

Legend of the White Dragon

By Melanie Nilles

Dragon Prophecy
Dragon Legends
Dragon Legacy
Dragon Child

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Appendix A: Basics of Gairdra

Cavatar: Cavatar is divided into five provinces that form a confederation joined under one ruler, a king. However, the Advisory Council to the King of Cavatar is composed of provincial representatives, each with equal voice of the laws over their lands. Since the Isolders are the heirs to the leadership position and live in unrepresented territory, they have no binding loyalty to any one province. The white horse is the symbol of Rivonia. Aric Isolder adopted its use in the family crest when he formed an alliance with Rivonia, the enemy from across the Darnasian Sea. The five stars represent the five provinces of Cavatar.

Continents: Three of the five continents are in close proximity and are also the largest land masses. In order of size, from largest to smallest, they are Ayrule, Rivonia, and Voshtrau. The two smaller continents of Lotar and Caprion are more comparable to large islands. On Ayrule, the largest kingdom is Cavatar, which is actually a confederation of provincial governments under one central leader. Rivonia is named after the people who dominate in power--the Rivon--although the Caveshan Plains make up seventy percent of its territory and are named after the tribes that control the area. The majority of Voshtrau's territory is inhabitable as dry wastelands (Known as Amril Nos).

Dragon Wars: This is the time starting when the Red Clan was created to when they were put to sleep. The dragons were the first army formed by either side to defend the claims of their masters over control of Gairdra.

Linfrathâr: The name of the fortress means "mountain city". It was one of the domains of the Ancients before their Exodus to the three islands they now call home. The five-level city is located in the valley of Arronfel, which is hidden by an illusionary spell to keep out enemies. That magic does not extend beyond the mountain peaks around it.

Lumathir: The word Lumathir is a misspelled combination of the Gairdran words *lûmea*, meaning "light", and *m'athêrred*, meaning "children". Their order of priestesses began around the end of the dragon wars, a few hundred years before the founding of the Sh'lahmar. While Sh'lahmar guards are also considered *m'athêrred rî Lûmea*, or "children of the Light", they are generally not referred to by the word Lumathir.

Lusiradrol: The name Lusiradrol was given by the mage Makleor shortly after the black dragon was exiled to human form. It is derived from the words for black, *lusif*, and the word for heart, *drolasa*. She liked the new name, which was intended as a curse, and abandoned her self-given dragon name of Nefarthissen.

Moon cycle: The time it takes for the moon to make one full cycle of faces. It is equal to 26 days. A year, *annul* in Gairdran, consists of almost 14 full cycles. The new year starts on the spring equinox, which usually cuts the last cycle of the previous year short by one to two days. The new years does not always begin on the same moon phase but every cycle within that year will.

Setheadroc: Over 937 years before the start of the current timeline, in the days after peace was formed among the warring states of Ayrule, the Council of Laerenthal was formed. From the leaders of all the torn lands, they chose a new leader under which they could unite. His name was Isolder. His heirs would eventually claim his name to identify them as the heirs of the kingdom. Thus, the kingdom of Frîmor was formed. When Rivon forces invaded in pc (post confederation) 386 in ships full of men and horses, they were driven back by the forces of King Damien Isolder of Frîmor. After twenty-three years of various warfare and Damian's death, his son Aric formed an alliance with the sovereign of Rivonia. In light of that agreement, a new name was given to the kingdom. Cavatar is a combination of the Rivon words meaning "honor" and "peace". The palace was designed by Rivon architects in honor of the peace accord.

Sh'lahmar: Over the thousands of years since they were established, the Sh'lahmar have guarded the vault in which the Red Clan slept under Makleor's spell. The full title of *Shinna Lahamar* was slurred and condensed into its current form. The original meaning of "guardian of the secret" was rarely used in its full form of *shinna rî aflahamar* before becoming the shortened title of *Shinna Lahamar* (translated word for word as "Guard Secret" but meaning the same as the full description).

Son'Tal: A higher order of Sh'lahmar was established whose duties were kept secret from the others. The sontheniel talri or "protector elite" whose existence remained unknown, carried out the same duties as the ordinary guardians while living in the home of the Sh'lahmar. However, on the rare occasion that a Sh'lahmar could not morally carry out his duty or left

the guard to pursue a new life, a Son'tal Sh'lahmar was secretly assigned by Master Haiberuk to the man for the rest of his days to be sure he never divulged a hint of the vault or its location.

Song of Llyra: In the early days after peace with Rivonia, Makleor had written much of the history of the world in the tome he left in the library of Cavatar. The stories were known to many of the people, rulers as well as commoners. Naturally, bards looked to the tales as ways to entertain people. The Song of Llyra was written around pc 237 for the princess Llyra Isolder as a gift for her thirteenth birthday. The full story recounts the exploits of a brave warrior of the First Race who lived in the time after the dragons disappeared but before Makleor defeated all the demons that roamed the world. Not until generations later did the politics change and access to the library was limited. By then, the bards had found newer stories to use for songs and plays.

Translations:

Nâlasa fer enthander. --From the tongue of the Majera meaning "my life in your service."

Ehtashe mi, Nayavi. -- Means "Forgive me, Nayavi." It is a thought stated in Tyrkam's native tongue.

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