## Dying Earth Barth

## Personages & Sources

from the Origin of Species thread on the Dying Earth mailing list

**Roleplaying Game** 

- Aproghast, a mage of real seniority and hermitic habit. his place of birth, Kaspara Vitatus, when the earliest of the monuments was still fresh carved.
- Araminthe Vermoane. Celebrated artist's model, now a fashionable hostess is Kaiin
- Armagnon. A Dilk and captain of the ship Lanthorn's Gleam. Sails between Dilclusa and Saskervoy
- Arnouk. The author of "Literary Evolution through the Seventeenth Aeon"
- Bashaw of the old town. A title rather than a name. The magistrate responsible for maintaining order in the old town of Kaiin. Appointed by the Prince of Kaiin
- Berliween, A Taun Tassel Tailor and milliner
- Borkgrimfag. aka Thrumpgan an excavator of lost tombs and forgotten cities
- Bracht, Junior officer of Valdarans Green Legion, confident of Isapinai, niece of Volune the eroticist.
- Brangoa One of the enforcers who maintain order within the scholasticarium
- Branlagan One of the enforcers who maintain order within the scholasticarium
- Broonfond 21st aeon author of "enchantments of the Northern Latitudes"
- Carlidric the Great AKA Carlidric the Cantankerous. Held posts in the Scholasticarium some four centuries ago, and was intent on becoming a diabolist. Informed of the discovery of a new and important demon realm opening beneath the vaults of Vir Vassilis he investigated and has not been seen since.
- Carthos of Sfere. A savant who claimed that there is some sort of optimum total of intelligence, size and ferocity that can be contained within one individual. The postulate that the deodand has managed to achieve it. They point out the humans are smaller and less ferocious than deodand, but are, on the whole, more intelligent. Hoon are larger and more ferocious than deodand but less intelligent. He has also been appointed to the Scolasticariums new post of "shorecomber in chief" (Responsible for dealing with all shorecombers who approach the Scolasticarium with interesting finds)
- Casfagcas, 20th aeon eroticist who wrote works on love potions and charms
- Casmyreberd, the under wine steward at the Scolasticarium

in Kaiin. Has a young wife and family

- Casrail Alandrine. A literary critic of the early 21st aeon known for his teaching that an artist should "shun nothing, hold back nothing and ultimately conceal nothing" Caudlegrane "The Elder" also known as "Flog 'em" Caudlegrane. Also known as the panderer's panderer. Combined the tale of a seventeenth Aeon debaucher named Twikedom with various elements best left unrepeated. Nephew or great Nephew of Purge, Purge, Purge Caudlegrane. He was considered by many to be the defining period between two major literary eras, a fashion for whimsical and moral tales being replaced by one for horror of a particularly demented nature
- Caudlegrane "The Younger" Author of a popular children's book of the 19th Aeon, "Caudlegrane's Admonitory Yarns", being a moral tale designed to divert the youth of the day from both debt and debauchery. Caudlegrane the Younger then seems to have created the Twinkledome story as a purified version of his uncle's work.
- Purge, Purge, Purge Caudlegrane, purveyor of patent medicines and epitomist of several seventeenth aeon authors.
- Chacowille the Dikast. Leading citizen in Kaspara Vitatus. Renown for both his wealth and for keeping chained deodands to guard it.
- Duke Cherdolnu, guardian of the 20th aeon Nis Hegemony. Remembered mainly because it was shown that his memorial statue bore a closer resemblance to the sculptor, Tturber than it did to him.
- Coldark the Mesamath A savant and historian who discussed the Great Tumble where the moon was destroyed
- Dafis, a member of the Institute . Currently lecturing at the Scholasticarium on the subject of energy flux and matrix studies
- Dalsile A pupil of Grashpotels she has been on field trips with Volune. A surprisingly accurate shot with a dart pistol
- Digelos, pupil of Carthos of Sfere who postulated that deodand were the original species, humanity, Hoons and erbs being merely offshoots from the deodand stock.
- Dilistor the Bland. He compiled one of the better geographies back in the 15th aeon

