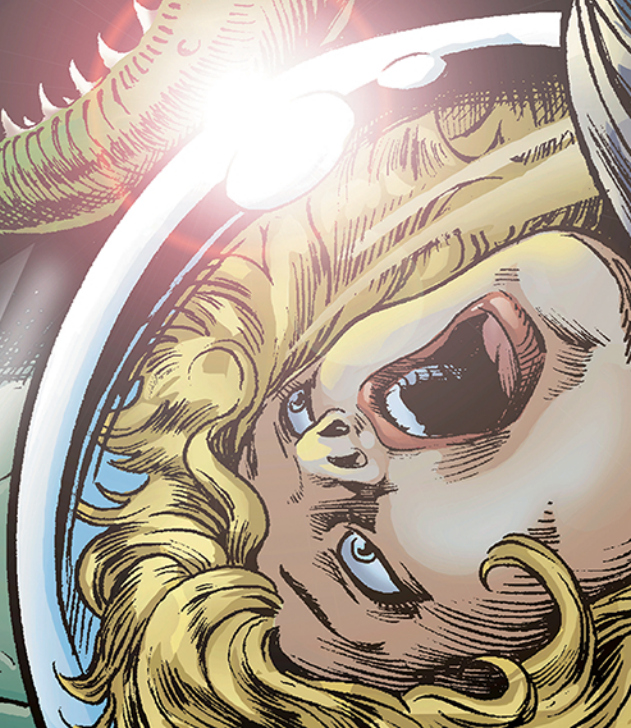




MAZING DVENTURES 5 E

WILD STARS





WILD STARS™

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WILD STARS

AN INTRODUCTION TO THE RPG SETTING FOR AMAZING ADVENTURES 5E AND SOLAR BURN

Welcome to Wild Stars, a campaign setting for Amazing Adventures 5e based on the wonderful multimedia series by Michael Tierney. Originally a stretch goal for the AA5e Kickstarter, this setting is largely system-free, allowing it to be used with any science fiction, fantasy, urban fantasy, or other toolkit game or system you like!

The lion's share of this supplement was written by Michael Tierney, the author and creator of the Wild Stars universe. It is as complete as we could make it in the space allowed, but we strongly recommend those that are interested pick up Michael's books and give them a read. There is no better way to get the feel of a setting than to read the source material for yourself!

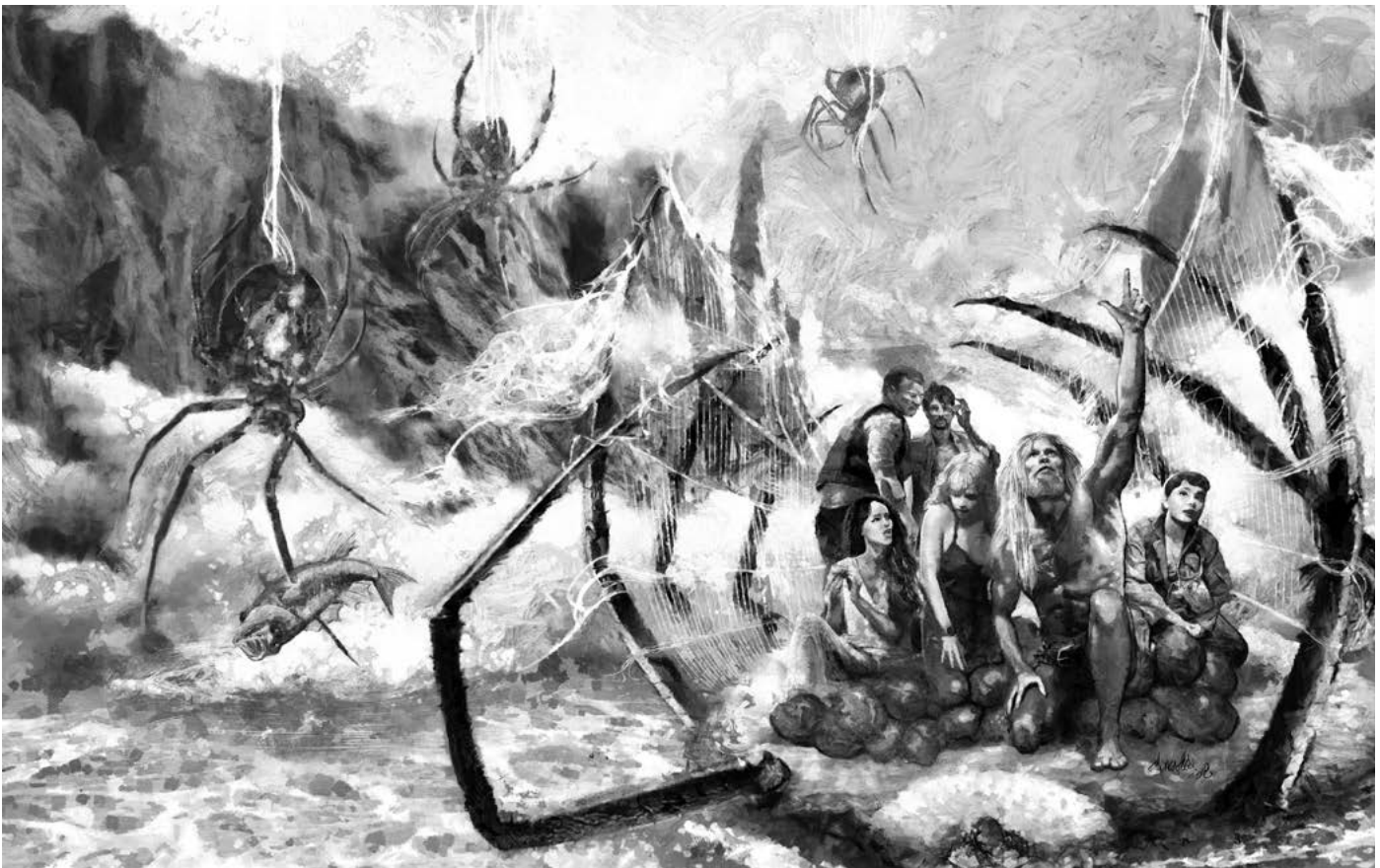
System Free? Where are the Rules?

We wanted to squeeze as much information about the setting into this document as possible, and make it as applicable to as many different systems as possible, so for that reason we are eschewing most of the rules information that would normally be included in a setting of this kind. This means that it will require a bit of work on the part of GMs who wish to use it, but we feel it will be better in the end for it. Those who are familiar with our system-free Codex of Aihrde, which is usable for any game, be it Castles & Crusades, Fifth Edition Fantasy, or any classic or current fantasy rules set, will find a familiar presentation here.

In short, this is not a player's guide to the Wild Stars Universe. Rather, it's a pure campaign setting. We hope you will enjoy what's here and have fun adapting it to your game or system of choice (we also hope that'll be Amazing Adventures!). We may squeeze in a sample race, toolkit, or such here and there just to show you how things might work, but by and large we're looking to keep this as free and open as possible.

For those who need help designing the character races, backgrounds, and other information herein, we direct you to the appropriate sections of both Amazing Adventures 5e and the Solar Burn supplement, which talk about designing elements of the game to fill in gaps that might be missing in the core rules. These include building new backgrounds (say, for Alternate Earth characters) and new character races (such as the Brothan, which are offered in here as an example). You'll find, we think, that the process is not difficult, and the various character classes in AA 5e combined with those in our Fifth Edition Fantasy games should be more than enough to cover the majority of the archetypes you will encounter in the setting.

-Jason Vey, February 2020



INTRODUCTION: WHAT ARE THE WILD STARS?

There is a region of the Milky Way where 75,000 years ago mankind made their first interstellar migration and colonized planets circling the brightest stars in the night sky. Every story ever told about UFOs or Space Gods have just been visits from our cousins. But these star-flung relatives have become embroiled in a war with the genocidal Brothan, and that conflict has spilled back onto Earth.

These are the Wild Stars! It has a history that stretches far into the past, to a time before our universe was born. The history of the Wild Stars also stretches into the future when mankind begins our second great star migration.

The Wild Stars universe is filled with alien species, both in the stars and on the Earth. In Wild Stars 4: Wild Star Rising, the Isshla are first introduced as the reason for mankind's first migration. The Isshla are the spawn of another interstellar species known as the Marzanti, and their plan for planetary colonization is one of genetic overwriting. The Isshla waged war on all 25 species of man on Earth, planning to cleanse the surface world of every trace of humanity in preparation of the arrival of a stage two Marzanti spike that would complete the genetic colonization of Earth.

To escape this war of genocide, a man known only as the Ancient Warrior took most, but not all, of the species of men into the stars. Born of a race of immortal humanoids who crossed here from a dying universe, his was a heritage so old that he had forgotten many of the names he had been called across the eons. Details about his ancestry is another of the mysteries of the Wild Stars. But a mystery that drives the Ancient Warrior more than any other is the memory from his youth about another immortal child, the beautiful Phaedra.

Where she disappeared to is a quest that would drive the Ancient Warrior's actions for the many millennia that followed.

A MULTIVERSE OF CAMPAIGN SETTINGS

The Wild Stars offers many possible settings for adventure that stretch from Earth's Cambrian Period to the recent past, and from the millennial turn to many thousands of years into the future. It includes many alien worlds, a traveling space city, a rogue planet, and an alternate reality.

The character choices are wide and varied, ranging from alternate reality Artomiques and universe-devouring entities, to alien races and creatures with fantastic powers.

The weapons range from primitive blades to devices of science-fiction, and even a reality rending time travel device considered to be the ultimate weapon.

Teleportation is also a seldom used tool, because the ships employed by the Wild Stars and their enemies are incred-

ibly fast. In the case of the Wild Stars, they utilize power from Exotic Matter that came from another reality--or was it a reality before our own? Either way, one must be careful when using Exotic Matter, because it acts contrary to the laws of our universe. Instead of entropy through use, Exotic Matter multiplies to the point which, if not separated, can result in catastrophic explosions powerful enough to destroy worlds.

Journeys through the Wild Stars are explorations into unknown, exotic, and sometimes terrifying worlds.

A HISTORY OF THE THE WILD STARS

The Wild Stars saga begins with the encroachment by the Marzanti driving the Brothan once more into the Wild Stars. The Brothan master plan is to turn Earth into their ally by rewriting history so that Fascism rules the world. This new reality is one where North America was never colonized, which means that there was no United States to stop fascism from global domination.

Vickerus of the Wild Stars countered this plan by sending a Keltic War Chief, who should be unique to this alternate reality, back in time to change history yet again. What Vickerus did not count on was that the Kelt, Corr Mac Nal, would not only revert history back to its original timeline, but that he actually did have an alternate version in that original timeline--who also had been cloned!

ALTERNATE EARTH REALITY

In the alternate Earth timeline created by the Brothan, the fascists called the Artomiques were led by Adolph Hister and had conquered the entire world. They allied themselves with the alien Brothan, with plans to move into the stars. Many of their deeds were chronicled by Nostradamus, who clearly saw events that occurred in both realities, which is what made his predictions so confusing. Native Americans called them Eaters of the Land. This dual reality is also shown on the Native American Hopi Prophecy Rock.

The reality of the Artomiques is different in many ways. Rotor technology was developed over propeller, and dirigibles fill the job functions not suitable for the Skosky's Harpies--as they call helicopters. The drawback in this technological choice is that once nuclear weapons are developed they cannot be simply dropped from high altitudes by fast moving planes. They must be planted and detonated with a timer.

When one of their nuclear devices is seized by the First Nations of North America, the Artomiques attempt to recover the device by forcing a captured KanZe Shamaness to guide them. What they don't realize is that Rosetta Stonewolf is leading them into a trap at ground zero for where the Wild Stars warrior named Vickerus is about to rewrite history and destroy the world of the Artomiques.

EARTHMEN (MILLENNIAL TURN)

After the Artomique reality was destroyed, those who stood at ground zero for the event occurred emerged into Earth's late 20th Century reality. In the years the followed, the Artomiques firmly entrenched themselves into this reality, but maintained one central desire--to recreate their alternate reality. To do it, they must find one particular man.

DESTROYER OF WORLDS

This was the name used by the surviving Artomiques to describe the Keltic War Chief who destroyed their reality. In their attempts to find both him and his ultimate weapon, the reality rending Time Travel Device, they discovered two men with the Chief's face; a scuba diver named Carlton MacKanally; and a space-farer called First Marker.

The Artomique's pursuit will take the Artomique Georgian Raveling to the shores of South America and the backwoods of the southern U.S. city, Argenta, while Supreme Commander Achilles Hister and Field Marshal Genghis Champlain expand the search into the stars, which includes locales like the traveling space city, Magoria, and the rogue planet, Devil's Delight. While there, the Artomiques cement their renewed alliance with the invading aliens known as the Brothan.

BROTHAN

A wolflike species of extraterrestrials who most likely inspired the legend of werewolves during previous Earth incursions. Pressured by the encroaching Marzanti, the Brothan have made multiple attempts to expand their territories into that of the Wild Stars, and will not hesitate to use genocidal tactics. According to the Galactic Encyclopedia, wherever the Brothan appear, all other bipedal life forms soon go extinct. They are led by their six-armed Archer God, Brotah.

The Brothan have sent their entire fleet into the Wild Stars, destroying many worlds and killing the Wild Stars warrior, Vickerus. Earth is their next target if they cannot be turned into allies.

A mysterious armored man has hijacked the Wild Stars armada that was sent to stop them. This rerouted fleet was discovered reigniting the world engine inside the rogue planet, Devil's Delight, which suddenly appears in the skies above the Wild Stars capital planet, New Atlantis.

Meanwhile, on Old Atlantis, or Earth as it is currently called, the Brothan scout ship captain by Faxlar and the Brothan Fleet commander have determined the hidden location for New Atlantis, and reroute their fleet in that direction.

It's a trap, set by the armored man who is really the Ancient Warrior, who had traveled back in time to learn the

location of the kidnapped Phaedra, and is rewriting history on his return trip to the time when he left, where both Earth and the Wild Stars armada were destroyed.

The Ancient Warrior has the rogue planet change places with New Atlantis, and when the Brothan fleet arrives, he detonates it and destroys the Brothan.

Now the Ancient Warrior is free to move the Wild Stars into a distant, Horseshoe galaxy, where he believes he can find clues to discovering the whereabouts of his lost love.

What the Ancient Warrior doesn't realize is that last surviving immortal son, Erlik, has captured a megalodon shark that still roamed Earth's oceans, and converted it into a gigantic space shark, permanently powered by teleportation links and mentally keyed to consume Brothan ships, of which there are now only a few left.

The Brothan will call this space shark Zarawti, eater of Brothan ships, as it curtails future Brothan encroachments into the Wild Stars, but does not stop them. In two hundred years Gugalann, the child of the Brothan god, Brotan, will lead another invasion, starting on the Wild Stars planet, Miri--one of the more primitive planets that did not join the Ancient Warrior's intergalactic migration.

FORCE MAJEURE

Force Majeure is a phrase used in contracts to indicate events so catastrophic that they are considered to be acts of god. Force Majeure is also the title that describes the many events that occur inside the second volume of the Wild Stars.

Carthage, the Ancient Warrior's rogue nephew, and the Brothan Faxlar, kidnap the daughter of Mack and Akara, then try to escape back in time. But an equipment failure instead flung them two hundred years into the future, where they abandoned their victim and made an attempt to return to Brotah Proper. Instead, they ended up on Miri, one of the few worlds that was not a part of the Great Mystery, as Earthmen called disappearance of suns and the planets circling them. Earth satellites could see images of worlds filled with life, but when their faster than light starship arrived, they were nowhere to be found. Both planets and their stars had disappeared.

MAGUS IV/MIRI/AKARA'S WORLD

Miri was the name given by the Wild Stars to the planet where Akara was born. It was known as Magus IV by Earthmen.

The science vessel, Amaranth, a prototype ice ship on her maiden voyage had entered orbit above Magus IV when it was discovered that a monster known as a dire grief, a telepathic and raptor-like creature indigenous to the planet below, had stowed away on the ship. In an act of courage, the ship's mechanic, an orphan from the Cybernetics war whose only name was Atlanta, lured the

dire grief into a surface-to-space hopper. Intending to transplant the creature to Magus IV, her ship is ordered shot down by Mars Supreme Commander Cinceno, who suspects Atlanta of being a terrorist after she recovered a Marzanti trident that was causing havoc on Mars.

When her ships crash landed, no one realized that, like the dire grief, she too had come home--because as Atlanta would later learn, she was actually the daughter of Mack and Akara, who was born on Miri, after which Atlanta had been named before Carthage kidnapped her.

After searching a billion years in time for his lost granddaughter, Erlik brought Akara and Mack to the planet Miri. But he had discovered a terrible truth about Miri/Atlanta. She was doomed to die on this world. Should that not happen, then the Earth would die instead.

Mack and Atlanta did not care, but their attempt to save their daughter failed. During this attempt they met the military scout, Bully Bravo, brother of Risky Bravo, whom Atlanta had developed a relationship with. Bully had traveled to Magus IV in pursuit of a Saturnian named Dalucar, an escaped prisoner guilty of war crimes committed during the Cybernetics War.

Destined to become the first Native American president of the United States, Bully Bravo jokingly referred to Magus IV as Akara's World, but everyone took him to be serious, and the new name stuck.

With the latest Brothan incursion defeated on Akara's World, Earth began to colonize that planet for its resources. An entire fleet of ice ships was built from materials on the captured ice moon brought there by Dalucar.

Then news of a impending strike by a interstellar Marzanti spike, triggered by the dire grief's use of the Marzanti trident brought by Atlanta. Earth evacuated colonists from the planet.

When the spike did not destroy the world, impacting an ocean with minimal damage, the original Wild Stars inhabitants begin their war to stop the Black-Eyes (a nickname given to Earthmen after an explosion on the dark side of the moon gave it the appearance of a blackened eyeball), and against the feral Brothan who roam their jungles in increasing numbers.

At the forefront of these battles was Bully Shawnee. Son of Atlanta and Risky Bravo (who took the name Shawnee to go into hiding), Bully was named after his uncle, Bully Bravo. He became a legendary warrior who inspired many nicknames over his lifetime. One of those nicknames was Zarawtic, which meant killer of Brothan.

Bully Shawnee also learned how to control the space shark, Zarawti, which was useful when a second generation of Marzanti-spawn rose out of the depths of the oceans around the spike.

MARZANTI

Glimpses of different races of the Marzanti were seen earlier in the aquatic corridors of the traveling space city, Magoria.

An ancient aquatic and star-faring race, the Marzanti originated on a super-Earth-sized water planet that was destroyed by their sun. Building starships too large to enter a solar system without disrupting it, the Marzanti colonized other worlds by sending bio-spikes laded with genetic material into the oceans. This colonization occurred in two stages, with the first stage of genetically altered Marzanti-spawn utilizing a Marzanti trident to call for the second, final spike.

In the case of the dire griefs, with the arrival of these second stage Marzanti spawn on Akara's World, they eventually realized that they did not want to be replaced, and did nothing to stop Bully Shawnee from using Zarawtic to eradicate the invading spawn.

TIME WARMAGEDDON

Wild Stars 3 opens with a flashback to Bully Bravo's earlier days as a military scout during the events of the Ansa Massacre.

Events flash forward to Bully Bravo walking away from the office of President of the United States after one term. Only a few people realized his reasons for this was that a black hole, Ruin, once in a symbiotic orbit with the sun, had changed course and is headed directly toward Earth.

Bully hoped to negotiate a mass exodus with the Terraformers providing places of refuge, but he never made his scheduled rendezvous.

The Moonbow, the bio-cube ship carrying Bully Bravo was struck by a devastating force that shattered the ship and left Bully marooned in space with several others. The captain's table had converted into a lifeboat at the first sign of an emergency and carried them safely to the quarantined moon called Ansa. But this location is far from where they should have been, and along the way they encountered the pirates of the Red Queen, who murdered Bully Shawnee's chaste love interest, Huracan.

The shipwreck survivors also encountered the architect of the Moonbow's destruction, an immortal named Gow, one of the God Father's children known as the Purple Order. Gow had been pursuing the Wild Stars during their return to the Milky Way galaxy, after they escaped from the Horseshoe galaxy by using of the Great Machine, a colossal device which can move planets and whole star systems--which the Ancient Warrior previously stole from the God Father. Gow tried to destroy the Wild Stars with a burst from his gamma-gun ship, which caught the Moonbow in its wake.

Undeterred, Gow was determined to use his abilities as a time traveler to once again attempt the total destruc-

tion of the Wild Stars. When he encountered another time traveler, Gow welcomed him enthusiastically, until he realized that Bully Shawnee was no ally. Their battles would see one world destroyed and a white dwarf star turned into a black hole.

Having saved his uncle, Bully Bravo, from death at the hands of both Gow and the Red Queen, Bully Shawnee then attempted his most daring gambit in time. He rescued his long-dead mother and left the Red Queen to suffer her fate in the jaws of a red grief.

That was when Gow made his final strike at Bully Shawnee. But a time traveler has one weakness, and that is the unexpected. Gow did not anticipate that the red grief might still be lurking around and, like the Red Queen, did a “dangle with a fangtangle.”

BLOOD STRIDERS/THE STONE MEN

Rumored to be relics from a universe before our own, the secrets behind the Stone Men and their later incarnations, the Blood Striders, are still to be discovered.

During the events of Time Warmageddon, Bully Shawnee used a stone chair, that may have been a stone man in masquerade, to unlock his abilities to time travel.

The stone chair had first been discovered in the Horse-shoe galaxy by Tall Trees Wolf, who found she had profound insights whenever sitting on it, and brought it back with her to Shipworld. Through repeated use of the stone chair, Tall Trees became the most skilled navigator and mathematician in the Wild Stars.

But none of those skills helped her catch the eye of Bully Shawnee, who lamented over the death of his lover, Sang Vardel--murdered by the undead Carthage.

Abandoned on Akara's World and forgotten by Tall Trees Wolf and Bully Shawnee, the stone man continued to evolve after being discovered by the other ancient Wild Stars races still inhabiting the planet. These primitive men sought inspirations from contact with the stone, which told them, “You must war against Earth by first warring against the Dragon Kings of the vampire dragons.”

THE GIANT REALITY

The second edition of Time Warmageddon, the third volume of the Wild Stars, featured a new epilog and three bonus stories which all have a peripheral connection to the Wild Stars.

In the epilog, The Giant Reality, Akara used the Time Travel Device to try and discover a way to save her daughter, Miri, from her fate. Instead, she created an alternate future for Earth where DNA recovered from the 75,000 year old bones of the cannibal giants called the Tearers, because of how they tore the flesh from their liv-

ing victims, had turned humanity's future into a dark fate of giant cannibals and had extinguished her own bloodline.

Returning to Mack during the time of the Cybernetics War, where they had gone to experience at least a part of their daughter's life spent as an orphan, Akara's meddling in time had doomed both her and Mack to no longer be able to travel in time.

SHARK FIGHTER

The Shark Fighter is a tale from Carlton MacKanally's time as a divemaster operating in the Caribbean, but he is not featured in the story. Only an illustration at the end shows his connection.

This story focussed on the ordeal a man suffers when a tour guide named Old Caribe, rumored to be the last living link to the Caribe who ruled the islands in pre-Columbian days, took revenge for a crime unwittingly committed against the Old Gods of the Caribe.

