

## **The Pnakotic Manuscripts**

This work claims to be a translation of an otherwise unknown series of documents (*The Pnakotic Manuscripts*) brought to the West after the fall of Constantinople in 1453. These are said to be Greek translations of even older documents chronicling an otherwise unknown epoch of the pre-human history of Earth. The unidentified translator claims to have obtained this work, also called *The Pnakotik Scrolls* and *The Scrolls of Pnakotus*, from an unnamed refugee from the Byzantine Empire. This translation was made in conjunction with the help of another (also unnamed) Greek scholar.

The body of the text is a haphazard jumble of myths outlining the history of various fabulous kingdoms and civilizations of Earth before the rise of Man (as well as other places specifically said to be not of this world).

Discussions include a catalogue of various races in residence on the Earth during the ages before man, the actions of various legendary figures, and the myriad inhuman deities worshiped by both. A final section traces the mythic history of the book itself, from fragments uncovered in some vast non-human library (the so-called "city of Pnakotus") to the scribes of vast pre-historic human empires who consulted with improbable "others" (some sort of flying, barrel-shaped beings) in their efforts to understand the work. It seems likely that this work is a compilation of a host of mystical texts, many of which are preserved only in fragmentary form.

Contains the spell: Contact Winged Thing

## **People of the Monolith**

This work is a collection of poetry by one Justin Geoffrey. The poems are in a modern style, generally without fixed meter or structure, but with a clear thematic link—menace, horror, and a (sometimes romantic) nihilism. Titles include "Out of the Old Lands," "Strutter in Darkness," and the titular poem "People of the Monolith". The work is disturbing and shocking, at least to a more sheltered reader. The stark horror of the poet's words are not tempered by the beauty of his writing.

## **Selections de Libre D'Ivon**

This book purports to be a commentary on the *Libre Ivonis* (Book of Eibon) a work supposedly written by Eibon, a sorcerer in distant antiquity. The author of the commentary is one Gaspar du Nord, a self-proclaimed sorcerer from Averroigne, a region in south central France. The discussion within, written in an elliptical and didactic manner, is a wide-ranging commentary on ancient and contemporary theology, magical ritual, and fantastic history. The author focuses upon the lives and magical discoveries of several antediluvian sorcerers in a kingdom called "Hyperborea," with a particular emphasis on "Eibon," the supposed author of the original work. Eibon apparently entered into some sort of pact with a powerful being (perhaps a god?) known

as Sathojue, granting him both greater magical abilities and access to arcane secrets. Other powerful beings and species are mentioned in only passing detail, but include a race of ophidian magicians and a malevolent and immense white worm that brought Hyperborea low in some icy apocalypse.

The author also boasts not only of his own magical studies under the wizard Nathaire, but also of his defeat of his former master. Though du Nord claims that his purpose is to give instruction to the novice magician, he often obscures his meaning in allegory or oblique references. A reader lacking either a copy of the *Livre d'Ivon* or a familiarity with the conventions and philosophy of the various medieval magical traditions will find *Selections from the Livre d'Ivon* a daunting and frustrating work.

Contains the following spells: Contact Nodens and Eibon's Wheel of Mist

### **Life as a God**

This work purports to be the diary (though it functions more as an autobiography) of Montgomery Crompton, a British soldier and artist. Its first few pages recount his life as member of the landed gentry in Northern England up until he is dispatched in 1801 to Egypt under General Sir Ralph Abercrombie. Seriously wounded in battle, he recovered after several weeks of a high fever and a series of what he claims were occult visions. Remaining in Egypt to recuperate, he was inducted into a secretive cult. Claiming to have survived from ancient times, the cult worshiped a mythical figure known as the "Black Pharaoh", a forgotten ruler of ancient Egypt said to have possessed magical, possibly divine, powers. As a cult member, Crompton witnessed and participated in acts of torture, murder, and rape, as well as weird magical ceremonies all in praise of this Black Pharaoh (sometimes called "Nivrin Ka"). In 1805 he returned to Great Britain where, settling near Liverpool, he and a group of other British converts attempted to replicate the cult and its depraved rites before being thwarted by unnamed, but mockingly condemned, local authorities. Crompton apparently composed this work whilst incarcerated in an asylum. Even from a quick skim, it is obvious that the author was a murderously sadistic lunatic prone to megalomaniacal delusions, foremost of which is that he would achieve god-hood through his occult practices.

### **excerpt from the handwritten diary of Montgomery Crompton**

Its angles were magnificent, and most strange; by their hideous beauty I was enraptured and enthralled, and I thought myself of the daylight fools who adjudged the housing of this room as mistaken. I laughed for the glory they missed. When the six lights lit and the great words said, then He came, in all the grace and splendour of the Higher Planes, and I longed to sever my veins so that my life might flow into his being, and make part of me a God!