- Dolbuk the shorecomber, once Wallow, Guardian of the Parclose from the lost temple of Hillusk the Golden. He was convicted of eleusinianism and discaging the guard deodand of Chacowille the Dikast.
- Dorstell the Solatious. 19th aeon author of "Notes on the Isles of Cloud" Also of "Flow of the Isipikkila" (the river we now know as the Isk) which contains interesting observations on cave dwelling grue/pelgrane hybrids and a number of somewhat disturbing drawings.
- Dresno. A philosopher residing in the Scaum valley, proponent of the theory of reciprocal inevitability, which states that fictitious events actually and inevitably happen, in inverse quantity to their likelihood, so, given a long enough span of time - say 22 Aeons - everything has happened, except the sun going out, which, by this analysis, is a supremely unlikely event.
- Droon, author with Loonwallow of Loonwallow and Droons "Travels in the West". The work is over five thousand years old. Also author of the widely respected "Cycolopedia Demonica"
- Ertenaoquil Early 21st aeon eroticist who wrote works on fan languages and charms
- Fianaer A savant from Azenomei who later became a legalist with that fine old firm of Thrumpgel and Woe.

Fianber Author of the definitive 20th aeon

"Thaumaturgical dictionary"

- Follinense the lesser. Author of a large book bound in red hide of a distinctive texture. This is a bestiary, written in Erze Damath some centuries ago. It records the hybrids of the Oparona Plain and Blanwalt Forest, which he initially created by the wizard Follinense (also known as Follinense Magus) for the edification of some local ruler
- Garmin a landed family still in residence near the ruins in Old Romarth. They habitually charge an extortionate fee to excavators
- Garth, One of the enforcers who maintain order within the scholasticarium

Ghulinip A Milliner from Flath Floiry

Gingash joliform, A wealthy speculator currently living in Kaiin. his daughter Panakina is a pupil of Grashpotel. It was discovered that he had taken monies from various people a decade ago which he was going to invest for them in projects he didn't elaborate on at the time. He promised to pay them back handsomely after ten years. it turns out the investment was almost entirely on high living, fine wines (indeed truly excellent wines) and the services of some of Kaiins most particular courtesans. (indeed even Yana van der Neffte was known to speak warmly of him). His defence has been that as he confidently expected the sun to go out long before the ten years were up he would have been foolish indeed to make any long term plans. His creditors merely wish their money back. His response to that is to point out that as his current wealth, portable and locked up in vineyards,

growing crops and similar is unlikely to realise more than a couple of thousand terces so they are going to have to wait for it. It appears that both he and his creditors expect the sun to flicker out before he can raise the money. His creditors seemed to have a punishment involving Deodand in mind, however Prince Kandive was more imaginative. He cast a spell of "Untiring Nourishment upon him" and set him with bucket and rope to dredge the channel of the Scaum deeper as it runs along the wharves of Kaiin.

- Glusthermal A chef from Kaiin who works where the fancy takes him. Many hire him for really large banquets. He has the ability to ensure that all six hundred guests are served excellent food simultaneously, even when he has to plan over twenty courses
- Gralinquin, a barbarous nineteenth aeon King of Cutz Grashpotel, more formally Iunutharis Grashpotel, Sage, Demi-Inferator of the Syncretic Symposium etc. Lectures at the Scolasticarium and is considered an expert on hybrids, half men, beasts of the wastes and their culinary preparation. An arch mage on the grounds that he has controlled his first Sandestin
- Groswin Early 21st aeon author of "Perambulations in three modes" (a rather pompous work, wordy and lacking real insight) He was captured by pirates working from the Misty Islands and sold to the nomads who haunt the hinterland of Cansaspara for a quantity of leather cordage and dried meat. He later purchased his freedom and returned to Kaiin in extreme old age.
- Grunwink Twinkledome, a minor savant of the 17 aeon who was desperately short of funds and faced the possibility of a contretemps with his angry creditors, among whom he numbered two orders of flagellant monks and a peasant co-operative specialising in producing herbal tea, narcotic stimulants and psychotic assassins. Forced by circumstances to be inventive he "discovered" a buried manse from whose library he recovered two works, "A popular history of the eighth aeon" and "travels and travails of a rural Preterist". These he sold and the monies raised both paid off his debts and also funded a period of debauchery which led to his sad demise six years later. However on his death bed he confessed that he had written both books himself and they had then been cunningly aged by a Sandestin called Spork for reasons it is unseemly to delve into. Alternatively the Twinkledome story in fact derives from cautionary tale first set down by Caudlegrane "The Elder"

"Guild of Savants table talk association." A select group of savants from Kaiin who meet for a monthly dinner where they eat excellent food, drink the finest of wines, and discuss matters of the greatest import. Only the truly knowledgeable are welcome to attend. Most are at least members of the Institute although a few from outside the Scolasticarium have won a place by their reputation for wisdom.