With the lure of having discovered a fabled shark hole, where tiger sharks mated, Old Caribe instead stranded the man and his wife at sea and left their fates in the hands of the Gods.

One would not survive.

The other will appear in the upcoming Volume Five.

THE GRASS MAIDEN

Originally published as The Bears of 1812, Grass Maiden is the birth name given to the Native American whose image has been reproduced more times than any other, and yet whose face no one really knows. When Sacagawea was placed on the dollar coin, a composite image was used, since no record ever existed of her actual appearance.

Other records of Sacagawea's time before and during the War of 1812 were also lost during the tumultuous War of 1812. Some of the historical events that occurred during this time were so fantastic, that they sound like fantasy fiction.

Sacagawea's connection to the Wild Stars came after the conclusion of the fourth volume of the Wild Stars, when the alternate reality KanZe apprentice shamaness Songwolf sought a place in time to replace her own lost reality.

THE GRIMGRIP

Pleasanton was the name columnists gave to Kepler3PS37-5, in hopes of preventing future colonists from overrunning the paradise they had discovered in a vast dead zone of stars.

Seven generations later, their paradise had begun to show its flaws, generating the thought that maybe it was time to reconnect with Earth.



Then a signal came from deep space, but not from Earth. This signal came from the opposite direction, from the heart of the dead zone.

Pleasanton was about to make first contact with the alien race known as the Grimgrip, and there would be few survivors.

The Grimgrip will continue to make incursions on Wild Stars space in future volumes.

WILD STAR RISING

Volume Four opened with the Wild Stars safely back inside the Milky Way. The time had come for the Ancient Warrior to finally attempt a rescue of his long-lost love, the immortal Phaedra, who was imprisoned inside a black hole by the God Father.

To attempt her rescue the Ancient Warrior must use the Great Machine. However, the Machine is also needed to stop the black hole, Ruin, from destroying the Earth. Recognizing Earth's crisis as a delaying tactic engineered by the God Father, the Ancient Warrior remained undeterred. But he still needed two more things to complete his rescue attempt. One of those things was the massive Exodus ship that his ancestors used to cross over into this universe by transiting through a black hole. The problem was that the Exodus ship had been abandoned in the midst of a cluster of quasars, a region of blinding light and powerful magnetic energies that could not be navigated by instrumentation.

To recover the Exodus ship, the Ancient Warrior needed someone with the ability to instinctively read magnetic lines. But the only Wild Stars world with such a population, Dejah Vu, had been the first world destroyed by the God Father when the Wild Stars first entered the Horse-shoe galaxy.

THE ISSHLA

The Ancient Warrior traveled 75,000 years into Earth's past, to the time when the first great space migration that created the Wild Stars, and when the ancestors of Dejah Vu still lived in the land of Vu. But there was a reason why the migration took place all those millennia ago, and that was because the Mazanti spawn known as the Isshla had declared war on all the lands of man surrounded by the oceans, and they had already used a Marzanti trident to destroy the ancestral land of Vu.

MONTCHUHASUS

But the Ancient Warrior had a plan. He had already travelled back to this time once before, searching for a hero he met during his original life in this time period, arriving after the death Hekir, a royal child of Vu. His second attempt still arrived too late.

Having crossed timelines with another ally of his past, the Ancient Warrior realized that he had no choice but to make do with the man he encountered at the scene of Hekir's death; Montchuhusus, a man with mixed Vu and Atlantean blood.

Fortunately, Montchuhusus had retained gene that gave him the ability to read the magnetic lines and he was able to help the Ancient Warrior recover the Exodus ship. Together they then attempted the rescue of Phaedra.

But the God Father hampered those plans.

Still, the rescue was a success--of sorts.

Phaedra did not remember the Ancient Warrior, and his enthusiastic overtures of love reminded her too much of the same advances made by the God Father, which led to her exile. Instead, she was attracted to Montchuhusus.

To kick the Exodus ship free of the black hole during Phaedra's rescue, the Great Machine had used so much power that it burned white dwarf stars down into giant crystals. The Machine also tossed a pair of neutron stars into the black hole, which first flared into pulsars and then transitioned into magnetars. The results of these explosions generated an ocean of gold the size of several planets, which was recovered along with the Exodus ship.

THE GOD FATHER AND THE PURPLE ORDER

With the Exodus and gold in tow, the now despondent Ancient Warrior guided the Great Machine back into the future. But when calamity struck, his companions feared it might have been him retaliating for Phaedra's rejection. Then they discovered the true cause; the God Father's final revenge was at hand, and they had no power to stop him.

When the Exodus ship was sheared off during the return trip through time, a section of the Great Machine was also shorn free, stranding several of the Ancient Warriors companions in the past. But these were no ordinary travelers. One was Tall Trees Wolf, the daughter of the Keltic War Chief and the KanZe apprentice Shamaness, Songwolf, from Earth's alternate reality. Another was Bullson, child of Bully Bravo's unwitting coupling with the God Mother, a immortal woman who had escaped the God Father's manipulations. The third person stranded was Bully Shawnee, who possessed the skill of time travel, but realized that they must confront the God Father upon their return and needed a plan.

Once again, Bully Shawnee hatched a rescue mission to retrieve the only two people with the skills and knowledge to be brought into events that might stun the mind of any average person.

With the help of Bullson, Bully Shawnee traveled to the time of the Cybernetics War, and recovered his grandparents who died there; Mack and Arkara.

With the added help, they rescued the Ancient Warrior and his friends from death at the hands of the Purple Order, then delivered their own death sentence. First distracting the God Father and his children by slinging the crystal orbs of the two burnt out white dwarf stars with a pair of the surviving legs of the Great Machine, they also hit them from the other direction with Ruin, the black hole that once threatened Earth.

There remained three questions in the aftermath. One was if the God Father had taken a chance to escape? Without a direct order from him, all the Purple Order had stood their ground until too late. Another was what had happened to Phaedora, Montchuhassus and the ocean of gold?

The last question was how to contend with:

NETH AND NEAN

Released by the Terraformer's use of wormhole technology during the events of Time Warmageddon, the universe-destroying entities known as Neth and Nean had invaded this universe. A Marzanti ship was taken over by Neth during his attempt to unite with Nean, a coupling which would conquer this reality with their unstoppable growth.

Before Neth could arrive, the Ancient Warrior, already falling into a fugue of depression, placed Wild Stars Exotic Matter inside a fleet of Amaranth class Earth ships. When powered down, these ice ships had passed unharmed through the ever growing Nean. The Ancient Warrior sent them back through, but once inside Nean's ever growing mass he triggered the Exotic Matter into overload. The expansion of the Matter was faster than Nean's ability to consume it, and when the Exotic Matter exploded, Nean imploded.

With the universe saved from complete destruction, the saga of the Wild Stars continues...

PEOPLES, CHARACTERS & HEROS

ALTERNATE EARTH REALITY

BLACKFOOT: This Native American tribe existed in both the Artomique reality and the present. Sharp Knife was a War Chief of the Blackfoot whose spirit crossed realities.

CHIPPEWA: This Native American tribe existed in both the Artomique reality and the current.

CORR MAC KAL: War Chief of the Kelts, he was selected by the KanZe Shamaness Rosetta Stonewolf as someone who could not possibly have a counterpart in the previous reality that was destroyed by the Brothan. It would turn out that she was wrong and this descendent of Irish immigrants who used a Viking ship to cross the Atlantic Ocean long before the Pilgrims, did indeed have a doppelganger. This discovery was made when the War Chief

returned from the past and discovered a new reality that he barely understood had replaced his own. The one thing he was certain of was that his guide from the Wild Stars must have lied to him, and he wanted revenge. His confrontation with Erlik ended with a reunion with Songwolf, until she was kidnapped by the Brothan and the Artomiques. The War Chief rescued her and then saved First Market and the Caribbean girl from a bomb set by Ernesto Mendez. Afterwards, the War Chief and Songwolf joined the Wild Stars migration to the Horseshoe Galaxy and, thanks to his unparalleled tracking skills, helped guide the Great Machine there and back. During this time, he and Songwolf had a daughter they named Tall Trees Wolf. After the Wild Stars had returned to the Milky Way galaxy, he and his family joined the Ancient Warrior in his quest to rescue Phaedora.

CROW: This Native American tribe exists in both the Artomique reality and the current.

KANZE: This Native American tribe existed in both the Artomique reality and the present. The North American States of Kansas and Arkansas are named after them.

KELTS, AKA KELITIC: In modern day these Irish descendants would be referred to as Celts. These alternate reality Kelts left ancient Ireland in a longship taken from Norsemen and crossed the Atlantic to settle in North America long before the Pilgrims. Their presence helped the First Nations repel future encroachments from Europe and also immunized them from the many plagues that wiped out much of the current reality's Native American population.

KIOWA: This Native American tribe existed in the Artomique reality and the present.

NOSTRADAMUS: The reason his 16th Century prophecies were so confusing was that he saw the twin futures of two realities; the one created by a time-traveling Brothan, which was subsequently destroyed by Vickerus to recreate the current. The Artomiques who crossed realities often use his predictions to foretell upcoming events, having the advantage of familiarity with both realities.

ROSETTA STONEWOLF: A Shamaness of the KanZe tribe, Rosetta was tasked by the Wild Stars Warrior, Vickerus, to recruit the perfect candidate to travel back in time and change history so that the Artomiques would not rule the Earth. Taken prisoner by the Artomiques, circumstances had it that she was at the exact spot when and where the traveler was sent back, and she transitioned over into the new reality. In this strange new world, Rosetta used her skills at understanding both people and languages to determine her new purpose and found herself once again at the center of many events.

SHARP KNIFE: War Chief of the Blackfoot Tribe, and friend to the KanZe Shamaness Rosetta Stonewolf, Sharp Knife was present during the final battle between the First Nations and the Artomiques. Unfortunately, he was

just outside the area that transitioned into the new reality when his was destroyed. However, being on this fringe, his spirt managed to cross over and found a conscious tether in his friend, Rosetta Stonewolf, who had always called him her "Silent Friend."

SHAWNEE: This Native American tribe existed in both the Artomique reality and the current.

SONGWOLF: An apprentice to the KanZe Shamaness, Rosetta Stonewolf, Songwolf had an even greater ability to see into the spirit world. She shared a mutual fondness with the Keltic War Chief, Corr Mac Nal, whom she assisted in sending to the past on a quest to change the very fabric of their reality. Like Rosetta, Songwolf found herself at the epicenter of the subsequent reality change and crossed over into the current reality. She was rescued by Vickerus and taken into the Wild Stars to be left on the traveling space city, Magoria. There, it was expected that she would be reunited with Corr Mac Kal after he returned from his time travels and took up the mantle of First Marker. Instead, the childish man known Mack arrived in Corr's place.

ANCIENT EARTHMEN (AGE OF ATLANTIS)

Alkars: Ancient tribe of humanoids who journeyed from Earth as part of the Wild Stars migration 75,000 years ago to the planet Miri, where they lived peacefully until their world was invaded by both the Black-Eyes of Earth and the alien Brothan. They are now thought to be extinct.

ANGOR BROADWATER: Being a man of very large stature, Angor served as the right-hand to Montchuhusus aboard the Sea Howler during the time when the first migration from Earth to the Wild Stars was ending 75,000 years ago. Angor was particularly known for carrying a unique battle-club made from the forearm of a saltwater crocodile with the claws still intact. Angor's family, the Broadwaters, were the first of their race to leave the land of their ancestors and cross an ocean to lands populated by men much smaller than themselves. They found work in the coal mines, which is why Angor's skin is criss-crossed by blue scars from his cuts interacting with coal dust. Angor left his family when he was recruited aboard the Sea Howler by Montchuhusus, and sailed and fought by his side across the known world and beyond. Alongside the Ancient Warrior, they faced the Eye of Vishnatay and captured the trident of the Isshla.

BROADWATER: Family name of a large, dark-skinned species of man who were the first of their kind to cross a large body of water and intermingle with other species, eventually working in coal mines. Angor Broadwater was the only one known to have sailed the seas. He eventually returned to his family and made them the very last men to migrate as part of the Wild Stars exodus, leading them to the planet, Miri, 75,000 years ago. During the time of the second star migration, they are known as the Brudwata.

HEKIR, AKA EYU HEKIR TINKER-JANKE: His full name means Traveler Hekir Swordsman-Fisherman, but he accepts being called simply Hekir. Lover of Layvi, the last princess of Vu, after Vu was destroyed Hekir followed the Isshla's chase of Layvi's family around the globe. He never met anyone who understood the importance of the things he had witnessed until he met the Ancient Warrior. Realizing that Hekir held the knowledge that was the key to stopping the Isshla's destruction of all manlands, the pair joined with Montchuhusus and a reluctant Angor Broadwater to sail to the very doorstep of the Isshla and wrest the trident of the Marzanti away from the Eye of Vishnatay. The war with the Isshla seemingly won, Hekir then continued his pursuit of Layvi, only to find her bones and his own death at the hands of the Tearers.

LAYVI: Lover of Hekir, she was the doomed princess of Vu during the age the last Wild Stars migration 75,000 years ago. After her father's ship escaped the destruction of Vu, they were pursued by the Isshla around the globe until they wrecked on a shore belonging to the Tearers.

MONTCHUHUSUS: Son of an Atlantean father and a mother from Vu, Montchuhusus was named after the greatest hero in the history of Vu. He inherited his father's Toridian class cargo ship, the Sea Howler, and plied the waters between Atlantis and the spice islands until the Isshla destroyed all the lands of men, including Atlantis. Only two ships escaped this destruction. One was the Sea Howler and the other the Meanie Sweetie. On his way out, Montchuhusus rescued the Ancient Warrior after his starship was destroyed by an Atlantean fireball, launched at the command of Welkwood Barnridge.

Another person that Montchuhusus rescued from being eaten by a gwaylushin was Hekir of Vu, who had discovered the key to stopping the Isshla war against men. Together they traveled to the very gateway into the lands of the Isshla and stole the Marzanti trident that was key not only to their war against the surface world but also to maintain their own underground world. After the Sea Howler was destroyed during their escape and the Ancient Warrior returned to the stars, Hekir still insisted on completing his quest to find his lost love. Montchuhusus joined him and was there when Hekir died near the bones of his love.

Afterwards, Montchuhusus was recruited by an older Ancient Warrior to assist in finding his own lost love. This dangerous quest involved traveling incredible distances through time and space, as they moved stars of every kind around like they were children's toys. Rescuing Phaedra from the black hole where the God Father had imprisoned her, her affections turned not to the Ancient Warrior, but to Montchuhusus. Monchuhusus and Phaedra were still aboard the Exodus ship that was in tow while the Ancient Warrior returned to his future world when a mysterious explosion destroyed his vessel.

Monchuhassus and Phaedra were thrown free and left stranded in a future that they knew little about. Finding themselves in possession of a pool of gold many times the total that has ever been pulled from the Earth, they soon had visitors calling.

MORNING MIST: She was Tall Trees' love interest during the final stage of the first Wild Stars migration. Because of the shortage of men, the village elders had ordered Tall Trees to mate with several other women in the tribe. But he refused, wanting only the love of Tall Trees. To keep her safe, he faced the Tearers and taught them a lesson in fear.

SALAMAR: Salamar of Razanti was the owner of the Toridian class Meanie Sweetie, which was one of only two ships to escape the destruction of Atlantis by the Isshla. Salamar would go down with the ship when the Meanie Sweetie was attacked by the sharp-toothed whales known as lewayaton, who destroyed the vessel and then consumed Salamar and all his crew.

SHONOK: An ancient tribe of humanoids who journeyed from Earth as part of the Wild Stars migration 75,000 years ago to the planet Miri, they lived peacefully until their world was invaded by both the Black-Eyes of Earth and the alien Brothan. Since that time, they are thought to be extinct.

TALL TREES: 75,000 years ago, Tall Trees was one of a tribe of blonde-haired survivors who missed the final exodus into the Wild Stars. The Keltic War Chief who had traveled into the past had been instructed by Vickerus to kill blond-haired peoples in hopes of stopping the future Artomiques. Instead, he helped them survive, and the offspring of Tall Trees eventually became a part of the Kelts in one reality, and the MacKanalys in another.

WELKWOOD BARNRIDGE: A trader in Atlantean shipping goods 75,000 years ago, Welkwood rose to prominence after the conclusion of the Wild Stars when Atlantis reverted to a royal system of government. As the right-hand man for the King of Atlantis, Welkwood was placed in charge of the treasury, armory, military, and shipyards. This gave him a lucrative advantage in all negotiations and exchanges, until the day a man named Montchuhassus refused to acquiesce. Welkwood eventually took Montchuhassus and his friends, Hekir and Angor Broadwater prisoner. But their torture and interrogation were interrupted by an unexpected final visit from the Ancient Warrior of the Wild Stars.

THE ARTOMIQUES

ACHILLES HISTER: The son of the alternate-reality Artomique Master of the World, Adolph Hister, and his wife Eva Braun, Achilles was conceived inside the stone circles of Stonehenge on a night selected by astrologers. As the Supreme Commander of the Artomique forces, he led by example and ended up standing at the epicenter of the

reality shift. Crossing into the current reality and vowed to find a way to recreate the world of the Artomiques. He rapidly employed the Hegelian Dialectic, which grew his fortune. Beyond the industries that control the populace, Achilles also expanded his empire into space exploration. Some elements of his research included archeologists who managed to recover the Time Travel Device lost by his Brothan allies in the ancient past. Unfortunately, his former ally Carthage stole it away before he could take possession. Achilles' other research projects would include retro-engineering technology captured from both the Brothan and the Wild Stars. With the help of Genghis Champain and Georgian Raveling, two Artomique soldiers who cross realities with him, Achilles learned the Wild Stars secrets of cloning, which led to the creation of the Saturnians. The Artomiques also discovered a Wild Stars artificial intelligence matrix and android bodyguard, then combined the two with the intent to create a self-adjusting probe for deep space exploration—and instead created the Eybontics. All of this led to the event known as the Cybernetics War. By means yet not explained, the trio of Artomiques are still alive in the future and active in galactic events.

ADOLPH HISTER: Father of Achilles Hister, Adolph was the leader and founder of the alternate-reality fascists; the Artomiques. History has shown him to be a very different man from his current-reality counterpart, Adolf Hitler. After his defeat by the Bazas in the battles of Agen and Lectoure, Hister executed his senior leaders like Goering at the site where Saint Felix was martyred. He next adopted a policy of accepting other races into his ranks and built an army that conquered the world. His son, Achilles, would survive the destruction of the Artomique reality.

GENGHIS CHAMPLAIN: A direct descendant of Genghis Khan, he was a Field Marshal of the Artomique Army and has trained in every form of combat in two realities. Crossing realities with Achilles and Georgian Raveling, he remains by the side of Achilles at all times. On the traveling space city of Magoria, he discovered that all of his skills in the martial arts could not match the instinctive fighting style of the man he soon realized could not be the Keltic War Chief, aka the Destroyer of Worlds. He had been defeated by the clone called First Marker.

GEORGIAN RAVELING: First Specialist Officer of the Lightning Brigade of the Artomique Army, Air Strike Division, Georgian was with Achilles Hister at the epicenter when their reality was destroyed and crossed over into this reality. Georgian continued to serve under Achilles' command as the Artomiques concentrated on building a new empire, while never giving up hope of finding a way to return to their own reality. Achilles used Georgian as a field agent and gave him many tasks. These included tracking down the scuba diver whom they thought might be the Destroyer of Worlds, and also tracking down Achilles' alternate reality father, Adolf Hitler. Georgian accomplished these tasks, but not without some personal cost.

BLOOD STRIDERS/THE STONE MEN

BLOOD STRIDERS: Blood striders are entities who traverse the ebb and flow of universal contractions and expansions from one universal incarnation into the next. When a universe dies, they revert to stone. When the universe is reborn, they continue to hibernate until it once again teems with sentient life. Then they begin the process of reawakening. Blood Striders is the state of being that refers to the Stone Men who have completed their conversion from stone to flesh and blood beings. During this process, they imprint the biology of a host onto themselves with a symbiotic transfer that is beneficial for both. In the case of Tall Trees Wolf, she gained mental navigational and computational skills far beyond that of other humanoids, and was protected from the Gamma Ray Burst that destroyed all other life on Shipworld. From her the Stone Man found his first biological imprint, but not the last. The awakening process would continue on Akara's World, where the Tiberian tribe sought the Stone Man out for counsel and guidance until the transformation back to a living, breathing Blood Strider was complete.

STONE MEN: One of the Blood Striders was encountered by Tall Trees Wolf of the Wild Stars during their time spent in the God Father's galaxy. Repeated contact with what she thought was a stone chair resulted in her developing unnatural mathematical abilities and perception.

BROTHAN

BROTAN: The six-armed Archer God of the Brothan, Brotan sends his children, the Brotan, to lead his Brothan warriors on crusades to conquer new territories. Brotan also chose Carthage, a nephew of Erlik, to serve as his Prophet Arrow in the war against the Wild Stars.

BROTAN: These purple-skinned children of Brotan, the Brothan Archer God, resemble him with matching six-arms and bull-shaped heads that have horns which flute back around their cranium. They are also gifted with the sense of precognition, making them impossible to surprise.

FAXLAR: Brothan commander of the scout ship sent to gather the Artomiques, and later commandeered by the Prophet Arrow, Carthage. Faxlar and Carthage would later team up to kidnap Akara and Mack's daughter and ultimately came to serve the Brotan, Gugalann. Bouncing through time, Faxlar appropriated the name and identity of Commander Krokaw, leader of the Brothan fleet that was destroyed at New Atlantis by the Ancient Warrior. This stolen identity granted him great prestige, but also led to a final showdown with Bully Shawnee, the son of the little girl he kidnapped and stranded in the future.

GUGALANN: The six-armed children of Brotan, the Archer God of the Brothan, are called Brotan. Gugalann is the latest in the line of Brotan assigned with the task of conquering the Wild Stars, and dresses in auburn-colored armor that is trimmed in red. Gifted with a sense of pre-

cognition, Gugalann has foreseen that his influence will spread across the stars. See also Brotan.

KROKAW: This one identity was used by two different Brothan. The original Krokaw was the Fleet Commander when the Brothan were destroyed at New Atlantis. In the future, a time-traveling Faxlar assumed the identity of this legendary leader.

VELOC: A Brothan serving on the scout ship commanded by Faxlar. After the destruction of the Brothan fleet at New Atlantis, Veloc was given a Time Travel Device by the Prophet Arrow, Carthage, and told to travel back into Earth's past and change history one more time. Veloc stumbled immediately into the jaws of a bear made angry by the man named Tall Trees.

DESTROYER OF WORLDS

CARLTON MACKANALY: Orphaned when his parents were allegedly murdered by Henry Piper's assassin, Carlton left his home of Argenta, bought a boat with his inheritance, and became a Divemaster working off the Caribbean island of Bequi. But before leaving, he and Hope Piper, Henry's daughter, made a pact to have a reunion on the Argenta High School steps during the fireworks celebration for Independence Day. That next Fourth of July Carlton was ambushed by Hope's brother, Lester, who chained Carlton to a bucket of concrete and dumped him into the river. Surviving by means he could not fully recall, Carlton returned to his life in the Caribbean, where he saved several lives, including Alvin Phillips and the island girl Nannette from a vicious Columbian drug lord named Mendez. By the time Carlton returned for the next Independence Day celebration, he had many new friends with him.

