

The Contested Isle

Contents

Chapter 1: Introduction	6	Magi of Ireland	24	Setting & Physical Description ...	44
A Tribunal of Conflict	6	The English	24	Culture and Traditions	44
Hibernia in 1220	6	HERMETIC CULTURE	25	Magi	44
Chapter 2:		The Macgnímartha	25	Covenfolk	46
The History of Mythic Ireland	8	Wizard War	25	THE COVENANT OF PRAESIS	46
THE FIVE PEOPLES	8	Certamen	26	Cathach	46
THE SONS OF MÍL	9	A Magical Responsibility	26	History	46
The Coming of Christianity	10	Hermetic Literature	27	Setting & Physical Description ...	47
THE ORDER OF HERMES IN IRELAND	11	A Simple Way of Life	27	Culture and Traditions	47
The Ostmen and Rune Wizards	11	TREATIES AND THE PERIPHERAL CODE	28	Magi	47
Hermetic Magi and Irish Wizards	12	The Role of Treaties	28	Covenfolk	48
Tribunal Formation		Founding a Covenant	28		
and the Early Years	12	Attitudes to the Code	29		
The Schism War	13	Attitudes to the Cathach	30		
Two Turbulent Centuries	13	The Role of the Quaesitors	30		
The Irish Helen	14	Sanctions	31		
Strongbow Invades	14	TRIBUNAL PROCEDURES	32		
Henry & John in Ireland	14	Representation	32		
The English Magi	14	HERMETIC IRISH TERMINOLOGY	33		
English Expansion	15				
The Siege of Praesis	15				
Chapter 3: Irish Culture	16	Chapter 5:		Chapter 6:	
THE LAND	16	The Province of Connacht	34	The Province of Leinster	49
THE IRISH PEOPLE	16	GEOGRAPHY	34	THE PEOPLES OF LEINSTER	49
Sex and Marriage	18	THE PEOPLES OF CONNACHT	34	The Laighin	49
Hostages and Fostering	19	The Connachta	34	The Osraighe	50
Hospitality and Cuddy	19	The Fir Bolg	34	The Ostmen	50
Villages and Cities	19	The Druids and the Coill Trí	35	THE COUNTY OF WEXFORD	50
Time	19	Booleys and Crannógs	35	Wexford	50
Entertainment	20	THE KINGDOM OF BRÉIFNE	36	Bannow	51
THE ENGLISH OPPOSITION	20	Kings of Bréifne	36	Templeshanbo Church	51
LANGUAGES OF HIBERNIA	21	West Bréifne	36	Enniscorthy	51
Pronunciation of Gaelic	21	East Bréifne	37	Ferns	52
NAMES	21	THE KINGDOM OF CONNACHT	37	New Ross	52
Irish Names	21	The Archdiocese of Tuam	37	THE WICKLOW REGION	52
Non-Irish Names	22	The Diocese of Killala	37	Baltinglass	52
Chapter 4: Hermetic Culture	23	The Diocese of Achonry	38	Wicklow	53
A CONFLICTED TRIBUNAL	23	The Diocese of Mayo	39	Glendalough	53
A Land Where History Repeats Itself	24	The Diocese of Tuam	40	Arklow	54
		The Diocese of Elphin	41	DUBLIN	54
		The Diocese of Annaghdown	42	THE LIBERTY OF KILDARE	55
		The Diocese of Cill Mhic Dhuach	43	Kildare	55
		The Diocese of Clonfert	43	Naas	56
		THE PACT OF OIREADH	44	Carbury	57
		History	44	Calverstown (Baile an Chalbhaigh)	57
				OSSORY	58
				The Pass of Achad-ur	58
				Rock of Dunamase	58
				Kilkenny (Cill Chainnigh)	58
				Kells	58
				Jerpoint Abbey	58
				Thomastown (Grianán)	59
				ASHENRISE	59

The Contested Isle

History	59
Location	59
Culture	59
Magi	60
LÁMBAIRD	60
History	61
Setting & Physical Description ...	61
Culture & Traditions	61
Magi	63
Inhabitants	63
THE PARUCHIA OF NERIUS	64
History	64
Setting & Physical Description ...	65
Culture & Traditions	65
Magi	65
Covenfolk	66

Chapter 7: The Liberty of Meath 68

Drogheda-in-Meath	68
The Brú na Bóinne	69
The Hill of Tara	70
The Hill of Tlachtga	70
Tailten	71
Kells	71
Bective Abbey	71
Trim	71
Delvin	71
Clonmacnoise	72
The Hill of Uisneach	72

Chapter 8: The Province of Munster 73

The Peoples of Munster	73
Eoghanachta	73
Dál gCais	73
Déise	74
The English in Munster	75
KINGDOM OF DESMOND	75
Magh nAla	75
Cork	75
Tech Dairbhre	76
KINGDOM OF THOMOND	76
The River Shannon	76
Killaloe	76
The Burren	77
THE LIBERTY OF TIPPERARY	77
Síd Femen	77
Cashel	78
The Silvermine Mountains	78
THE LIBERTY OF WATERFORD	79
Waterford City	79
THE LIBERTY OF LIMERICK	79
Croc Áine	79
Lough Gur	80

