

A FIELD GUIDE TO:
DRAGONS, SERPENTS, &
WYRMS OF THE WORLD



A F I E L D G U I D E T O :

DRAGONS,
SERPENTS,
& WYRMS

O F T H E W O R L D

Art by A. Bambi Wendt

Words by Matt Kessen

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For my hatchling, Cali.

Introduction

Dragons, in a sense, are everywhere. Cultures in every corner of the world have their own versions of the dragon legend. It's hard to cover a whole lot of ground on Earth without passing someplace with a local dragon tale. If all of them were real, there'd be nowhere to hide. Not that you'd always want to hide from them. In some places they're actually rather decent sorts.

Of course, not all of these dragons look like the four-legged, winged, horn-headed reptile that comes to many of our minds when we think of them (see Western Dragon). Outside of Eurasia, many local dragons appear much like giant snakes (see Quetzalcoatl and others). This may seem far afield of the dragons of the West, but in fact it's how even they started out; the dragons of the ancient Greeks – who gave us the word, as "drakon" – were in fact giant serpents (see Cadmus' Dragon). The legs and wings and polite conversation and such gained in popularity later. Even the fiery breath may have serpentine origins; early dragons were venomous, like a snake, and then later so venomous that their very breath was poison, and then later this poisonous breath became so dangerous that it might as well be actual fire. And then it was!

Dragons have evolved, is the point. In fact, if two different people tell the story of the same dragon, it is likely that the dragon will be described in two different ways, at least. With all this changeability, then, what is a dragon? What stays the same?

For our purposes, let's call it this: A dragon is a legendary reptile that is large and has powers beyond those of an ordinary animal. One of these last two traits can be deficient, especially if the other one rises to take up the slack; it can be small but loaded with powers to the point of the bizarro (see Cockatrice), or huge but with not a lot special about it apart from its hugeness (see Jormungandr), which is of course enough.

Beyond this, though, all bets are off. There are dragons that are the Devil (see Dragon of Revelations) and dragons that are the benevolent Creator (see Galeru). There are dragons of little power (see Book Wyrm) and dragons that threaten to extinguish the very Sun itself (see Apep). And dragons that are anything in between. A Serbian folktale features a hero who must beat his dragon enemy by obtaining a horse that is better than the horse the dragon rides. Because the dragon, you see, apparently rides a horse? 13th-century scholar Roger Bacon was concerned that Ethiopians were going to Europe and stealing their dragons so as to use the dragons' body parts in medicine. Dragons can fill a bewildering variety of roles.

But though even specific dragon legends contain a great deal of variance, there are things that are consistent, and that define each individual dragon or dragon type. And it is by looking at these that we are able to tell one dragon from another, and hence, produce a field guide to assist the on-the-go modern professional with their dragon identification needs.

We present each of our dragons by its definitive traits, and also sometimes by its weirdest, most interesting traits, that might appear in relatively few of its stories. This is a book on dragons, after all, and so perhaps we may be forgiven for erring on the side of the imaginative.

We have also selected an effectively random cross-section of the world's boundless store of dragons. Boy oh boy are there more of them.

Why is that, do you suppose? Why is this idea a global phenomenon, when other perfectly amazing mythical creatures, like gryphons or Seminole owl-vampires, are confined to just a culture or two? There are a lot of theories.

Some believe that dragons are the result of the accidental discovery of dinosaur bones worldwide, explained as supernatural creatures in the dark, sad days before people knew about dinosaurs. (Interestingly, in many dragon myths the creatures are ancient, and had to be defeated before civilization could flourish, much as the huge, saurian dinosaurs had to go extinct for us to evolve, though they obligingly did so 65 million years early.) Some believe that dragons come from our ancestral memories of the dinosaurs, as the predators of our shrewlike Mesozoic forebears – though as it becomes increasingly apparent that the mammal-eating dinosaurs were luxuriously feathered, this seems less likely. Some believe that they are the exaggerated echo of some ancient, worldwide serpent cult; there really isn't a whole lot of independent evidence for such an implausibly global organization but that doesn't stop some people. Some believe that humans are just so afraid of snakes that this was inevitable. And some believe that it is an ineffable mystery, a question with no solution.

Regardless of why they are so prevalent, humanity loves its dragons, and that is because dragons are awesome.

*Matt Kessen
January 2017*

Guide to the Guide

Other Names: Other names for the same creature, or major alternate spellings; sometimes, closely related creatures.

Culture: The people who first described the dragon.

Range: Where the dragon is said to reside.

Frequency: Unique means there's just one of these; other frequencies are self-explanatory, and perhaps a little arbitrary.

Size: "Small" is smaller than a grown human, and "People-Sized" is about the same size as one. "Big" is between People-Sized and the size of a horse or thereabouts. "Huge" is anywhere between horse-sized and the size of, let's say, Brooklyn. (Most dragons, whose size is not made specific, fall into this broad category.) And "Gargantuan" is bigger still – the world-serpents and the dragons whose wings cover the sky.

Identification: The specific means by which a dragon may be distinguished from other dragons, just by looking at them.

Role: Dragons occupied several roles in their stories; often, a single dragon would fill more than one role, especially if it appeared in several stories, but we're assigning one to each for simplicity:

Many dragons are Primordial Enemies – ancient serpents that must be overcome for civilization itself to thrive, globally or locally. They're the main villains of their stories; the "final bosses," as the kids might say.

Wandering Monsters are similar but less important – usually just one among many monsters in a story, or the main monsters in stories of less epic scope. Guardians are like this also, but more expressly stationary, and watch over a treasure of some kind.

Apocalypse Beasts are monsters that will rise to destroy when the world comes to an end.

Deities are actual gods, good, evil, or otherwise; Semi-Deities are lesser gods.

Heraldic Beasts are monsters designed specifically for heraldry, coats-of-arms, family crests, and the like, though they will also appear in stories as Wandering Monsters or Primordial Enemies. Artistic Motifs are dragons that only appear in art, with no stories attached.

Chthonic Horrors are beasts from the deep parts of the Earth, occupying the hidden depths of reality itself.

Hidden Animals are ordinary animals that remain concealed from the eyes of humanity.

And Comic Relief dragons are jokes.

Facts: Other things you need to know about the creature, not covered by the above.

Y Ddraig Goch

and the second plague that is in thy dominions, behold it
is a dragon and another dragon of a foreign race is fighting
with it, and striving to overcome it. and therefore close
make a fierce outlay. and on this wise mayst thou
thus after thou hast returned home, cause the
be measured in its length and breadth, and in the
then dost feel the crooked point. there cause
be dry, and cause a
the best
that be made
put in the place
with a
cowry of
face of
And then, as
thine own power
do thou begin
watching, and then
the dragon fighting
of therefore animals
take the face of
of dry after never
fighting they will
open the cowry.

the
Coch
Maw
to be
Safes
the
and the
Coch
there
will see
in the form

and at last
they will
dragons in the air
were fierce and fierce
methamorphosis of two
they will sink in
-Llud and Llefelys
the Mabinogion



Y Ddraig Goch

Royal Badge of Wales
Other Names: The Welsh Dragon

Culture: Wales

Range: Also Wales

Frequency: Unique

Size: Huge

Identification: A four-legged, two-winged dragon with a shortish neck; bright red

Role: Heraldic Beast

Enemies: The White Dragon

Facts: The Y Ddraig Goch (meaning "Red Dragon" in whatever language they apparently speak in Wales; it is unpronounceable to any earthly voice) is the Welsh national symbol. Nice job, Wales! England just has a stupid lion.

The Welsh Arthurian tales called the Mabinogion give us the story of this dragon and a white dragon rampaging across the land at war with one another. This was obviously totally awesome, but nevertheless, the locals dug a hole and filled it with mead, from which the dragons drank. Then the dragons fell asleep in the hole. Whereupon the hole was filled with dirt; the end. Clever, practical, and even usable on any creature liable to drink mead out of a hole in the earth that they found, such as everyone I knew in college.



the Dragon of Cadmus

"Hidden in the care bade the serpent
of Mars, a creature with a wonderful
golden crest; fire flashed from its eyes,
puffed up with poison, and fangs so sharp, set with a triple
row of teeth, flickered a three-forked tongue
(it was as big as the serpent that was
between the two bears in
the sky, if its full
length were

seen uncoiled.

Gavell a spring
sacred to Mars,
and was the
war-god's Son,
Slain by
Cadmus,
who was
then
advised
by Athene
to divide
the teeth in
the ground,
Whenceon they
grew into
soldiers.

The Soldiers
Created by the
Divine teeth fought
amongst themselves
until only five were
left, which free
played their service to
Cadmus, and became
the fore-bears of the
Noble houses of the
City of Thebes.

These
kept some of the
teeth, and would
later give them to Jason,
to recruit his own soldiers."

- Ovid, Metamorphoses
book III



Cadmus' Dragon

Other Names: Ismenian Dragon **Culture:** Greece

Range: The Ismenian Spring **Frequency:** Unique **Size:** Huge

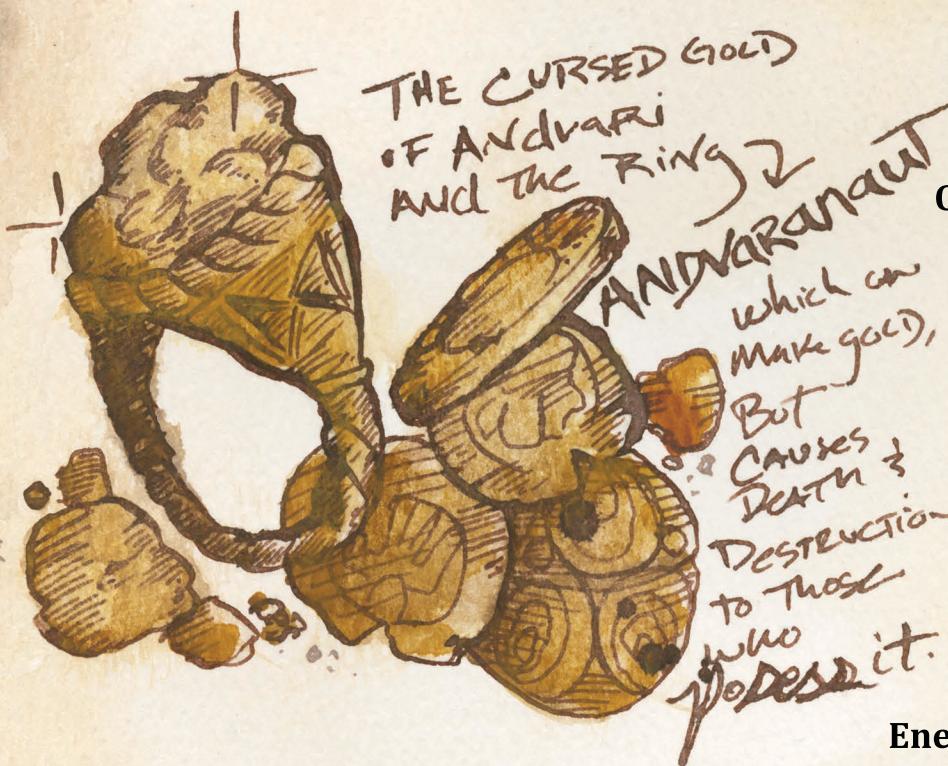
Identification: A serpentine dragon **Role:** Guardian **Enemies:** Cadmus

Facts: Guarded a spring sacred to Ares, and was the war-god's son. Slain by Cadmus, who was advised by Athena to sow its teeth in the ground, whereupon they grew into soldiers. The soldiers created by the sown teeth fought amongst themselves until only five were left, which pledged their service to Cadmus, and became the forebears of the noble houses of the city of Thebes. Basically it's a story we can all relate to.

According to some versions of the story of Cadmus, he and possibly also his wife, Harmonia, were later turned themselves into serpents by Ares, in vengeance for the slaying of the dragon. Well, in vengeance against Cadmus. It was just bad luck for Harmonia. The gods were like that.



Fafnir



Other Names: Fafnir, Fatimir

Culture: Norse

Range: Gnitahead

Frequency: Unique

Size: Huge

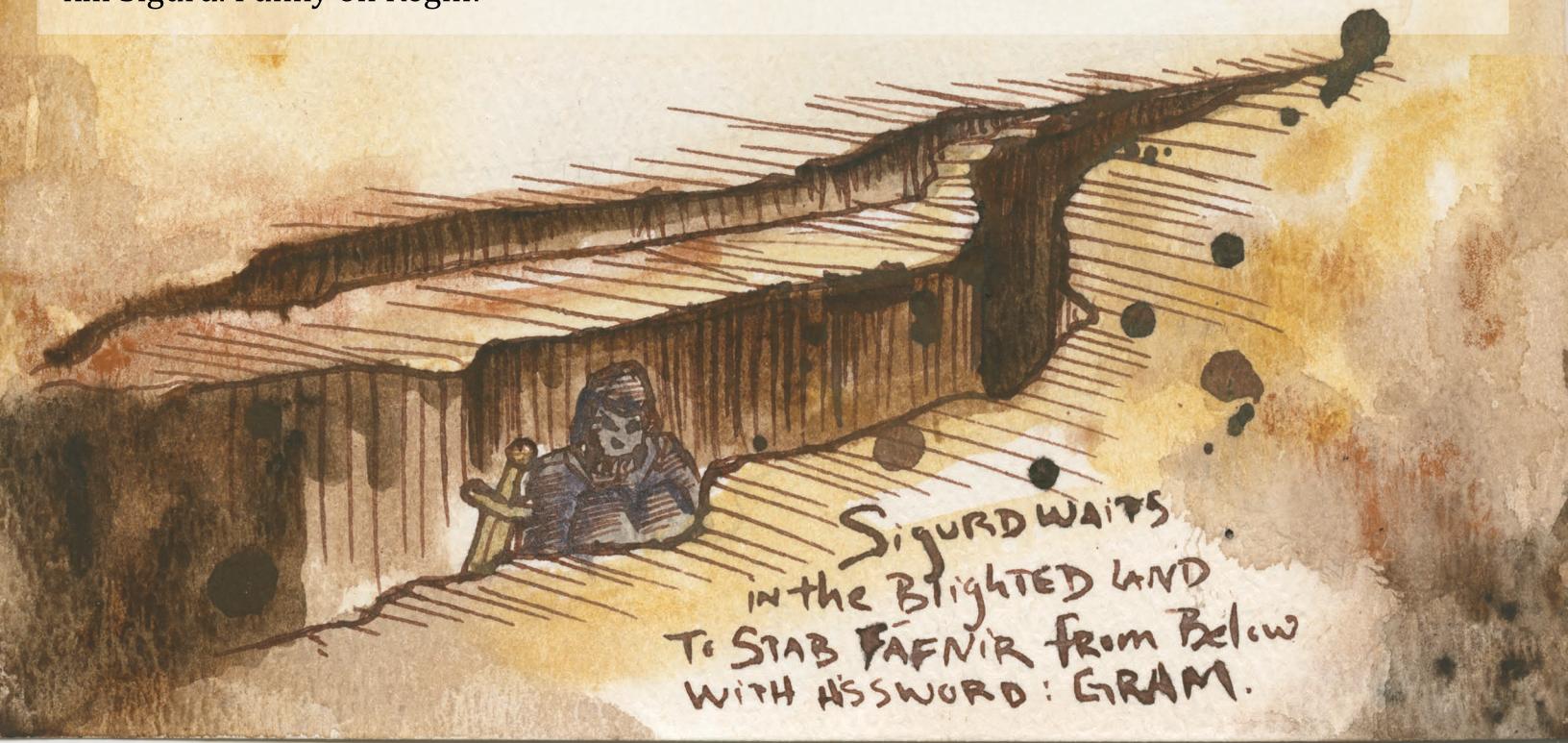
Identification: A serpentine dragon, with or without two legs

Role: Guardian

Enemies: Sigurd (hero)

Facts: Fafnir was a dwarf who became so greedy and miserly that he turned bodily into a dragon, and you have got to admit that that is pretty greedy. When Sigurd killed him, with the aid of Fafnir's dwarf brother Regin (who was also pretty greedy but apparently not greedy enough), he pulled it off by waiting in a hole outside of Fafnir's lair and hoping the dragon didn't look down.