CORR MAC KAL: War Chief of the Kelts, he was selected by the KanZe Shamaness Rosetta Stonewolf as someone who could not possibly have a counterpart in the previous reality that was destroyed by the Brothan. It would turn out that she was wrong and this descendent of Irish immigrants who used a Viking ship to cross the Atlantic Ocean long before the Pilgrims, did indeed have a dopelganger. This discovery was made when the War Chief returned from the past and discovered a new reality that he barely understood had replaced his own. The one thing he was certain of was that his guide from the Wild Stars must have lied to him, and he wanted revenge. His confrontation with Erlik ended with a reunion with Songwolf, until she was kidnapped by the Brothan and the Artomiques. The War Chief rescued her and then saved First Market and the Caribbean girl from a bomb set by Ernesto Mendez. Afterwards, the War Chief and Songwolf joined the Wild Stars migration to the Horseshoe Galaxy and, thanks to his unparalleled tracking skills, helped guide the Great Machine there and back. During this time, he and Songwolf had a daughter they named Tall Trees Wolf. After the Wild Stars had returned to the Milky Way galaxy, he and his family joined the Ancient Warrior in his quest to rescue Phaedra.

MACK: This name was given the clone of Carlton MacKanaly, who was initially known as First Marker and later as Mark Mackavicka. Mack had several adventures in the Wild Stars and ultimately fell in love with Akara, daughter of Erlik. But because he held both the memories of Carlton MacKanaly and of Akara's uncle, Vickerus, he had conflicting emotions and left for a time to sort out who he really was. By the time Mack returned to discover that Akara had borne his daughter, Miri, the infant had been kidnapped by Carthage and his Brothan allies. Searching through time with the assistance of Erlik and Daestar (see Billion Year Day), Mack discovered that the future well-being of Earth depended on abandoning his daughter to the designs of his sadistic enemies. Mack and Akara eventually found a way to make their daughter part of their lives, but they were both tortured by the realization that she was doomed to a horrible fate. Traveling to the time of Eybontic-Saturnian War to work at the orphanage raising her, Mack and Akara died during the War. But their grandson, the time traveler Bully Shawnee, intervened.

EARTHMEN 1812

BRANCOIS LABICHE: Private Labiche was a member of the Lewis & Clarke expedition that opened up the west for a fledgling United States of America. Fluent in English and French, including Old French, Labiche was the expedition's interpreter. He translated English to the French Trapper named Toussaint Charbonneau, who in turn translated Hidasta to his native wife, Sacagawea, who also spoke Shoshone and other languages.

DOLLY MADISON: While United States President James Madison was leading the artillery fire against the British troops of Major General Robert Ross as they marched on the capital, his wife Dolly Madison was loading the portrait of the first U.S. President, George Washington onto a wagon. On the front steps of the White House, she met the Native American woman named Sacagawea. After Captain Meriwether Lewis told her about a ceremony that Sacagawea had performed after the death of a grizzly bear during his expedition, Dolly requested her help. She felt a curse had manifested over the capital after a pair of grizzly cubs had been sent by Zubulan Pike to the White House as a present to an earlier president. Considered by many to have been mistreated, the bears died on the same day as when the War of 1812 was declared.

HIDASTA: This is the Native American tribe that kidnapped the young Shoshone girl Bonaiv, and renamed her Sacagawea, which meant 'pusher of boats.' They also existed in the Artomique reality.

MERIWETHER LEWIS: Captain Lewis and Lieutenant William Clarke are best remembered for their expedition that mapped the first overland course across the fledgling United States of America to the west coast. Along the way, they recruited a French trapper named Toussaint Charbonneau who could speak French to the expedition's Private Brancois Labiche. Charbonneau could speak Hidatsa

to one of his two wives, the young girl kidnapped from the Shoshone named Sacagawea, which meant Launcher of Boats and referred to her role in the tribe. Sacagawea's language skills helped open up the west for Lewis & Clarke. Lewis came to call her by the nickname of Juney, but lost touch for some time after she and Charbonneau settled in St. Louis at the end of the expedition. By the time Lewis looked for her again, Sacagawea had gone to the House of the Dead to die, leaving Charbonneau with their two children. Since Charbonneau had already remarried and widowed once more after Sacagawea's death, Lewis adopted her two children and raised them as his own.

ROBERT ROSS: A Major General in the British Army, Ross shattered the American forces at Washington, D.C. and burned the White House, Congress, and shipyards in retaliation for the 1812 burning of the Legislative Assembly in Ontario. During the burning, Ross made a grave error when he spat in hickory wood ashes of a spirit fire built by the Native American, Sacagawea. The next day a hurricane hammered the Royal British Navy at the same time that twin tornado funnels dropped out of the sky directly into the middle of his soldier's encampment, causing massive casualties. Ross next marched on Baltimore, Maryland, where he was killed by sniper fire. The accuracy of his soldier's return fire was so great, that the identity of the sniper was never known. The invasion of Baltimore failed, and the troops retreated back to their ships, which sailed them into yet another encounter with 'Old Hickory.'

SACAGAWEA: Daughter of a Shoshone Chief, she was kidnapped as a young girl by the Hidasta. Her Shoshone name of Boinaiv, which meant Grass Maiden, was changed by the Hidasta to Sacagawea, which meant Launcher of Boats. She and another Hidasta slave were sold to the French Trapper named Toussaint Charbonneau, who referred to them as his wives. Because of her skills with multiple languages, Sacagawea was chosen to accompany Charbonneau when he was recruited into the Lewis & Clarke expedition. The other wife was abandoned. Sacagawea and Charbonneau settled in St. Louis at the expedition's end to raise their two children, but their relationship became strained. When Sacagawea was summoned by Dolly Madison to the White House in the nation's capital, Charbonneau told her not to return. After that point, there are multiple accounts of what happened to her next. Charbonneau told Captain Meriwether Lewis that Sacagawea had gone to the House of the Dead to die. Others say that she did go to the White House, where she met not only the president's wife, Dolly Madison, but also Major Robert Ross of the invading British, who burned the White House, Congress, and shipyards. All evidence to prove or disprove Sacagawea's visit was also burned. Other legends say that she returned to the Shoshone grasslands of her youth and is claimed as an ancestor by most living Shoshone. The wildest legends about Sacagawea's later years include tales about her

friendship with a KanZe woman named Songwolf, who claimed to be from an alternate reality. Because of her appearance on a Dollar Coin, Sacagawea's face is the most often reproduced Native American of all time, despite the fact that there are no known images of her. A composite was used.

SHOSHONE: This was Sacagawea's tribe before she was kidnapped by the Hidasta tribe. While traveling with the Lewis and Clarke expedition, Sacagawea was reunited with her brother, who had become Chief. The Shoshone also existed in the Artomique's reality.

TOLLMAN PAYNE: A distant uncle of Sam Payne and an officer in the Army during the War of 1812, Captain Payne was assigned to convey Sacagawea from St. Louis to a meeting with the president's wife at the White House in Washington, D.C. By the time he accomplished this, the British Royal Navy had already sailed up the Potomac and begun their invasion and subsequent burning of the nation's capital. Nothing is known for certain what happened to Tollman after that point, but there are rumors about a mysterious letter supposedly once seen in the personal effects of Dolly Madison, which has long since been lost. Legend has it that the letter claimed Captain Payne was the man who shot and killed Major General Robert Ross as he marched the British on Baltimore. Unfortunately, return fire from the British completely evaporated the sniper, and his true identity will remain forever unknown.

TOUSSAINT CHARBONNEAU: On Earth in the early days of the United States of America, this French trapper with two wives was living with the Native American tribe, the Hidasta. Charbonneau was recruited into the Lewis & Clarke expedition because Private Brancois Labiche could communicate with him in Old French. Charbonneau then translated in Hidasta to Sacagawea, who spoke Hidasta, Shoshone, and other languages. Charbonneau abandoned his other wife, who lacked Sacagawea's skills, and the pair traveled with Lewis and Clarke to the west coast and all the way back to St. Louis. There the couple settled to raise two children, but there were already difficulties in the relationship before Sacagawea was summoned alone to the White House in the nation's capital. Charbonneau told her to never return. He told others that she went to the House of the Dead to die. Charbonneau remarried but was soon widowed. When Captain Meriwether Lewis came looking for Sacagawea, Charbonneau was happy to give Sacagawea's children to him from adoption and returned to his life as a bachelor. He traveled west once again in hopes of either finding or purchasing a new wife, and was never heard of again.

WILLIAM CLARKE: Lieutenant William Clarke was part of the Lewis & Clarke expedition that mapped the Louisiana Purchase from Louisiana all the way to the west coast.

ZEBULAN PIKE: An explorer who had a mountain peak in Colorado named after him, Zebulon Pike sent a pair

of grizzly bear cubs to the President of the United States as a gift. He ignored the legends of local tribes about how the wind spirits would take offense whenever these mighty totem creatures were mistreated, and unwittingly brought a curse down upon his nation's capital.

EARTHMEN (MILLENNIAL TURN)

ALONZO: One of drug dealer Ernesto Mendez's men, and brother to Ricardo. Alonzo attacked Carlton MacKanally with a knife, who shot him with a spear gun. The bolt knocked both Alonzo and Ricardo off MacKanally's boat and into the water, where a tiger shark that had been chasing Carlton ate Alonzo right in front of his brother.

ALVIN PHILLIPS: A computer expert who went to the Caribbean in search of the lost Spanish treasure ship, the Baratheia. He makes the unfortunate choice of hiring Carlton MacKanally as his dive guide, who was being chased by drug runners at the behest of their associates, the Artomiques. Managing to survive and return to his home in the State with the island girl Monique, the drug runners follow and blow up his home, using a lighter given to Monique as a detonator. Fortunately, Monique stepped out onto the back porch balcony before lighting her cigarette. Alvin still suffered significant injuries, and Monique ultimately left him. Alvin then met Mack, MacKanally's twin, and the Granite Rock Bank building where he had found employment was promptly destroyed by the Brothan. Alvin reported Mack's presence to the Artomiques, who had hired him to spy on the Wild Stars' secret bank, and an assassin who was chasing Mack cross country arrived and killed both him and Akara. Erlik rewrote history by arriving early and saving their lives. Alvin was a witness as Erlik's ship shoots away into the sky.

ANDY MCCOBB: He was the helicopter pilot hired for the Artomique's charter flight into Ireland, where they hoped to recover the TTD (Time Travel Device) lost by the Brothan.

BARBARA: Anthracite Country Sheriff's office night dispatch, and Onery Honorman's girlfriend, Barbara is a very attractive woman being targeted by bail bondsman Jimmy Bond with promises of a future as a model. A centerfold that she previously posed for showed up in the local newspaper on the day of the Anthracite Primary elections.

BILLY BOB TUCKER: While serving as the Anthracite County Sheriff, he targeted businesses that were frequented by customers of color for harassment. One young black man by the name of Norman Fallo died under mysterious circumstances after Billy Bob arrested him. The clone, First Marker, remembered Carlton MacKanally's anger over Tucker's crime and, while thinking he was Carlton, had a shootout with the sheriff and killed him. Unfortunately, a final errand shot by Billy Bob killed James O'Malley, another friend of Carlton MacKanally.



BOB TYLER: The Chicago hitman who killed the wrong man when he mistook Sam Wayne for Sam Payne, Bob-Tyler is given a chance at redemption when Henry Piper gives him a new assignment to shoot Sheriff Onery Honorman right through his badge, the same way that Sheriff Billy Bob Tucker was killed. Bob has Honorman in his scope when a knife is pressed against his throat by a crazy Native American woman who claims to have conversations with spirits. His neck permanently marked, Tyler abandons his assignment and races his car out of town at high speeds.

ERNESTO MENDEZ: This South American drug dealer's one-hundred-million dollar cocaine sale to the Russian cartel was destroyed when Carlton MacKanally planted explosives brought by Alvin Phillips in his search for Spanish treasure. Ernesto pursued MacKanally back to the States, where he accidentally met the space traveler Mack. Not realizing the difference between the two men, Ernesto had Mack and Nanette tied up next to a crate of explosives in the abandoned mine tunnels beneath the Piper estate. This is but one example of his penchant for destruction, having bragged about once burning down a fire station.

HOPE PIPER: Daughter of businessman Henry Piper, she and Carlton MacKanally had a Romeo and Juliet type of romance because their parents were mortal enemies. So they a pact that if ever separated they would meet again on the High School steps during the Fourth of July fireworks celebration. When Mack did not show, Hope had no way of knowing that her brother had chained him to a bucket of concrete and tossed him into the State river to drown.

JAMES O'MALLEY: A high school friend of Carlton MacKanally, they played varsity football together. When Carlton mysteriously disappeared, James began dating his old girlfriend, Shannon. James was nervously explaining this to the man he thought was a suddenly reappeared MacKanally when Sheriff Billy Bob Tucker arrived to arrest them both. Not yet aware that he was a clone, the man later named Mack was angry about the sheriff having killed a friend of MacKanally's and challenged Billy Bob to an old west-style gunfight. An errant shot by the sheriff killed James O'Malley.

JIMMY BOND: Bail bondsman and lackey for Henry Piper, he actively caused problems for Sheriff Onery Honorman and his girlfriend, Barbara. Despite not being a very good card player, he liked to introduce himself as "Bond, Jimmy Bond, bail bondsman."

JOCK: Shannon's date at the Crossroads Hotel bar while they talked with Alvin Phillips and Nanette, Jock's adventures while searching for a Yeti in Tibet will be told later.

LESTER PIPER: Also known as Onion because he claimed to always make the girls cry, Lester was the son of Henry Piper. He disliked the MacKanallys in general because

they often stood in his father's way, and hated their son Carlton in particular because he dated Lester's sister, Hope. Lester and his friends eventually ambushed Carlton, chained him to a bucket of concrete and dumped him into State River to drown. Lester and his friends, Ted and Newcome, managed a lucrative drug business. They delivered regular marijuana shipments under the guise of morning newspaper deliveries. When Anthracite Sheriff Honorman located their marijuana fields and began watching them for anyone trying to harvest them, Lester and his crew were forced into the crystal meth business. Hoping to return to the 'weed' business, Lester made a bulk purchase from Ernesto Mendez. That was the moment when Carlton MacKanally returned from the dead, disrupting the sale and tossing Onions shipment off the same State River bridge that Onion had thrown Carlton.

LEWIS: This security guard diligently patrolled the lower levels and all access points of Granite Rock Bank and was startled by Mark Mackavicka. He was startled again when the tower section caught on fire.

MAX: Another henchman of Ernesto Mendez, but unlike Ernesto's other men, Maxx is of German descent. One of his hobbies is cutting fingers off during an interrogation, and then carving the knuckle bones into dice.

MUHAMMAD ALI: Former heavyweight boxing champion of the world, he was mistaken by Ernesto Mendez for the Islam Prophet, Muhammad, whom he was named after.

NANETTE: Island girl in the Caribbean. Now pushing 30, she was starting to feel her age, but things got worse when she was kidnapped by drug runners looking for a scuba diver named Carlton MacKanally. Ultimately, she landed on her feet and convinced tourist Alvin Phillips to take her with him back to the States, where they lived together for a while. What happened after that is unclear, with Alvin blaming Carlton for their breakup.

NORMAN FALLO: A friend of Carlton MacKanally who was unjustly arrested by Sheriff Billy Bob Tucker and died in jail under mysterious circumstances.

NEWCOME: One of Henry Piper's fellow drug dealers, who was the muscle of the group. When someone needed a beating, he was told to, "Nuke 'em, Newcome."

OLD CARIB: A very dark-skinned, old man, he is rumored to be the last living descendant of the extinct tribe of Carib, after whom the Caribbean was named. A worshipper of the Old Gods, he knows the Caribbean waters better than any other tour guide. He is also wanted for questioning in the death of an American tourist who was eaten alive by a tiger shark after Old Carib reputedly abandoned her and her husband at sea during their scuba dive.

ONERY HONORMAN: This is the name of two men, one being a Confederate soldier who died during the Civil War and whose spirit bonded to an oak tree that grew

from a seedling which germinated in his blood. The other is the Confederate soldier's descendant, who became interim Sheriff of Anthracite County after the previous sheriff, Billy Bob Tucker, was killed. Most suspect his selection by the Anthracite quorum court was influenced by businessman Henry Piper, who had been married to Honorman's cousin until she died in childbirth. Once in office, Onery told a young woman that not being sexually propositioned at Henry Piper's bank, which was how all raises and promotions were given, was not sexual harassment. He suggested that she instead sue for lack of equal opportunity. As a result, Onery drew the ire of Henry Piper, who became determined to replace him with the Argenta Police Chief Virgil Baker. When an assassin was sent after Onery by one of Piper's Artomique associates, Onery's confederate ghost ancestor found a way to intercede, as he would do again later when Piper reassigned the hitman who had failed to kill Sam Payne. Onery was also in a relationship with his night dispatch, Barbara, who had been targeted by Piper's henchman, bail bondsman Jimmy Bond. This would cause him public embarrassment during the primary election

RICARDO: A henchman of South American drug dealer Ernesto Mendez, his brother was shot with a speargun bolt by Carlton MacKanally and then is eaten alive by a tiger shark right in front of him. Ricardo vowed revenge, but when he thought he about to take it against the man he didn't realize was the space traveler, Mack, he was attacked by a horde of demon babies that had hitched a ride from the rogue planet, Devil's Delight, on the hull of the Brothan ship chasing Mack. Ricardo physical remains were then charred by an explosion set off by Ernesto Mendez. When Anthracite Sheriff Onery Honorman found Mack's gun on Ricardo's corpse, he closed the murder investigation into the shooting death of Billy Bob Tucker.

SAM PAYNE: Distant nephew of Tollman Payne, Sam is a hustler, pool player, bowler, and the small town assassin who cut the brake lines on the car that killed Carlton MacKanally's parents. This is a secret that Henry Piper did not want him telling anyone. But Sam had the good fortune to be arrested for burglary by Sheriff Honorman on the same day that a Chicago hitman was sent to silence him.

SAM WAYNE: Argenta Bowling Champ, immediately after achieving this life goal, Sam was mistaken for Sam Payne by a hitman.

SHANNON: Carlton MacKanally's old girlfriend from before he started dating Hope Piper, she later dated James O'Malley, who was shot and killed by Sheriff Billy Bob Tucker under mysterious circumstances that MacKanally was rumored to be connected with.

TAMARA: Henry Piper's new girlfriend. They met at a Moscow casino when Tamara was operating the roulette table and Henry kept betting on red. Being recently wid-

owed from the death of his second wife while she was in childbirth, Henry brought Tamara back with her to Argenta. Tamara, however, has a wandering eye, and her flirtation with a visiting Georgian Raveling developed into something more after Henry was hospitalized after the trauma of the primary election day and the underground mine explosion that destroyed his home.

TED: A childhood friend of Lester Piper, he was an equal partner in their drug dealings. For years they and another friend, Newcome, peddled marijuana right in front of unsuspecting law officers by using newspaper routes to mask their deliveries.

VIRGIL BAKER: Police Chief of Argenta, candidate for Anthracite Sheriff, and an off-the-books employee of Henry Piper. Virgil had everything going his way on the day of the primary elections as he prepared to burn down a marijuana field in front of news cameras. Then an explosion in the abandoned coal mine next to them set the entire field aflame, sending huge clouds of marijuana smoke rolling over nearby polling stations. It ended up causing the largest voter turnout in history as well as charges of electioneering to be leveled against him.

EARTHMEN (23RD CENTURY)

ARNET: One of the Marines who fought alongside Bully Bravo and Helena Huracan against the Brothan at Mount Ratatan on Magus IV, Arnet suffered significant injuries.

BLACKMON: As one of the Marines who fought with Bully Bravo and Helena Huracan against the Brothan at Mount Ratatan on Magus IV, Blackmon received numerous commendations and was promoted to Commander.

BOBBY BELL: A colleague of Veranda Bama and Curly Culp, this young woman is one of the handicapped scientists assigned to the scientific research ship, the Amaranth.

BRYCE: Captain of the Amaranth, he was severely injured during an encounter with a stowaway dire grief, but recovered. As an Admiral he led a fleet of ice ships carrying Earth refugees right through the arms of the extra-galactic monster, Nean, and revealed a possible way to fight her.

BULLY BRAVO: Brother to Risky Bravo, Bully was an unofficial asset of the Earth military with the rank of Commander. His were often the first boots on new worlds, and he was often sent to solve difficult problems. His tracking of the human targets responsible for Zarawti's attacks on Earth ships led him to Mars Space Station One, and later Magus IV. There, he became a hero for quelling a Brothan incursion on Magus IV, which later became known as Akara's World. Bully subsequently left the military and entered the world of politics, secretly using a Wild Stars universal translator given to him by Mack as a tool to deal with the diverse languages of Earth and the stars. Elected President of the United States, Bully would only serve one term as president. Learning that the black

hole, Ruin, was on a course to destroy the Earth, Bully returned to the stars in hopes of either finding refuge for the citizens of Earth or a way to divert Ruin. When his starliner was mysteriously destroyed, his lifeboat ended up on the quarantined moon of Ansa. There, Bully Bravo died, according to a legend that also says his nephew Bully Shawnee traveled back in time and saved him. This story is largely attributed to what are certainly the many exaggerations about the life of Bully Shawnee. What is known for certain is that the two Bullys escaped the pursuing pirates of the Red Queen, Nefarimor, and fought against Gow of the Purple Order on Shipworld. Bully was later recruited by the Ancient Warrior to assist with his attempt to rescue Phaedra from a black hole. See also Scary President.

BULLY SHAWNEE: Son of Tomas and Nyree Shawnee (aka Risky Bravo and Atlanta), and nephew of Bully Bravo, Bully Shawnee stands nearly seven-foot tall and spent his youth battling the Brothan invasion of his homeworld Miri (aka Magus IV, Akara's World). The many superficial scars he gained during this time led to his nickname; the Quilted Man. Bully fell in love with the Sang Vardel, daughter of one of Bully's field agents. After Sang was murdered by Carthage, who thought she was her sister, Sing, Bully rescued Sing by battling through a thousand Brothan and a subsequent wave of Marzanti-spawn. Successful, but depressed, Bully went to a lover's leap where he contemplated suicide, but instead became distracted by a strange object he found there. He would later learn that it was Akara's Wild Stars soft body armor, turned inside out with the legs tied to make a pouch. It had thrown there by Gugalann and contained Mack's TTD (Time Travel Device) along with a baton that controlled Zarawti. Armed with these two new weapons, he began a campaign against the pirates of the Red Queen, Nefarimor, and eventually captured her. He then traveled in time and forced her to exchange places with his mother, moments before a hungry red grief struck. During this time, he also rescued his uncle, Bully Bravo, from certain death, and battled against Gow of the Purple Order. Recruited by the Ancient Warrior to help rescue Phaedra, Bully was in the section of the Great Machine blasted off by the God Father. But being stranded in time is not a problem for a time traveler. To recruit help to battle the God Father in the future, and with the assistance Bully Bravo's bastard son, Bullson, Bully Shawnee rescued Akara and Mack immediately before their death during the Eybonti-Saturnian War. Because of his many battles against the Brothan, pirates, and countless others, Bully Shawnee has earned many nicknames.

