



The Rite of the Luminous Key

For the Wielder of the Luminous Eye



Initiations are attended only by members and prospective candidates wishing to join, with one senior member being, referred to as the Celebrant, in charge of taking each candidate through the process in turn. Each prospective candidate must have the rune of Hirmok marked on their flesh in a dark material (soot, dye, etc are all acceptable). During the course of the ceremony this mark becomes burned into the flesh, so members may wish to put it somewhere discreet.

1) The Declaration

The candidate must:

- Proclaim their name and titles
- Show the assembly the rune of Hirmok upon their flesh.
- Give a short speech on why they are worthy to join this group.

Once this is finished, the Celebrant turns to the others assembled and asks them questions as a group.

2) The Scales of the Arbiter

Three Questions asked of assembled:

Does anyone member here believe that the candidate lacks patriotism as a citizen of Urizen?

Does anyone member here believe that the candidate lacks dedication to the great goal of Arete?

Does anyone member here believe that the candidate lacks the will to master the knowledge they seek?

If any current member present answers "yes" then the candidate is barred from entrance on this occasion (no explanation needed), and must leave immediately. If they are barred three times then the candidate may never again apply.

3) The Threefold Oath of the Luminous Key

- I swear never to reveal the information from or about the Order of the Lost Spire to outsiders without express permission of a superior in the Order.
- I swear my life to the service of knowledge and the throne
- I swear never to knowingly offer harm to another member of the Order of the Lost Spire.

Once all the candidates have sworn their oaths, it is time for the Celebrant to complete the magical ritual to make their marks permanent. This part of the process may be moved to the regio if that is more convenient.

Any rudimentary study of Autumn should be enough to complete this simple variation of the Arcane Mark, given this background and a proper study of the cover sigils.

Rite of the Luminous Key

Autumn Magnitude 2

Performing the Ritual

Performing this ritual takes at least 2 minutes of roleplaying. This ritual targets a willing character. The character must have the mark of Hirmok drawn onto their skin in some fashion.

This effect is a curse. A target may be under more than one curse at a time.

Effects

At the completion of the ritual, this ritual brands the image of Hirmok already present on the skin permanently into the flesh.

In addition, while under the curse the target experiences the following roleplaying effect: You feel a sense of belonging, and are inclined to protect the Order and its secrets from outsiders.

The associated curse lasts for the following year and makes it more difficult to remove the mark while it persists – but the mark is a permanent discolouration of the skin, until removed by some means, even after the curse has expired.

The effect lasts until the start of the next Profound Decisions Empire event.

OOOC note

This item is a ritual text.

Any character with the Autumn Ritual Lore skill can master this ritual. You must have a free slot or experience point to master a new ritual. After an appropriate period of roleplaying spent studying these pages, it should then be brought to a referee who will add the ritual to those you have mastered. Doing this does not ‘use up’ the ritual text.

This ritual cannot be learned by other means; it cannot be taught by a character who knows it unless the ritual is added to the body of Imperial Lore by the Conclave.

Ribbon ID: 8539