Regin then had Sigurd cook Fafnir's heart for Regin to eat, which seemed pretty weird to Sigurd, but then he'd just killed a dragon and things were generally pretty weird just then. As he did so, he accidentally tasted a bit of the dragon's blood, which gave Sigurd the ability to understand animal languages, by which means he discovered that animals spend a lot of their time just idly gossiping. Luckily, part of what they gossiped about was Regin's plan to kill Sigurd. Funny on Regin!



This is the Quetzalcoatl
the snake to the
Pterodactyl
Quetzalcoatl is the
biggest animal
ever to
fly.

Quetzalcoatl

"feathered serpent"
or
"precious twin"
Most Nahuaatl
words have two
meanings.



Quetzalcoatl

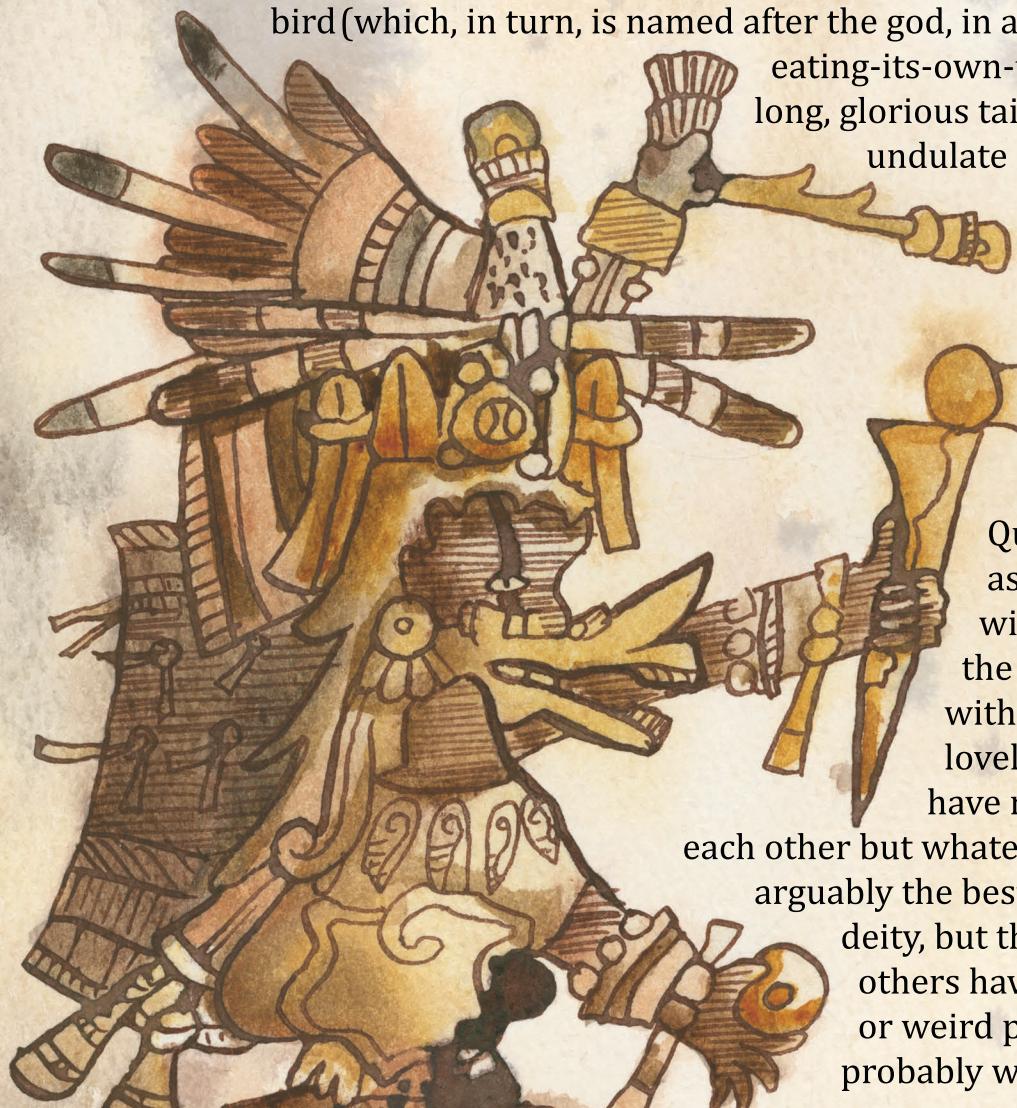
Other Names: None (though the Mayan Kukulcan is related)

Culture: Aztec **Range:** The heavens, and Mexico **Frequency:** Unique

Size: Huge **Identification:** A snake covered in resplendent feathers

Role: Deity **Enemies:** Tezcatlipoca (deity)

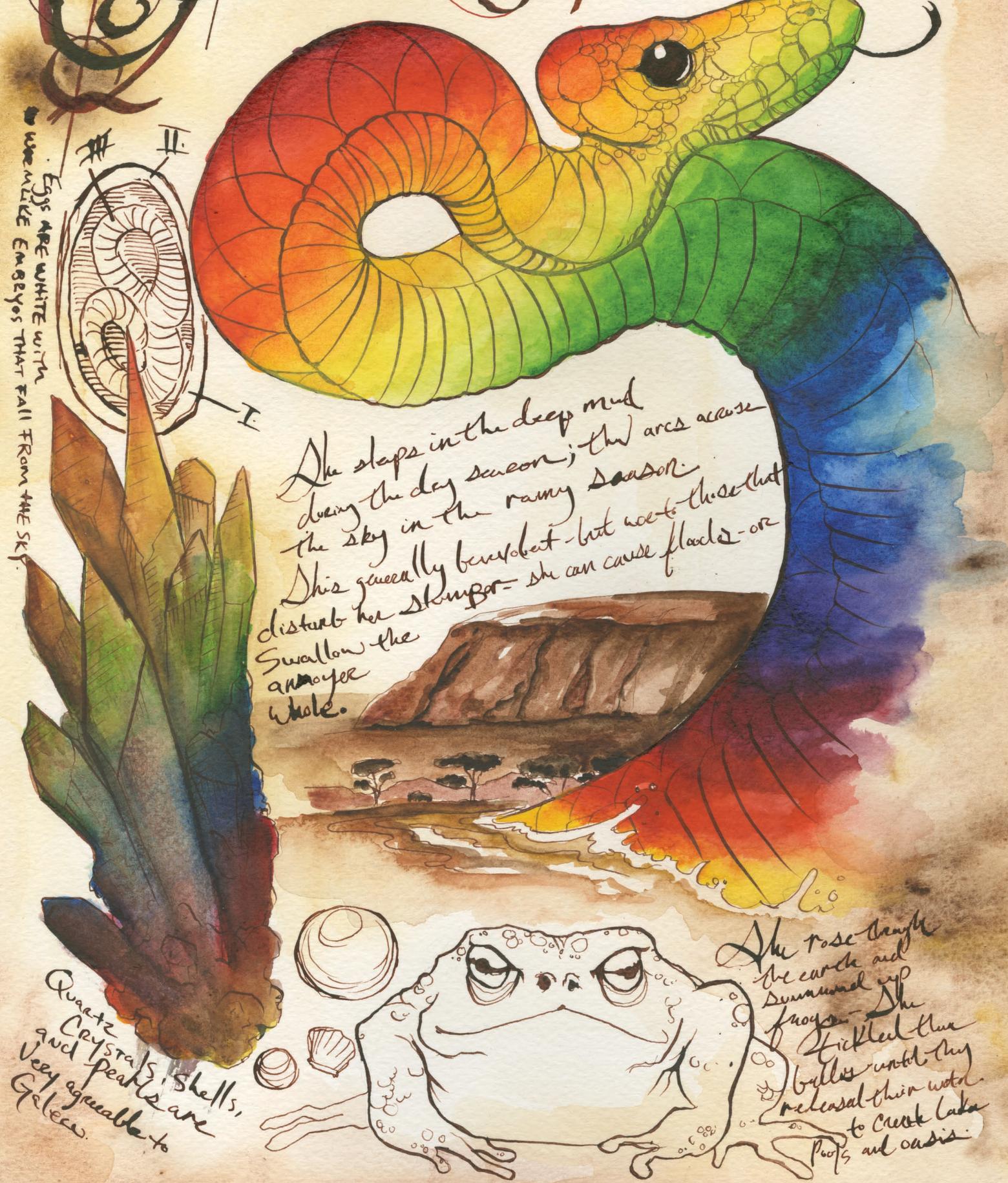
Facts: The Aztec god of something-or-other (non-Mediterranean pantheons often lack the clear-cut cabinet positions of Olympus and such), Quetzalcoatl is relatively benevolent, though Aztec morality is, shall we say, its own thing. Thought to be based on the Quetzal bird (which, in turn, is named after the god, in a perfect snake-eating-its-own-tail), which has long, glorious tail feathers that undulate in a serpentine manner as it flies.



Though he has no simple, clear-cut sphere of influence, Quetzalcoatl is associated with the wind, with Venus as the morning star, and with knowledge. All lovely things! Which have nothing to do with each other but whatever. He is also arguably the best-looking Aztec deity, but then a lot of the others have skulls for heads or weird proboscises and it probably wasn't their fault.

QUETZALCOATL
AS DEPICTED IN
THE CODEX
TELLERIANO-
REMENSIS
(SIXTEENTH
CENTURY)

Galerii the Rainbow Serpent



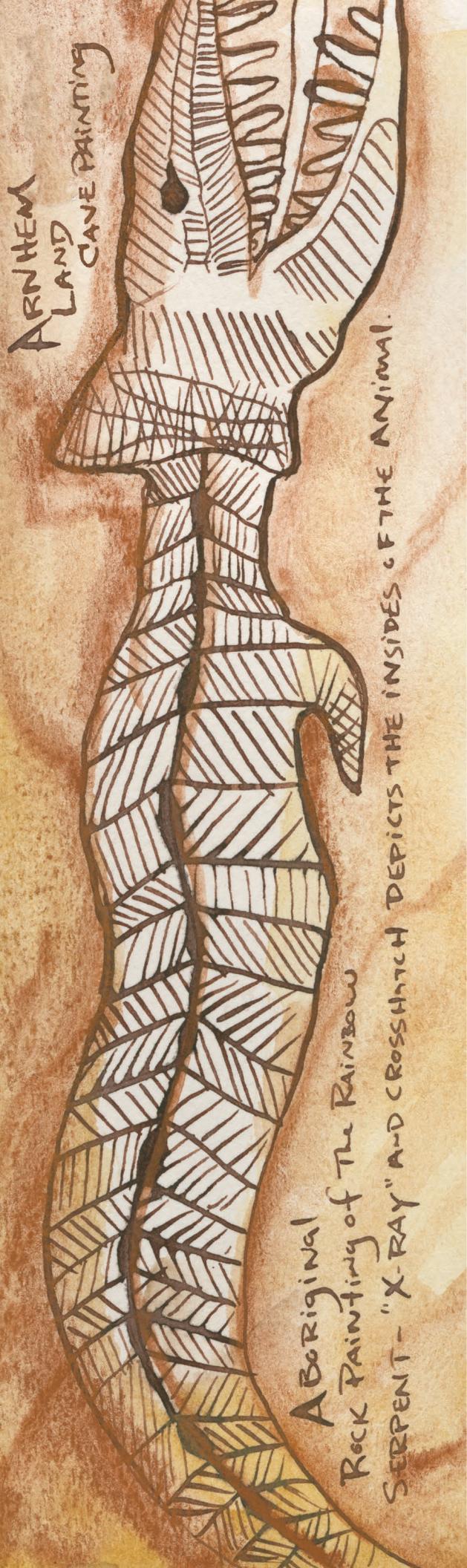
Eggs are white with
wormlike embryos that fall from the sky.



Quartz Crystals, Shells,
and pearls are
very agreeable to
Galerii.

She slaps in the deep mud
during the dry season; the arcs across
the sky in the rainy season.
This generally breaks but not to those that
disturb her slumber - she can cause floods - or
swallow the annoyance whole.

The rose bright
she catches and
swallows up
frogs - She
flicked the
bulbs until they
released their water
pools to creek lakes
and oasis.



Galeru

Other Names: By region – Julunggul, Kalseru, Karia, Kun Manggur, Langal, Mindi, Muit, Ngalbjod, Taipan, Thugine, Ungud, Wanambi, Woinunggur, Worombi, Yurlunggur, and others; or just “Rainbow Serpent” in English

Culture: Australian Aboriginal

Range: The skies above Australia

Frequency: Unique

Size: Huge

Identification: The rainbow! That is also a snake.

Role: Deity **Enemies:** None significant

Facts: The Rainbow Serpent is a common motif among native Australian cultures, and is often a creator-deity, but otherwise varies from culture to culture. In one version, its white eggs, with wormlike embryos inside, occasionally rain from the sky. Which is a heck of a thing to wake up to.

Most are kind and benevolent, but others are dangerous, and that's more interesting so we're going to talk about that. Some evil ones will drag children into the sea, turn them into stone, and then put them back on the beach.

People told these stories to keep children from wandering out into the ocean; one would imagine that simply telling children to stay out of the water or they might drown would have sufficed, but where's the pleasure in that?