CHIN: Born and raised in Mississippi, Kwan Chin is one of the Marines who fought alongside Bully Bravo and Helena Huracan against the Brothan at Mount Ratatan on Magus IV. He mysteriously disappeared immediately afterwards and was not seen again until tears later when Robert Vardel discovered Chin had been secretly working with the pirates of the Red Queen Nefarimor.

CINCENO: This Earth officer held many ranks; Commander, Captain, Mars Supreme Commander, and Regional Commander for an entire region of space that included Magus IV, each time always achieving another advancement. Ruthless and uncompromising, his command style often overlooked the human element. Charged with dereliction of duty during the Ansa Massacre while a Captain early in his career, Cinceno was brought up on court-martial charges by Bully Bravo after he became President of the United States. Further visual evidence showing Cinceno's reckless decision making on Mars Space Station One during the Prairie Bay Force Majeure event was used to end his military career. Particularly damning was how all video evidence was erased of what happened between him and the mechanic named Atlanta in the Prairie Bay lounge, Stu Stu's Studio, from which Cinceno emerged with a black eye and an apparent grudge against the mechanic. Cinceno was further ridiculed in public for launching a thousand ships on full burn to pursue this mechanic. But the court determined that his intent had been to deal with a matter on Magus IV that Bully Bravo resolved with the help of only a handful of Marines and a pair of handicapped scientists, all while wearing a spaceman's diaper. That determination was more of another indictment than a vindication. Even more damning was his evacuation of all colonists from Magus IV because of fears over an impending impact by a Marzanti spike, which ultimately caused little damage because of its spearlike shape. Cinceno left the courtroom vowing that he would vindicate his reputation but has not been heard from since.

CURLY CULP: One of the scientists aboard the Amaranth, he was known for compulsive behavior and joined Doc Bama when she made a landfall on Magus IV, then rode his spider-walker (an eight-legged wheelchair) right into the lair of the Brothan.

DALUCAR ZONDERMAN: The only Saturnian known to escape exile from his comet imprisonment, Dalucar turned his insatiable hunger on one of his rescuers, Carthage. Eventually arriving at Miri/Magus IV/Akara's world, Dalucar served in the employ of the Brothan, Gugalann, which allowed him to feed on the minds of the native humans living there. Dalucar, which is Dracula spelled backward, except for the D, lied to Gugalann and claimed that his name meant Anti-Zarawti. Injected with his own zombie formula by Atlanta, Dalucar attempted to travel in time, not realizing that the TTD used the host's bio-energy for power. Being dead, Dalucar was electrocuted. His severed head was eventually stored with the severed head of his earlier victim, Carthage. When the local Saturnian Protocols were rescinded by President Perez, Dalucar escaped and inhabited the body of an Eybontic that he freed from prison. He set out into deep space, wanting revenge on the man who had last imprisoned him; Bully Bravo. See also Saturnian. See also Craig Kray. See also Kray-Kray.

FUZZY DYCE: An actor and son of an African-American woman and the Black Irish father he was named after, Patty O'Leary, he later adopted the name of his titular character from the popular vid-series, Fuzzy Dyce and Jelli Belly. His long career included well-known epics like the blockbuster Warhamster series and Tazran versus Gorezilla, and less-known period works like Once Every 108 Years. Working on establishing the longest non-digitized career in the history of the Screen Actor's Guild, Fuzzy takes periodic hiatuses on extended star cruises, where time passes more slowly than it does on Earth. He had the misfortune to be a passenger on the only Bio-cube starliners to ever suffer mishaps; both the Rainbow and the Moonbow. However, he had the good fortune to be seated with Bully Bravo and other V.I.P. passengers at the captains' table when the lifeboat feature was deployed upon the Moonbow's destruction. After the lifeboat safely landed on the Behemit moon, Ansa, he was taken prisoner by the pirate leader, the Red Queen. Rescued by Gow, Knight of the Purple Order, he and fellow castaway Topeka Tanaka were then used as bait for a saurocat. During his Ansa adventure, Fuzzy developed a chaste attraction for Topeka.

HELENA HURACAN: This young woman of Arabian descent rose to the rank of Captain and commanded the U.S.S. Ronald Reagan during the events on Magus IV. She had previously been stationed on Mars Space Station One where she was friends with Risky Bravo and was later requested by former President Bully Bravo to be his personal pilot. She was murdered by Nefarimor, the pirate Red Queen, right in front of Bully Bravo.

HERNANDEZ: One of the Marines who fought with Bully Bravo and Helena Huracan against the Brothan at Mount Ratatan on Magus IV, he received several commendations for bravery and then retired from the military to rejoin his family in the Philippines.

JELLI BELLY: Like his co-star on the popular vid-series Fuzzy Dyce and Jelli Belly, this actor of Pakistani descent took on the moniker of his most famous role. Jelli Belly died unexpectedly from unknown causes, although his co-star Fuzzy Dyce suspected a connection to Jelli Belly's addiction to Whisper Ice Cream.

JIM: Doomed commander of Rover One, his New Venice patrol ship was sent to investigate a disturbance at the Gates of Hell, an operations center hidden beneath the floating cities of New Venice on Venus, which provided access to the suspended prison Alcatraz II. There, he was confronted with an escaping Eybontic that had been appropriated by the now fully cybernetic entity, Dalucar Zonderman.

KERASH: Captain of the doomed starliner, Moonbow, the captain enjoyed joking with passengers whenever they missed a syllable in his name and mistakenly called him "Captain Crash."

Magahatti: This Marine of Iranian descent fought with Bully Bravo and Helena Huracan against the Brothan at Mount Ratatan on Magus IV, and during a long career earned many more medals and commendations until he retired with the rank of Sergeant.

NEFARIMOR, AKA THE RED QUEEN, AKA THE RED WITCH, AKA SCARLET TANAGER: Leader of the pirates whose sigil is a pair of white bones crossed over a red skull, Nefarimor leads a double life as Whisper Ice Cream heiress Scarlet Tanager. Her pirates supply the mcguffinuts that are the secret ingredient of Whisper Ice Cream. She attempted to expand her power over the star lanes by affiliating herself with the Terraformers and trying to bring them under her sigil. Ruthless and cunning, she was also a telepath and often toyed with people like Tijuana Tanaka, whom she killed with a telepathic mind-spike after Gow released him from her thralling. She later executed Helena Huracan simply as a display of her dominance. While in pursuit of former Earth president Bully Bravo, she was abducted by the time traveler Bully Shawnee, who claimed to have left her in his mother's place when a red grief attacked. Another mind spike had no effect on a grief, and according to Shawnee, she was consumed. But other observers claim that Nefarimor is still alive and back in charge of her pirates on the asteroid, Corsairiana.

PAM KERK: Sister of Roy Kerk, she helps operate the salvage ship Junker 7557, which is also nicknamed the Gravedigger.

PEREZ: The next President of the United States after Bully Bravo declined to run for reelection, Perez foolishly rescinded Bravo's Saturnian Protocols involving the imprisonment of Dalucar Zonderman and allowed him to escape. Perez's mistakes continued when he publicly revealed that the black hole Ruin was headed for Earth and triggered a mass exodus of refugees into the stars. It is rumored that he did this as a counter to the world health systems becoming overwhelmed by the recent ban on Whisper Ice Cream and all other concoctions containing the ingredient known as mcguffinut juice. While dealing with all this, President Perez was notified about an urgent MagLink message from Keppler3PS37-5, a colony thought long lost in a barren void of space. Perez considered the warning sent by Hodge Wynsley the 7th about an invasion by an alien species called the Grimgrip to be a possible hoax. He decided to wait for a followup message, which never came.

RALUS REED: Chief Mechanic for the ice starship, the Amaranth, Ralus disappeared on Prairie Bay after having an encounter with the dire grief when it escaped confinement during the power outage caused by the Marzanti trident.

RISKY BRAVO: Brother of Bully Bravo, Risky was assigned to Mars Space Station One under the command of Supreme Mars Commander Cinceno. The two did

not always agree, and after Risky's adventure on Prairie Bay, where he helped Atlanta stop the destruction being caused by a Marzanti trident, Cinceno had Risky jailed for allowing her to leave afterwards. Because of his encounter with the trident, Risky began aging at an accelerated rate. He also knew of Cinceno's plans to hunt down Atlanta, who had escaped on the Amaranth, and escaped to warn her. Risky and Atlanta ended up together on the planet Magus IV, where they assumed names of the late Shawnees. As Tomas and Nyree Shawnee, Risky and Atlanta gave birth to a son named Bully Shawnee. After Nyree-Atlanta's tragic death, Risky tried to uncover the identity of the pirates causing so much trouble on Magus IV, but was captured on the Corsairiana asteroid and returned to Magus IV to be sacrificed by the Brothan, Gugalann. Rescued by Erlik, Mack, and others, he soon died of premature old age. But thanks to Wild Stars cloning, his knowledge and personality were transferred into a new body. Unfortunately, a telepath of the Five-Thousand Fingered Hand was also present, giving him additional thoughts not his own.

ROBERT VARDEL: A lieutenant serving on Mars Space Station One during the Marzanti trident crisis, he was later attached to Bully Bravo and sent to Magus IV to investigate a breach of Saturnian Protocols. Surviving his head injuries after the battle on Mount Ratatan, Vardel was later enlisted by then President Bravo to be one of his scouts on Magus IV, which has now called Akara's world. Vardel married Maracet, a native of Akara's World and sired two daughters, Sang and Sing. Sang was later murdered by Carthage and Sing kidnapped. Vardel then joined Bully Shawnee, Mack, and Akara in an attempt to rescue her from the Brothan at Mountain Harbor.

ROY KERK: Older brother of Pam Kerk, he was the primary operator of the salvage ship Junker 7557, also known as the Gravedigger.

SCARLET TANAGER: Heiress to the Whisper Ice Cream empire, Scarlet was another castaway of the ill-fated Moonbow, and was attacked by her apparent boyfriend, Tijuana Tanaka, on the lifeboat after an encounter with Gow of the Purple Order. Once the lifeboat reached the safety of the Behemit moon, Ansa, their subsequent capture by pirates revealed her to have a double identity. She was also the Red Queen, Nefarimor, and the pirates had been supplying her company with mcguffinuts, the secret ingredient in Whisper Ice Cream. See also Nefarimor.

SHAWNEES: A pioneer couple on Magus IV who were tragically killed by the Brothan. Their names of Nyree and Tomas were later adopted by Atlanta and Risky Bravo.

THEONIDUS: According to the inscription found at his tombstone on Prairie Bay, this is the identity of the Greek warrior who raised the oceans of Poseidon and scattered the fleets of Xerxes at Salamis, and later destroyed the Persian bridge of boats. The inscriptions give no clue about how the mummified body of an ancient Greek war-

rior came to be buried on Mars, with a Marzanti trident still clutched in his hands. It was later deduced that the Ancient Warrior, or one of his children, moved the tomb of Theonidus to Mars in order to avoid more Earthmen tampering with the Marzanti trident and possibly signaling another Marzanti spike to strike.

TIJUANA TANAKA, AKA DOUBLE T-TREE: Step-brother of Topeka Tanaka, Tijuana is the child of a Japanese ambassador's second wife from Mexico City, Mexico, on Earth. An MLB Cy Young Winner for the Chicago Cubs over four-consecutive years, he took a break in his career to join Scarlet Tanager as her guest aboard the ill-fated Moonbow starliner. Some speculated that the recent lift of embargoes on Akaran wood being imported from Akara's World might have figured into his decision since his overpowering pitches were known to shatter bats made of Earth pine. Bats made of Akaran wood, however, would not break. Tijuana died of an apparent brain hemorrhage on the Moonbow lifeboat, but details about this are sketchy. The official Bio-cube account reads that an encounter with Gow of the Purple Order apparently drove Tijuana insane and caused him to attack Scarlett Tanager. Stories being spread by space pirates blame former U.S. President Bully Bravo.

TOPEKA TANAKA: Step-sister to star baseball pitcher, Tijuana Tanaka, Topeka's father was an ambassador from Japan whose first wife was a Kansas woman from the U.S. She and her brother were guests of Whisper Ice Cream heiress Scarlet Tanager aboard the Moonbow when it was destroyed, and survived on the Captain's table lifeboat. Stranded on Ansa, she became a prisoner of the pirate leader, the Red Queen, and was later rescued by Gow of the Purple Order, who in turn made her the prey of a saurocat. Topeka developed a crush for Bully Bravo and never noticed that fellow passenger Fuzzy Dyce felt an attraction for her.

VERANDA BAMA: Being handicapped and with no lower body movement, "Doc Bama," as she is commonly called, designed the prototype ice ship, the Amaranth, as a workspace for other handicapped scientists who did not need to worry about muscle atrophy during extended star voyages.

WHITESON: One of the Marines who fought with Bully Bravo and Helena Huracan against the Brothan at Mount Ratatan on Magus IV. He was later recruited as a scout on Arkara's World. He disappeared without a trace while trying to locate the Red Queen's pirate stronghold; Corsairiana.

WILLIAM: The name of the Earthman who, after engaging in a public sex game with his wife, witnessed a group of Terraformers inadvertently unleash the Elder God Neth upon the Earth while utilizing wormhole technology during a burglary of the Space Port Authority's vaults.

GRIMGRIIP

An alien species who made their first incursion into human-populated space at Keppler3PS37-5 (aka: Pleasanton), the Grimgrip stand twice the size of a man and have three-fingered hands and birdlike feet. Their segmented bodies are covered with what is either white hair or fine feathers. They are bipedal and have insect eyes atop a head featuring what looks like a monster bird's beak. While they cannot themselves speak alien languages, they employ robotic translators. They claim to be peacekeepers intent on making every world safe not only for the tiny children of the Grimgrip, but also for the conquered inhabitants. They consider resistance to be a madness that is a sign of infection.

HYLYGEAN

A species of incredibly intelligent, green-eyed monkeys who were transplanted to Miri during the Wild Stars exodus. They have white hair and heavy manes streaked with red stripes. Because of their telepathic abilities, some races of humanoids consider them to be evil, but the actions of these monkeys as unifiers belie this assumption. It was they who first insisted that the Ancient Warrior instruct his people to always look after the safety of the Children of the Woods.

IMMORTALS

ANCIENT WARRIOR: A child of extra-universal travelers, the Ancient Warrior had grown so old that he has forgotten the many names he had been called over the millennia. Like his ancestors, he is immortal, except for violent death. This immortality gene passes on to his first generation of children, but not the second. To save mankind from an extinction event 75,000 years ago, he led the first migration from Earth into space and founded the Wild Stars. Modern-day geneticists have confirmed that at the time of this event, you could have fit every human left alive on Earth into a small football stadium. That's because the rest followed the Ancient Warrior into the stars. To find his lost love, Phaedra, he later led the Wild Stars to the Horseshoe Galaxy and back. Learning where Phaedra had gone, he began recruiting help to rescue her.

ATLAS TORIDIAN: A grandchild of the Ancient Warrior, he stole the bones of his mother, one of the only known female children born to a first-generation immortal, and used them as carbon to create the three unique swords sometimes referred to as Atlantean swords, and other times as Toridian swords. During the Isshla's destruction of Vu, he was captured by the Isshla who wanted him to use his metallurgic skills to create another Marzanti trident. He was subjected to control by the parasite, the Eye of Vishnatay, but was later released from his suffering by the Ancient Warrior.

BULLSON: After the God Mother seduced Bully Bravo in her underground moon pool following the Ansa Massa-

cre, she gave birth to the son she named Bullson. Raising him alone, she instructed Bullson with her own knowledge and that gained from her encounter with Gow of the Purple Order. She taught Bullson telepathy and many skills far beyond those of typical men, but urged him to avoid using time travel. She explained that he would understand when it was time. The God Mother then gave Bullson two tasks. First, he was to assist the Ancient Warrior in rescuing the God Mother's lost sister, Phaedra, from the seemingly inescapable prison where the God Father had abandoned her. And second, she wanted Bullson to bring Bully Shawnee to her underground moon pool.

ERLIK: The last surviving child of the Ancient Warrior, Erlik's mother was a telepathic assassin who betrayed his father, causing the Ancient Warrior to lapse into a long period of melancholy, yearning over his lost love, Phaedra. When his brother Vickerus was killed by the Broth-an, Erlik accepted the full mantle of responsibility for the Wild Stars during his father's absence. Previously he had undergone a rite of passage that all descendants of the Ancient Warrior must pass. Being 'tested' meant being stripped of their memories and abandoned in dangerous situations where their true natures were allowed to surface. During his test, Erlik rescued a young woman from a peaceful sea people on the planet of Miri. Only after her death did he learn that their brief coupling had resulted in a daughter named Akara. They met for the first time at her mother's gravesite, and afterward Erlik took her with him into the Wild Stars, where she became a full-fledged warrior. When the child she had with the Earth clone called First Marker was kidnapped, Erlik searched a Billion Years in a single day to find her. The revelations of the future he saw unfolding led him to retreat into isolation with the woman named Daestar so that he would not change history. Together they raised two children, a boy and a girl. Once that period of precognition had passed, and the events he had foreseen occurred, he emerged from isolation to discover the grandson he had neglected out of necessity. Soon after, he answered the Ancient Warrior's call to another quest, this time to finally rescue the immortal Phaedra.

GOD FATHER: Like the Ancient Warrior, the God Father is a child of the immortal ancients who traveled to this universe from one that was dying. His first generation of children were immortals called the Purple Order. It is not known which galaxy that the God Father original came from, but after encountering Phaedra of the Horseshoe Galaxy, he was smitten. He did not take her rejection well and traveled back in time to the dawn of her arrival in the Horseshoe Galaxy and kidnapped her, subsequently entombing her and launching her prison into a massive black hole. Fascinated by the creations of his ancestors, the God Father created many colossal machines based on their original designs. One of those is the Great Machine.

GOD MOTHER: Like the God Father and the Ancient Warrior, she is another child of ancient immortals, but

wears no clothing and communicates only by telepathy. Not much else is known about her other than she appeared in the Milky Way Galaxy decades before the Wild Stars returned from the Horseshoe Galaxy. It is uncertain if she came independently to the Milky Way, or stowed away with the Wild Stars exodus and then time jumped into the past. What is known is that she escaped from the God Father to avoid being used by him as a broodmare. Even an immortal female may have an unlimited life, but only so many eggs, and she set about making selective use of hers. During her time in the Milky Way, she is already known to have seduced Bully Bravo, Lonan McGuffin, and Bully Shawnee. She uses her telepathic powers to control what each man remembers about their mating, if anything. Her adult son by Bully Bravo is Bullson.

GOW: A Knight of the Purple Order, Gow is a first generation child of the God Father, which means that his immortality does not pass on to his children. This is one of the reasons why, despite having found Tall Trees Wolf to be uniquely attractive, he quickly forgot about her after meeting the God Mother, another immortal like the God Father and the Ancient Warrior. With her, he could sire immortal children. But he was not accustomed to a woman with the power to refuse his desire. Gow's personal appearance is the traditional curly white hair of the Purple Order, with tan skin. He wears no shoes and dresses in a leather-like tunic that is imprinted with purplish tessellation designs and trimmed with gold belts and harnesses. He carries no obvious weapons. Being able to move through time and space at will, he rarely needs one, but is well versed in their use. Once, he killed every person on an entire planet out of spite. He was once again acting in anger when he pursued the Wild Stars after they escaped from the Horseshoe Galaxy, with the goal of their total annihilation. Upon discovering the God Mother in the Milky Way, he decided that this was where he would create his own legacy. One thing he could not anticipate was a hungry red grief lurking and ready to strike.

PHAEDRA: Hers was an iconic beauty of chiseled feminine perfection, with long curly blond hair, high cheekbones, and piercing green eyes. Phaedra was the lost love interest from the Ancient Warrior's forgotten youth. But he never forgot her beauty. Since she was another immortal, he has searched across countless millennia for a clue to her disappearance, and discovered that in the distant past the God Father had thrown her into a black hole. If the Ancient Warrior could accomplish the impossible and rescue his love from an inescapable prison, would she feel the same about him? Would she even remember him?

PURPLE ORDER: This first generation of the God Father's children were all males. Unable to pass on their immortality to another generation, the Purple Order are fanatically dedicated to their father and ruthless in the implementation of his rule. They possess an impressive array of powers, including teleportation and time travel with a thought. They can also employ bio-camouflage that

makes them appear to be from the same genetic heritage as the person observing them. But, as Gow discovered, their arrogance and pride in their curly white hair, considered a sign of prestige, can undo this advantage.

TORIDIAN: She was the only daughter ever known to be born to the Ancient Warrior, and the only known female child ever born to a first-generation immortal. But that statement carries with it the caveat that only the children of the Ancient Warrior and the God Father are part of that census. They could be other exceptions. Toridian was a genius builder of ships and designed the hydrofoil propulsion system utilized on cargo ships like the Sea Howler and the Meanie Sweetie. She died while the Ancient Warrior was away leading Earth migrants to a new world in the Wild Stars. Her bones were then stolen by her sword-smith son, Atlas Toridian, who wanted to use the carbon to create a unique set of blades known as the Toridian swords and later as the Atlantean swords.

VICKERUS: Erlik's immortal brother and previous guardian of the Wild Stars. Vickerus interceded when the Brothan rewrote Earth's history and changed it so that the Native Americans were never conquered by colonists, and hence there was no United States to intercede when fascism swept the world. Vickerus changed history again by sending the Keltic War Chief, Corr Mac Kal, back in time with the hope of creating a third timeline that might be closer to the first that the Brothan destroyed. In retaliation, the Brothan destroyed Vickerus' home-planet and killed him in the process, leaving several other initiatives that Vickerus had started, like Project: First Marker, incomplete.

MAGUS IV

BRUDWATA: The name of the Broadwater tribe on Miri evolved over the 75,000 years between Earth's star migrations.

CHILDREN OF THE WOODS: This Wild Stars term refers to the more primitive humanoid species living on the planet Miri.

MARACET: A native of Magus IV/Miri/Atlanta's World, she was the wife of Robert Vardel and mother to their daughters, Sang and Sing.

NORSHAHANI, THE TRIBE: A fierce tribe living on the savannah of Miri, they are named after the even fiercer horse-like steeds that they ride. During his testing, Erlik encountered a group of thirty Norshahani who had kidnapped a young woman from the sea people of the Silver Cliffs. Her gratitude for being rescued resulted in the birth of Akara.

SILVER CLIFFS, THE PEOPLE, THE PLACE: The Silver Cliffs refer to both a mountainous region bordering a large body of water on Miri and the people who lived there after migrating from Earth during the Wild Stars



exodus. Akara was born there, and Mountain Harbor was their main port before being nearly exterminated by the Brothan.

SANG VARDEL: Daughter of Robert Vardel and his wife, Maracet, she was the sister of Sing and girlfriend of Bully Shawnee. She was murdered by the undead Carthage.

SING VARDEL: When Carthage came looking for Sing's sister Sang, Sing took her place in what she thought was a heroic act of self-sacrifice. Instead, Carthage murdered Sang, believing her to be Sing, and took Sing prisoner, thinking she was Sang.