Limerick	80
Dún Eochair	80
KERRY	80
Tralee	80
Skellig Michael	80
CIRCULUS RUBER	81
History	81
Setting & Physical Description ...	81
Culture	81
Magi	82
CLIFFHEART	82
History	82
Location	83
Culture	83
Magi	83
ELK'S RUN	84
History	84
Setting & Physical Description ...	85
Culture & Traditions	85
Magi	85
Covenfolk	86
THE MERCER HOUSE OF LETH MOGA ...	86
History	86
Location	86
Culture	87
Magi	87

Chapter 9: The Province of Ulster 88

THE PEOPLES OF ULSTER	88
The Érainn	88
The Cruithnigh	88
The English	89
TÍR CHONAILL	89
Donegal	90
Lough Dearg	90
The Poisoned Glen	90
Raphoe	91
TÍR EÓGHAIN	91
Aileach	91
Beaghmore	92
Doire	92
Leacht Ábartaigh	92
Lough Neagh	92
AIRGÍALLA	93
Armagh	93
Clogher	93
Cuailnge	93
Drogheda Castle	94
Fermanagh	94
Magh Sléacht	94
Síd of Fionnachaidh	95
Rath Chinneich	95
EARLDOM OF ULSTER	95
Antrim	95
Bangor	95

Belfast Castle	95
Carrickfergus Castle	95
Downpatrick	96
Dundrum Castle	97
Giants' Causeway	97
Mountains of Mourne	97
Newry	98
Ring of Gullion	98
TÍR FHOMÓRAIG	98
Rathlin Island	98
Toraigh Island	99
MERCERE HOUSE OF LETH CUINN	99
History	99
Setting & Physical Description ...	100
Culture and Traditions	100
Magi	100
THE CLESRADA	101
Learning Clesa	101
Using Clesa	101
Athletics Clesa	102
Concentration Clesa	103
Single Weapon /	
Great Weapon Clesa	103
Thrown Weapon Clesa	104
QUI SONANT PRO QUIETO	105
History	105
Setting & Physical Description ...	105
Culture & Traditions	106
Magi	106
Covenfolk	107
VIGIL	108
Cathach	108
History	108
Setting & Physical Description ...	108
Culture and Traditions	109
Magi	109
Covenfolk	110

Chapter 10: The Magical Landscape 111

THE DRUIDS	111
The Learned Class	111
The Druids Today	112
THE COILL TRÍ	112
A Partner to Treaties	113
Organization of the Coill Trí ...	113
THE BARDS	115
The Bardic Schools	115
Bard Characters	116
Bards of Power	117
GEASA	118
Conditions	118
New Flaws	118
THE MAGICAL RACES OF IRELAND	118
The Fomórach	119
The Fir Bolg	119

The Contested Isle

Battle Transformations.....	120
BEASTS OF VIRTUE.....	121
The Fíorláir.....	121
The Dobhar-Chú.....	122

Chapter 11: The Faerie Landscape 123

THE OTHERWORLD.....	123
The Five High Roads.....	123
FAERIE TYPES.....	124
Pagan Gods: Tuatha Dé Danann... 124	
Social Faeries.....	126
Trooping Faeries.....	129
Solitary Faeries.....	129

Chapter 12: The Divine Landscape 131

THE TWO CHURCHES OF IRELAND....	131
Dioceses of Ireland.....	131
The Irish Church.....	132
The Anglo-Irish Church.....	133
Petitioning the Pope.....	134
SAINTS OF IRELAND.....	134
Some Irish Saints.....	134
New Powers & Curses for Irish Saints.....	137
DIVINE TRADITION: THE CÉLI DÉ.....	138

Chapter 13: The Infernal Landscape 139

THE FIRST ACTS OF THE INFERNAL....	139
THE EVILS THAT MEN DO.....	139
The Plagues Of Ireland.....	139
Agents of Chaos.....	140
HIBERNIAN DEMONS.....	140
Common Powers.....	140
Demons of Hardship.....	141
The Sluagh.....	141
Devils of Folklore.....	141
Folk Charms.....	142
INFERNAL PLACES.....	142
Battlefields.....	143
Hell on Earth.....	144

