

Automata

First campaign for the discord team.

Chapter I - Environment

1.1 Master Clockmaker

The man

The whole epic is built around one character, Master **Balthazar Zemeckis*** of the POE. He is a highly qualified engineer whose speciality is clockworking, the art of building automats.

One could easily assume that such a carrier domain might be totally inappropriate in the empire for many reasons, but, like his master *Olem Ratugas* before him, he worked his path through power groups and the Church to ensure that none might easily harm his business.

In 4983 AD, Radugas founded the High College of the Clockwork, based at first on Istakhr. At first, it was an undercover activity, the goal of the clockmaker being to reproduce golem having the shape of humans, but bearing no real sentience. What Ratugas achieved at this time with his apprentice was to make dolls having at best the temper of a domesticated dog. This was the first generation. They needed to be tamed, or educated, as they have no natural feral state, to be able to do simple tasks, like carrying water in the desert. The first batch of automats that made the Brotherhood famous in the Empire was a special unit, the white faces, used on Stigmata, deployed with equipment and weapons and going through enemy lines without being detected, passing for dead if they attracted the attention of the symbiots. This was a great success and the emperor saw a great interest in a technology that would allow to resist the symbiots. The Church did not officially sanctioned the brotherhood, but an Act from the Patriarch, *Lex Automata* was dispatched in the high instances of the Church when the white faces helped the rescue of the first Manifest Light platoon.

To these days, the clockwork is supposed to be closely watched by the Church, but as its usage is highly restricted by financial matters and the specifications clearly written and shared to whoever needs them, the business is flourishing.

Zemeckis is the heir of the High College of the Clockwork. The numbers of Clockmakers is really scarce, around 300 members at best in the empire, and 150 of them are only maintaining existing automats. One hundred more are barely reproducing existing automats from Radugas initial works, replacing the ones that cannot be repaired. 25 of the last 50 members have only achieved, once or twice, to create a generation II automat. the last 25 are the true clockmakers, dispatched in the whole empire. Only five of them, Zemeckis included, are able to compare their work to the work of Radugas, expending even the innovation to create generation III and IV prototypes.

The inner council of the High Colledge of the Clockwork:

- **Balthazar Zemeckis***, Samarkand, Istakhr, Al-Malik fiefs.
- **Mae Lin Breguet***, Avaneir, Rampart, Li Halan fiefs.
- **Ivan Ipsevicz***, Lyonesse, Delphi, Hawkwood fiefs
- **Harvenor Russel***, Corinth, Tethys, Imperial fiefs
- [**kiera_zeneter was not found**], Deleb, Pentateuch, Church fiefs

Balthazar Zemeckis (†)

Harvenor Russel (†)

Ivan Ipsevicz (†)

Mae Lin Breguet (†)

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