TIBERAL: Maracet, wife of Robert Vardel, was a Tiberel. One of the tribes of the Wild Stars who chose the simpler life of living off the land on Miri, things changed for the Tiberals after subsequent invasions by the Black-Eyes of Earth and then the Brothan. When the Earthers left prior to the Marzanti-spike's impact, the Tiberals were unhappy when the Black-Eyes began to return once again. So the Tiberals sought help dealing with the situation from the aged Tomas Shawnee. But Tomas had disappeared, so they turned to the Stone Man in the woods who whispered instructions into their minds. One of those instructions was; "You must war against Earth by first warring against the Dragon Kings of the Vampire Dragons." They had no way of knowing that the Stone Man was ensuring their repeated return by embroiling the Tiberals into matters that would soon spiral out of control.

MARZANTI

BOREALIS NIGET, THE INDIVIDUAL: This name has two usages. One refers to the founder of the traveling space city, Magoria, who is a member of an unnamed race with many amphibian characteristics, possibly of Marzanti origin, which explains why Magoria has both air and water areas throughout. First Marker's translator makes Borealis Niget sound like the 20th Century American movie star, John Wayne, if he were talking underwater.

ISSHLA

A race of humanoid fish, the Isshla consider all land surrounded by salt water to be their domain. According to the Ancient Warrior, there are 50 different species of Isshla, who are often referred to in the generic but descriptive term of fishmen. The Isshla spawned from a first stage Marzanti spike that struck Earth, but much of their genetic programming did not kick in until the birth of Vishnatay, who became the leader of all Isshla. He recovered the trident of the Marzanti from the remnants of the spike and began signaling for a second spike while attempting to wipe the species called Man from the face of the Earth. The species of Isshla who did most of this work were called the Heartless Ones. Their conquest very nearly succeeded 75,000 years ago, until the Marzanti trident was lost to them. Since that time not much is known about their activities in the oceans and lands below, with

the ocean's orca population actively curtailing any Isshla incursions to the surface.

EYE OF VISHNATAY: Spawn of the Isshla leader Vishnatay, when consumed with water, they will latch onto the throat of a host and grow an eyestalk through the brain and out of the skull. This gives them complete motor control over their victims. They also appear to have a way to wordlessly communicate with each other, but it is fairly certain that this method is not telepathy. They require being in eyesight of each other.

HEARTLESS ONES: This species of Isshla comprised the primary military force that nearly wiped mankind from the face of the Earth 75,000 years ago. With humanoid forms and webbed hands and feet, they had an exoskeleton over their upper body and head which was made of hardened silicon. Evolved for close quarter combat, they seemed to have neither a heart nor circulatory system, which made them nearly indestructible except for the one time they faced the Toridian blades. They are also not very bright, relying on commands from one of their members under control of the Eye of Vishnatay, a parasitical creature that implants itself in the head of a host and extends an eye-stalk through the brain and out of the skull.

VISHNATAY: Leader of the Isshla 75,000 years ago who nearly eradicated mankind from the surface of the Earth and forced them out into the stars. This fishman's plans were ultimately defeated by the Ancient Warrior with help from Montchuhassus, Hekir, and Angor Broadwater. Being a unique species of the Isshla, no one knows how old Vishnatay was, or possibly is. He could still be alive today. Nothing is known about his actual appearance other than that the sight of a dismembered forearm and claws from a saltwater crocodile mounted on Angor Broadwater's war-club induced fear in the otherwise unflappable Heartless Ones. So, it is possible that Angor's club resembled some feature of Vishnatay's anatomy.

MARZANTI-SPAWN: The genetic offspring resulting from the emersion of a Marzanti spike in a planet's ocean, they can take many shapes, and often feature multiple aquatic features like tentacles and shark scales. They exist on Earth, which has been hit with several first stage spikes over the eons. One race of Marzanti-spawn known as the Isshla effectively evicted most humans from the planet 75,000 years ago. In modern times on Earth their populations are largely kept in check by Orca whales (see Orca). The only known sighting encounter them has been on Akara's World/Magus IV/Miri in the 22nd Century.

PLEASANTON

Designated on Earth as Keppler3PS37-5, this distant Earth-like planet located in an isolated spot and was colonized by a group of isolationists led by Hodge Wylesley the 1st, whose descendants remained true to his ideals for seven generations. The aliens known as the Grimrip arrived from unexplored space on the far end of the dead zone.

THE GREATS: This term refers to the first pioneers to colonize Kepler3PS37-5.

HODGE WYNSLEY, 1ST THROUGH THE 7TH: For seven generations there was a Hodge Wynsley in charge of the colony established on Kepler3PS37-5 by Hodge Wynsley the 1st. A statue was erected of him in the town square of the capital city. Known only to the inhabitants as Pleasanton, they kept their world's real name a secret because they were isolationists intent of building an agrarian community without the kind of outside interference that had caused all other such communities to fail on Earth. But by the time of Hodge Wynsley the 7th, many problems were manifesting within the community, with growing dissent from an opposition party led by Junkin London. Then they received a report about a fleet of ships headed their way from the depths of unexplored space and the aliens known as the Grimgrip invaded their world.

JEANNIE WYNSLEY: A scientist trained in ancient Earth technologies and the wife of the Hodge Wynsley the 7th, Jeannie was one of the few survivors after the Grimgrip invasion of Kepler3PS37-5, having been selected as part of their eugenics experiment.

JUNKIN LONDON: Leader of the political opposition party on Kepler3PS37-5, Junkin London won a majority in the vote to prepare a resistance to the arrival of aliens who were approaching their isolated world. Even with the grudging assistance of the planet's hereditary leader, Hodge Wynsley the 7th, they were quickly and easily overwhelmed by the weapons of the Grimgrip, who used neutron weapons to decimate the populations while leaving all the buildings and infrastructure intact. Captured, Junkin London was skinned alive for leather and his body processed for meat.

TERRAFORMERS

Two hundred years into the future, these are essentially the gypsies of the stars. Terraformers are the trailblazers who built the infrastructures of interstellar cities, and are coordinated by a corporation under the direction of a C.E.O. named McGuffin. Because of their familiarity with nearly every access point in every habitation, it is often thought that the Terraformers maintain secret keys that enable them to commit every sort of crime. For this reason, they are particularly disliked by most denizens of the habitats that the Terraformers built.

LONAN MCGUFFIN: Autistic grandchild of the Corporate leader of the Terraformers, Lonan disappeared during the Ansa massacre when his father and all the other Terraformer pioneers were killed by a saurocat. Thought dead, he lived the life of a wild child and consumed only mcguffinuts for sustenance, never encounter another human being until Bully Bravo's lifeboat from the Moonbow disaster crashed on Ansa. Captured by the pirate's Red Queen, Nefarimor, Lonan escaped into the ancient tunnels running throughout Ansa, where he met the ex-

tra-galactic woman, the God Mother. Mating with her in a subterranean pool of healing waters, his autism was corrected, and he walked naked into the first hybrid Earth/Wild Stars settlements on Ansa. By this time, Lonan's grandfather had turned control of the Terraformers over to Lonan's cousin, who was not happy to see a possible threat for control over the Terraformers. Lonan escaped the assassins sent by his cousin by joining the crew of a Junker 757, a starcraft whose name indicated their purpose. On his first flight with Junker 757, the crew discovered a massive pool of gold in space, under the control of Montchuhusus and Phaendra. Upon meeting Phaendra, he immediately recalled a psychic message planted in his mind by the God Mother. It was a warning for Phaendra.

MCGUFFIN: Surname of the family that controls the Terraformer Corporation. The son of the family patriarch died during the Ansa massacre.

PIERRE-CLARKE DARKLAW: As the right-hand man for the Terraformer C.E.O., Pierre-Clarke oversaw most of the interstellar operations and troubleshoot any problems. After the death of his son, Strevan, who was traveling with ex-president Bully Bravo, Pierre-Clarke wanted revenge. One tool he used to ambush Bravo was a recently discovered wormhole device, which gave a ship the ability to hide suspended in what they called Sub-space. He had no idea that he was helping to unleash Neth and Nean into this universe. When he did, he launched every Terraformer ship he could muster in an all-out assault on Nean. They and he were destroyed during the encounter.

RAIDER DARKLAW: Another son of Pierre-Clarke Darklaw, and friend to Tijuana Tanaka, Raider was assigned the task of infiltrating the pirates who were encroaching on the local space lanes. But instead of gathering intel, Raider joined the Red Queen and betrayed his father, hoping to ally the Terraformers with the pirates. He did not question it when the Red Queen blamed Bully Bravo for Tijuana's death but prevented Raider from killing Bully in retaliation. When Topeka Tanaka was taken prisoner aboard the Red Queen's spaceship, the only thing that kept Raider from assaulting her was the arrival of Gow. Raider was later consumed by an offspring of Nean. See Neth and Nean. See also Pierre-Clarke Darklaw.

RIGGER DARKLAW: As one of Pierre-Clarke Darklaw's sons, Rigger is a representative of the Terraformer C.E.O, and one of their leaders. Rigger, however, had bigger plans and, like his brother Raider, was working to unify the Terraformers with the pirates of the Red Queen. After betraying his father, he became one of the first meals for the offspring of Nean. See Neth and Nean.

STREVAN DARKLAW: Masquerading as Bully Bravo's secret service protector, Steve, Strevan Darklaw was actually acting as a delegate for the Terraformers. He and Bully Bravo had been engaged in negotiations to provide habitation for Earth refugees who were expected to be soon escaping Earth's impending destruction by the

black hole, Ruin. However, when Streva died tragically during the Moonbow catastrophe, all negotiations with his father, Pierre-Clarke Darklaw, collapsed, and Bully Bravo was blamed for his death.

WILD STARRIORS

Inhabitants of the Wild Stars use this term to refer to warriors from the Wild Stars who have passed their test of courage and morality, but Earthmen often use it to refer to anyone from the Wild Stars. Because of this dual usage, there is a wide latitude in the grouping listed here, and not all characters went through the testing process.

AKARA: Daughter of Erlik and grandchild of the Ancient Warrior, Akara was born on the Wild Stars world Miri. After her mother's death, she was taken by her father into the stars to learn the ways of the Wild Stars, and by his side she became one of the protectors of this region of the Milky Way Galaxy. While stranded on a rogue planet and facing certain death, she met an Earthman whom she assumed was being tested in the passage that all Wild Stars Warriors must complete. This Earthman went by many names, including the call sign of First Marker, but eventually settled on the name of Mark Mackavicka, or Mack for short. He and Akara conceived a child out of wedlock because Mack had abandoned her to 'find himself' before it was known that Akara was pregnant (see Mack). Their daughter, Miri, named after the planet where Akara was born, would later be kidnapped as a baby and lost in time, doomed to be eaten alive by a red grief. In order to spend time with her daughter before she died, Akara and Mack traveled in time to become the operators of the orphanage that raised Atlanta. But they would not survive the Eybontic-Saturnian War. Fortunately for them, their grandson would intervene.

ATLANTA, THE WOMAN: This was the name given to Miri, the kidnapped child of Akara and Mack when she was abandoned in the southern city by Carthage. Atlanta would survive the Eybontic-Saturnian War, and, with an innate design to explore the stars, developed trade skills to become first a mechanic on the Mars space station Prairie Bay, and later on the starship Amaranth. When a dire grief escaped containment on Prairie Bay and stowed away on her shuttle, she removed it from the Amaranth by flying it back to its homeworld, Magus IV. During the flight, she also rescued Risky Bravo, but her ship was battle damaged by Earth forces under orders from Supreme Mars Commander Cinceno, who considered her a terrorist because of her proximity to the Marzanti trident when it was discovered on Mars. She had stopped the trident from further disrupting Mars by blasting it into space, later recovering it and storing it aboard the same shuttle that crashed on Magus IV. It would later end up in the hands of a dire grief. She and Risky were taken prisoner by the Brothan and encountered Dalucar and the Brothan, Gugalann. Surviving all this, the couple was then advised by Bully Bravo, Risky's brother, to hide on Magus IV. They

took the names of a dead couple called the Shawnees and had a son, Bully Shawnee, named after his uncle. Nyree Shawnee, as Atlanta became known, was later eaten alive by a red grief. Her son would kill that grief, and after he learned the skills of time travel, exchanged the Red Queen, the pirate leader named Nefarimor, at the time of the grief's attack.

CARTHAGE: Son of Vickerus and nephew of Erlik, Carthage failed his test as a warrior of the Wild Stars. Resentful about being denied his heritage, Carthage stole three Time Travel Devices. After his father died, Carthage stole the Icarus Stone that deeded ownership of Earth with the intent of selling it to the Brothan, until Erlik convinced him to gamble it against him in a game of chance. Feeling he was cheated in that game, Carthage maniacally chased after him. During the pursuit, Carthage's ship crashed into a Brothan scout ship as it left the launch bay of a Brothan Battlewagon on a suicide mission to destroy the Planet Vahn. Thought dead, Carthage returned as the newly ordained Prophet Arrow of the Brothan God, Brotah. His mission was to guide the Brothan to victory over the Wild Stars. Finally learning the location of the Wild Stars planet where the Ancient Warrior resided, Carthage pointed the entire Brothan armada in that direction, and to their doom. For revenge, he kidnapped Miri, the child of Akara and Mack (aka First Marker) and abandoned her in the middle of the Eybontic-Saturnian war. Attempting to return to the past, Carthage and his Brothan allies were instead flung further into the future, encountering the Saturnian named Dalucar Zonderman, who infected him with the Zombie virus, Bio-energetic. Carthage became one of the undead and continued to cause turmoil in the lives of the living while his fate continued to turn for the worse. With much of his personality absorbed by Dalucar, Carthage became nothing more than a shell of hate under the control of the Brothan, Gugalann, who allowed Carthage to unmercifully pound Dalucar's body into a pulp. Unable to heal from any kind of wound, Carthage eventually became encased in symbiosis armor that allowed him to continue moving. At Gugalann's behest, Carthage captured the young woman he thought to be Sang Vardel and executed her sister. He was subsequently beheaded by a vengeful Bully Shawnee, the son of Miri (aka Atlanta, aka Nyree Shawnee) and Risky Bravo. His bodiless head was then imprisoned with the decapitated head of the equally undead Dalucar Zonderman. Having previously absorbed many elements of Carthage's mind and memories, Dalucar taunted what remained of Carthage with his own personality. Then one day, a different personality manifested inside Dalucar's head. Zonderman had made his cybernetic escape and taken the mind of Carthage with him.

DAESTAR: Daestar's past remains a mystery, as does her involvement in a secret telepathic organization known as the Five-Thousand-Fingered Hand. She was present when Erlik won ownership of Earth away from his cor-

rupt nephew, Carthage, and escaped with him from the planet Vahn right before it was destroyed by the Brothan. Searching to reconnect with Erlik on the traveling space city Magoria, she met the Earthman known as First Mark-er and the Shamaness Songwolf, who took her with them back to Earth and a reunion with Erlik. A couple of years later she and Erlik joined the quest to rescue Mack and Akara's daughter, Miri, after she was kidnapped. They ultimately lived together for a number of years on the planet Miri, raising a daughter and son, until they were called upon by the Ancient Warrior to assist in his final quest to rescue his lost love, Phaedra.

REDRICK: A Wild Stars Warrior who is mesmerized by the armored man who took control of the Wild Stars Armada from Akara, he would later appear on New Atlantis right before the Rogue Planet appeared in the sky.

TALL TREES WOLF, AKA TALL TREES WOLF MAC KAL: The Keltic War Chief had been so impressed with the way the man named Tall Trees battled against the Tearers in the ancient past, that when he and Songwolf had a daughter, they named her Tall Trees in his honor. When her parents departed with the Ancient Warrior to guide the Wild Stars on their quest into the Horseshoe Galaxy, she remained behind on Shipworld. While exploring new worlds for resupply in the Horseshoe Galaxy, her expedition was attacked by the Purple Order. Surviving, but with her crashed ship disabled on an alien world, she paused to rest on a stone formation. She had no idea that this formation was an entity known as the Stone Men, many details of which are still to be discovered. But, because of her contact with what she thought to be a stone chair, she developed navigational and computation skills far beyond any seen before. She stood up from the stone with a novel plan to repair, and a determination to bring the stone with her back to Shipworld. When the Ancient Warrior traveled back in time to rescue Phaedra from a black hole, it was Tall Trees that he wanted at the controls. After meeting Bully Shawnee, Tall Trees felt an immediate attraction. Unfortunately, her feelings were not noticed because of Bully Shawnee's regret over the death of his last lover, Sang Vardel.

VIC: Little has been revealed about the background of this clone of Vickerus. The mystery has yet to be revealed about what happened to Vic after the destruction of the Granite Rock Bank building by Carthage and Brothan, and if he had any connection to the subsequent appropriation of Wild Stars technologies made the Ar-tomiques.

CREATURES

BROWN GRIEF: The largest of the three tyrannosaurid species native to Miri/Magus IV/Atlanta's World. Mostly a scavenger because of their hulking size and slow movement, ugly is the word most often used to describe their appearance.

CTHULHU, OUTER GODS

These extra-dimensional nightmares have haunted the dreams of men since time immemorial. But they are not phantoms of the imagination.

NETH AND NEAN: A pair of entities that together have consumed entire universes, they hunger for more. Early 20th Centuries writers like H. P. Lovecraft dreamed of creatures such as these and gave them names like Cthulhu, the Outer God. They lurk in hope for a wormhole to to give them access to new feeding grounds. When he was first unleashed on Earth (see Earth 2200s: Port Authority, and Earthmen 22nd Century: William) Neth appeared in the form of a colossal figure with a round head and shoulders like a man, but with an almost ethereal body that was masked by a massive, many-legged smoke cloud. Telescopic eyes glowed with energy and shot highly charged beams of energy that cleared his path to the space port's transference beam that launched him into outer space. From there, Neth tried to reach Nean by appropriating a Marzanti starship, but this ship was destroyed by a Maxitrillion Class warship that blasted the Marzanti ship with a trillion power blasts and projectiles a minute, forcing Neth to flee into a nearby nebula. Nean was not so lucky. Having expanded to fill the star lanes blocking access to an entire quadrant of space, Nean was destroyed when the Ancient Warrior instructed forces of both Earth and the Wild Stars to load exotic matter aboard a fleet of Amaranth Class ice ships and sent them unpowered into Nean's mass. Previous attacks had failed because Nean always absorbed all the energy directed toward her and repurposed it into her continual spawning of squid-like parasites with multiple black eyes and large beaks. Mistaking the ice ships for interstellar debris, Nean allowed them to pass. Once her center was reached, the ice ships were powered up and the exotic matter overloaded. The resulting explosions were too massive for Nean to absorb and she collapsed into a black hole.

DEMON: Found on the rogue planet, the Devil's Delight, these manta-ray shaped monsters employ bladders filled with methane and other gases to give them flight. With jaws and mandibles lined by teeth, they are voracious eaters of flesh. Nearly impervious to the voids of space, they travel on the hulls of ships from one world to another, which is how several baby demons reached Earth and the Lynchfield suburb of Argenta in lower North America.

DIRE GRIEFS: These are the smallest of the three types of tyrannosaurid griefs native to Miri/Magus IV/Akara's World, but by far the most dangerous. Usually solitary, ambush predators, they are unique from the other griefs because of their telepathic skills that are responsible for their other name, Vampire Dragons. They also have the ability of optical camouflage and can hide in plain sight if they wish. After they gained possession of a Marzanti trident, dire griefs also became known as Dragon Kings.

EYBONTIC: These humanoid-shaped androids were built

by the Artomiques with stolen Wild Stars technology and were intended for independent deep-space exploration. They were also endowed with another stolen Wild Stars technology; artificial intelligence. Once sentient, they began to replicate and upgrade themselves, abandoning all human instruction. Their original intentions were to free all androids from human servitude. Eventually, their mandate became domination over all non-cybernetic beings. Their greatest resistance came from another Artomique creation, the Saturnians, who enhanced their minds with cyborg implants but retained human forms by cloning new bodies. Defeated at the conclusion of the war, a handful of Eybontics escaped into deep space. See also the Eybontic-Saturnian War.

GOREZILLA: Feature monster from the vid-Epic titled Tazran versus Gorezilla. One of the stars of the show, Fuzzy Dyce, commented about the similarities between the feature creature's roar and that of a hunting saurocat.

GWAYLUSHIN: 75,000 years ago all seamen on Earth used this term to refer to the massive big-toothed shark known today as a Carcharodon megalodon shark. The Isshla herded these beasts through the use of drums and sent them to attack the ships of men.

HARGONS: These bat-like humanoids on Miri were once an interstellar species that spread across the galaxy and has since become primitive, reclusive and warlike. They are known by different names on different worlds. Every humanoid encounter with them always resulted in conflict, until the Hargons began communicating on Miri with a Hylegean monkey with telepathic skills. One other Hargon exception was seen carrying a chest of treasure on Magoria, the traveling space city. But this creature had several unique physical features and may have been an offspring of interbreeding with another species, possibly a dire grief.

LEWAYATON: In the times of ancient Atlantis, this was the seaman's name for the massive sharp-toothed whales that once fed on the Isshla and anything else in the water. The Isshla designed their ships with downward pointing spikes to defend against the lewayaton's ramming attacks. The lewayaton were known to be particularly drawn to the sounds of hammering and drums, which was a technique used by the Isshla to control gwaylushin, another of the lewayaton's prey.

NORSHAHANI, THE ANIMAL: Native to the savannah of Miri/Magus IV/Akara's World, the savage four-legged beasts come in many breeds, one of which was domesticated by the descendants of the first Wild Stars migration into the stars. Not only are the Norshahani fast mounts, but their skin also makes the best leather in all of known space.

RED GRIEF: A pack predator, red griefs are one of the three tyrannosaurid species on Miri/Magus IV/Akara's World. Standing at the shoulder twice the height of a

man, they look like a cross between a tyrannosaurus and a raptor and are only half the size of a brown grief. With a large, rounded blunt horn on the tip of their snout, the heads of red griefs are longer than a brown grief, and they have spinal armor plates all along their backs, tipped with long red needles that from a distance look like a crest of blood red feathers. They employ a pack strategy of noisy interaction amongst themselves, which is intended to make the herds they prey on accustomed to their presence and lower their guard.

SATURNIAN: These Cyborgs used stolen Artomique technology (itself stolen from the Wild Stars) to create new bodies for themselves every 30 years, the approximate length of Saturn's orbit around the sun. Cybernetic enhancement to their brains included a quantum exascale memory core with a quantum lattice neurogrid processor, with dual quantum systems and nanometric storage to give them virtually unlimited memory capacity with instantaneous recall. Carried in an enhanced clone body, Saturnians never slept, constantly craving new knowledge and sensory input. This is what caused their bodies to burn out every 30 years. Defeated at the end of the Eybontic-War, because they were still partly human they were not deactivated like most Eybontics, and instead were imprisoned on comets far out in the Oort Belt, and then launched into deep space at hyper-light speeds in the hopes that this would prevent them from contacting any other life in space. The result of this isolation was that the Saturnians eventually cannibalized each other until the last one remaining went mad. See also Dalucar Zonderman.

SAUROCAT: Native to the Behemit Moon, Ansa, these predators look like a cross between a tiger and a dinosaur, having tiger claws and striped fur, and heads with alligator-jaws. Extremely territorial and protective of their young, one saurocat was responsible for the Ansa Massacre.

TEARERS: This race of giant men was not invited to join the great migration into the Wild Stars. These bestial men would later inspire the word Terror because of the way they cannibalized other humans while still alive, using their teeth to rip flesh from their bodies.