List of Inserts

Story Seed: Finding Fionntan.....	8	Story Seed: Tales of Nuadha and Bóinn.....	56	Uathach of the Glen.....	100
Story Seed: The Secret of Ráth Cinn-Eich.....	8	Bóinn, the Great White Cow, Tuatha Dé Danann River Goddess... 56		Story Seed: A Rival School.....	101
The Four Treasures.....	10	Story Seed: The Witches of Kilkenny... 58		Initiation into the Clesrada.....	101
Story Seed: The High-King's Treasure... 11		The School of Raghallach.....	62	Designing Clesa.....	102
Story Seed: Recovering the First Christian Mission.....	11	New Guidelines: Perdo Vim.....	63	Strange Practices.....	106
Story Seed: The Lair of Lentinus.....	12	Hermetic Céli Dé.....	65	The Funerary Rites.....	106
Story Seed: The Missing Mercere Envoy.....	12	Indrechtach an t-Éigse Measceal, Céli Dé of Paruchia Nerius.....	66	Story Seed: The Body of a Ghost... 107	
Story Seed: Three Diedne Bodies.....	13	Indrechtach's Holy Magic.....	67	Story Seed: Silence Falls on Those Who Sing.....	107
Eraic is a Reputation.....	17	What is a Liberty?.....	68	Druid Magic.....	111
Irish Social Status Virtue and Flaw Equivalents.....	18	Story Seed: The Conspiracy of Mellifont.....	69	The Gruagachan as Inheritors of the Druidic Tradition.....	112
The Brehon Laws.....	18	Story Seed: The Haunting of New Grange.....	70	The Gods of the Druids.....	112
Story Seed: Hermetic Hospitality.....	19	The Legend of King Conaire.....	70	Diedne and Pralix.....	112
An Outsider's View.....	20	The Book of Kells.....	71	The Treaty of Cnoc Maol Réidh.... 113	
Area Lore (Ireland).....	20	The Eiscir Riada.....	72	Tensions Within the Treaty.....	114
Dialects.....	21	Story Seed: Returning the King.....	73	Performance and Sound.....	116
Fallen Covenants.....	26	Story Seed: The Midnight Builder... 75		Example Magical Stories and Poems... 117	
A Story Told to Me by Einri mac Cillíni.....	26	Story Seed: Seeking the Plain of Swans.....	75	Story Seed: The Ollamhain Heresy... 118	
The Treaty of Cnoc Maol Réidh.... 28		Story Seed: The Siege of Shandon Castle.....	76	Fomóir Blood.....	119
Extract from the Journey of Cernach an Chairn.... 29		Story Seed: The Stealer of Secrets... 76		The Three Tribes of the Fir Bolg... 120	
The Battle of Teamhrach.....	32	Story Seed: The Fish Wife.....	77	Cú Chulainn's <i>Ríastradh</i>	120
The Ambassadors to the Tribunal... 33		Story Seed: The King's Treasure.....	77	The Fíorláir.....	121
Story Seed: Falling on Deaf Ears.....	36	Story Seed: The Faerie Saint Flannan.. 77		Dobhar-chú.....	122
The Diocese of Triburnia.....	36	Story Seed: The Sacred Yew.....	78	Story Seed: Sometimes They Return.. 123	
Queen Maedhbh.....	38	Story Seed: The Secret Army.....	79	Redcaps and the High Roads.....	124
Story Seed: An Appeal.....	39	Story Seed: The Ruinous Toad.....	79	Common Hibernia Faerie Powers... 125	
Story Seed: The Devils of Tuam.....	40	Story Seed: The Missing Book.....	87	Taboos.....	125
Story Seed: The Swords of the Fer Caille.....	42	The Plagues of Tír Chonaill.....	90	A List of the Tuatha Dé.....	126
Story Seed: The Cry of the Banshee... 42		The Lucht Tighe.....	90	Faerie Bards.....	126
Hedge Magic and Original Research... 44		The Black Pig's Dyke.....	91	Donn.....	127
Oireadh Story Seeds.....	45	Story Seed: The Neamh-Mairbh.....	92	Famous Heroes.....	128
Story Seed: Remember Who You Work For.....	47	Macha.....	93	Trooping Faeries.....	128
Story Seed: The Bay of Bannow.....	51	Donn and Find.....	94	Caílte mac Rónáin.....	129
Story Seed: The Marshal's Curse.....	51	The Statues of White Island.....	94	The Head of Arastotail.....	130
Story Seed: Helen of Ireland.....	51	Lúin Cheltchair.....	96	An Example of Diocesan Politics... 131	
Story Seed: Divine Vis.....	53	Story Seed: Echoes at Erenagh.....	96	The Blessed Church Bells of Ireland.. 132	
Story Seed: The Púca Speaks?.....	54	Saint Machaói.....	96	A Note on Naming.....	134
Archbishop Henry de Londres.....	54	Story Seed: The Demon Kings of Sliabh Crúibe.....	97	Infernal Relic: The Cup of Partholon... 139	
Story Seed: Dousing the Fire.....	55	Balor na Suile Neimhe.....	99	The Library of Vigil.....	140
				The Harvest Thief.....	141
				The Sluagh.....	142
				Temoneth, Messenger of Delgnat's Betrayal.....	143
				Infernal Tradition: Cailleach Phiseogach.....	144