OLDEST ART IN THE WORLD?
ARNHEM LAND
HAND STENCILS ARE ESTIMATED
AT 28,000-
45,000 YEARS OLD



the Dragon of Revelations

Dragon of Revelations

Other Names: Dragon of the Apocalypse, Satan, Lucifer, etc

Culture: Christendom

Range: Heaven, then cast to Earth

Frequency: Unique

Size: Huge

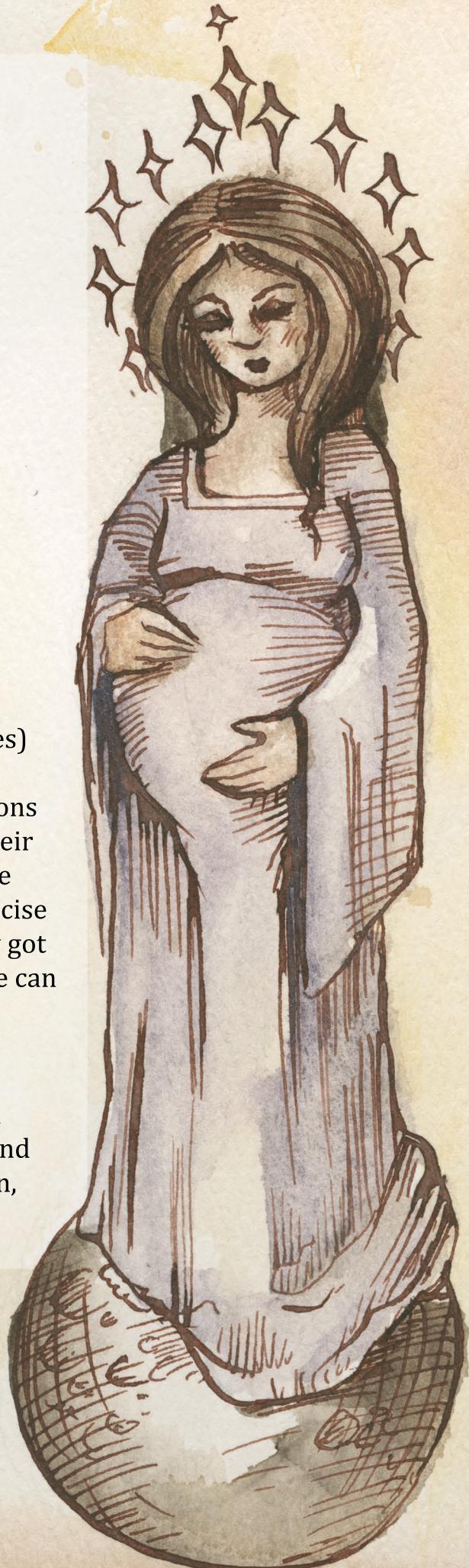
Identification: Seven heads and ten horns

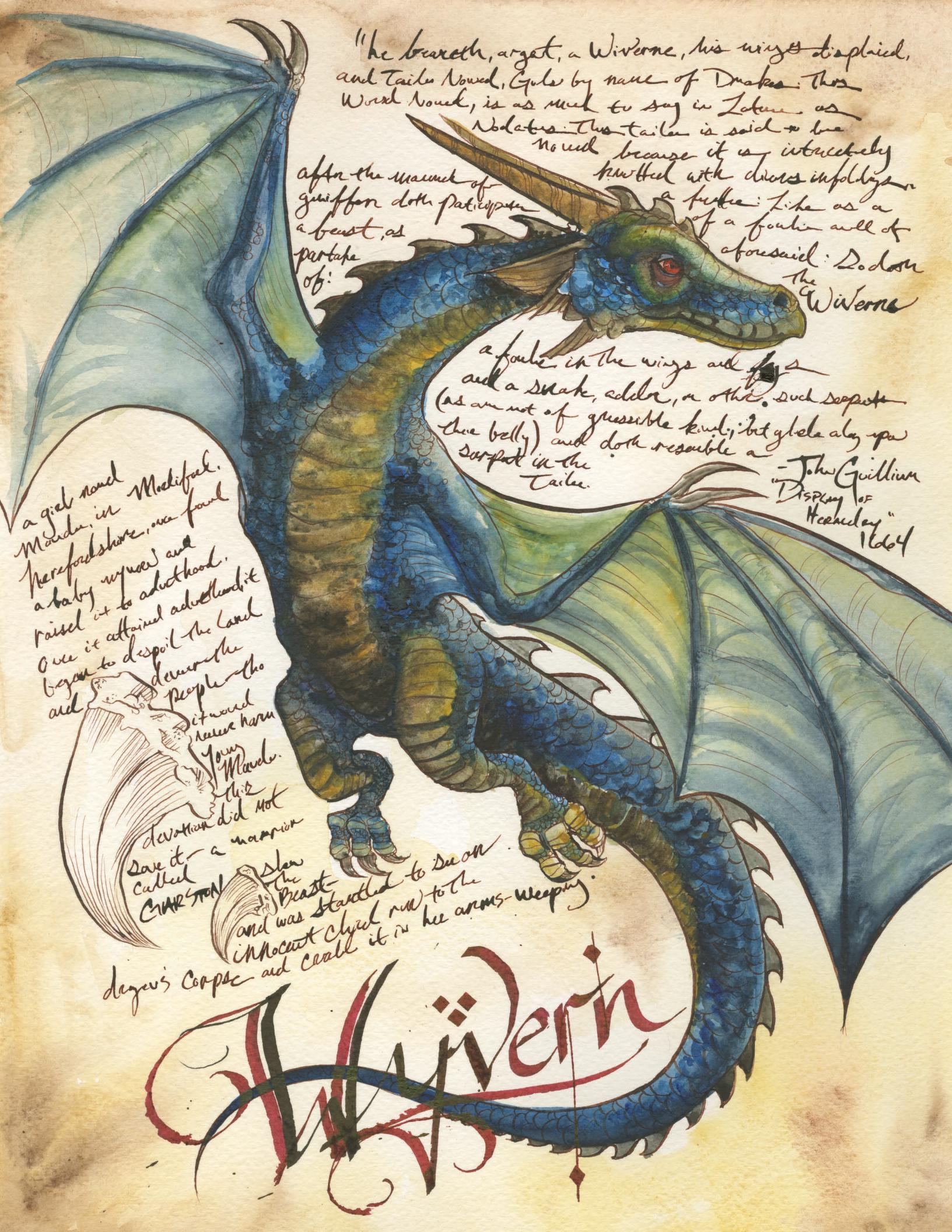
Role: Apocalypse Beast

Enemies: Michael and his angels (Divine emissaries)

Facts: Emblematic of Satan, the dragon of Revelations has seven crowned heads and ten horns, though their distribution among the heads is unrecorded. Maybe they're all on one head? Also unrecorded is the precise symbolic meaning of these numbers; they've really got to mean something. But we don't know what, so we can just debate it for all of time.

The Dragon of Revelations' breath weapon is not fire or poison, but rather water, which gushes from it in a flooding torrent. It may sound uninspiring, and maybe not look as good painted on the side of a van, but it'll kill people just the same.





Wyvern

Other Names: None

Culture: Europe

Range: Throughout Europe

Frequency: Common

Size: Huge

Identification: A dragon with two legs and two wings

Role: Heraldic Beast

Enemies:

Various dragonslayers

Facts: A wyvern is a dragon with two legs and two wings. It's quite a common arrangement; the version of Smaug in Peter Jackson's Hobbit movies was a wyvern, in spite of the fact that Tolkien drew Smaug as having four legs and two wings. The dragon in the 1981 movie *Dragonslayer* was also a wyvern and it was the best dragon in any movie ever, but I digress.

Like the amphiptere, the wyvern is a beast described by heraldry; outside of heraldry, a lot of dragons likely conformed to this shape without anyone giving them special names over it. They weren't much for giving creatures specific names in the middle ages; it distracted them from their lives of constant toil.



Lambton Worm

"one had a mora eyng
Lambton went
a fishing in the Wear
an cussed a fish
upon his neck
He thout looked
very queer.
but what's heud
of fishit wud
Young Lambton
cudhout tell-
he waddn't fash
to caruid byers,
So he hiced it doore
a well.

But
the wren
got fat an
gruel an
gruel an
I greuel
an greuel
awful
size. Heid
great big teeth, a great
big gob, an great big
gooley eyes an when
it wents be
crealed about

To
bits
o' many
fishes
fist an' gruel the red,
heid tick a dozen coos.
-Chorus-

-Chorus-

Whiskt lads, haad yo gobs-
an aill tell ye aill ae
awful storuy.

Whiskt! lads,
haad yo gobs, an
aill tell ye 'bout the

-WORM:-
Now Lambton felt
inclined to gan
an fight."

folight warr
he jined atropas
Keighty shot
Cared for
Nowher
wounds
Nor
Scaes,
an

-Chorus-off
he
wrote
palestine
when
you
lury
wif
an
Sappi
Dew
fogat hool

the queen
worst i thin
well.

-Chorus-

great big teeth, a great
big gob, an great big
gooley eyes an when
it wents be
crealed about

To
pick
up

bits
o' many
fishes
fist an' gruel the red,
heid tick a dozen coos.

-Chorus-

this fooful wren
would oftar feed
on caruid an'
larger an sheep
an deadly
bairnes aline
when they
laid doon
to sleep an when
heid cussed it he and
an he had his fill

he crawled away
an spred his
tail 10 times
Round Pershore
Hill -Chorus-

The wren of
this nest
awful wren
an he queer
garnishis an
Dear Crouse
th send
gat to
the cates
Ov Gravew
ould get
Toltn.

So him he carud
an catched the
beast, an at
him intire
halves, an
that deer stoped
his eatas bairnes
an sheep an lamb
an cades.

-Chorus-
So woe ye kva
hooall the foaks
an byth sides ov the
Wear. Lost lots o' sheep
an lots o' sheep an
leavel i mortal fear.

So lets her one

To Gravew
SHE THAT
Kept
the
bairnes
an
them

hous, Daniel the coos
calice of myckin' hailes
o' the fam' Lambton Worm
fin' Chorus-

Noo lads, what haad we got
thats aill ae knew aboot the story
of sic jahes clever T. le wi the
awful Lambton Worm.

-C.M. Leutmane 1867 Song

Lambton Worm

Other Names: None

Culture: England

Range: Near the town of Washington, England

Frequency: Unique

Size: Huge

Identification: Your basic legless, serpentine dragon

Role: Primordial Enemy

Enemies: John Lambton (hero)

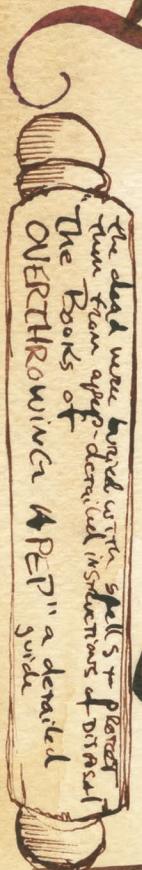
Facts: Young John Lambton, while fishing one day, caught a small, hideous, snakelike creature, and threw it in a well, which was a lot more trouble than just throwing it back into the lake but for heaven's sake the thing was aesthetically displeasing. Righteous as this action was, when, some years later, a fully grown John Lambton returned home after years at the Crusades, he found the creature had become a huge, serpentine dragon, despoiling the countryside. So he did what any reasonable person would do: he covered his armor in outward-pointing blades and went out to face the beast. It wound itself around him, tighter and tighter, until it had cut itself to pieces on the man. And so we all learned a valuable lesson about covering our armor in knives.



Apes & the



hand made
of flint



The dead were buried with spells & papyri
from which originated instructions of direction
The Books of
OVERTHROWING APES" a detailed
guide

Enday of Ra,
"Lord of Chaos"
he Nightly assults
the Boat of the
Sun, but is
undisable by
Set



"Back
Villain! Plunge into
the depths of the
Abyss! If you speak
your fear will be
overcome by the
Gods! Your heart
will be seized by the
Lynx, your reins bound
by the Scorpion!"



a Solar Eclipse
denotes Apes's
emergence into
the day, and
his near
triumph.



16 yards

Winds itself in undulations, rather than coils to better strike
out at its prey: unwary or unprepared souls on the way to the afterlife.

Apep

Other Names: Apophis, Apapi **Culture:** Egypt **Range:** The Egyptian Underworld

Frequency: Unique **Size:** Gargantuan

Identification: Basically an unbelievably enormous snake

Role: Primordial Enemy

Enemies: Ra, sometimes Set (gods); Mehen (protector serpent of Ra)

Facts: Every night, as Ra piloted the barge of the Sun through the underworld, the colossal serpent Apep would try to devour it. When an eclipse was happening, this meant that Apep had emerged into the world above. Earthquakes and thunderstorms were maybe Apep's fault, too. Things were scary in ancient Egypt.

Luckily, the Egyptian priests would help Ra out with prayers and effigies, and with a text entitled *The Books of Overthrowing Apep*. It had chapter titles along the lines of "Spitting Upon Apep," "Defiling Apep With the Left Foot," and "Taking a Knife to Smite Apep." Sometimes it's just helpful to have a practical guide to things, you know? You wouldn't want to defile Apep with your left foot incorrectly.







Long

Other Names: Lung, various individual and regional names

Culture: China

Range: China; related forms throughout Southeast Asia

Frequency: Common

Size: Huge

Identification: A long, winding, four-legged, serpentine creature, usually wingless, with a large, impressive head with horns, a beard, and barbels like a carp's

Role: Minor Deity

Enemies: Evildoers; centipedes

Facts: Largely (but not exclusively) benevolent members of the Celestial Bureaucracy, it is perhaps appropriate that the weather-controlling longs are described in exhaustive detail, from the animals their features correspond to to their scales: they have 117 of them, 81 (9 x 9) being yang – a complicated concept, but more or less ‘active’ and ‘good’ – and 36 (6 x 6) being yin – more or less ‘passive’ and ‘evil.’

Longs are considered to be good luck, and Chinese people are often considered to be their descendants, individually or en masse. Which is sort of difficult to imagine but which definitely isn't the weirdest thing anyone's ever thought about dragons.

Also, Longs are terrified of centipedes.

from the
"NINE
DRAGONS"
Scroll by
CHEN RONG
Song Dynasty 1244

Beowulf's Dragon

"then the ancient dusk-scatter
found the great treasure standing at open
he who timely and timely flies to the bar
Naked War-Dragon victory escape
Encompassed with fire
Man under Heaven
Widely beheld him
 the strife was

"When the dragon came
stone that, stout-hearted
far had he gone with
the fire flew into the dragon.
from Anguille and exile
the warden o'er the
thunder declaimed.

A colorful, abstract illustration of a landscape with a yellow sky, red and green hills, and a winding path. Handwritten text is overlaid on the image, including "Went round" and "was" on the left, and "This the" and "exact word" in the center, with "Saw" and "Comfort" at the top right.

