

Project Paleblood Lore Entries

Context

Tomes: eldritch books, scrawled notes, religious tracts and arcane grimoires, riffing on the idea of the “occult tome” from horror (and especially Lovecraftian horror). The description of each Tome indicates that it provides clues to the mysteries of the game’s narrative – however, in-keeping with the idea of occult tomes having some kind of cost for the knowledge they provide, the player’s Carnal Knowledge stat is erratically altered with every lore entry inside a Tome that they read.

Lxgxes: “sigils” or “runes” that are a byproduct of a desire or wish, which the player can use to change the game’s narrative (e.g., using “Awakened Appendage” changes any text involving the player character’s body to include tentacle-like appendages.) Lxgxses have a variety of properties (chiral vs amphichiral; clockwise or counterclockwise) which can further alter the text (e.g., using “Awakened Appendage” counterclockwise can cause tentacle-like appendages to appear on an NPC)

Quaigh: An item the player can use in rituals, taking the form of a small bowl. The name comes from a special drinking bowl used in Scotland.

Lore Entries

The Black Crop (Tome)

"The Black Crop, Part The First, Relating To The Daemonic Influences Manifested In Sinful Lust And Exorcised In Its Manner, Revealing The Denizens of the Pious Man's Hell, Signified By The Germane Application Of The Arcana Both Minor And Major."

A prohibited grimoire attributed to a “Velev of Varna”. Its blasphemous nature – coupled with what appeared to be an authentic understanding of thaumaturgic principles – made it a staple of occult libraries. However, the proliferation of arcane tomes in the centuries since have cast doubt upon its validity, as the Black Crop – and other tomes like it – appear to be plagiarised copies of older works, bastardised to fit around the occult symbol system a la mode; in this case, the Tarot. Still, many respected occultists swear by its contents.

The Temple Tunnels Vulgary (Tome)

"The Temple Tunnels Vulgary. A comprehensive classification of the demons of our mirror selves, hidden in the voidspace of the greatest of all temples: the Mansions of the Stars."

Despite the introduction's assertion of a "comprehensive classification", many inconsistencies, errors, and dubious conclusions fill its stiff and sometimes stuck-together pages. A member of the "vulgaries" - scandalous books of secrets, seductions and sorceries cut-out and cobbled together from various sources - the contents of the book are assembled from obscure grimoires, apocryphal biblical tracts, and pilgrimage incunabula, chopped up into a demonic hierarchy structured haphazardly around so-called “Counterclockwise Horoscopes”, with dubious results.

The Filial Edicts (Tome)

"The Revelation of the Holy Family and the rules of the House, for the Father makes all space under the stars his Mansion, for the Mother makes that Mansion fit for delivery, for the Child makes of that Mansion a home, at the centre of All."

This book -- or collection of books, more precisely -- forms the cornerstone of the church of the Holy Family. A thick tome containing scripture and parable covering an amalgamation of history, hagiography, duty, society and morality, all concerned with the preservation and salvation of the Holy Mother, Holy Father, and the surrogate Child delivered to them out of sympathy.

Monstrosity (Amphichiral Lxgxs)

A lxgxs of fiendish transformation. Used to trigger the manifestation of monstrous aspects latent in humankind. Its amphichiral nature ensures it can be cast with either the left or right hand (or other appendage).

Those who have been shunned or ostracised are so often called monsters, it should be no surprise that monstrosity could become a weapon, a shield – or a balm.

Awakened Appendage (Chiral Lxgxs)

A lxgxs of aberrant transformation. Used to trigger the manifestation of writhing, tentacle-like appendages, in accordance with how the lxgxs is constituted and conjugated.

How could one be said to have reached the higher dimensions of manifestation without new limbs to climb them with, new flesh to know them by?

Sacramental Quaigh (Chalice)

A shallow metal-and-glass drinking bowl with two small handles, decorated with a labyrinthine trifold knot motif, once used in holy rites. Caught between the refractions of light in the glass-bottomed vessel are glimpses of a place wholly other.

In the Church of the Holy Family, this drinking bowl represents both mundane revelry and sacred nourishment: the use of the quaigh in anything but household or ecclesiastical rites is a frequent subject in jeremiads bellowed at congregants from the church pulpits.

Carnal Quaigh (Chalice)

A shallow metal-and-glass drinking bowl with two small handles, decorated with the image of a human body, once used in ecstatic trance rites. Caught between the refractions of light in the glass-bottomed vessel are glimpses of a place wholly other.

Seekers of the Pure Mentality use this drinking bowl to imbibe their entheogenic brews: though the Church might condemn this blasphemy, many seekers characterise the resulting experience as both revelatory and sacred.