

Terminology

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abbod The high priest or priestess of a Tasmanite temple or school.

amicus (ah-MEE-koos)/**amica** (ah-MEE-kah) “Friend.”

Lornish term used by magi to denote a particularly close colleague. Pl. *amici* (ah-MEE-kee) if the group is mixed.

artes liberales (AR-tays lee-bare-AHL-ays) “liberal arts” The seven *artes liberales*, or liberal arts, are the basis of higher education. They are called liberal (*Lorn: liber*, “free”), because they serve the purpose of training the free man, as opposed to skills requiring physical labor, known as *artes serviles* (servile arts). The *artes liberales* are divided into two groups: the *Trivium* (grammar, logic, and rhetoric) and the *Quadrivium* (arithmetic, geometry, astronomy, and music). Greater emphasis is placed on the *Trivium*, but both are taught. Of the seven, logic is considered the most important.

beadsman/beadswoman One who regularly prays for the welfare of another. This is often done in exchange for services, favors, protection, etc.

black raid Attack by a noble family against a rival house and/or its allies, conducted without flags or other heraldic insignia. The attacking house makes no formal declaration of war, and denies all involvement afterward, theoretically foregoing any official recompense or punishment.

blood oath A powerful and magically-binding oath, most commonly administered by a priest of Uriah or Aeshandra. Those who have taken blood oaths are forbidden to pursue any unrelated course of action until the oath is carried out. Recipients of a blood oath are marked with a ritual wound (usually on the palm of the dominant hand), which does not heal until the conditions of the oath are fulfilled. *See also: crusader’s oath*

bloodmark A ritual wound created during a *blood oath* ceremony. A bloodmark does not fade until the conditions of the oath are fulfilled. Such wounds are also said to cause great pain to those who deviate from their appointed task.

blue-blooded Insulting term used to describe an unscrupulous or unfeeling person. Refers to the blue blood of the Saphirians.

certámen (kare-TAH-men) “Duel.” A formal wizard’s duel, developed in Rillia to settle challenges without serious injury or death. Pl. *certámina* (kare-TAH-mee-nah).

commons The common people.

compurgator *See: oath-helper*

consors (KAHN-sors) “Cohort.” Lornish name magi give to trusted companions who accompany them on journeys. Pl. *consortes* (kahn-SOR-tays).

crusader’s oath A common form of blood oath in which a crusader states the number of infidel (typically 101) he will slay before returning to his homeland.

cup Occasionally used in conversation by Caidianites as a reference to duty or fate. For example: “I cannot drink from your cup,” “you must choose your own cup,” “let not this cup pass...” etc.

custos (KOOS-tohs) “Guardian.” Lornish name reserved for an especially valued cohort or henchman. Pl. *custodes* (koos-TODE-ays).

domina Aeshandran religious title, roughly equivalent to abbess. The male equivalent is *domo*.

Dorak Maneuver Military slang for a foolish, ill-planned, or suicidal attack strategy (i.e. only Dorak could survive). Variants exist: “Marching in Dorak’s Army,” etc.

Elder Age Historical time period prior to the Chaos War. Generally believed to have been a time of great achievement, advanced learning, and powerful magic.

eyre (AIR) A circuit court held by the king or itinerant justices acting in his name, usually at intervals of a few years.

Fabian’s Gifts/Fabian’s Harvest Slang term for unpleasant consequences which come about as a result of foolish actions. The origin of the expression is unknown, but probably has something to do with the number of children born around the ninth day of Fabian (i.e. seven months after the Grand Loving).

familiaris An intimate, a member of the *familia* or household of the king or other great man. In Aridane the term is particularly used to refer to those close friends, counsellors, aides, and assistants of the king who owe their standing and authority to their intimacy with the ruler, but who do not hold any formally constituted office or title. Pl. *familiares*.

famulus An apprentice to a magus or scholar.

high-collared An insult, used to imply that the victim is a knave, thief, or otherwise less honorable than he appears. From the Kesh practice of tattooing slaves and other servants on the neck...a high collar conceals the markings.

High Lawday A day when Caledar’s three largest moons are full in the evening (every third Lawday).

hynden An association of ten men, from whom *compurgators* are chosen in a legal case involving a deadly feud.

imperial Gold coin minted by the old Tallen Empire.

intercessor An ecclesiastical go-between who prays to a god on behalf of a layman. The practice of intercession is believed to be useful in obtaining a god’s favor, acquiring hidden knowledge, and as a means of atonement for sins.

Lornerati The educated. A general term used to refer to scholars, teachers, priests of Tasman, and magi. Essentially: “those who use Lornish.”