It early
therefore
fire-impelled,
flaming.
So did the

to the
of gold was greeously
to bare the great
not anything living
of the wyre
spare art akes
lacered with

to catch me
the was
afar and near,
dotted with hotel
in the country

ended." "The dragon
was the Blaze
as the heart
widely
how

Cam. York
1/12 Regt

These re-
sults was most
as attractive
as neck with
heat did

Beowulf's Dragon

Other Names: None

Culture: England

Range: Southern Sweden

Frequency: Unique

Size: Huge

Identification: Flying and fire-breathing, with exceptionally hard and impenetrable scales

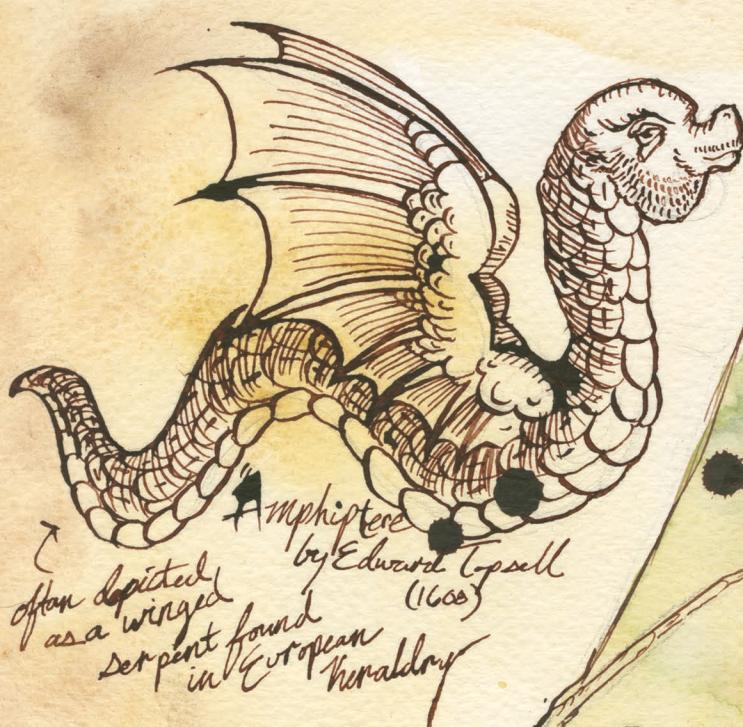
Role: Guardian

Enemies: Beowulf (hero), Wiglaf (hero's sidekick)

Facts: Thought by some to be the first fire-breathing dragon, Beowulf's bane from that hero's eponymous Old English poem was the template for Smaug from *The Hobbit*, and hence, for the entire modern western concept of the dragon, really. Wings, treasure-hoarding, vindictiveness – it was all there. Without this dragon, western dragons might all just be huge, poisonous snakes, and what fun is that? Well, a pretty good amount of fun, actually, but it's still nice to have the winged fire-breathers.

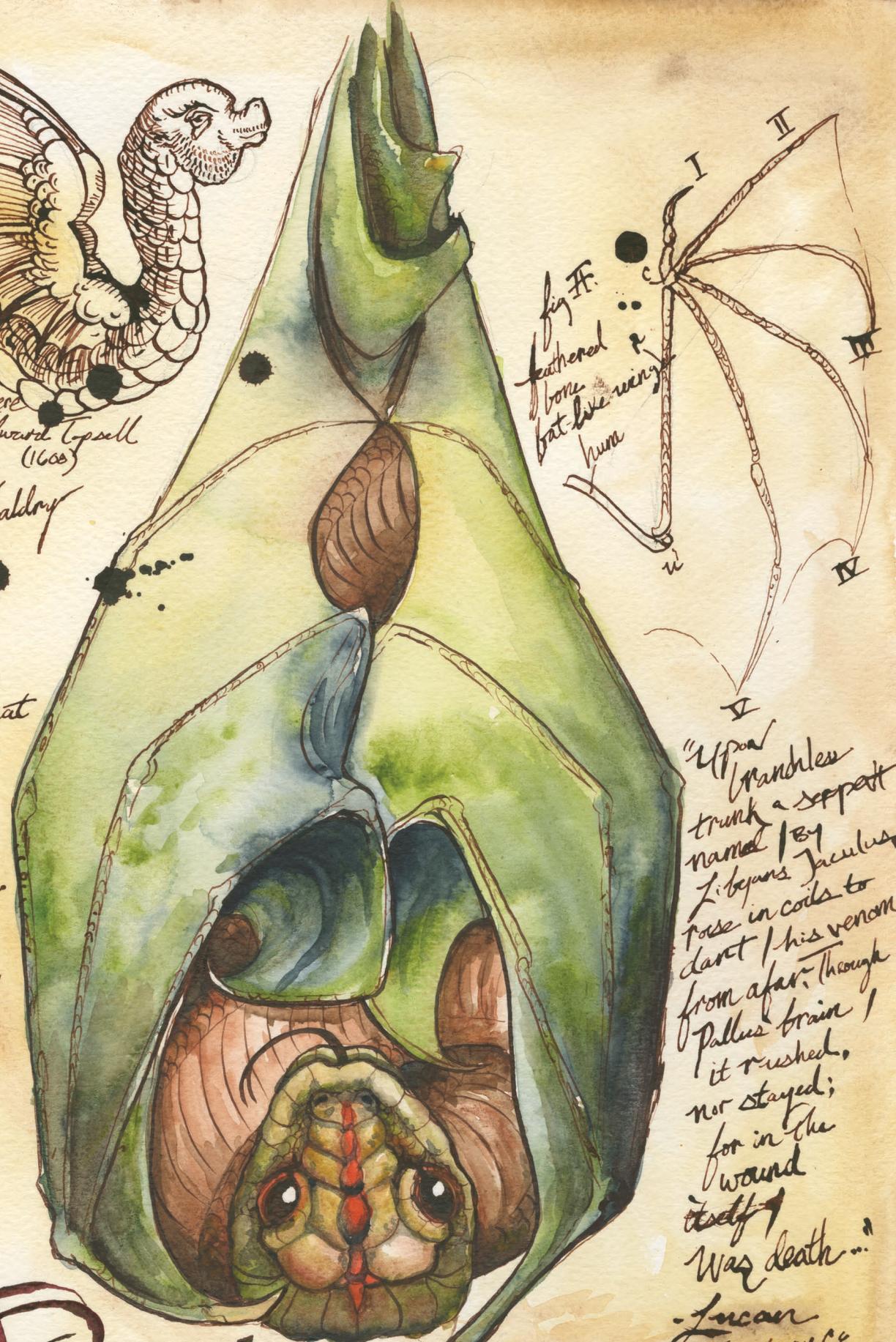
Beowulf himself was hardly the first dragon-slayer, which is a good thing, because he did it wrong – he went right ahead and got killed by the dragon, leaving his pal Wiglaf to finish it off. But then, Beowulf was about 80 years old at the time. Probably he should have let Wiglaf handle it in the first place.





"...hurts itself
from the branches
of a tree, so that
it is not only
dangerous to the
feet, but
flies through
the air like a
missile from
a Catapult."

- Pliny the
Elder
1st century CE
"Natural History"



Amphiptere

Brian B
2016

Amphiptere

Other Names: None

Culture: Europe

Range: Europe, Africa, Asia

Frequency: Rare

Size: Small to huge

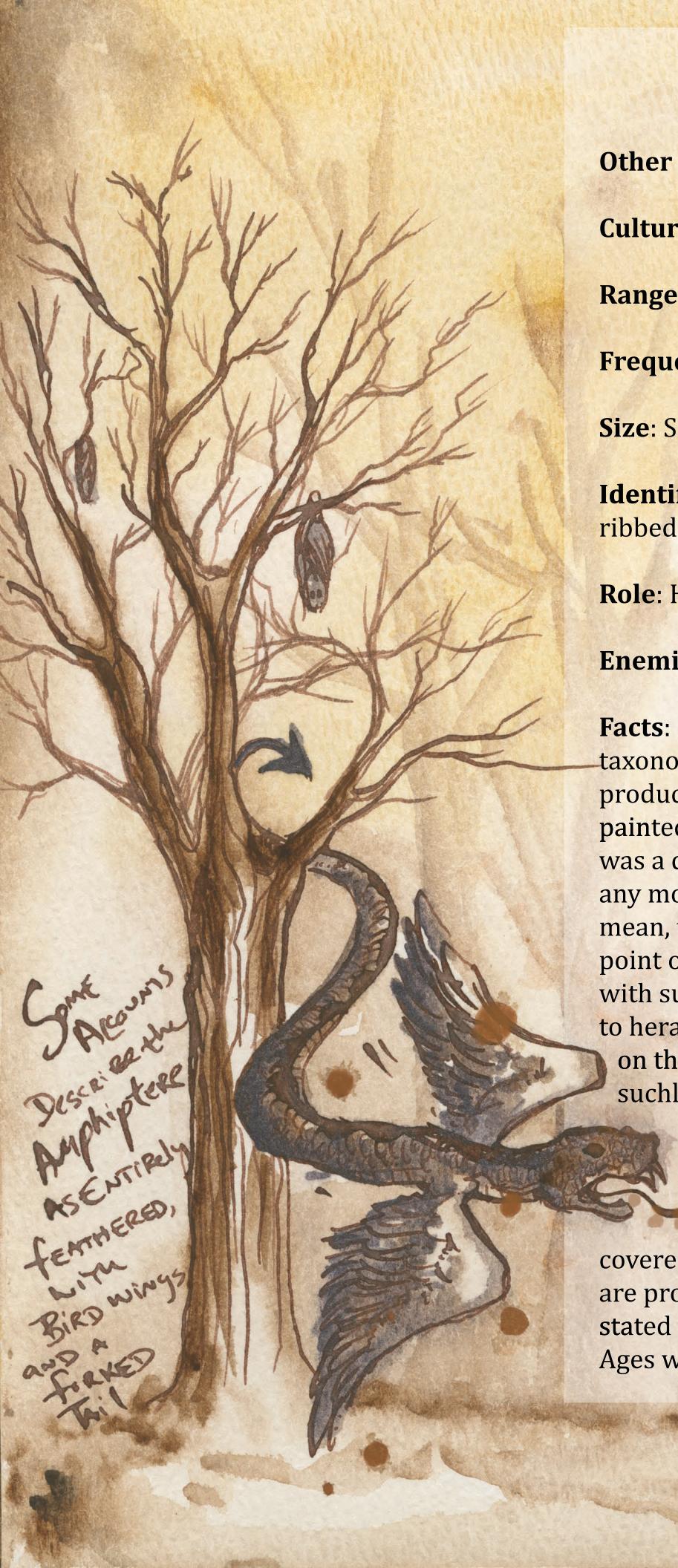
Identification: A serpent with wings; usually ribbed or batlike, but sometimes feathered

Role: Heraldic Beast

Enemies: None specified

Facts: Middle Ages Europeans weren't the taxonomists that we are now; they only produced a few bestiaries, and even those painted things in broad strokes – a dragon was a dragon and there was no point in being any more specific. They did their best; I mean, their Internet access was bad to the point of nonexistent. But they did come up with sub-classifications when it came down to heraldry, which is to say, drawing things on the nobility's flags and armor and suchlike. The amphiptere was such a creature.

There are also descriptions of amphipteres that state that they're covered in feathers and have beaks. These are probably, you know, birds. As we have stated elsewhere, Europeans in the Middle Ages were just the worst at zoology.



Some Accounts describe the Amphiptere AS ENTIRELY FEATHERED, with BIRD wings and a forked tail



Western Dragon

Other Names: Firedrake

Culture: Europe

Range: Europe, Africa, western Asia

Frequency: Common

Size: Huge, generally

Identification: Four legs and two wings

Role: Primordial Enemy, Wandering Monster, and others

Enemies: Dragonslayers

Facts: At last the serpents of antiquity gave way to dragons as we understand them now – the predator's body and legs, the bat's wings, the long, winding neck and tail, the horned head, the fiery breath. Other kinds, with other arrangements of limbs, persist, but this is the sort that is primary in the 21st century's popular imagination and on its heavy metal album covers.

As standardized as it is, though, the possible variations on the Western Dragon are endless. There are green ones and black ones and red ones; wise ones and bestial ones; evil ones and a few good ones and ones that are ethically nuanced and complex presumably. The idea of the dragon is far too big to be narrowed down.



"Eight hundred eighty
Li further Northeast
Stands Brilliance Mountain"
on its heights is much
green jade and at
its feet are many
trees.

The god
Jimeng
dwells there.
His form
resembles a
human with a
dragony head.

He habitually
Roams in the
depths of the
Heavy Gorge.

Wrestwicks and Violent
Storms occur when ever
he emerges and retreats.

"Guideways Through
Mountains and Streams"
plate XXXVI

Jimeng

Other Names: None

Culture: China

Range: Brilliance Mountain and Zhang Gorge

Frequency: Unique

Size: People-sized

Identification: A human with a long's head

Role: Minor Deity

Enemies: None recorded

Facts: Ancient China had a lot of dudes with dragon heads; Jimeng was the god of Brilliance Mountain. He would roam Zhang Gorge, and thunderstorms would rage when he entered and emerged. And that was about it for Jimeng, though it's more than most of us will accomplish.

Jimeng appeared in a book called the *Shan Hai Jing*, or “Classic of Mountains and Streams,” from the early Han Dynasty, about 2000 years ago. It described a journey through a China that was just alive with bird-people, snakes with human heads, people with their faces on their chests, and all kinds of stuff like that. Which was maybe falsifiable but maybe the Han Chinese (like the Europeans of the time) didn’t get out that much.

