



YE DRAGON'S TONGUE



A COLLECTION OF TERMS AND
NOTATIONS USED BY
MAGISTERS AND STUDENTS
OF THE ARCANE WORLD

COLLATED BY MAGISTERS ROB SWALLOW
AND STEVE DARLINGTON

Aethyric stigmata: another term for arcane marks.

aethyr crystal: another name for warpstone. also solid aethyrium.

aethyric discharge: another name for tzeentch's curse.

as teclis said: true beyond questioning. normally used at the start or end of a sentence, in order to silence apprentices who ask too many questions, or to emphasise the importance of a statement.

Bestials: magisters of the amber order. also totemists, animists.

big-hatted: a wizard who wants the whole world to know of his power and mastery.

blind, the: collective name for the general population who lack magical ability.

BLIND HANDS: agents who unknowingly work for the GREY ORDER.

BORDER PRINCE POSTING: a harsh punishment, OR the threat of one. "If the patriarch catches us, it's a BORDER PRINCE POSTING!"

BORN OF GHYRAN: a JADE MAGISTERS whose parents were also members of JADE ORDER are often said to be BORN OF GHYRAN.

BRIGHTS: member of the BRIGHT ORDER. also sparks, sprites, quishies ~ the last a humorous pronunciation of aqshy, the RED WIND.

BRIGHTS' BANE: WINTER, from magisters of the BRIGHT ORDERS extreme dislike of COLD weather.

BY THE OAKS OF NEMETSTEM: popular oath of the JADE ORDER. the GROVE NEMETSTEM BEING an important site of the ORDER.

CALL OF THE WILD: the desire for natural solitude that affects members of the AMBER ORDER.

CLEAR AS KUIPER'S NOTATIONS: not very clear. GERHARD KUIPER was a member of the CELESTIAL ORDER who devised a system of notation for recording the movements and position of heavenly BODIES, to CELESTIAL MAGISTERS it represents elegant simplicity, to others it just looks like a load of squiggles.

CRUCIBLE (the): common name for the main lecture theatre at the GOLDEN ORDER'S COLLEGE.

DAGBARR'S CAVE: DAGBARR'S CAVE in the AMBER HILLS forms part of the initiation ritual of the AMBER ORDER. the nature of the ORDEAL is never spoken of but is believed to be different for each participant. "I saw the storm of chaos with my own eyes boy, and I tell you boy I have not been as scared since I was in DAGBARR'S CAVE".

DARK ONES: magisters of the AMETHYST ORDER. also silent ones, scythers.

EMBRACE THE AETHYR: to be killed by your own magic.

FALLEN FROM THE STARS: those who fail the entrance exam for the CELESTIAL ORDER but are given letters of introduction to become chanters at the COLLEGE OF LIGHT are often said to have fallen from the stars.

FIVE HUNDRED LINES OF PUCHTA'S: copying out lines of Gottlieb PUCHTA'S a modest treatise on the nature of magic is a standard punishment for apprentices in most ORDERS.

FORUM (the): a philosophical debating society in ALTDORF frequented by magisters, especially those of the CELESTIAL, LIGHT and GOLD ORDERS.

FRIENDLY BARMAN: a merchant OR SERVICEMAN who knows how to show proper deference to a magister.

GARNERERS: magisters vigilant, collecting loose threads back to the order. also gatherers.

GLOW-WORMS: magisters of the light order, from their symbol the serpent of light. also shiners, candles.

GREENFINGERS: magisters of the jade order. also gardeners, druids.

GREEN LION: in the language of the gold order the green lion represents the beginning of a piece of work. gold magisters sometimes refer to their apprentices as green lions.

GREY EMINENCE: traditional nickname of the magister patriarch of the order of shadows, currently Reiner Starke.

GREY FAVOUR: the grey order often asks for payment in favours rather than money, this is seldom as advantageous as it first seems. hence any deal which is likely more than it seems.

HANDZUNGE: a system of hand signals used by the amethyst order.

HATLESS, TO GO: to hide your status as a wizard.

LABEL YOUR POTIONS: it doesn't matter how often they were told this as apprentices some magisters always forget! hence any rule magisters need to remember well.

LAST LESSON, THE: a polite way to refer to pacification. "he went off the syllabus, so had to be taught the last lesson".

LIKE TRYING TO TEACH A DWARF: dealing with a weak OR lazy apprentice.

