanse. This is the legacy of the Ascending, when the Tieflings of the Forgotten Empire forged the Shattered Gate and ascended into Terre, also freeing the netheric arcanes into the arcane torrents.

Wizards and warlocks utilize these energies to their bidding, drawing from the torrents to refill the mana canals within themselves. Sorcerers generate energies within themselves, but their genesis is due to the interference of netheric energies from without.

Druidic. Druidic energies presents nature, innate power, and the will of the land. Druidic energies invoke powers natural to Terre, often more restorative and balancing.

Druidic energies cycle below Terre in the Leylines. Most leylines flow out from the Viridian Grove, traversing Terre and reconvening back into the Viridian Grove. Viridian Grove is according to legend and myth planted by Faeven themselves, and whether fictional or not, the giant fairy oak is a feat of nature, empowering and amplifying druidic leyline energies to mend the lands.

Druids and rangers draw from the leylines beneath to power their acts, and these energies once expended seeps back through the land into the leylines, available for use to others.

Faith. Faith is a collective category of energies that originates from the mind. Strong beliefs, whether of faith or of fear, can hold power and shape minor reality into their will.

Faith in Terre originates from each sentient individual to each other, with divinities such as gods or patrons as medians.

Clerics and Paladins use their religious faith to empower their spells and abilities. Bards power themselves off the faith in their own words, and others' belief that words do hold power.

8.2 Firearms

By the AC 1411, firearms have been introduced to Terre for more than 450 years. Despite this, most firearms within the hands of peasants or everyday adventurers are still rather primitive. More intricate firearms, whether due to mechanism or magic, are expensive and hard to come by.

Most firearms are considered martial ranged weapons. Characters with martial weapon or firearm proficiency can wield firearms with reasonable success. Certain firearms are considered exotic weapons and requires firearm proficiency to properly wield.

Firearms may have the following traits: Ammunition + Range. Firearms use bullets for ammunition unless specified, and typically have less range than bows. Most firearm ammunition are destroyed upon use. Some firearms can use specific resources as ammunition. Two-Handed. Light. Heavy. Point-Blank. Firearms with the Point-Blank property can ignore disadvantage when attacking in melee range, if the only enemy within melee range is the target of your attack. Reload. Firearms must be reloaded after a specific number of uses. A character can use an action or a bonus action to reload a firearm. A character not proficient with a firearm must use both their action and bonus action to reload. Reloading firearms requires a free hand, but you can hold a finesse weapon you are proficient with while reloading.

Some standard-issue martial firearms are listed below: Flintlock Pistol, 50 gp, 2 lb. 2d4 piercing. Ammo (30/90), Light, Point-Blank, Reload (2). Musket, 100 gp, 8 lb. 2d6 piercing. Ammo (90/270), Two-Handed, Heavy, Reload (1). Double-Barrel Shotgun, 150 gp, 4 lb. 3d4 bludgeoning. Ammo (10/20), Two-Handed, Point-Blank, Reload (2).

A feat supporting firearm fighters is: Gunslinger. Dex +1, no prereqs. You gain proficiency with firearms. When you use the Attack action and attack with a one-handed weapon, you can use a bonus action to attack with a light firearm you are holding.

Plans exist to implement a firearm archetype for Fighters, Rogues, and Rangers.

9 Homebrew Mechanics