"and the dragon
gave up his life
a transforming gate of fire
Revealing the Great
"New Day"

-Howard Schaefer

Chi Lung

Head of
a Dragon

"The Carp has leaped
through the
dragon's gate"
"Liu Tiao Long Men"

Symbol of
Perseverance
and
Determination

Body of a Koi

The Koi is
Reward for its
journey
up a waterfall
by being
transformed
into a
golden
Dragon



Yu Lung

Other Names: None

Culture: China

Range: The Yangtze River

Frequency: Uncommon

Size: Huge

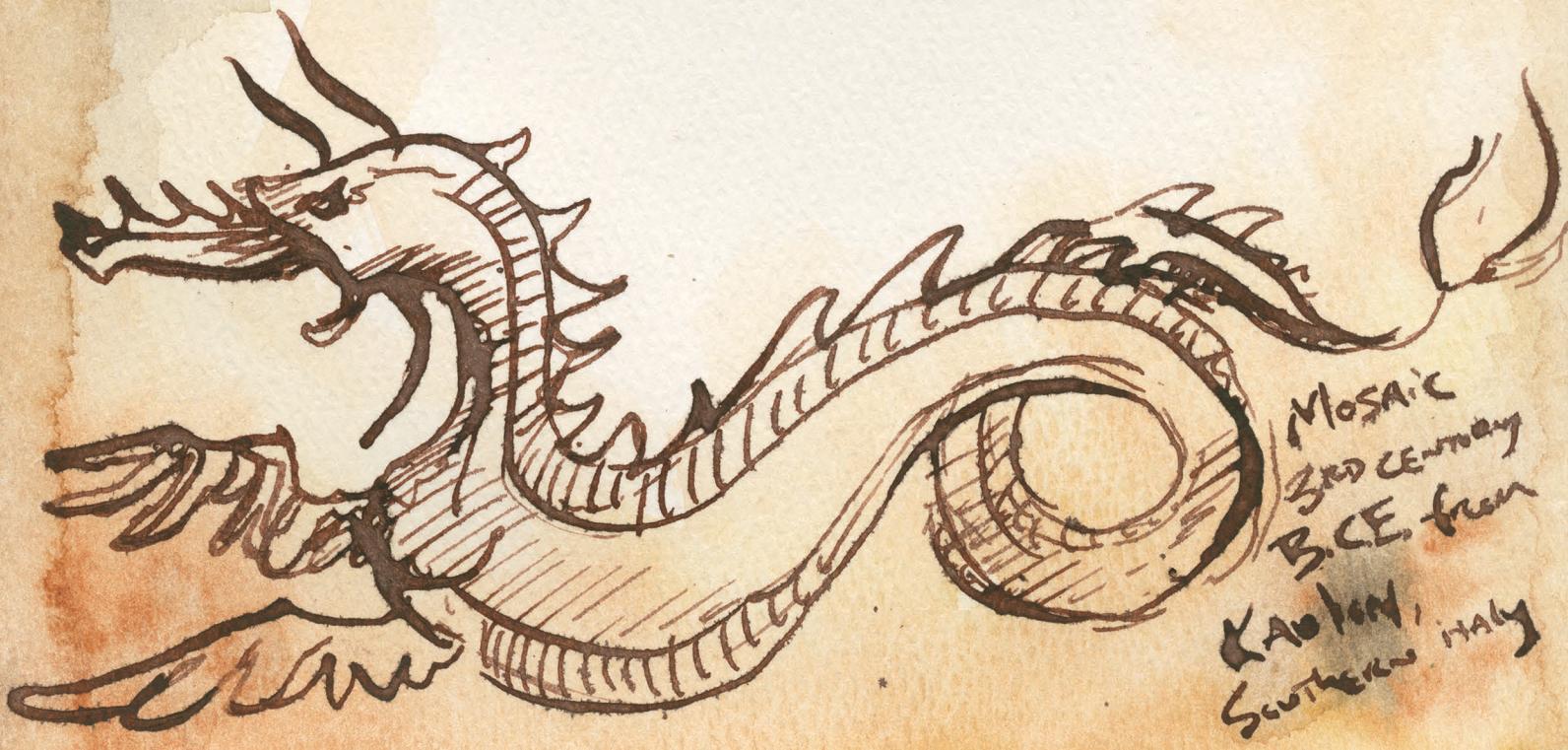
Identification: Dragon-headed carp

Role: Minor Deity

Enemies: None recorded

Facts: When a plain, ordinary, humdrum celestial carp leaps the Dragon's Gate waterfall of the Yangtze, it gains draconic aspects. It is unrecorded if this is what happens to everything that leaps the Dragon's Gate waterfall; further research funding is needed.

The Yu Lung is symbolic of scholastic success, which is an awfully sensible thing to have a symbol for. Basically: If a carp can become a dragon, then surely you can pass at least some of your finals.



Imey Gorynych

in are telling, Izmay Gorynych is the nephew of the evil sorcerer Neval Chelovek who abducted the czar's daughter as a bride for the dragon.

Though the czar offered great riches for the woman who would capture his daughter...

A particular
friend of Baba Yaga



only one of
the palace girls
Ivan (one of the czar's
Russia's heroes named Ivan)
took him up out. Ivan had heard two czars
whispering about the czar's
after the process
equipped him

SAMO SEK
Eventually

The czar
with a Magic sword
and he began his quest
he found Neval

Chelovek's fortress
unguarded because

The Sorceror thought it too
well-hidden - they SAMO SEK flew from Ivan's
hands & through the fortress killing everyone there - including
the Sorceror and Izmay Gorynych.

abducts
woman travelling
alone.

Zmey Gorynych

Other Names: None

Culture: Russia

Range: Eastern Europe

Frequency: Unique

Size: Huge

Identification: Three heads, wings, small forelegs, long hind legs

Role: Primordial Enemy

Enemies: Dobrynya Nikitich (hero), Ivan (hero)

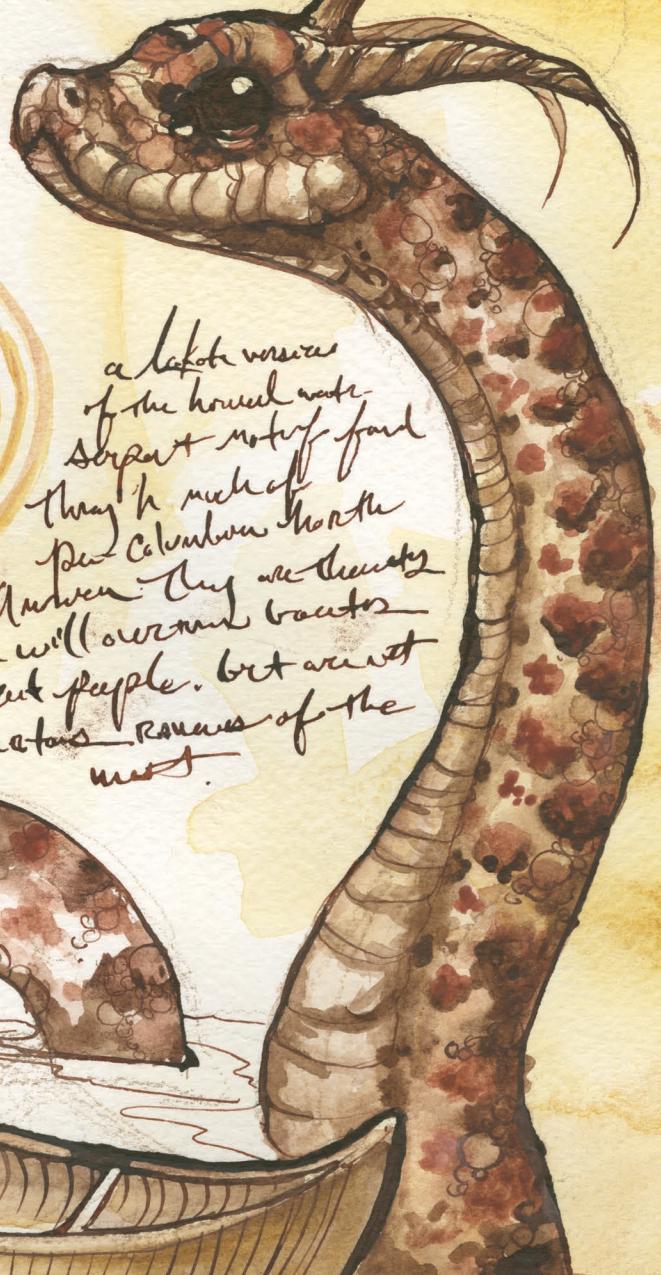
Facts: There's this whole big story where Zmey (which means "dragon," by the way) Gorynych's human sorcerer uncle abducts the daughter of the czar to be Gorynych's bride but then one of the countless Russian heroes called Ivan brings his magic sword "Samosiek" to the castle and it flies out of his hand and goes around and kills everyone and Russian folktales are *bonkers*. But what's more important than that is that Zmey Gorynych is pals with Baba Yaga.

Three-headed dragons are popular in central Eurasia; the Persians have Azi Dahaka, and the Hindus have Vritra, for example. Both of these are colossal, blotting out the whole sky; but then they are also opponents of the gods. Things scale down later on, when people start to believe in one god who apparently has better things to do than fight dragons somehow; and when dragonslayers are just dudes with flyin' swords, their dragons need to be a little more reasonable.



Unhcegila

the horned serpent



This weakness is a severe
spot on this head when
a red crystal fractures on
this heart.

a Lakota vision
of the horned snake
Serpent not yet found
They're much of
the Calamitas North
When they are hungry
and will overtake bison
and eat people. but are not
the calamitas because of the
heat.



whatever looks your
hor-will go
Ghul-go in sand
the dot on the
fourth day.

Unhcegila

Other Names: None

Culture: Lakota

Range: Black Hills area of North America

Frequency: Unique

Size: Huge

Identification: A water serpent with horns

Role: Primordial Enemy

Enemies: Wakinyan (a Thunderbird), various dragonslayers

Facts: A particularly powerful dragon of the freshwater serpent sort, she can be killed by striking the 'seventh spot on her head,' behind which is a red crystal, which functions as her heart. This will only work if done with a magical arrow. Listen: Nobody said this was going to be easy.

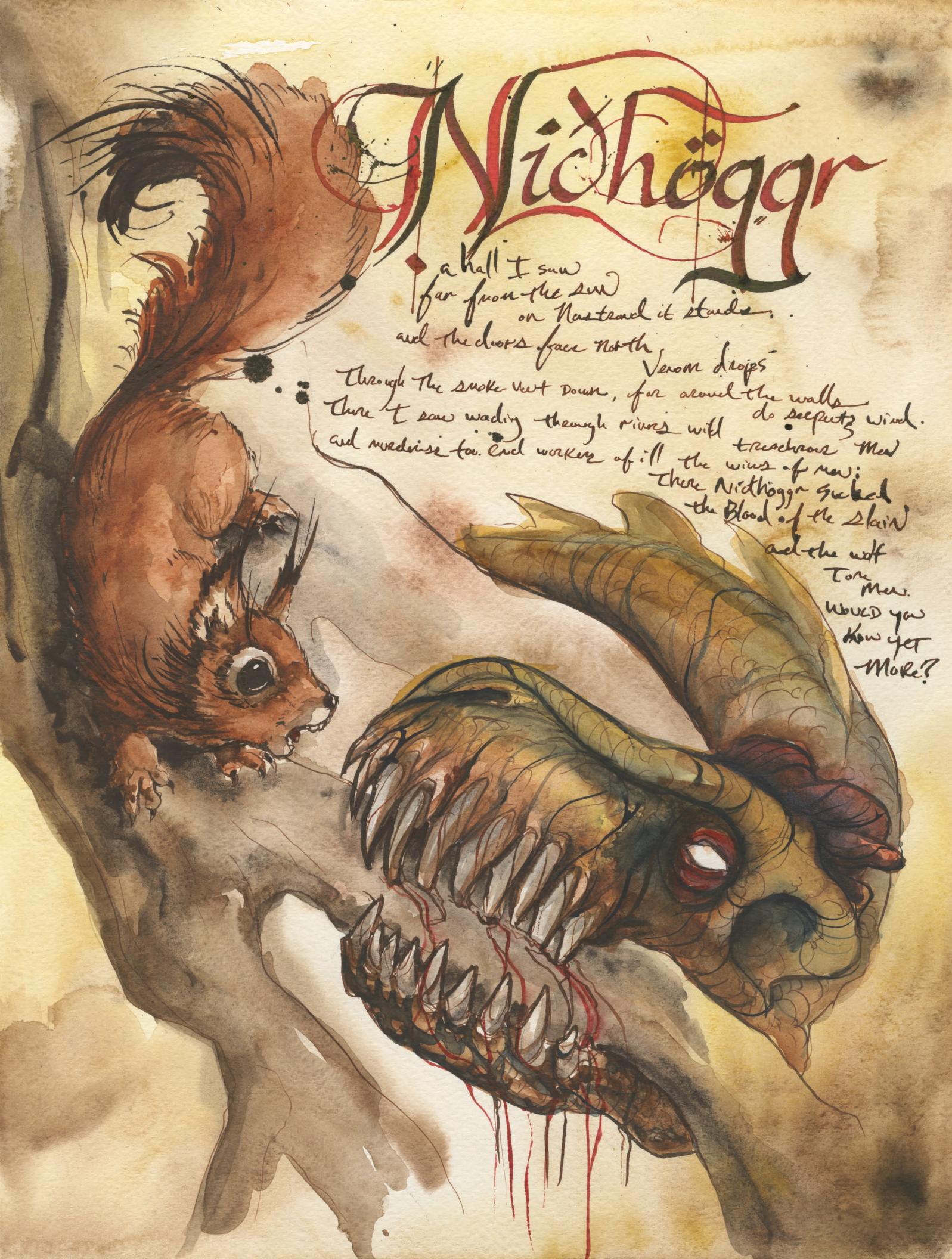
Also important is to somehow do this without looking at her, because anyone who does that will go blind, go insane, and then die four days later. Several western reptilians will poison or petrify you when you look at them, but Unhcegila plays the long game.



Níðhöggr

a hell I saw
far from the sun
on Nastrand it stands.
and the doors face north

Through the smoke went down, for around the walls
there I saw wading through rivers full do ~~seepety~~ ^{Venom drops} wind.
and no desire for. And workers of ill the winds of men:
treacherous Men
There Níðhöggr gulped
the Blood of the Skin
and the wolf
Tore men.
Would you
Know yet
More?



Nidhoggr

Other Names: Also spelled Nidhogg, Nidhoggur, Nithhogg, Nidhug, and stuff like that

Culture: Norse

Range: The roots of Yggdrasil

Frequency: Unique

Size: Gargantuan

Identification: A legless, serpentine dragon; best identified by its location and activity

Role: Chthonic Horror

Enemies: The Norns (goddesses who undo his work), Ratatosk (a talking squirrel who brings him insulting messages from the giant eagle at the top of Yggdrasil)

Facts: The vast and serpentine Nidhogg chews at the roots of Yggdrasil, the World Tree – an enormous tree that supports the Nine Realms. He is the worm that gnaws at the base of reality itself! *Daaaaaang!*

He often chews on the root leading to the part of the Norse underworld where those guilty of murder, adultery, and oathbreaking reside. Which are the worst things you can do if you're an old-time Norseman. He chews on those guys, too. He has a job, and he's good at it.

Finlworm

The Líðworm is the default body-type for Nordic dragons.

- Fjölngrögn
- Nidhogg
- Fafnir
are all described as Líðworms

The shed skin of a Líðworm will greatly increase one's knowledge about Medicine, Nature, and Premonitory Líðworms.

In 1804, Swedish folklorist Gunnar Oft Hjeltn-Cavalier set a reward for the body of a Finlworm, dead or alive, based on numerous legal reports of a huge, man-eating Líðworm. It was never claimed.

Its skull is oft mistaken for a prehistoric woolly Rhinoceros.



Princess Þóra Borgarhjötur once received a baby Líðworm from her father. He was the Earl of Gotland. It grows much beyond its expected size and eventually takes its adopted mother hostage, demand to be supplied with 10 less than an entire ox a day. She is currently freed by Rávar Lottrek (Hairy Paws) whom she has wed.

The sightings of a "white worm" was once thought to be a portent of extremely good luck (provided one escaped alive).

In one story about a queen giving birth to a Líðworm, this terrifying Scarsore is caused by the woman eating an unexpected onion.