LORD HIGH PROGNOSTICATOR: a title sometimes used by the magister patriarch of the celestial order.

MAGNUS THE WISE: magnus the pious, from his wisdom in allowing the creation of colleges of magic.

MANDRAKES: hedge wizards, from their frequent use of hallucinogenic plants.

METALLICS: magisters of the golden order. also moulders, alchemists. see smoggies.

MOOTLAND MAGISTER: utterly fictitious; frankly ridiculous. a reference to the utter inability of halflings to perceive OR wield the winds of magic.

Nuggets: a nickname for the power stones used by the Golden Order.

Off the syllabus: dabbling with chaos or other forbidden arts.

Pikemen: battle wizards.

Realm of the holly king: the time of year when Ghyran is at its weakest, the first new moon after the autumn equinox until mondstille.

realm of the oak king: the time of year when Ghyran is at its strongest, the first full moon after mitterfruhl and for two periods of the moon's waxing and waning after that.

red lion: in the alchemical language of the Gold Order the red lion represents the end of a piece of work. the red lion is also the name of a tavern in altdorf.

rotstrich: a potent spicy ale enjoyed by magisters of the Bright Order.

Seat of volans: the position of the supreme patriarch of the colleges of magic: magister volans of the Order of Light was the first to hold this position.

shadow cabinet: a group of high ranking magisters who control the spy network of the Grey Order

shadows: magisters of the Grey Order. also ghosts, greys.

silent order (the): a name sometimes used for the amethyst order.

silent skull (the): nickname for Viggo Hexensohn, magister patriarch of the Order of Shyish, from his appearance and demeanour.

skywalkers: journeyman magisters, used by master wizards. refers to their tendency to (mis)use lesser magics.

smoggies: patronizing nickname for magisters of the Golden Order, although in recent years some Gold magisters have started to use it to refer to their apprentices, from the haze of smog that hangs over the Gold College in altdorf.

squib/squibbies: affectionate term for apprentices, eg "apprentices these days, they don't know their born. things were very different when I was a squib".

staff breakers: witch hunters, from the common notion that a wizard's power

RESIDES IN HIS STAFF.

STARGAZERS: MAGISTERS OF THE CELESTIAL ORDER. ALSO SEERS, STARERS.

STARGAZER'S CRIMP: A DISORDER SAID TO AFFECT THE NECKS OF MAGISTERS OF THE CELESTIAL ORDER.

Teachers (the): ELVES.

TINDERBOX: A MAGISTER OF THE BRIGHT ORDER WHO IS ANGRY.

Unexpected aethyric fluctuation: A TECHNICAL TERM FOR TZEENTCH'S CURSE.

UNFRIENDLY NATIVES: ANY FORM OF DAEMONIC MANIFESTATION ~ THE TERM EXISTS AS A MEANS TO AVOID DIRECTLY REFERRING TO DAEMONS.

View from the high tower: THE OFFICIAL POSITION OF THE CELESTIAL COLLEGE, "BEFORE I SANCTION YOUR EXPEDITION TO THE BORDER PRINCES I WILL HAVE TO SEE WHAT THE VIEW FROM THE HIGH TOWER IS".

VON TRAPP'S THEOREM: THE ECCENTRIC GOLD MAGISTER OTTO VON TRAPP ADVICATED THAT WIZARDS SHOULD NEVER TRY TO CREATE POWERFUL MAGICAL ARTIFACTS AS THEY INEVITABLY GET STOLEN, ARE LOST OR ARE IN SOME WAY CORRUPTED BY THE CHAOS POWERS. HENCE A REFERENCE TO THIS THEOREM IS A WARNING AGAINST MAGICAL ITEMS.

Warden of the open portal: THE OFFICIAL TITLE OF THE STEWARD OF THE AMETHYST ORDER IN ALTDORF.

WAY WALKERS: JADE MAGISTERS WHO PATROL THE LEYLINES OF THE OLD WORLD.

WEB OF LIFE: A NAME USED BY THE JADE ORDER TO DESCRIBE THE NETWORK OF LEYLINES THAT CRISSCROSS THE GLOBE.

WISDOM OF SYCLUS: POSSESSING GREAT WISDOM. SYCLUS, A MAGISTER OF LIGHT, WAS ONE OF THE GREATEST PHILOSOPHERS IN THE OLD WORLD.

WYRD SEEKERS: MAGISTERS WHO LOOK TO RECRUIT HEDGE WIZARDS TO THEIR ORDERS.