ZARAWTI: Translated from the Brothan, this name means Killer of Brothan Spaceships. When Erlik captured a megalodon shark in the waters of Earth, he teleported the beast to Shipworld, where it was converted into a mechanized space shark. The shark's senses easily adapted to space navigation, and its body was sustained by a teleporter link that gave him unlimited power. Mentally keyed to feed on ships that emit Brothan communication signals, the destruction of the Brothan fleet at New Atlantis left the ravenous beast with nothing to feed on. Many years later, this programming would be used by Dalucar Zonder to manipulate Zarawti into attacking Earth ships. This led to Zarawti's first of several encounters with Bully

Bravo, the future President of the United States. Bravo's nephew, Bully Shawnee, would eventually discover a tool created by Mack that could reprogram the space shark.

ZUFFENFLAIL: These spider-like creatures live in the clouds of the moon, Ansa, and descend down filaments to skim along the surface of the ocean and spearfish with the tips of their legs. When losing their balance and becoming disconnected from their tethers, they can become trapped upside down in the water and slowly drown. While living as the Wild Child, Lonan McGuffin learned how to use dead and dying, upside-down zuffenflails to build a raft and string their filament threads around their legs to act as sails. He then could trigger muscle responses in the legs to adjust these makeshift sails and give him navigational abilities.

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

ANSA MASSACRE: A tragedy that occurred on the Behemit Moon, Ansa, when a group of Terraformers errantly killed and cooked a juvenile saurocat. The mother turned up and wiped out the entire community, while then-Captain Cinceno hid.

BIG BANG: An event commonly referred to how the universe was created, this is quite probably an inaccurate description and never happened. According to the Stone Men, the universe dissipated to the point where it interacted with another bubble universe and was reignited with energy, establishing an ongoing cycle of life, death, and rebirth.

BILLION YEAR DAY: This phrase refers to the number of years that Erlik, Daestar, Mack, and Akara time traveled while searching for Akara's daughter, Miri, after she was kidnapped by Carthage.

CAMBRIAN EXPLOSION: The Cambrian Age when life on Earth exploded in diversity and numbers. Being an age before teeth, this time period is sometimes referred to as the Age of Scissors, since jaws with cutting edges were the primary tool of predators. It was also when the ancestors of the Ancient Warrior planted the Earth link of their teleportation network inside the volcanic fault-line that eventually split Greenland away from the North American plate. Powered by another device dropped in an area that became the Eye of Jupiter, this link was kicked out of the sub-ducting mantle plates and back near the surface by the comet strike that wiped out the dinosaurs. Interference from the link being too near the surface has resulted in many mishaps within the area known as the Bahamas Triangle.

CHRISTMAS: This is a gift-giving, commercial and religious holiday on Earth, aka Old Atlantis. It is also a time of reflection and sometimes depression. It was during the isolation of a Christmas blizzard that Mark Mackavicka, aka Mack, realized that he had made a mistake by leaving Akara, and decided to return.

Cybernetics War: This term refers to the Eybontic-Saturnian War that occurred at the dawn of the 23rd Century. Back during the 21st Century, the Artomiques had... SPOILERS REDACTED... resulting in a war between the cyborg Saturnians and they cybernetic Eybontics. This war claimed billions of human lives, the official count of which is highly disputed and considered to be massively underestimated.

THE WORLDS

ANSA: A Mercury-sized Earth-like moon orbiting the gas giant Behemit in a 30-day rotation, Ansa showed signs that a human habitation had occurred there long before the first Earthmen arrived during the second star migration. At this time Earthmen still denied the first migration ever happened and doubted the existence of the Wild Stars. On Ansa they discovered an addictive and intoxicating fruit-nut called mcguffinuts, after the Terraformer who was reportedly the first to export them. Ansa is honeycombed with tunnels, whose entrances can only be opened by musical sounds, if one knows how to read the inscriptions. Bully Bravo would later discover a hidden underwater airport in an underground cavern located between four rock pylons, still operating on automatic even though no one had used it for an unknown length of time. It was here that Bully Bravo and Bully Shawnee would have a showdown with the Red Queen and her pirates, but it would not be their last encounter.

BEHEMIT: A gas giant planet located near the Dragon's Claw Nebula, Behemit was missing a moon when Earthmen first arrived. Another of its many moons, Ansa, shows evidence a previous human habitation.

BLACK HOLE(S): This describes an area where gravity has grown so strong that even light cannot escape. According to theory, black holes are portals to different universes, and the Ancient Warrior's ancestors used one to cross from their dying universe into this one. According to the Stone Men, the reason that they arrived at the birth of this universe is that it was the same universe, having been rewritten and sparked back to life due to interaction with another universal bubble after their old universe's barrier wall grew too thin. Because time passes so slowly within a black hole, they had no concept of how long their journey took.

RUIN: This giant star was the binary twin to Earth's sun, which collapsed into the black hole called Ruin. For billions of years, Ruin maintained a gravitational dance with her former sister star, circling far beyond the Oort Cloud and giving our solar system its wobble as it moves up and down along the plane of the Milky Way. Without Ruin, Earth would have long ago left the Milky Way and been lost into the void between galaxies. At some point the God Father used the Great Machine, or another like it, to adjust the orbit of Ruin and send it on a collision course with Earth, knowing that this planet was important to the Ancient Warrior. This act was part of his long-term planning in the ever-escalating war between the two immortals.

SAGITTARIUS A: This is the name given by Earthmen to the black hole at the center of the Milky Way galaxy.

Brotah Proper: Homeworld of the starfaring Brothan, and the location from which their six-armed Archer God, Brotah, rules their empire.

BROTAH LESSOR: Neighboring planet to Brotah Proper, and a companion world in the empire of the Brothan.

CHARIOTS: These twin moons orbit the gas giant Behemit side by side and directly in front of the moon Ansa, which closely follows them on the same orbital path. The rotational spins of the Chariots are counter to each other, and their oppositely-charged magnetospheres repel, keeping them from colliding. This creates a corridor between the moons that provides a gravitational glide path for ships arriving at Ansa, guiding them into a perfect orbit for potentially unpowered descents. It is the only known example of a natural stellar harbor, and many question if it is a quirk of nature or the creation of an entity with the power to move worlds.

CORSAIRIANA: This hidden asteroid serves as the base of operations for the pirates of the Red Queen, Nefarimor. Many outside the fraternity have tried to find it, and all but Tomas Shawnee (aka Risky Bravo) died in the attempt. And even he barely survived being cooked in a Bellows Bull.

DEJAH VU: This is the Wild Stars planet inhabited by the people of Vu after the Earth exodus 75,000 years ago. Upon arrival in the Horseshoe Galaxy, this world and all its inhabitants were destroyed, taking with them their unique evolutionary traits of being able to instinctively read magnetic lines. Despite being the progenitors of many other races of Asian peoples on Earth, their core species with their unique abilities became extinct until a stepchild of Vu, half-Atlantean and half-Vu Montchuhusus, traveled from the past and into the future.

DEVIL'S DELIGHT: This rogue planet is where Vickerus found three Time Travel Devices created by the Ancient Warrior's ancestors. Originally from the Horseshoe Galaxy, where the God Father captured Phaedia in their past and changed history, the rogue tried to escape with its planetary engines and ran as far as the Milky Way galaxy. But the engines could not forever outrun the reality wave that ultimately destroyed the world's populace and turned it into a monster-haunted nightmare that only a devil would delight in.

DRAGON'S CLAW NEBULA: A massive gas cloud with many tendrils, this colorful nebula is located near the gas giant Behemit.

MIRI, THE PLANET: This is the name given by the Wild Stars to the planet where Akara was born. Earthmen originally called the planet Magus IV, until Bully Bravo began jokingly referring to it as Akara's World, and the moniker stuck.

EARTH, 75,000 YEARS AGO

ATLANTIS: Once the Capital of Earth, it was later abandoned by the Ancient Warrior when he led the Wild Stars migration into space. This last habitat of man on Earth was destroyed by the Isshla 75,000 years ago.

RAZANTI: This was the home island of Salamar, owner of the Meanie Sweetie. It was one of the many lands of man destroyed by the Isshla during the age of Atlantis.

SASHAY: This term was used 75,000 years ago to describe a land of man in the northern waters that today are called the Atlantic Ocean. Sashay was renowned for have some of the most beautiful women in the world, but it was destroyed and remade by the Isshla. Whatever happened to the inhabitants can only be assumed, given the taste that many species of Isshla have for human flesh. No ships escaped to tell the details of their demise.

TABALLA: A land of man located 75,000 years ago in what is now called the Atlantic Ocean, it was destroyed by the Isshla. Taballa was part of a three-island chain that included Zamballa and Zatalla.

VU: Vu was an ancient continent on Earth that was destroyed by the Isshla 75,000 years ago. Many chains of islands stretching from Australia to Japan and Southwest Asia were part of its landmass before it was split in two by a volcanic eruption created by the Isshla and then sank into the sea. Prior to this, many of Vu's people had left for the world Dejah Vu, which, along with all of its inhabitants, was destroyed by the Purple Order in the Horseshoe Galaxy. Despite being the progenitors of many other races of peoples in the Eastern hemisphere of Earth, these combined genocides caused their unique evolutionary ability to read magnetic lines to go extinct—except for one man. Montchuhusus, half-Atlantean and half-Vu and named after Vu's greatest hero, traveled with the Ancient Warrior from the past and into the future during the time of mankind's second great space migration.

ZAMBALLA: A land of man located 75,000 years ago in what is now called the Atlantic Ocean, Zamballa was destroyed by the Isshla. It was part of a three-island chain that included Taballa and Zatalla.

ZATALLA: A land of man located 75,000 years ago in what is now called the Atlantic Ocean, Zatalla was destroyed by the Isshla. It was part of a three-island chain that included Taballa and Zamballa.

EARTH, 1812

FORT MCHENRY

HOUSE OF THE DEAD: In early 19th Century America, the sick were often sent to a special house where they could expire without infecting others with their illnesses.

SIEGE OF BALTIMORE: After burning Washington, D.C.,



British Major General Robert Ross marched his troops on Baltimore, Maryland. Along the way he had his second encounter with Sacagawea, but never knew it.

ST. LOUIS: Sacagawea lived in this frontier settlement on the banks of the Mississippi River after her adventures with Lewis & Clarke. During this time the Madrid Fault slipped so severely that the Mississippi River ran backwards.

THE WHITE HOUSE: British Major General Robert Ross burned the original White House to the ground. It was there that he had a fateful encounter with Sacagawea, mocking her spirit ritual.

EARTH, MILLENNIAL TURN

ANTHRACITE COUNTY: This southern county on Earth contains the city of Argenta and the suburb of Lynchfield. State River runs through it.

ARGENTA: A small southern town where Carlton MacKanally was born and raised, this city is under the firm grip of businessman Henry Piper.

BAD JUJU REEF: Nearly pristine reefs that are rarely dived because of a local tiger shark population, these reefs have also seen the deaths of treasure hunters seeking the fabled treasure of the Spanish wreck, the *Barathea*.

BAHAMAS TRIANGLE: A region of water between Grand Bahama Island, Florida, and Cuba, where many ships have been lost to anomalies caused by the teleportation hub installed by the Ancient Warrior's ancestors having been kicked from deep in the mantle and closer to the surface by the comet impact that wiped out the dinosaurs.

BEQUI: Caribbean island that scuba Divemaster Carlton MacKanally ran dive tour charters from.

CARIBBEAN: A large, island filled body of water between the two Americas and west of the Atlantic Ocean, this area is named after its original inhabitants, the Carib, who were wiped out by the Spanish.

COLLECTOR'S EDITION: This comic book store in Argenta, seen in the background of the Argenta Independence Day parade, stands right next to where George Raveling and Tamara jumped for cover behind a mailbox when they thought the noise from a time travel detection device was another bomb set by Ernesto Mendez.

COUNTRY CORK, IRELAND: This city's airport is where the Artomiques chartered an R44Raven helicopter in their search for the Time Travel Devuce lost by the Brothan. It is also the city where all claims of Force Majeure events in Ireland are filed on the second floor of the Michael Tierney building.

CROSSROADS HOTEL: This Argenta hotel is where many paths cross. In the penthouse, Georgian Raveling hosted his fellow Artomique's meeting with Carthage, Krokaw

and other Brothan, and was subsequently left with their prisoner Songwolf. The Keltic War Chief soon came crashing through the window at the same time when Akara of the Wild Stars came smashing through the door. Meanwhile, in the lobby, Alvin Phillips has inadvertently insulted Carlton MacKanally's old girlfriend, Shannon, much to Nanette's chagrin. As she scolded Alvin, Achilles Hister and Genthis Champlain walked past, unnoticeable without their Artomique hats on. Headed upstairs to meet Akara, Mack encountered Ernesto Mendez and Ricardo, who moved the conversation outside at gunpoint and took along the Caribbean woman named Nanette after she mistook Mack for MacKanally.

DONEGAL BAY: This large body of water lies on the western shore of Ireland.

DRUMCLIFFE: In this canyon in Western Ireland where prehistoric burial sites can be still found, multiple time travelers passed each other on the dawn of the Earth year 2000, three weeks before a lunar eclipse passed overhead.

GRANITE ROCK: Located in the southern United States, this planned urban development was first established in the 1970s and incorporated as a City of the First Class in the 1980s. Despite that, Granite Rock is still considered by most to be a suburb of Argenta, even though the two are relative in size and Granite Rock has the most affluent residents in the state.

GRANITE ROCK BANK: This is the private bank maintained by the Ancient Warrior's family to finance their Wild Stars activities on Earth. The locals always thought the bank was founded by the owner of the nearby Wally World shopping center. Located in Argenta, the bank was destroyed by Carthage and the Brothan when they kidnapped Miri, daughter of Akara and Mack.

GUIRNARD ISLAND: This Scottish Isle was kept isolated after the Second World War with a cover story about Anthrax experiments. Instead, the island served as a prison for Adolf Hitler, captured while trying to escape Germany after one of his doubles died in a Berlin bunker. Here, Achilles Hister finally has his family reunion with a corpse in a pine box, but by this time he had become disillusioned by the differences between his father and Hitler. So he turned the body over to the Russians, who were thrilled to finally find the real Hitler, and willing to forget about the catastrophe with one of their submarines while picking up a shipment from Ernesto Mendez.

LYNCHFIELD: Rumored to be haunted, this sparsely populated suburb of the southern U.S. city of Argenta is known for nefarious activities. It is also the location where Carlton MacKanally was thrown from a river bridge to drown. One of the people throwing Carlton was Lester "Onion" Piper, who was later arrested by Sheriff Honorman on that same bridge. It was in this area that Demons first appeared on Earth, after arriving on the hull of the Brothan scout ship commanded by Faxlar.

MACKANALY PRINTING: A large printing company in Argenta that was owned by Carlton MacKanalay's parents, it was bought by Henry Piper after their deaths. Piper then added pornographers to the company's list of customers. Carlton had a measure of revenge when he switched centerfolds for an adult men's magazine with inserts for Piper's newspaper right before the election primaries.

MOHER CLIFFS: These jagged cliffs are located on the western shore of Ireland, where the Atlantic winds have been known to make waterfalls flow in reverse.

NETHERLANDS: The name of a foreign country that Corr Mac Kal, the Keltic War Chief from the alternate reality, claimed to be from in this reality.

PORT HARBOR: This is the North American city where Mark Mackavicka, aka Mack, enrolled in college. During a Christmas Day blizzard, he decided to abandon college, leave town, and return to Akara.

PROPHECY ROCK: Hopi Indians engraved into this stone the tale of two parallel realities that show how the world of the brown man was replaced by the world of the white man, who pursues the jagged line of material desires.

SHARK HOLE: Rumored to be somewhere near the Gingerbread corals in the Bahamas, this blue hole is a reputed breeding ground for Tiger Sharks.

SLIGO: This bay port city on the western coast of Ireland also features an airport.

SLIGO BAY: This large body of water on the western side of Ireland serves as a gateway to the Atlantic Ocean.

STATE RIVER: This river runs through the county of Anthracite in the southern U.S.

WALLY WORLD: Worldwide chain of retail stores. In the future, the corporation hired a group of space explorers and, by contract, the planet they discovered was named after the chain.

EARTH 2200S

ATLANTA, THE CITY: A city in the state Georgia, of the United States, this is also the location where the Eybontic-Saturnian war would conclude.

BLACK-EYES: A derogatory term for Earthmen, the name comes from the giant crater created on the far side of the moon when an attempt to create a magnetosphere exploded. Afterward, to visitors approaching Earth from deep space, the moon looked like a giant black eye.

PORT AUTHORITY: Whether it is a seaport or a spaceport, this is the governing body over all port activities. Two Port Authorities have had a unique activity of note. The traveling space city of Magoria experienced problems

when they allowed the Earthman called First Marker into the city. Much later, Earth's main Space Port Authority was robbed, reputedly by Terraformers, after an extra-dimensional deity known as Neth demolished most of the facility and left the vaults vulnerable to looters.

EINSTEIN'S CHAIR

A mostly oceanic world first settled by Earth's earliest second star migration explorers, this rogue planet circles the Milky Way Galaxy with the flow of space currents first charted by Magoria's Borealis Niget, Einstein's Chair got its name from the colonies of scientists who originally settled it. Subsequently, this planet has changed ownership many times, not only between different Earth nations but also as a result of invasions by alien star-farers. It once changed hands three times during a single solar cycle.

ANSA

ANSA: A Mercury-sized Earth-like moon orbiting the gas giant Behemit in a 30-day rotation, Ansa showed signs that a human habitation had occurred there long before the first Earthmen arrived during the second star migration. At this time Earthmen still denied the first migration ever happened and doubted the existence of the Wild Stars. On Ansa they discovered an addictive and intoxicating fruit-nut called mcguffinuts, after the Terraformer who was reportedly the first to export them. Ansa is honeycombed with tunnels, whose entrances can only be opened by musical sounds, if one knows how to read the inscriptions. Bully Bravo would later discover a hidden underwater airport in an underground cavern located between four rock pylons, still operating on automatic even though no one had used it for an unknown length of time. It was here that Bully Bravo and Bully Shawnee would have a showdown with the Red Queen and her pirates, but it would not be their last encounter. The Wild Stars refer to this world as Evenr.

HORSESHOE GALAXY

Because of the shape it took after an interaction with another passing galaxy, this is the name given by residents of the Milky Way Galaxy to the galaxy once ruled by Phaendra. When the God Father kidnapped Phaendra in the past, this galaxy's whole history was rewritten (See Devil's Delight), and the galaxy fell under the rule of the God Father's progeny, the Purple Order.

KEPPLER3PS37-5, AKA PLEASANTON

A distant Earth-like planet located in an isolated spot examined by the very first interstellar cartographers who considered the expansive area around it to be a dead zone. It was colonized by a group of isolationists led by Hodge Wynsley the 1st, and remained true to his ideals for seven generations until the aliens known as the Grim-grip arrived from unexplored space on the far end of the dead zone.

SHARKTOOTH MOUNTAINS: A ridge of jagged mountains on Keppler3PS37-5, the normally blueish grey Sharktooth Mountains gained their name from when sunset changed the color of the peaks to reveal bright red rock spattered with patches of ice. During the invasion by the Grimrip, Jeannie Wynsley and many other women and children took refuge beneath these mountains in a futile attempt to hide.

MAGUS IV/AKARA'S WORLD/MIRI

AL-JAZZAR EXPORTS: A private spaceport on Magus IV engaged in smuggling dangerous and exotic animals. This is where the dire grief found on Prairie Bay was shipped from. As the Brothan incursion on Magus IV began, the port was abandoned. The owner was the same Arab Emir who followed Atlanta out onto the plains of Prairie Bay and became stranded when the Marzanti trident pulled torrents of water to the surface of Mars.

MARS

Fourth planet from the sun, by the 23rd Century terraforming is well established on the Red Planet, and space ports dot the surface.

MARS SPACE STATION ONE, AKA M-DOUBLE-S-O: A space station orbiting Mars, this installation was built by the United States. During the time of the Force Majeure event that occurred in the Prairie Bay area of Mars, the M-Double-S-O was under the command of Supreme Mars Commander Cinceno.

PRAIRIE BAY: A Force Majeure even occurred in this area of Mars and affected the spaceport located in the center.

MILKY WAY

This is the name given by local inhabitants to the galaxy where Earth/Old Atlantis resides.

MORGORIA

This traveling space city navigates a course called the Boreal Niget, named after the city founder who charted it. The city circles the galaxy, regularly interacting with other traveling city-states, and serves as a meeting place for the many races of the stars, including the reclusive Marzanti.

VENUS

In the 23rd Century, the habitable zone in the clouds above Venus is filled with floating space cities. Being a popular tourist destination for flights whenever Earth is on the wrong side of the moon, the resulting Mardi Gras atmosphere resulted in the limerick; "It's always a party of Venusian delights when Earth does the Wandering Star dance at night."

ALCATRAZ II: A prison suspended in an uninhabitable layer of the Venusian clouds, Alcatraz II can only be ac-

cessed through a matter-transference pod located in the Gates of Hells, an operations center hidden fifty meters beneath the floating city of New Venice.

GATES OF HELL: This operations center hidden in cloud layers fifty meters beneath the floating cities of New Venice on Venus contains a matter-transference pod that provides the only access to the suspended prison, Alcatraz II.

NEW VENICE: One of the floating cities that hovers 50-kilometers above the surface of Venus in a layer of Earth-like atmosphere, New Venice is a key spaceport.

WILD STARS

A region of the Milky Way galaxy where 75,000 years ago the Ancient Warrior led the first human migration from Earth into the stars and colonized planets circling the brightest stars in Earth's night sky. This is the source of every Earth legend of UFO's and Space Gods, who have all been instances of visits by distant relatives from the Wild Stars.

EVERN: This is the Wild Stars name for the moon called Ansa by Earthmen.

MIRI: This is the name given by the Wild Stars to the planet where Akara was born. Earthmen originally called the planet Magus IV, until Bully Bravo jokingly referred to it as Akara's World, and the moniker stuck.

HOMESTEAD: This was the name of a doomed colony of Earth pioneers on Magus IV, who were wiped out by the Brothan. Two of these Homesteaders were the Shawnees. See Shawnees for more information.

MOUNTAIN HARBOR: A natural harbor at the foot of the Silver Cliffs, its steps were carved into the stone shore to give easy access to the ocean at any point during the tides. This is also where Bully Shawnee battled a thousand feral Brothan to save Sing Vardel, and where the invading Marzanti-spawn were consumed by Zarawti.

RATATAN, AKA MOUNT RATATAN: A dormant volcano on Magus IV, this is where the Brothan set up a secret headquarters for the Brothan, Gugalann. After the Mount was abandoned by the Brothan, the dire griefs used Ratatan to broadcast signals with the Marzanti trident, which collapsed the mountain in stages and left the calcified magma flows standing like a many-armed stone tree.

SILVER CLIFFS, THE PEOPLE, THE PLACE: The Silver Cliffs refer to both a mountainous region bordering a large body of water on Miri and the people who lived there after migrating from Earth during the Wild Stars exodus. Akara was born there, and Mountain Harbor was their main port before being nearly exterminated by the Brothan.

NEW ATLANTIS: At a secret location hidden above the galactic plane lies the world where the Ancient Warrior resides. New Atlantis is the capital planet of the Wild Stars.

PARTHENON: The version of the Parthenon built in ancient Greece was based on the Ancient Warrior's home on New Atlantis.