Lindworm



Other Names: Lindorm, Linnorm, various individual names

Culture: Scandinavia and the UK

Range: The UK and Scandinavia

Frequency: Common

Size: People-sized to Huge

Identification: A serpentine dragon with just two legs

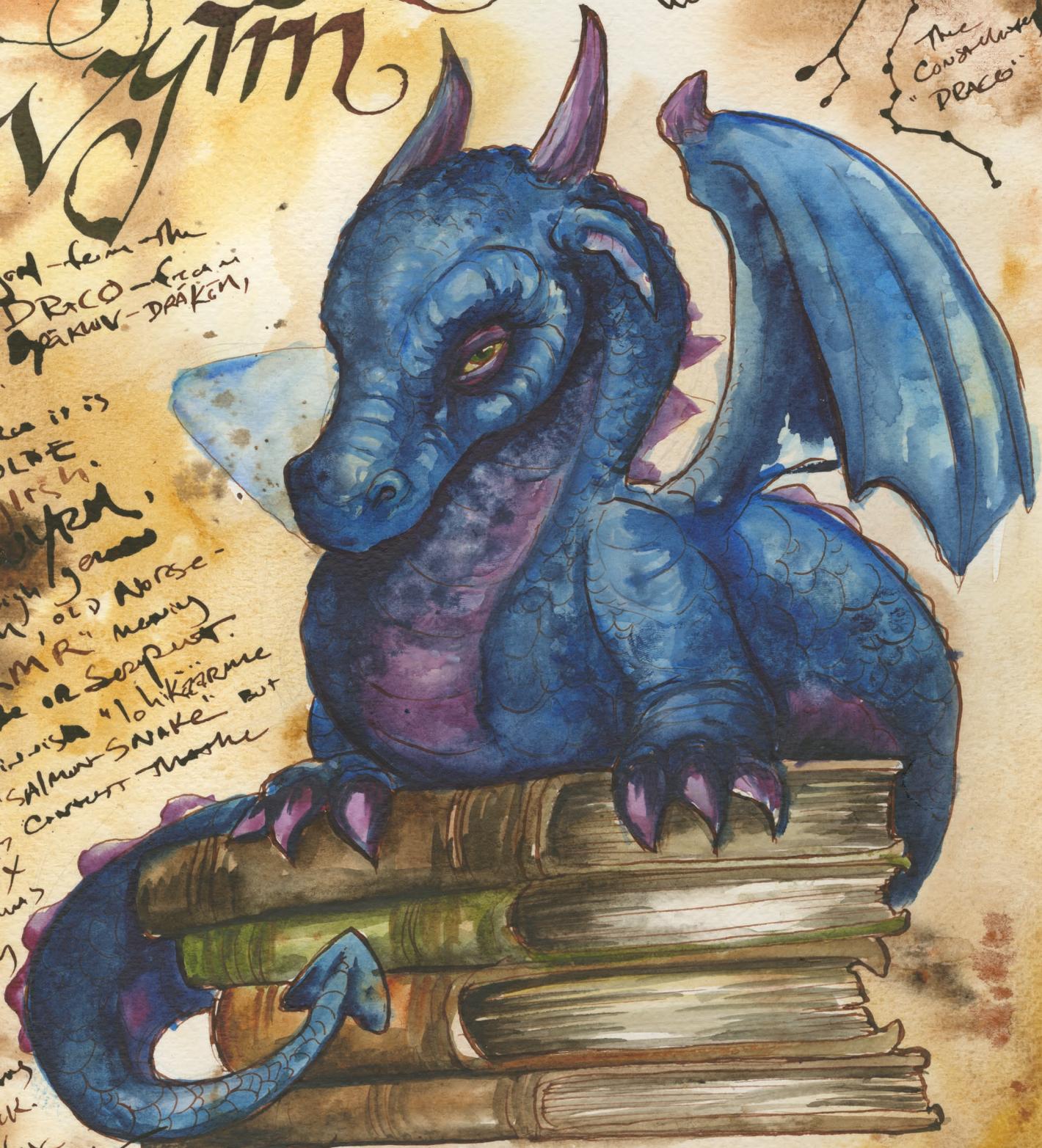
Role: Heraldic Beast

Enemies: Various dragonslayers

Facts: Found throughout northern Europe, the lindworm is the default body-type in Scandinavia. The statue of a lindworm in Klagenfurt, Austria, has a head that was modeled on the skull of a prehistoric woolly rhinoceros, which is, of course, just fine. According to some sources, they like to hang out in churchyards, though whether this is out of devoutness, a love for plate glass windows, or just enjoying watching the priests look uncomfortable is unknown.

In one story about a queen giving birth to a lindworm, her serpentine pregnancy was caused by her consumption of an unpeeled onion, so let that be a lesson to you! Luckily, it's a problem easily solved by peeling away the skin layers of the thus-produced lindworm prince, until the handsome young man inside is revealed. Some legends have transparent symbolism. Others are just bizarre.

Book of Leym w/



DRAGON DRAGO
WORN WYRM
Most venomous of the world
Dragon wyrms come from the
Serpentine Slope.

Book Wyrm

Other Names: None as such

Culture: The modern world

Range: Libraries worldwide

Frequency: Rare

Size: Small

Identification: Tiny, serpentine, and generally found among books

Role: Comic Relief

Enemies: None to speak of

Facts: Dragons have always been creatures of imagination, and of course the human imagination persists. Here we have a modern creation – a play on the “bookworm,” a reference to any insect larva that eats books. There aren’t really a lot of these, as is testified by all those uneaten books all over the place. Based on this insect, though, we also have the idea of a bookworm as somebody who likes books. And some books are full of dragons, so those people aren’t wrong.

The Book Wyrm also plays off dragons being referred to as “wyrms” (or “worms,” or “orms,” or the like) in the olden days – a holdover from the days when they were mainly big snakes, and of people thinking snakes and worms were pretty much the same thing because they were terrible at zoology.

Tarasque

The Child of the Leviathan and a Bonacocci (a bare creature)

The Tarasque is oft blamed for the flooding of Rivers, for Brutal Lions & dykes in off occasion of a city that takes the name from the dragon an effigy is sacred in closets:

• Zagadigader, La Tarasco, La Tarasco

Zagadigader, La Tarasco, das custos;

Leivas-la passa la viejo masco

Leivas-la passa que vai de assa

Lion's Head

Method for Capture

Paint Martha Sprinkled him with holy water, then bound him with a hair girdle.



Scaly tail ending in a Scorpion's sting

Q-like body
Covered in a turtle shell

Six short bear legs

Tarasque

Other Names: None

Culture: France

Range: The town of Nerluc (now "Tarascon," after this dragon), on the Rhone, in France

Frequency: Unique

Size: Huge

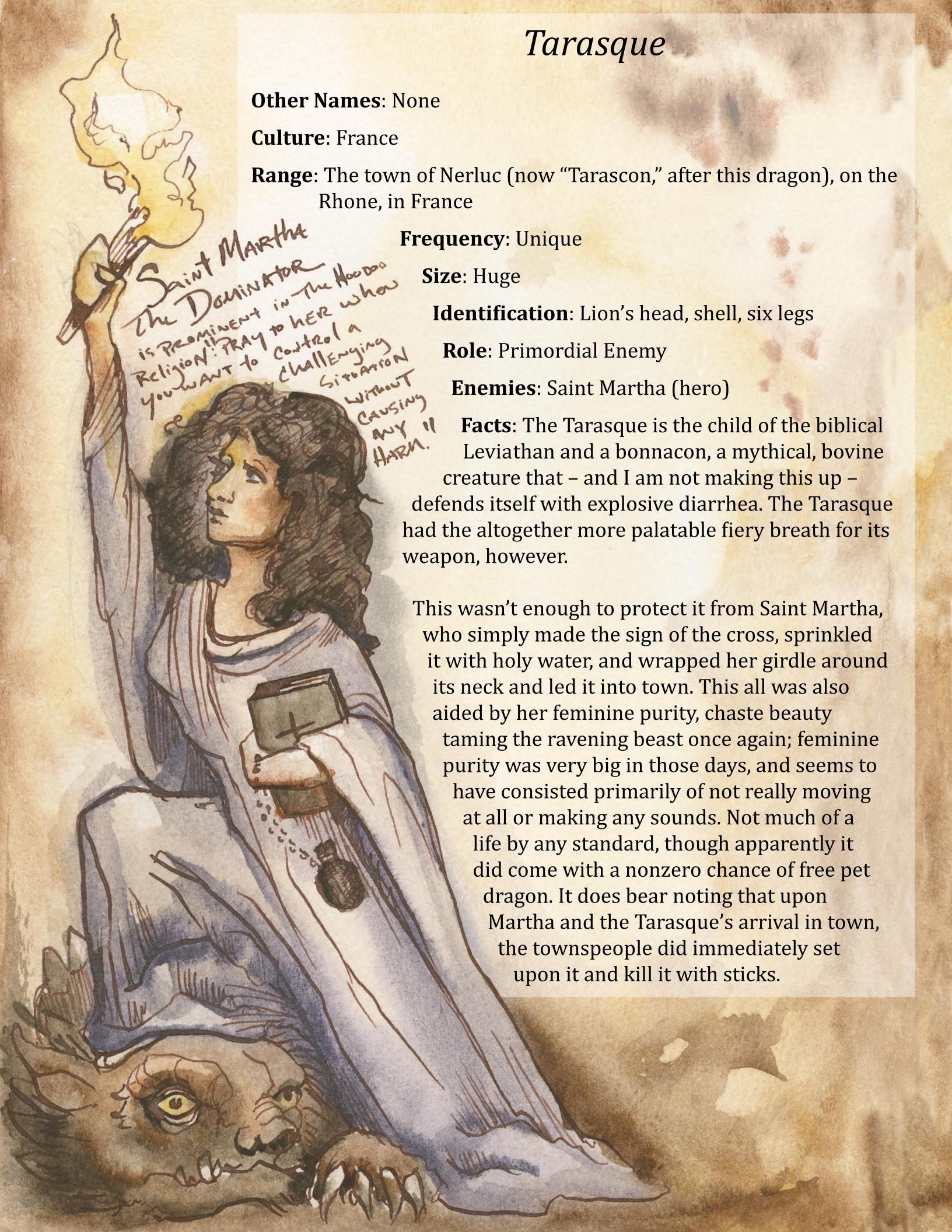
Identification: Lion's head, shell, six legs

Role: Primordial Enemy

Enemies: Saint Martha (hero)

Facts: The Tarasque is the child of the biblical Leviathan and a bonnacon, a mythical, bovine creature that – and I am not making this up – defends itself with explosive diarrhea. The Tarasque had the altogether more palatable fiery breath for its weapon, however.

This wasn't enough to protect it from Saint Martha, who simply made the sign of the cross, sprinkled it with holy water, and wrapped her girdle around its neck and led it into town. This all was also aided by her feminine purity, chaste beauty taming the ravening beast once again; feminine purity was very big in those days, and seems to have consisted primarily of not really moving at all or making any sounds. Not much of a life by any standard, though apparently it did come with a nonzero chance of free pet dragon. It does bear noting that upon Martha and the Tarasque's arrival in town, the townspeople did immediately set upon it and kill it with sticks.



The Jabberwock

Twas brillig, and the slithy toves
did gyre and gimble in the wabe:
all mimsy were the borogoves,
and the mome raths outgrabe.

Beware
my son!
Bite
catch!
Jub Jub
shows the
Frumious
Bandersnatch!

ONE, TWO, THREE TWO!
and through and through
The Vorpal Blade went
SWICKER-SNACK!

He left it
dead all
with its
head
he went
gallumphing
Back.

the Jabberwock,
The jaws that
the claws that
Beware the
bird 'z

He took his Vorpal
Sword in hand:
Longtime the manxome
for he sought so hard
He by the Tum Tum Tree
and stood awhile in thought.

And as if in a fit they lit
he stood, the Jabberwock,
With 'z eyes of flame come
Whiffle through the Tulgey
wood 'z Brisket as it came!

and burst them
blame the
Jabberwock.

Come to my
area, my
Banish Day!
oh Frabjous
day
Callah!
Callah!

He Chortled in his
Joy.

Twas
Brillig, and the slithy toves
did gyre and gimble in the
wabe; all mimsy were
the borogoves 'z the mome
raths outgrabe

"JABBERWOCKY"
Lewis Carroll



Jabberwock

Other Names: None

Culture: The modern world

Range: The tulgey wood

Frequency: Unique

Size: Huge

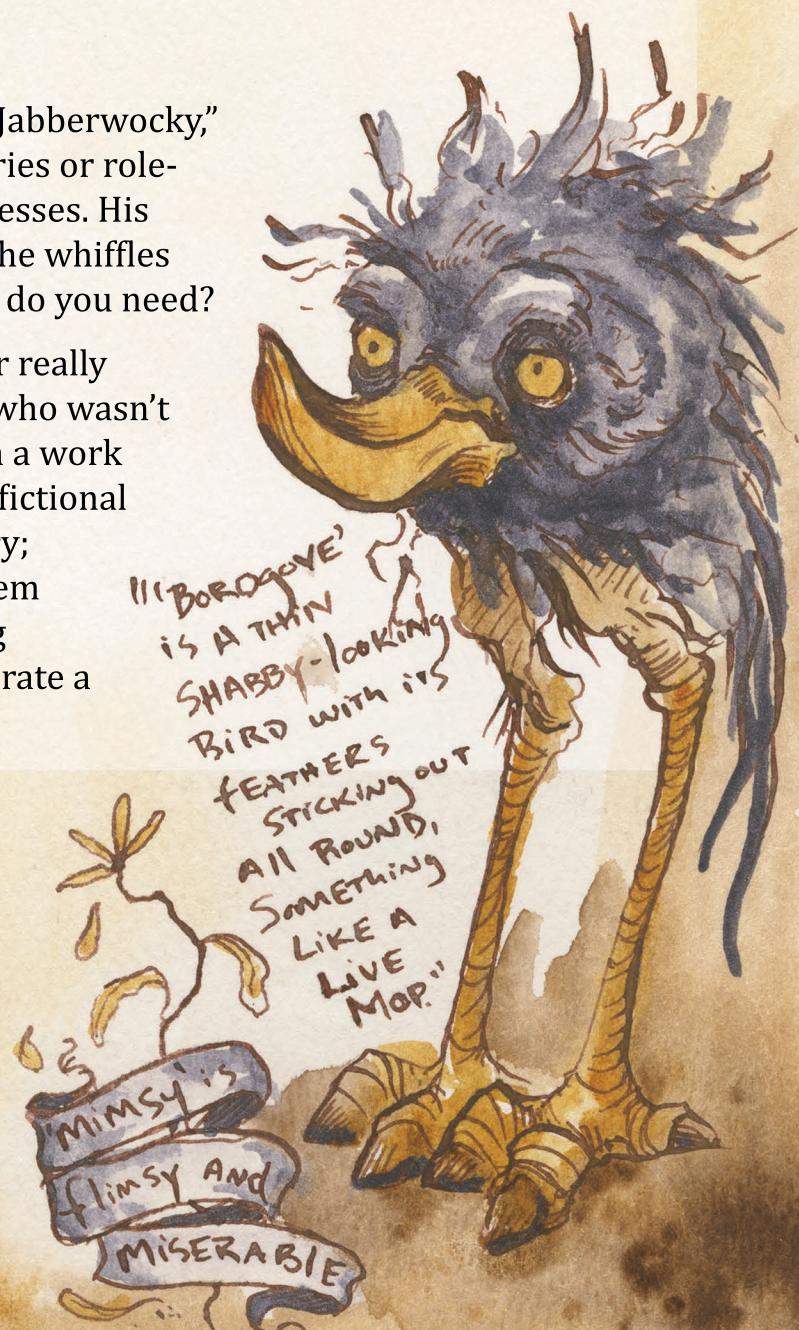
Identification: An extremely lanky four-limbed, two-winged creature with a round, bucktoothed head; bubbles at it comes

Role: Primordial Enemy

Enemies: A beamish boy

Facts: The antagonist in Lewis Carroll's poem "Jabberwocky," efforts to convert the Jabberwock to film or stories or role-playing games have not generally been big successes. His jaws bite, his claws catch, his eyes are of flame, he whiffles through the woods, he is manxome. What more do you need?