Lornish Ancient language of the Elder Age. Predominantly used by priests and scholars. Lornish has ceremonial and official uses among the nobility, especially when communicating with their foreign counterparts. Lornish is also a power language, which trained mages and magicians can use to work magic.

magus (MAH-goos)/**maga** (MAH-gah) “Wise one.” This term was originally applied to Pavian mystics, but later came to mean a wizard with the True Gift. Pl. *magi* (MAH-gee).

mainour In a legal sense, denotes the thing taken or stolen by a thief. To be “taken with the *mainour*” is to be captured

- with the thing stolen on one's person, and deprives the accused of the right of compurgation.
- marks** Also called "merchant's marks." Plain square coins of various metals, minted by Kystfeldan merchants. Known for their standard size and weight, and preferred by many over the debased currencies minted by monarchs. Such coins have no markings, but have holes in the center which enable them to be kept on money strings.
- matemasie** Kesh character for wisdom and knowledge, also used as a title similar to *magus*.
- mazunga** *Kesh*: A foreigner, literally, "one who is not of the people."
- nakala** "fire-maker." Sapphirrian term for those who use fire or fire-related magic. The word carries insulting connotations, and is used in battle to indicate primary targets for attack.
- noble** Aridan gold piece. Current nobles are stamped with the image of King Anton III.
- nya** Priestess of Lorelli. The male equivalent is *nyon*.
- oath-helper** (or *compurgator*) One who supports the oath of another. A man who, in court, is required to prove his assertions by "waging his law" swears a solemn oath to the truth of his declarations, and must be supported by oath-helpers who testify an oath to his truthfulness. Custom, or the court, specifies the number of oath-helpers required.
- This term is also used to denote secondary participants in a blood oath. In this case, the oath-helpers are secondary supporters who swear to take up the cause of the primary candidate if he fails to accomplish his goal.
- Ordo Magica** (OR-doh MAH-gee-kah) Lornish, literally "houses of magic." This term can indicate the practitioners of magic in general, but is more commonly used when referring to the nine political houses of the Concilium.
- Ordo Nobilis** Lornish for "noble houses." The aristocratic families of any kingdom, though the term is most commonly used in Rillia.
- penny** Aridan copper piece. The smallest denomination of currency available. Current pennies are stamped with the image of Prince Anton DuRoy.
- pleas of the crown** The more serious crimes, breaches of the king's peace, and specially designated offenses such as concealment of treasure trove and crimes involving magic, jurisdiction over which can be exercised by no one except officers of the crown.
- prefect** A high-ranking cleric, usually in charge of a diocese. A prefect of the highest rank is known as an *archprefect*, and heads an archprefecture or province.
- primus** First mage of the Concilium. While not the supreme ruler of Rillia, the Primus is foremost among its leaders.
- refuge** A Caidianite monastery.
- redcap** A herald employed by the *Concilium* or *Curia* of Rillia, named for the headgear they wear as a badge of office. In Rillia, redcaps are protected by the same laws as magi even if they lack arcane powers.
- roundel** A small sphere of precious metal inscribed with runes, used as currency in Rillia. Roundels are minted in gold, silver, copper, electrum, and platinum.
- sanctum** Temple of Caidian.
- silvestris** A druid of Delaeni. Pl. *silvestri*.
- sovereign** Aridan platinum piece. None have been minted since before the civil war. When found, these rare coins are usually bear the image of Anton II.
- talent** Aridan silver piece. The most common coin used. Current talents are stamped with the image of King Anton III.
- thrice-dark night/thricenight** A night when Caledar's three largest moons are new (every third Clenday).
- True Gift** The ability to use the higher orders of magic. In game terms, the ability to use spells of 3rd level or higher in categories other than divination and illusion. This ability is extremely rare.
- truthsight** An innate magical ability to sense whether or not a given creature speaks the truth. A small minority of all children are born with this ability, apparently at random. It can be simulated (and deceived) by magical means.
- villein** One of the class of serfs—the legally unfree. A peasant occupier or cultivator entirely subject to a lord and bound in service to a manor. (This term lacks the modern connotation of evil that evolved as the word "villain.")
- wager of battle** Trial by combat, introduced to Aridane and Tringarde by Anton I. Wagers of battle are permitted only for disputes in martial courts of chivalry and honor, in appeals of felony, or in land disputes when a claimant may have a true right, but is unable to prove it to a jury because of the death of witnesses or other defects of evidence.
- wager of law** To wage one's law is to defend an accusation in court by swearing a formal oath of innocence, supported by the oaths of *compurgators* (see *oath-helper*).
- vim** (WEEM) "Power." The force of magic itself.