SHIPWORLD: One of the many moons orbiting the gas giant Behemit, situated outside the Dragon's Claw Nebula, this volcanically active world maintained large population who built large starship factories to process the moon's graphite-heavy lava, which cooled into crystalline carbon. To Earth, this lost moon was part of the Great Mystery. To the Wild Stars, it was the last planet to leave the Wild Stars on the journey to the Horseshoe Galaxy and the first to return, serving as a pilot planet to reorientate the other Wild Stars back into their original positions within the Milky Way Galaxy. The job of sending this crucial telemetry signal fell exclusively on the shoulders of Tall Trees Wolf when all the other inhabitants of Shipworld were killed by a Gamma Ray Burst. By means she did not understand, Tall Trees Wolf was shielded from this disaster by sitting in her stone chair (see Stone Men). During her labors, set met Gow, whom she would later learn was not only intent on destroying the returning Wild Stars, he was maliciously using her to do it. Successfully sending the pilot signal, during a battle between Bully Shawnee and Gow she escaped with Bully Bravo right before the Shipworld's planetary engines launched the moon into the black hole that had been Behemit's sun.

VHAN: A Wild Stars world known as a gamblers paradise, it was destroyed by the Brothan when one of their damaged Battlewagons made a 'suicide run' in an attempt to kill Erlik, the last surviving son of the Ancient Warrior.

THE SHIPS

ATLANTEAN EARTH SAILING VESSELS

75,000 years ago, a conflict between the surface dwelling humans and the Marzanti spawn known as the Isshla was being waged across the oceans of Earth, then known as Atlantis, after the main space port of the same name in the Northern Sea. It was a war that the Isshla were winning, forcing the humans to migrate into the stars to escape extinction.

ISSHLA SHIPS: These sailing vessels were used for the mass transit of the Isshla's main attack force, the Heartless Ones. They were covered with large spikes that thrust outwards and downward as a defense against attack by the sharp-toothed carnivorous whales known as the lewayaton. The Isshla would bang drums to summon gwaylushin from the deep, known in modern times as Megalodon sharks, to not only aid in their attacks on human ships but as an extra deterrent to both the lewayaton and orca whales that preyed on the Isshla.

JORIE SHIPS: An Earth term used to describe ships without a home port to return to, whose homes had been destroyed by the Isshla.

MEANIE SWEETIE: Along with the Sea Howler, this was one of only two ships to escape the destruction of Atlantis at the conclusion of the first Wild Stars migration from Earth. It was operated by Salamar of Razanti.

SEA HOWLER: Inherited by Montchuhassus, this was one of only two ships to escape the destruction of Atlantis at the conclusion of the first Wild Stars migration from Earth.

TORIDIAN SHIPS: These are merchant sailing vessels. Toridian class ships like The Sea Howler and the Meanie Sweetie employ both wind power and battery-powered outrigger twin propulsion motors.

BROTHAN SHIPS

During space combat the Brothan employ two techniques: sneak attacks and mass attacks meant to overwhelm their opponents with brute force.

BATTLEWAGONS: These massive vessels carry armies of Brothan warriors and scout ships. They are also the old-Earth equivalent of a battleship, being equipped with powerful canons. When suffering catastrophic damage, these Battlewagons can be turned into bombs capable of destroying an entire planet. This is what happened when a Battlewagon made a death run at the Wild Stars planet of Vahn, in hopes of killing the Ancient Warrior's son, Erlik.

SCOUT SHIPS: These are the fastest and most nimble ships employed by the Brothan.

FEARNAUGHT: A land-based moving battle station several stories high and with cannon barrels aimed skyward and out from all sides. This is a weapon of intimidation built by the Brothan Gugalann on Magus IV/Miri/Atlanta's World. The canons are typical Brothan energy weapons, and their energy source is exotic matter stolen from the Wild Stars scout ship, The Wooden Starship. One problem Gugalann encountered is that prolonged exposure to the exotic matter caused his Fearnoughts to turn into gold and had to be abandoned. Generally, they were quickly stripped after that. Hearing about an intact Fearnought compelled Nyree Shawnee to venture deep into red grief country, hoping to learn more about how one works.

EARTH SHIPS 2200S:

Amaranth: This was the name given to the prototype science starship designed by Doctor Veranda Bama. Shaped like a dirigible balloon, with crews operating upside down within the gravity-free interior, the Amaranth employed a multi-hull design that was an evolution of WWII ideas for using pykrete in the creation of massive cold water aircraft carriers. On her maiden voyage to Magus IV, it was discovered that this type of ice ship could also withstand an incredible pounding from conventional weapons and remain serviceable. A fleet of ice ships was subsequently built and became a key element in the destruction of the extra-dimension invader Nean.

AMARANTH CLASS: Refers to the fleet of ships whose construction was based on the designs for the Amaranth.

CORE: This word refers to the Command Core center of the Amaranth, which is also the pumping station where all water is recycled throughout the ice ship.

ICE SHIPS: This is a generalization of Amaranth Class ships.

ARTOMIQUE CLASS MILITARY DREADNOUGHTS: The backbone and workhorses of Earth's military Space Corp, these are the biggest ships in the fleet.

BIO-CUBE: An element of interstellar transport, these cubes are self-contained units where passengers live throughout their entire star-cruise. Bio-cubes load at New Venice, and then create a localized gravity bubble to disconnect from Venus' gravity and float into space as the planet rotates away. Once clear, the Bio-cube docks with the silver needle portion of the starliner orbiting in space and locks into the star-drive's frame.

MOONBOW: An interstellar Bio-cube, the Moonbow was only the second Bio-cube ever to encounter difficulties during a flight, and the first to suffer a loss of life. Vid-actor Fuzzy Dyce had the distinction of being a passenger on both.

MOONBOW LIFEBOAT: On the starliner Moonbow, the captain's table served a dual function as a self-sealing, self-contained emergency lifeboat. During the destruction of the Moonbow, it instantly activated a cocoon that enveloped those seated around the table, protecting these V.I.P. passengers from exposure to the vacuum of space. The table then converted into a miniature control center.

RAINBOW: This was the first Bio-cube starliner to ever encounter difficulties during a flight.

PAIR OF DICE/PARADISE: This gaming lounge area aboard the Bio-cube Moonbow is divided into two sections; one for V.I.P.S. and another for all other passengers.

DRONE SUPPLY SHIPS: These automated starships carry supplies to deep space and employ acceleration maneuvers that are not recommended for lifeforms.

EARTH-VENUS EXPRESS: This transportation route runs direct flights from Earth to New Venice on Venus.

EQUINE CLASS STARSHIPS: Military escort ships for the Maxitrillion Class warships

ARABIAN INTERCEPTORS: Long distance attack ships, postings on these ships are highly sought after because of their sleek designs and advanced technology.

MUSTANG DESTROYERS: The smallest ships in the Equine class, Mustangs are designed for durability and close quarter fighting with ships many times their size.

SPRINTER INTERCEPTORS: These are the fast attack ships in the class, designed to be the point of the spear in deflecting any attack on a Maxitrillion warship.

TROTTER BOMBERS: Always kept to the rear during any engagement, these heavily shields ships carry devastating bombs that can clear large area. But these bombs are very low tech and indiscriminate. Usually they are used to finish a battle and discourage further attacks.

EXODUS COMMAND MODULE: Not to be confused with the Exodus Ship belonging to the Ancient Warrior's ancestors, the Exodus Command Module was the command center of the migration ships used by Hodge Wynsley the 1st and the other pioneers who trekked to the distant and isolated planet Keppler3PS37-5, aka Pleasanton. The other ships that brought colonists were cannibalized for building purposes or were already designed to be converted into factories. The Exodus Command Module was the only ship from the migration left intact, but it was essentially abandoned by later generations. Utilizing nuclear power, the Exodus Command Module provided the first warning of the approaching Grimgrip and became the first line of defense against invasion. The ship was subsequently sliced into pieces by the Grimgrip's weapons, but the operations center in the nosecone had been refueled by Hodge Wynsley the 7th, who detached and fired the maneuvering rockets, providing him and Junkin London a few last hours of freedom.

GUS: This term is used to reference an Earth scout starship that utilizes minimal creature functions and carries a toilet suitable only for men.

GUSSY: This term is used to reference an Earth scout starship that is identical to a Gus, but with toilet functions for both men and women.

HEAVY HAULERS: A heavy-duty class of surface-to-space shuttles used to haul large cargo into space. Because many of the objects they haul are suspended on grappling lines beneath the shuttle, when traveling empty they have the appearance of a flying wasp with legs dangling.

HOPPER: This slang term references general purpose surface-to-space shuttles that are also equipped with emergency descent rotors in the event of engine failure.

JUNKER 7557: An interstellar salvage ship from Earth, Junker 7557 was operated by the brother and sister team of Roy and Pam Kerk. They rescued Lonan McGuffin from the spaceyard where he was injured while escaping assassins sent after him by his cousin who had taken control of the Terraformer empire. Together, the three of them made the most incredible gold discover in the history of mankind, but someone else had already beaten them to it.

GRAVEDIGGER: Nickname of the salvage ship, Junker 7557, because of the number of star coffins (ships where the crews perished during their voyage) they recovered.

MAXITRILLION CLASS WARSHIP: A design put into production by President Bully Bravo with the intent of confronting the space shark Zarawti, this prototype warship fires one trillion power blasts and projectiles within a solar minute. During its maiden voyage, it was rerouted to confront the universal threat, Neth, and destroyed the Marzanti ship that the Elder God had appropriated for quick interstellar travel.

PRESIDENTIAL CLASS WARSHIPS: These were the United States' top of the line combat spaceship until the Maxitrillion was introduced.

U.S.S.S. GROVER CLEVELAND, AKA THE GROVER ROVER: The first Presidential Class warship was the Grover Cleveland, which was lost on patrol and is considered to be on permanent active duty. Some witnesses claim that they have seen it roaming the deepest depths of uncharted space, earning it the nickname of the Grover rover.

U.S.S.S. RONALD REAGAN, AKA THE R-AND-R: A top of the line, Presidential Class warship in the Earth fleet, under the command of Helena Huracan during her maiden voyage to Magus IV. The R-and-R came under attack by Brothan and Saturnian enemies using unconventional methods in hopes of commandeering the ship.

ROVER ONE: This was the New Venice patrol ship sent to investigate a disturbance at the Gates of Hell, which provided access to the suspended prison Alcatraz II.

STILETTO CLASS STARSHIP: Tiny and needle-shaped, these deep space starships are designed for speed and little else, containing no toilets or other human comforts. To achieve the fastest speed possible, they employ multiple types of propulsion systems, including Ion Pulse Engines. The chairs in the cockpit rotate 180 degrees whenever the ship begins to slow. Built without landing gear, they are typically caught in magnetic nets upon arrival.

HUMBOLT DART: This was the name of the Stiletto Class starship used by Bully Bravo and Robert Vardel to quickly reach Magus IV. After an encounter with the space shark, Zarawti, they were forced to crash land the ship. See also Stiletto Class Starship.

FROM ANOTHER UNIVERSE

EXODUS SHIP: This term applies to the vessel built by the Ancient Warrior's ancestors, which was used to transit a black hole from their universe to another. Shaped like a leaf freshly sprouted from a seed, it was constructed in much the same manner of the Great Machine and utilized piezoelectric inner and outer layers that sandwiched a razor-thin neutron hull. Like the Great Machine, the Exodus ship had no solid outer hull and had the appearance of wires twisted into a chaotic wrap filled with many open spaces. The area shaped like a plant sprout was the engine section, being a wide flat area connected to a thick stem that wrapped down to the sphere-shaped

main body. The piezoelectric layers actually strengthened as pressure increased against them, making the ship uniquely suited for travel inside a black hole. After the transit into this universe was completed, the Exodus engines suffered a catastrophic explosion because the transit had changed the composition of their fuel and created exotic matter. The ship was later abandoned between four growing quasars. Knowing that the Exodus ship was the only vehicle capable of entering a black hole in an attempt to rescue Phaedra, the Ancient Warrior had to first devise a plan to recover it.

GOD FATHER'S SHIPS

GAMMA GUN SHIP: These compact objects are a combination of spaceship and weapon of mass destruction favored by the Purple Order. About the same size as a Bio-cube lifeboat, they look similar to a 20th Century revolver, being wrapped with rivers of coils that spring from where the bullet chamber would be and spinning around the barrel to an open-ended muzzle. The area where a revolver's grips would be is the engine, covered with smaller exterior thrusters. Where the hammer would have been sits the pilot inside a bubble. Being time travelers with the ability to teleport, the Purple Order riders of a gamma gun ship can simply leave and return at will, removing the necessity of comforts and essential supplies required for most star-voyaging ships. As the name implies, these gamma gun ships fire a deadly, concentrated Gamma Ray Burst.

THE GREAT MACHINE: Few have ever seen the massive object called the Great Machine, which incorporates elements from the fourth dimension of time. One witness was Montchuhusus, who, from a very great distance, saw the Great Machine while in a travel form that gave it the appearance of an octopus with an exceptionally tiny head. The body appeared to have many whispery thin tendrils streaming out from behind, visible only by flickering flashes of light from the energy pulsating along them. The endmost tendrils were tethered to small white stars, while others rolled dark-colored neutron stars up and down their length. There was also a massive crystal that was the core from a burned-out white dwarf star. Taken aboard a cluster of control hubs that made up the 'head,' Montchuhusus learned more about the Machine's operations. It was primarily controlled by men submersed in bio-cocoons that sustained all their bodily functions over long periods of connectivity. The Great Machine was a collection of hubs that could modify their physical connections to each other and change the form of the Machine. Each hub was a fairly thick block of material that processed the energy drawn through the tendrils that extended from the bottom and manipulated objects being drained by using their own power. Each tendril started out thick and then branched into many other tendrils, every one becoming thinner and thinner the further outward from the ship that they went—far beyond the limits of human sight—and disappeared around the incredibly

large suns they pulled behind like a line of buoys. Like the Exodus ship, these tendrils were made of piezoelectric materials that increased their strength when exposed to great pressures. Originally built by the God Father after studying other machines left behind by his ancestors, the machine was built not only to move stars and planets around the galaxy but from one galaxy to another.

MARZANTI

MAGORIA: This traveling space city navigates a course called the Borealis Niget, named after the city founder of amphibian descent who charted it. The city circles the galaxy, regularly interacting with other traveling city-states, and serves as a meeting place for the many races of the stars, including the reclusive Marzanti.

MARZANTI SPIKE: These are the colonization devices of the Marzanti, and operate in two stages. The first stage begins the evolution of rewriting the DNA of a host worlds to become compatible, and then a Marzanti trident is triggered to signal for the second and final stage spike to be sent. On some worlds, several first-stage spikes are sent before a planet's biology is ready for the second stage. A Marzanti second stage spike, subsequently named 'Oumuamua, most recently missed Earth at the start of the 21st Century. According to Wild Stars cartographers 'Oumuamua first missed hitting Earth 75,000 years ago, about the time that the Isshla lost control of their Marzanti trident that guided it, and ever since it has been circling the solar system on an extraordinarily-elongated long orbit that loops into interstellar space.

'OUMUAMUA: 21st-century name given to a Marzanti spike that repeatedly missed the Earth over the last 75,000 years.

WILD STARS SHIPS

This term refers to any ship built in the region of the Milky Way Galaxy known as the Wild Stars, excluding Earth until some time after the Wild Stars had returned from the Horseshoe Galaxy. Typically, exotic matter powered four perpetual motion engines across great distances faster than any other known ship in the galaxy. The turning of these engines could also be started with batteries, which were usually employed at low speeds when the engines are pulled out of balance by local gravity wells. Their hulls use a malleable metal made of woven fibers of gold, silver, and other metals that, when heated during a planetfall, convert into titanium and melithium. Afterward, the hulls return to their normal sheen of gold—which protects passengers from interstellar radiation.

Scout ships: These ships are not only well armed, but the fastest and most maneuverable starships in the galaxy. They operate with four perpetual motion engines powered by both batteries and exotic matter. The batteries are used whenever gravity fields throw the perpetual motion engines out of balance. The exotic matter is their primary

source of fuel and thrust, being comprised of material from another universe that does not obey this universe's laws of physics.

WOODEN STARSHIP: A Wild Stars scout ship with empty gun ports, it does not contain any wood other than some console trim added late in its service life by Erlik. It was named the Wooden Starship by First Marker, in honor of Earth's first sailing vessels.

WILD STARS ARMADA: A fleet of Wild Stars ships was gathered by Akara with the intent of joining Erlik at Earth, in an attempt to stop an imminent Brothan invasion. Instead, this armada was hijacked by a mysterious, armored man. It was later learned that the armored man was the Ancient Warrior, who was returning from a trip through time and making some adjustments along the way. It turns out that originally the Wild Stars armada, Erlik, Akara, and Earth were all destroyed by the Brothan fleet. So the Ancient Warrior changed events by redirecting the Armada and the attack to New Atlantis, which had switched places with the rogue planet, Devil's Delight. After detonating the rogue planet and destroying the entire Brothan fleet, the Ancient Warrior was free to take the Wild Stars into the Horseshoe Galaxy.

OTHER

BARATHEA: Spanish treasure ship that legend says sank on Bad Juju Reef, which is home to man-eating tiger sharks. Many divers have lost their lives searching for it. Treasure from this ship was sought by Alvin Phillips and discovered by Carlton MacKanally.

TECHNOLOGIES, WEAPONS AND UNIQUE OBJECTS:

ATHERMANOUS STEALTH TECHNOLOGY: One of the properties of the armor of a Wild Stars Warrior, this technology renders them invisible to infrared scanners. The Keltic War Chief, Corr Mac Kal, learned to do the same thing by simply covering himself with mud.

ATLANTEAN SWORDS: Refers to a pair of blades created 75,000 years ago on the continent of Vu. These blades are unique and can cut through almost anything. See Toridian Swords.

ATV: Abbreviation for All Terrain Vehicle, this meaning is the same on any planet.

BELLOWS BULL: A hollow, bronze bull first created during the one time that a Brothan reached Old Atlantis, captives are placed inside and fires let beneath the bull's belly, which heats up the interior. The bull's nostrils are designed to amplify the screams of the victims inside. Gugalann had a replica built on Akara's World, and placed the children of Erlik and Daestar, along with an aged Risky Bravo, inside to be cooked alive.

BIGGDOG: This is a brand of heavy-duty earth movers used on Mars and distant planets like Magus IV.



BIO-CAMOUFLAGE: One of the many unique skills of the Purple Order, these immortals can appear to be from the same genetic heritage as anyone who sees them. This skill can extend to multiple viewers at the same time, as the castaways aboard the Moonbow lifeboat discovered during their encounter with Gow.

BIO-ENERGETIC FORMULA: First developed as part of Hitler's plan to activate the Holocaust dead to fight the Allies, this Zombie formula proved uncontrollable and was never deployed. Nazi scientists based this formula on the discovery that human life is powered by chemiosmosis, with the chemical adenosine triphosphate serving as the recharged chemical battery for life and the driver of the metabolism. Since the same process that causes rigor also causes healing, Bio-Energetic gives a dead body the appearance of muscular integrity. The formula was recovered by the Artomiques early in the 21st Century and subsequently used by Dalucar on Magus IV, where he used pioneers implanted with Brothan broadcasting amplifiers to trick Zarawti into attacking Earth ships. The formula was later turned on Dalucar when Atlanta broke free of her restraints and injected him.

BOREALIS NIGET, THE STAR CHART: Named after the individual who first charted this space current that circumnavigates the galaxy, the Borealis Niget is traveled by multiple space cities.

CHECKMATE WEAPON: In the untamed deep space during mankind's second star migration, whoever had the biggest weapon had the best chance of survival. Some Earthmen showed their power on the hulls of their ships, while others kept their firepower a secret until needed.

COBOL: Because it could not handle the number 2, this archaic computer language was expected to shut down all the computers in the world during the millennial turn, creating the Y2K panic. See Y2K.

COCOON: These control pods on the Great Machine can allow the operator to completely immerse themselves into equipment that use bio-tubes to feed, hydrate, and remove their bodily wastes over extended periods of time.

CORTEXTIAL COMMUNICATIONS: This communications system is built into the retinas of Earth settlers on Keppler3PS37-5.

COSMIC ANCHOR: Attached to a leg of the Great Machine, Cosmic Anchors are dropped into the heart of a sun when it is first being manipulated into a new course.

EXOTIC MATTER: The primary fuel of the Wild Stars, this substance was created by the Ancient Warrior's ancestors when they traveled from their universe into ours. As a result, exotic matter does not obey the laws of entropy. Instead, exotic matter multiplies with use, and extended contact with it can turn ordinary matter into gold. Assembling too much exotic matter in one location results

in colossal explosions. Whenever a Wild Stars craft is considered to be running on empty, that means that they are running out of safe storage space for the expanding exotic matter, and a catastrophic explosion is imminent.

FUZZY DYCE AND JELLI BELLY: A popular vid-series about a pair of New York policemen, one African-American and one Pakistani. The series purported that they taught the world how to overcome racism. While often criticized for a lack of accuracy, it remains a popular historical drama. The series went into permanent reruns upon the death of the co-star playing Jelli Belly.

GRAK: Along with Strackulum, Grak is one of the few edible plants indigenous to Keppler3PS37-5, and was not considered palatable to human taste buds accustomed to Earth food. It was initially used as food for livestock until they died off. After most of the crops brought with the settlers to this distant and isolated planet also died, Grak became a staple food for the human population. Later generations did not understand the complaints of their elders, having never known different.

HELEN OF TROY'S NECKLACE: The exact same necklace in both realities, it was thought lost in this reality after the Allied bombing of Germany. Georgian Raveling recognized what it was when Henry Piper wanted to use it as collateral in a bet against a percentage of the Artomique's space research enterprises.

HOVER-CONTAINER: This type of anti-gravity container is used to move objects from one place to another. Then-Captain Cinceno used one to hide from the saurocat attack during the Ansa massacre.

HYDRO-FOILS: These were twin propulsion units placed on pylons and deployed as outriggers by some Toridian class ships on Earth 75,000 years ago. They were powered by electrical energy pulled from the atmosphere, and batteries were used to store any extra 'Spark,' which was their term for electricity.

HUNTIN-DOG: A metallic silver dart dropped from high altitudes onto a target. They destroy a target and pin it to the ground with minimal collateral damage done to the surrounding area.

LASER-MONKEYS: When artificial intelligence was outlawed with high brain functions after the Cybernetics War, androids like the Laser-monkeys became the preferred tool of crowd control. No smarter than most actual monkeys, they can go anywhere a human can, plus a lot of places they cannot. Their general purpose is to burn a human's posterior with low voltage lasers while herding them where they are supposed to go.

LONG-BARRELED PLASMA BLASTER: Even deadlier than a 400-watt turbo canon, this was the weapon used by Bully Bravo to hunt a killer saurocat on Ansa.

MAGLINK: A communications network retro-engineered from Wild Stars and Brothan technology, this technology provides space explorers with instantaneous communications across a network of galactic magnetic sheets. This is usually, but not always, done with three-dimensional holographic avatars.

MAGNETIC CAPTURE FIELD: This highly magnetized area is created by magnetic nets designed to couple with the Magnetic Capture Unit of arriving Stiletto Class starships.