Unlike many of the dragons herein, nobody ever really believed in the Jabberwock, or at least nobody who wasn't demonstrably insane. Not only did it come from a work of fiction, it was in a poem that was most likely fictional within the work of fiction. A poem within a story; maybe someone could paint a picture of the poem in the story, and someone else could sing a song about the picture, and someone else could decorate a cake about the song, and on and on forever.



Nessie

Many things have been suggested
for sightings of the

Loch

Ness

Monster

Birds wakes

Submerged
Trees

Seismic
GMS

Giant Eels



UNDERWATER SWIMMING
Elephant using its
TRUNK AS A SWIMMING
SNORKEL.



Wet
Catfish



Great
Shark

Nessie

Other Names: The Loch Ness Monster

Culture: The modern world

Range: Loch Ness, Scotland

Frequency: Rare or unique

Size: Huge

Identification: A large, dark-colored hump in the loch, with or without a long neck and small head attached

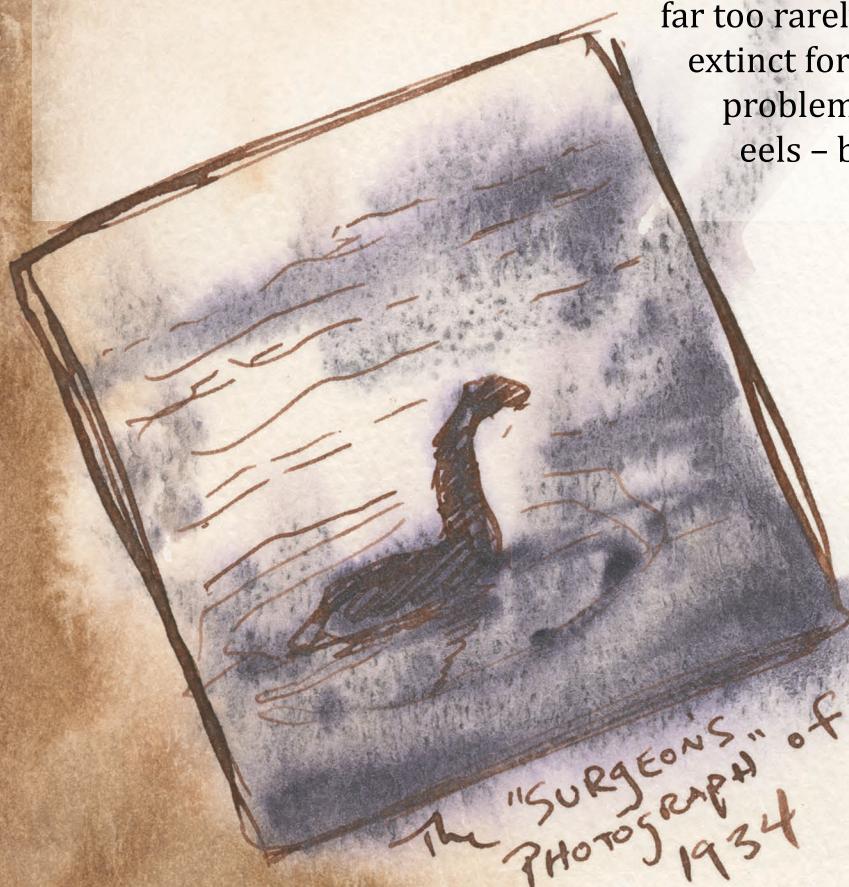
Role: Hidden Animal

Enemies: None, or cryptozoologists

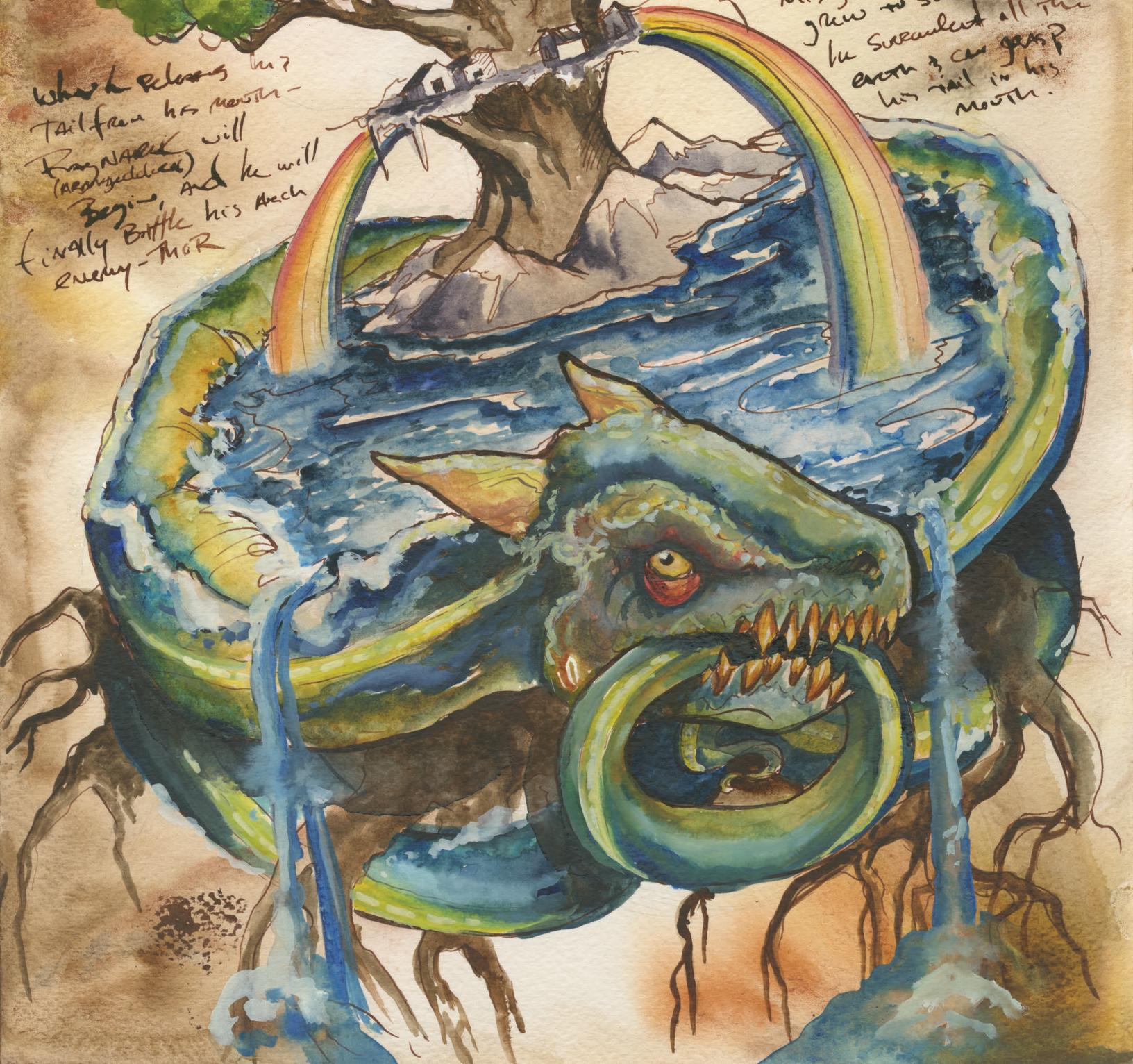
Facts: Even today, some grown persons believe in enormous, ancient, reptilian creatures, though unlike their predecessors, Nessies don't generally hoard gold or assault people or teach them valuable lessons; they just swim around minding their own business. As dragons of old symbolized terrifying threats, natural phenomena, and the like, perhaps Nessies, too, serve a psychological need – a longing for wonder in a world that seems to have too little of it.

Most people think of plesiosaurs when they think of monsters in Loch Ness, though in fact this is probably the worst possible explanation, if indeed such animals exist.

Plesiosaurs were cold-blooded (the loch is very cold), air-breathers (Nessies are seen far too rarely for this to be so), and also have been extinct for 65 million years, which is a little problem. More likely Nessies are enormous eels – but that is a story for another time.



Jörmungandr



Jormungandr

Other Names: Jormungand, the Midgard Serpent, the World Serpent

Culture: Norse **Range:** At the bottom of the sea, around the entire world

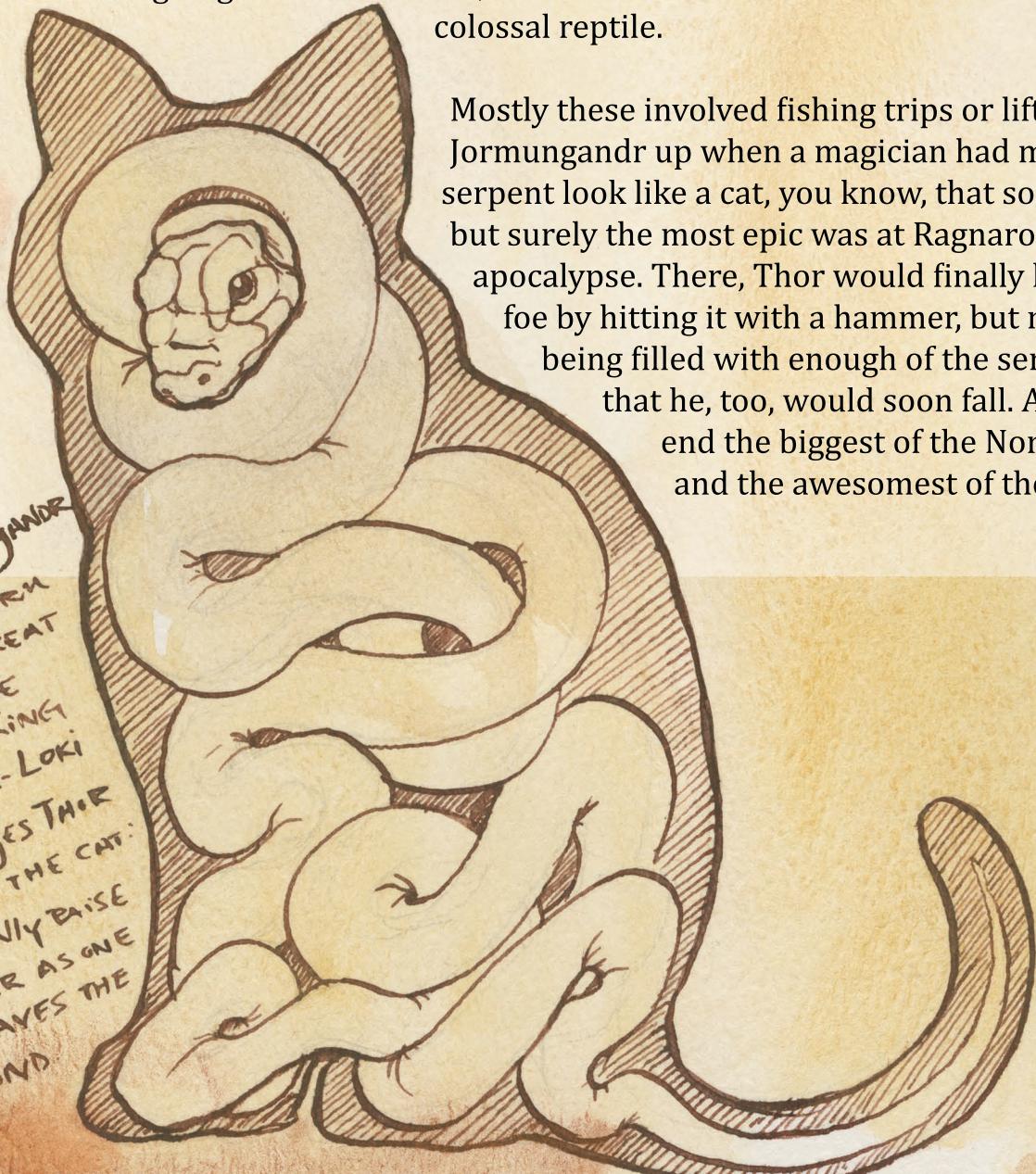
Frequency: Unique **Size:** Gargantuan

Identification: It's the enormous serpent at the bottom of the sea with its tail in its mouth

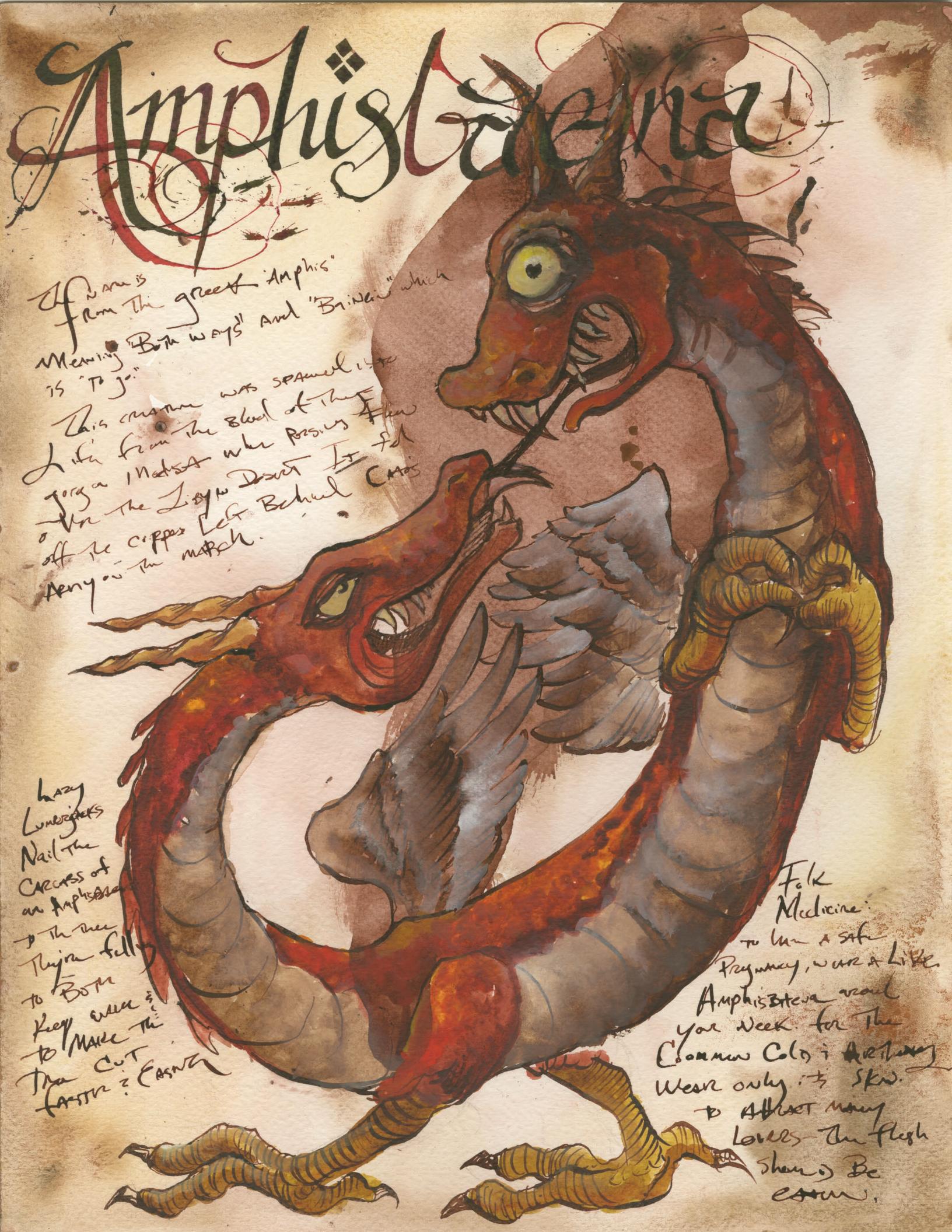
Role: Apocalypse Beast **Enemies:** Thor (deity)

Facts: When the Midgard Serpent was born, the gods were horrified and threw him in the ocean; why the gods were afraid of snakes and why they couldn't come up with something better to do with him are not adequately explained in the Eddas. There, the monster grew and grew and grew, until he encircled the whole world and took his own tail in his mouth. And there he lay, at the bottom of the sea, encircling the world. Well, Thor wasn't going to stand for that, and would come into a number of conflicts with the

colossal reptile.



Mostly these involved fishing trips or lifting Jormungandr up when a magician had made the serpent look like a cat, you know, that sort of thing, but surely the most epic was at Ragnarok, the Norse apocalypse. There, Thor would finally kill his ancient foe by hitting it with a hammer, but not before being filled with enough of the serpent's venom that he, too, would soon fall. And so would end the biggest of the Norse dragons, and the awesomest of the Norse gods.



Amphisbaena

Other Names: Amphisboena, amphivena, other spellings like that

Culture: Greece

Range: Libyan desert

Frequency: Rare

Size: Small

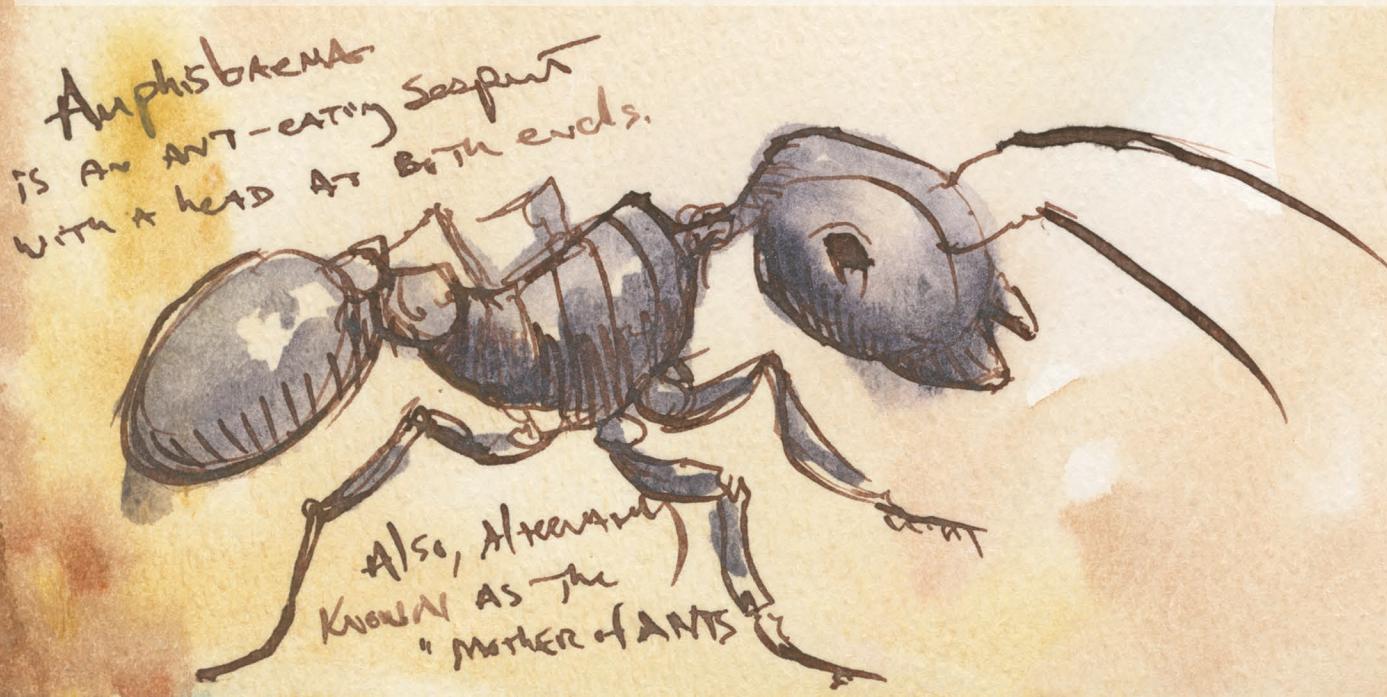
Identification: Serpentine; head on either end

Role: Heraldic Beast

Enemies: None specific

Facts: Created when the blood of Medusa dripped out of the bottom of her neck as Perseus was flying over the desert with his winged sandals carrying Medusa's severed head – has everybody got that? – amphisbaenas could move in one direction or the other without having to turn around. Without having to turn around! It is incredible that mere humans can even imagine such power!

In some tales, amphisbaenas can grab one head in the other, form themselves into a circle, and move like rolling, in the manner of a wheel. Why an amphisbaena would be more apt to do this than a normal serpent is unrecorded; indeed, it seems like a worse idea for an amphisbaena than for a regular snake, as one of the heads has to be very uncomfortable. But I'm not here to tell ancient monster-inventors how to do their jobs.



Kalamaini

fisherman who went to
buy his line in the
dark soft places
to the
Pawekidz

Mo'd on us
who once fell
in Love
with the
young clear
white
Surf

Most Mo's
are fearless
and all are
shape-shifting



Kalamainu'u

Other Names: None

Culture: Native Hawaiian

Range: Moloka'i Island

Frequency: Unique

Size: Huge

Identification: Enormous black lizard, or beautiful woman

Role: Deity

Enemies: Puna'aikoa'e (hero); Pele (deity)

Facts: Kalamainu'u was one of the greatest of the *mo'o* – a group of water-lizard-gods who were protectors of the people, except for when they weren't. This was a common problem with Pacific dragons; Chinese dragons, while generally good, would occasionally assail the world with floods and storms, and New Zealand taniwhas were protectors of clans and then sometimes just monsters needful of killing. These dragons were symbolic of nature, and nature, well, it does what it likes.

Kalamainu'u herself is mainly known for tricking the O'ahu chief Puna'aikoa'e into being her husband, or at least boyfriend. When he escaped, she chased him, along with other *mo'o*; when the volcano goddess Pele would not turn him over, the *mo'o* tried to block the volcano by coughing up phlegm. Didn't work! But you never know until you try.

Mo'o
Above
Halawa
Valley:
Hawaii

*Mo'o often
Become part
of the
Landscape
in Depth.*

Cockatrice



Oil-dropping wond of mis
Only ACCURSED womb, the
Bed of Death!

A Cockatrice hatched
Whose unavol eye is
Murdous

Shakespeare Richard III

Kill with a
Look -
My the instantly
Upon hatching the
Crew of a Rooster
The hatched is the
On my mind
Hatched for my
Dark glorie

The cockatrice
is the Issue of an
egg laid by a Rooster;
incubated by a toad or
Snake. The Basilisk is the
Pewase upbraying. The eggs of
a rooster hatched by a Rooster.

A Play in Literature often
The Cockatrice; The Basilisk
Are used interchangeably
They are very
Different animals.

From Old French
"Cocatrice" - from
medieval term
"calacrit"

Cockatrice

Other Names: Basilicok, Regulus

Culture: Europe

Range: Throughout Europe and Africa

Frequency: Uncommon

Size: Small

Identification: A rooster-like creature with a long, serpent's tail

Role: Wandering Monster

Enemies: Weasels, various dragonslayers

Facts: Cockatrices are the most venomous creatures on Earth. So venomous that they make deserts of their homes; so venomous that just looking at them will kill you; so venomous that, even if you do kill one with a sword, its venom will crawl up the sword and avenge the cockatrice. As such, it is the king of the serpents! And it looks like a rooster. For some reason. If this is blowing your mind, probably best to skip the next paragraphs.

Now, a cockatrice is born when a seven year-old rooster lays an egg while Sirius is ascendent, which is then incubated by a toad, who apparently volunteers. The good news is that this of course never happens; the other good news is that if it does anyway, you can throw the egg over your house and if it doesn't touch the house it will never hatch.

Also, weasels are immune to cockatrice venom. I am not making any of this up. Cockatrices may be the most random monster in all of Europe.



Chiari Riuφ



Noe aru taka wa tsume wo kakusu

Little known about these

birds

Hai-riyo

Other Names: None

Culture: Japan

Range: Japan

Frequency: Rare

Size: Huge, presumably

Identification: Hornless Asian dragon's head on a bird's body

Role: Artistic Motif

Enemies: None recorded

Facts: Dragon-headed birds show up sometimes in old Japanese art. There are no recorded legends or tales associated with them, but who cares? Dragon-headed bird!

Other Japanese dragons in general are superficially similar to the Chinese longs, though the Japanese ones were a bit more hostile than the Chinese. And thus, there were dragonslayers, such as the god Susano-o, who dispatched a dragon with eight heads, but only after getting it drunk. Which may seem like cheating, but then, from another perspective, being an eight-headed dragon is sort of cheating as well.

YGGDRASIL:
THE WORLD
TREE

SOL

MANE

ASGARD: HOME
OF THE GODS

ALFHEIM:
THE
ELVES

VANAHEIM:
THE
VANIR

BATATOSK

MIDGARD: HOME
OF HUMANITY

FIRE GIANTS

MUSPELHEIM

GIANTS

JOTUNHEIM

ENIFHEIM
CHILDREN OF THE MIST

Bifrost: the
Rainbow Bridge

HELHEIM:
LAND OF THE DEAD

SVARTALFHEIM
DARK ELVES





A. Bambi Wendt is an independent illustrator and explorer who is currently traveling the globe seeking out hidden worlds and the creatures that inhabit them. Follow her adventures on Instagram: @bambikhan.

Matt Kessen is a Minneapolis-based writer, actor, and dramaturg. He has been writing and performing his live solo show, Reverend Matt's Monster Science ("Part science. Part comedy. All monsters"), in a variety of venues since 2012, and it may be found online at revmattsmonsterscience.com. He also posts daily monster entries on Monster Science's Facebook page, and it was here that many of these dragon paintings first saw the light of day. He is also very tall.



Bambi would like to say...

All books require a village of thanks, a thing I never quite understood until I began this project, and discovered a network of supremely supportive and amazing people had grown up around me. Matthew Kessen, who gave me a place to jump from, and joins me in the leap. My faerie court of Jackalope Tattoo: Nichelle, Mo, Emi, Jacoba, Jamaeka, Katie, and Amo (who showed me that books are a thing that can be made by those who wish to make them), women who continue to inspire and accept me. Ian for his courier service, Mollie for her constant backup, my publisher Lewis for keeping me on track, Joe and Meg who always opened their home (and their scanner) always last minute, and always with drinks and friendship. My Mother and Father, who gave me reams of drawing paper, and taught me the value of books. My biggest cheerleaders: my sister Kristina, and my nephews Brockden and Henry. My brother James, who gave me the first D&D books that changed my life. My sisters of refuge and midnight teary phone calls: Vonnies and Murr. I'm so thankful for everyone who came out to the first show, bought paintings, and demanded a book. I'm overwhelmed and humbled by the support of my Kickstarter backers, without whom this book could not have happened, and never in this scale. Finally I have to thank my partner and companion in adventure, Michael Dupont, who weathered storms of emotion with a steady ease and the occasional motorcycle ride, created the video, and made me push the button.

Matt would like to say...

Thank you to Carrie Strief, Andy Vang, Charly Bratt, Gregory Parks, Lake Monster Brewing, Kate Kunkel Bailey, Joshua English Scrimshaw, Pat Harrigan, Phillip Andrew Bennet Low, Tim Uren, Duck Washington, Levi Weinhagen, Tim Wick, Jena Young, and everyone I've forgotten.

Also from Beard Poetry

Anna Binkovitz

The Love Hypothetic

Kieran Collier

This to You: Erasure poems from Fall Out Boy's album *Take This To Your Grave*

Clair Dunlap

In the Plum Dark Belly

Cristopher Gibson

Dysfunctional: Portrait of a Small Town

Hasani Harris

ego alleluia

Thressa Johnson

(blank space): Erasure poems from Taylor Swift's album *1989*

A Particular Weight

Thressa Johnson & Amoreena Tarvas

At the Sky

Chris Lee-Rodriguez

Really From

A Callused Smile

Lewis Mundt

REDacted: Erasure poems from Taylor Swift's album *Red*

The God of the Whole Animal

As

GUNPOWDER AVALANCHE

you better close that window; they say it's gonna rain tonight

Lewis Mundt & Holly Rios

The Human Panic Attack (forthcoming)

Susan Niz

Beyond this Amniotic Dream

Bao Phi

It was flame.: New poems

Ollie Schminkey

The Taste of Iron