MARZANTI TRIDENT: A jewel-encrusted trident that accompanies a Marzanti spike, these are used by the Marzanti-spawn to adjust the world around them by manipulating earth, wind, water, and fire, and then also serves as a triggering device to signal and guide the next Marzanti spike to its target.

MASS DRIVERS: Brothan attach these to asteroid and comets, which then use the objects own materials to propel them through space. They attached a large number of these with the intent of exploding Jupiter into a second sun, until the space shark, Zarawti, devoured the Brothan ship contained the command signals to launch them. Afterward, Mark Mackavikc (aka Mack) and Akara spent two years on the Wooden Stars disarming most, but not all of them. They stopped once they reached the point where the ignition of Jupiter was no longer possible.

MCGUFFINUT: A combination fruit-nut that only grows on the Behemet moon, Ansa, although it is rumored that some small groves have been discovered on Magus IV/ Miri/ Akara's World. When allowed to ferment, they produce the most addictive and intoxicating substance in the known galaxy. Mcguffinut juice is the secret ingredient in the outlawed Whisper Ice Cream.

MCGUFFINUT JUICE: See mcguffinut.

POWER JUMPERS: Basically super-coiled pogo sticks, Risky Bravo encouraged Atlanta to use them in hopes of escaping the Force Majeure event on Prairie Bay. Atlanta found his proposal humorous and had a better plan.

R44 RAVEN: This was the brand of helicopter chartered by the Artomiques when they tried to recover the TTD that had been lost by the Brothan.

SKORSKY'S HARPY: In the alternate Artomique reality where rotor technology was favored over propellers, these helicopters were named in part after the man who created them.

SONIC CANONS: Great for crowd control, these weapons are useless against tyrannosaurid species like the griefs of Magus IV, although a sonic blast up a red grief's nostrils will give it a shiver.

SPIDER-WALKER: These are the handicap wheelchairs of the future, and operate in both gravity and zero-gravity

conditions. As the name implies, a spider-walker incorporates eight legs to give any rider independent movement in any direction.

SYMBIOSIS-ARMOR: Mechanical armor worn by Carthage after the Bio-Energetic formula rendered him dead, this afforded his body the ability to continue functioning normally, despite being unable to heal from any injury.

TIME TRAVEL DEVICE, AKA TTD: These are small, circular, metallic devices that are fairly featureless on the surface, but emit holographic tools for their operation. Vickerus of the Wild Stars recovered three of these from the heart of the rogue planet called the Devil's Delight. His son, Carthage, stole two of them. One of those was used to send a Brothan warrior into the past and rewrite Earth's history, achieving mixed results. The third device Vickerus used to undo the damage done by the Brothan. After the death of Vickerus, Erlik recovered this third device from the Keltic War Chief, Corr Mac Kal, and gave it to the Ancient Warrior, which had been Vickerus' original intent. These TTD's give user-optimized access to the teleportation system built by the Ancient Warrior's ancestors. The very nature of teleporting great distances through space is an exercise in time travel, and the TTD takes this to another level by giving the user the ability to travel anywhere and to any time throughout the entire history of the system. One thing about the TTDs that Bully Shawnee learned from his encounter with Gow of the Purple Order was that, while a necessary tool to move large objects through massive distances of time and space, a TTD is essentially a training device. Once a user has become tuned to the teleportation system, the access is in his mind and his blood, and a TTD is no longer required for individuals or those in physical contact with them during transit.

TIME TRAVEL DETECTION DEVICE: This device was used by the Brothan to track down time travelers.

TURBO CANON: Firing a 400-megawatt blast, these lethal weapons are rarely deployed by Earth forces.

UNIVERSAL TRANSLATOR: A small device that easily fits into an ear and translates most known languages. Battery-free, they operate on the kinetic body energy of user, which is a tidbit of information that would have saved Bully Bravo years of worry if he had known.

WHISPER ICE CREAM: Delicious and highly addictive ice cream, the company slogan is "Like a taste of milk on the Moon." It was later discovered that the secret formula was fermented mcguffinut juice and Whisper Ice Cream became illegal throughout the galaxy. See also Scarlet Tanager.

UNIQUE NICKNAMES & PHRASES:

ANTI-ZARAWTI: The Saturnian cyborg Dalucar Zonderman lied to the Brothan when he claimed this to be the Brothan translation of his name.

BONAIV: This name translates from the Native American Shoshone language as “Grass Maiden.” See Sacagawea.

BOOK OF CIRCLES: The name given to a sequence of visual memories collected by the telepath Daestar from a number of different individuals and later imparted to the Ancient Warrior, these memories were arranged in the manner of a North American football game. The Book begins with a pre-game talk given by Akara, opens with a whistle and ends with a gunshot by a man wearing a striped shirt, and then goes into a brief, sudden-death overtime period. The Book can also be referred to as Time Travel Twice Told, because it tells of events caused by a time-traveling Brothan, first in very long form, and then once again in a quick, short form.

BULLY JACK: A nickname Bully Bravo inadvertently gave to himself when he described himself on Shipworld as the “Bully Jack of All Trades.” He has also been known to say, “I’ve got to quit doing that. Sometimes when I tell a joke, someone writes it down, and everyone else takes it seriously.” See Akara’s World for an example of this happening.

BUTTKICKER: A nickname for Bully Shawnee.

CRAIG KRAY: This is the birth name of the man who later became known as the Saturnian cyborg Dalucar Zonderman. See also Kray-Kray.

CURSE-BREAKER: See Medusa’s Curse. Another nickname for Bully Shawnee.

DOC BAMA: See Veranda Bama.

DOUBLE T-TREE: A phrase that refers to the biceps of baseball home run champion Tijuana Tanaka.

EARTH IN RETROGRADE: See Wandering Star. See also New Venice.

EATERS OF THE LAND: The peoples of the First Nations use this term to describe the Artomiques in the alternate reality.

EINSTEIN-ROSEN BRIDGE: This theory proposes a method that establishes a bridge either across a great distance or to another universe. This concept is also referred to as wormhole technology. It is outlawed in the Wild Stars because of the possibility of establishing a link to one of the many universes consumed by the extra-dimensional entities known as Neth and Nean. The terraformers ignored this advice and unleashed the horrors of Neth and Nean into our universe.

EYU: Means traveler in Vu.

EYU HEKIR: See Hekir.

FANGTANGLE: This is another term used to describe a red grief and comes from the phrase “dangle with a fangtangle,” which refers to how a red grief rarely gets

a whole person into its mouth with the first bite, usually leaving an arm or a leg dangling.

FIRST MARKER: Codename for Earth’s first modern representative into the Galactic community, First Marker was intended to serve as a living boundary marker. This designation was intended for the Keltic War Chief, Corr Mac Kal, but when he returned, a nearly drowned Carlton MacKanally was discovered in his place. Vic, the representative of Vickerus who had been left in charge of the project, discovered the genetic similarities between Corr and Carlton and made a clone of MacKanally, which he then infused with some of Carlton’s memories, and all the memories from Vickerus. See the listing for Vic to how he got these memories. With an incomplete memory of who he might be, the one-year-old clone was told that he would discover his true identity when he met Vickerus at the traveling space city, Magoria. Instead, he was met by the Brothan and the Artomiques, who pursued him across the stars and back to Earth. Eventually, the clone of Carlton MacKanally took the name of Mark Mackavicka, or Mack for short. See: Destroyer of Worlds.

FISHMEN: See Marzanti, sub-topic: Isshla.

FIVE BARRELS: This term refers to the minimum number of water barrels that the Atlantean sailor Montchuhassus considered to be the minimum left in the stores of the Sea Howler upon returning from any long voyage. He always wanted an excess supply in the event of delays and accidents.

FORCE MAJEURE: This clause contained in many contracts excludes extreme acts of Gods that no one could anticipate. An example of Force Majeure would be the vid-monster Gorezilla stomping on your home. If an incident of Force Majeure ever occurs, your best reaction is to run for your life, unless you are trapped inside a military installation that has welded the exits shut. See also County Cork, Ireland, for more information.

FOURTH OF JULY: On this date every year, the United States celebrates its Independence from England. It is also the date when Carlton MacKanally and Hope Piper intended to stage their ill-fated reunion.

FTL: An abbreviation for Faster-Than-light speeds, there are no stars seen when moving at this speed. The only thing visible is what looks like a shimmering wave of eggshell white milk.

GOD-SISTER: This is the term with which the God Mother describes Phaedra.

GODSMACKER: Another nickname for Bully Shawnee.

GRASS MAIDEN: This is the Shoshone name for Sacagawea, pronounced Boinaiv.

THE GREAT MYSTERY: This phrase refers to the mystery of Earth-like planets that can be seen by satellite,

but are missing whenever faster-than-light ships arrive. Usually, their host suns are also gone, replaced by white star dwarfs that hold the planetary systems in place, as if waiting for the original suns and planets to return. No one could explain how this occurred until the Wild Stars returned with the Great Machine.

GUGALANN I: This is the name Gugalann intends for Magus IV/Miri/Akara's World.

GUGALANN II: After he conquers it, this is the name Gugalann intends for Earth.

GUIDANGSHI: This is the pronunciation of the Ancient Warrior in the language of Vu.

HAIRY GIANTS: Another term used to refer to the Tearers, cannibalistic giants who roamed the Earth 75,000 years ago.

HEGELIAN DIALECTIC: The operating principles commonly employed by those described as the Illuminati, this is the template that defined the Artomique's plan to assimilate and control the new reality they had crossed into. By controlling the controllers, whether it is food, drugs, alcohol, religion, or property, you first create the problems, and then you solve them.

HUNTER'S ARROW: This was the term used 75,000 years ago by Earth sailors to describe the North Star.

I.E.C.: See Interplanetary Exploratory Corp.

INTERGALACTIC: This term refers to the space between the galaxies.

INTERPLANETARY EXPLORATORY CORP., AKA I.E.C.: The I.E.C. employed interstellar cartographers who mapped all the planets circling distant stars during the early years of Earth's second migration into space. They were also responsible for rating the likelihood of colonization for each world.

INTERSTELLAR: This term refers to the space between the stars within a galaxy.

INTERSTELLAR EXPEDITORS: Under-funded space explorers searching for virgin planets to claim as their own, only one in ten ever returned, resulting in many instances of Star Coffins.

ISLAND: In the age of Atlantis, inhabited lands surrounded by ocean water were called man-lands. In the millennia that followed after the Isshla swept mankind from the seas, men once again began to venture out to sea and called these lands Isshlands. This term has been shortened in modern times to "island," which reflects the long-lasting influence that the Isshla have had on how men think of any body of land surrounded by water.

ISSHLANDS: For several millennia after the Isshla swept mankind from the seas, all bodies of land surrounded

by sea that men once referred to as man-lands became known as isshlands. This term has been shortened in modern times to "island," which reflects the long-lasting influence that the Isshla have had on how men think of land surrounded by water.

JANKE: This means swordsman in Vu. See Hekir.

KONKARNI: When there are problems in the Wild Stars cloning process, the bodies of failed clones are often stored for possible future use as organ and blood donors. When the Beta clone dies, the failed experiments are cremated and their ashes scattered across the grave.

KRAY-KRAY: Craig Kray disliked this nickname but never forgot about it, even after he became the Saturnian cyborg known as Dalucar Zonderman. See also Saturnian.

KROKAW-KILLER: Another nickname for Bully Shawnee, this one was used by the Brothan.

KWAN CHIN: See 22nd Century Earthman, Chin.

LANDS OF MAN: aka man-lands. 75,000 years ago these were area of land occupied by humanoids, and desired by the Isshla.

LONG TWILIGHT: This term was used by the Terraformers to describe the time period when the moon, Ansa, rotated to the far side of the gas giant, Behemit, and lost sight of their host star. Because of Ansa's 30-day orbit around Behemit, the Long Twilight acts as the moon's winter, giving it a chaotically rapid sequence of seasons. Because of the quarantine after the Ansa Massacre, some of the more unique features of the Long Twilight have yet to be discovered by a new wave of Earth settlers.

MAGNETIC CAPTURE UNIT: Magnetic fields are generated by arriving Stiletto Class starships to assist their attraction into the magnetic capture fields.

MARINES: An Earth military force that over the centuries has been on the forefront of Earth battles fought from Tripoli and Montezuma in the West to the Pacific islands of Iwo Jimi and Tarawa in the East, and across the stars all the way to Mount Ratatan on Magus IV. When they were once errantly referred to as Space Marines, Bully Bravo pointed out, "No matter where they are, whether on land or sea, or in the air or space, they're Marines. No more. No less."

MARK MACKAVICKA: See Mack.

MARQUISEVAROUS: Considered to be the name of God by sun-worshippers, their flat-Earth cult thrived in Atlantis after the final exodus into the Wild Stars 75,000 years ago.

MCU: See Magnetic Capture Unit.

MEDUSA'S CURSE: This was the term adopted when a pirate fell in love with Sang Vardel, and anyone who spoke

with her or even looked in her direction was beaten. The curse and the pirate were both broken by Bully Shawnee.

MIRI, THE PERSON: See Wild Starriors: Atlanta, the person.

MONIQUE: The Caribbean woman named Nanette gave this fake name to Carlton MacKanally.

MOONFALL: This term refers to the action of dropping from orbit onto a moon's surface.

NAZIS: The fascist ideology of this group of Germans took Earth into World War II. Despite their defeat, elements of their ideology still exist today, seeking to exert their dominance once again.

NEW MILLENNIUM: Commonly referred to as the year 2000, this was the date when the Y2K catastrophe was thought to occur. The proper date for the beginning of the new millennium is the year 2001.

NYREE SHAWNEE: See Atlanta, the person. See also Shawnees.

OLD ATLANTIS: This very old Wild Stars term refers to Earth after the Wild Stars exodus.

OLD HICKORY: A nickname given to Andrew Jackson, a future president who routed the British at New Orleans before learning that the War of 1812 had already ended. Old hickory was also the type of wood used in the spirit fire built by Sacagawea during the burning of Washington, D.C., and into which British Major General Robert Ross spit.

ONCE EVERY 108 YEARS: A little-known cult favorite starring Fuzzy Jones, this vid-feature tells the story of the Chicago Cubs winning their first Championship in 108 years, right after the millennial turn.

ORCA: Also known as Killer Sharks, these mammalian sea creatures are the most intelligent species on Earth and have kept Earth's population of the Marzanti-spawn known as Isshla in check during modern times. Erlik of the Wild Stars has been known to conduct negotiations with them.

PATTY O'LEARY: The birth name of Fuzzy Dyce, the 22nd Century actor.

PHRA: A more recent name that the Ancient Warrior was once known by. This memory was recovered by his telepathic link with Daestar.

QUILTED MAN: Another nickname for Bully Shawnee.

RED QUEEN: See Nefarimor. See also Scarlet Tanager.

RED WITCH: Another nickname given the Red Queen, Nefarimor, because, as she explained, "it rhymes with... Bitch!"

ROC: Military term for Ranking Officer in Command, referring to the top officer on site.

ROGUE PLANET: A term generally given to planets that have been flung out of the orbit of the host star, in the Wild Stars this term is also often used to describe the runaway world known as the Devil's Delight.

RYTHYMON DRUG CARTEL: Even though he himself did not deal in drugs, Henry Piper was involved in illicit smuggling operations coordinated by this international crime cartel operating out of the Greek island of Mykonos.

SANDY ATOLL: Sandy atolls are islands (see Isshla) so tiny that they are nothing more than a mound of sand sticking out of the water. Atolls can be found throughout the Bahamas, Caribbean, and all the way down along the Greater and Lesser Antilles island chains to Granada and South America. Two atolls in particular figure into the life of scuba tour guide Carlton MacKanally. After his boat was boarded by two attackers, they were both knocked into the water and the one named Alonzo eaten by a tiger shark. Alonzo's brother floated safely to a nearby atoll, shouting his pledge for revenge the whole way. This happened near South America. On another atoll not far from Grand Bahama Island, at the edge of an area of corals known as the Gingerbreads, Carlton rescued a diver who had nearly been murdered by a local guide named Old Caribe. No trace was found of the man's wife, except for a shark-chewed flipper.

SATURNIAN PROTOCOLS: Whenever a Saturnian is encountered, these protocols go in effect and all electronic equipment and communications are switched off to prevent cyber-invasion.

SCARY PRESIDENT: This nickname was given to Bully Bravo while he served a single term as the President of the United States, a North American country on Earth.

SHINING PURPLE: This term refers to Knights of the Purple Order.

SORROW-CAT: Slang used to describe saurocats.

SPACE COFFIN: Reference to space explorers who became lost and died in their ships.

SPARK: This is an Ancient Atlantean term for electricity.

STAR COFFIN: Another term for space coffin. Refers to interstellar ships whose crews did not survive the voyage.

STAR SPANGLED BANNER: National Anthem of the United States of America, this song was penned during the bombing of Fort McHenry during the siege of Baltimore by the Royal British Navy near the end of the War of 1812. Legend has it that the Native American woman named Sacagawea was a distant witness to this event while hiding from British troops after she helped shoot Major General Robert Ross.

Steve: A secretive man who boarded the Moonbow with former president Bully Bravo, claiming to be his secret service bodyguard. Steve was crushed between colliding marble tabletops when the Moonbow was destroyed. He was later revealed to be Streven Darklaw.

STEW-STU'S STUDIO: A very successful chain of bar/restaurants that enjoyed a history of hundreds of years. One can be seen in the southern city of Argenta during the millennial turn, and another operates on the Prairie Bay space port during the 23rd Century.

STONE TREE: When the Dire Griets utilized the Marzanti spike on Magus IV/Miri/Atlanta's World, they caused the mountain Ratan to crumble, revealing the solidified magma that had filled some of the volcano's vents, creating a tree with limbs made of stone.

STORMBREAKER: Another nickname for Bully Shawnee.

STRACKULUM: Along with Grak, Strackulum is one of the few edible plants indigenous to Keppler3PS37-5, and was not considered palatable to human tastebuds accustomed to Earth food. It was initially used as meal for livestock until they died off. After most of the crops brought with the settlers to this distant and isolated planet also died, Strackulum became a staple food for the human population. Later generations did not understand the complaints of their elders, having never known anything different.

STRASIS, AKA STRAZIS: This was the first lost name that the Ancient Warrior was ever called, and remembered by Phaedra. The telepath Daestar first postulated this after her memory link with the Ancient Warrior.

STS: This is an abbreviation for surface-to-space shuttles.

SUB-SPACE: Essentially the open end of a wormhole, where a ship could hide, invisible from, but still maintaining contact with the immediate universe. Another benefit was the ability to reappear at will. It was learned too late that these wormholes sometimes opened a doorway into the realms of Neth and Nean. See Cthulhu.

SUN WORSHIPPERS: In the ancient days of Atlantis, after the Wild Stars exodus to the stars had concluded, those who remained behind came to believe that the world was flat and the sun was a god by the name of Marcquisevarous, who had pulled all of the spark from the air in anger at those who used things like batteries to cage spark (electricity).

TAZRAN VERSUS GOREZILLA: Fuzzy Dyce starred in this enormously successful vid-feature.

TELEPORTATION: There exists in the Wild Stars and beyond a teleportation system that links planets with devices placed there by the Ancient Warrior's ancestors. The peoples of the Wild Stars often use this system for fast transit from one planet to another. Since any movement

of great distance at great speed is essentially time travel, the network also enables a traveler to go in either direction in time, and as far back as when the links were first established. But that feature is rarely used. The system's time travel operations are ultimately intuitive but almost impossible for a trainee to learn without tools. For moving large objects, or anyone without Wild Stars blood, it can only be used with a Time Travel Device. To date, only three of these TTDs are known to exist in the whole of the Milky Way galaxy.

THREE PASHAS: At the end of the 19th Century the rulers of Turkey, a middle-eastern Earth country, were Pashas who reputedly engaged in a genocide against people of Armenian descent by evicting them from their homes and marching them into the deserts, where many died.

TIE IN: The name by which First Marker referred to the artificial intelligence matrix incorporated into the operating system of the Wooden Stars, and all other Wild Stars craft.

TIME WARMAGEDDON: When a war between time travelers involves genocide or the attempt thereof, this is an instance Time Warmageddon.

TINKER: This word means fisherman in Vu. See Hekir.

TOMAS SHAWNEE: See Risky Bravo. See also Shawnees.

TORIDIAN SWORDS: A set of three blades, one a massive broadsword and the other two curved in a samurai-style, these were forged by the Atlantean sword-smith Atlas Toridian 75,000 years ago on the island of Vu. Atlas traveled to Vu to make these blades because he had been forbidden to use the bones of his mother, one of the only daughters ever known to be born to the Ancient Warrior, as carbon for the blades. As a result of his unique use of carbon and other materials, these turquoise-colored blades have many unique properties like cutting edges that never dull and an ability to cut through almost anything. This made them highly sought after by many who wanted to replicate the process. They are sheathed in unique scabbards cut from mammoth tusks and decorated with carvings that tell the story of the first Wild Stars exodus.

TTD: See Time Travel Device.

TWO DOGS: In the alternate reality, many inhabitants of the First Nations used this curse to describe the Atomiques, or any other persons considered to be Eaters of the Land. The term refers to two dogs in the act of copulation.

UNDEAD: See Bio-energetic formula.

VAMPIRE DRAGONS: Refers to Dire Griets who left their home planet of Miri/Magus IV/Akara's World by stowing away on ships traveling to other planets with the intent to create intrigue, the purposes of which is not yet fully understood.

wandering star: When a planet in the night sky goes into retrograde, it appears to reverse direction. Example: One planet's orbit moves in front of the other, such as Earth's orbit passes Mars' or Venus passes Earth.

WARHAMSTER: A popular vid-series on Earth during the second space migration, starring legendary actor Fuzzy Dyce and renowned for their popular music.

WHITE HOLE: According to theorists, this is the opposite end of a black hole and where it releases its energy. According to the Stone Men, a white hole is the result of a black hole's dissipation.

WILD CHILD, AKA WILD CHILD: This phrase was used both as a name and as a general reference by the Moon-bow castaways to describe Lonan McGuffin after they first met, before anyone knew for certain who he really was.

WILD STAR RISING: Ancient Atlantean sailors piloted by the stars and knew exactly which ones were the Wild Stars.

WILD STARS: A region of the Milky Way galaxy where 75,000 years ago the Ancient Warrior led the first human migration from Earth into the stars and colonized planets circling the brightest stars in Earth's night sky. This is the source of every Earth legend of UFO's and Space Gods, who have all been instances of visits by distant relatives from the Wild Stars.

WOOD-GOD: This was the name given by Tall Trees' tribe to the Keltic War Chief, Corr Mac Kal, after he traveled back into the past and stopped the Brothan from changing Earth's history.

WORMHOLE: Avoid these with the greatest of caution. See Einstein-Rosen Bridge to learn why.

XANTHOUS AVENGER: This translates to blond-haired avenger, and is one of the many nicknames given to the normally dark-haired Bully Shawnee. It refers to the time when he temporarily dyed his hair blond in order to infiltrate... SPOILER-REDACTION.

Y2K: This was a computer panic caused at the Millennial turn when every computer in the world was expected to fail due to archaic architecture based on COBOL. The Artomiques made a fortune by exploiting this panic and providing computer patches.

ZARAWTIC: Translated from the Brothan, this word means Killer of Brothan. See Bully Shawnee.

ZOMBIE: Dead persons made animate by the Bio-energetic formula.





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