- Hasuke. A 20th aeon mage who set down the "Law of Literal Action". This describes the modus operandi of elementals, madlings and Sandestin. When set to a task, they research every available method of doing so before attempting the actual feat in question, intent on obeying this instructions to the letter.
- Herodicus the Preterist. A mage who has a town house in Azenomei and a manse proper which stands in its own grounds on the banks of the Scaum downstream from Sfere. He specialises in the study of history and his skill at excavation is unsurpassed.
- Hetaereiarchos of Dilclusa. A position currently held by a lady of indomitable fortitude whose Mourtatoi guard the town walls with unceasing vigilance and who take nomads they capture and nail them upside down to the gates.
- Hetta the Austere. One time Mistress of Perrin. A purveyor of sugar waters and similar refreshments to members of the "Shorecombers temperance association" as they work the mud flats of the Scaum mouth.

Hypaspists The bodyguard of the Prince of Kaiin

- Ilkuth. Duke Tambascos falconer
- Imhubrecht, Author of the definitive "Empires of Old Earth"
- Institute, the . An association of those scholars at the Scolasticarium who are salaried and have rooms in the Institute building. They tend to be the less powerful magicians but do the vast majority of the teaching
- Isapinai, Volunes niece, she is described as slight, winsome, dark haired, flirtatious and flattering to the point where one begins to suspect ridicule. Rumoured to be training as a Cobalt mountain witch.
- Ivpah An early 21st aeon alchemist who formulated a liquid sealant used to bind broken structures together
- Jethone Author of the seminal 19th aeon work "Great Tumble Hypothesis."
- Jisswich author of "Research in earlier aeons"

Joil the Wasp. . Held posts in the Scholasticarium some four centuries ago, and was intent on becoming a diabolist. Informed of the discovery of a new and important demon realm opening beneath the vaults of Vir Vassilis he investigated and has not been seen since.

- Jornenpodle, 18th aeon eroticist from Tugesbir who wrote works on spells and charms used by courtesans of the 17th aeon
- Junispan, a ballad singer from the end of the 20th aeon. The stanza
- "Sad Gorodas, ground hugging, tree crowned, God fearing and erb haunted, seen once from the boat and as soon forgotten"

is all that is left of his work.

"Kaiin Philosophical and Thaumaturgical Society" Run from the Scholasticarium this organisation organises lectures and displays of Thaumaturgy for the populace.

- Keribel. A pupil of Grashpotels who has been on field trips with Volune. She is perhaps remarkable for her poetic sensitivity
- Krashimdaar. One time Prytanis of Kaiin who conspired with Kandives mistress Simbilops to assassinate him using a version of one of the more simple courtesans cantrips which delicately adjust blood flow. The effect was so pronounced that Kandive lost consciousness and it was only the quick thinking of the Captain of Hypaspists which stopped him dropping into a final coma.
- Krislen. Believed to be the pre-eminent cook of Pompodouros.

Kyrol of Porphyrhyncos, Early 20th aeon Arch mage and believed to be the original creator/summoner of the Sandestin Ssvec

Kuthler also known as Hulrelin. A pupil of Grashpotels who has been on field trips with Volune. She is slender and lightly built.

LoiLoi original 20th aeon propounder of the Doctrine of Discrete Divisibility

- Loonwallow author with Droon of Loonwallow and Droons "Travels in the West". The work is over five thousand years old
- Lusla Gembath the 67th, ruler of Cansaspara, it was he who decided that even if Cansaspara were to freeze as the sun dimmed, his palace would do so more slowly, if he could somehow raise it nearer to our beloved ruby globe. He contrived to do this by building a huge manse on an elevating platform, which he attached to toothed uprights around its perimeter. Deodands, kept zesty on a diet of krail (hence their introduction) and convicts (whence Cansaspara's limited range of legal remedies) worked the lifting gear. With every measurable fall in isolation, engineers added more sections to his pylons, so the palace might rise higher. Unfortunately, the pylons proved unreliable and the entire structure collapsed when it had risen 170 feet, causing great destruction and unleashing a tidal wave, felt as far away as Nausiccaa

Makarapass, personal chef to Perrin

Malanto Dvor. The leading patissier in Kaiin

Maren, the young and widowed landlady of the cloth street inn in Taun Tassel

- Masdrio, a member of the Institute. Currently lecturing at the Scholasticarium on the subject of dream walking and its practical applications in advanced dialectics
- Melina . Tabarant's unwilling fiancée, She was the dowager of a local manse, now inverted and her absence, even as a soul portrait, is a matter of local but unspoken curiosity.
- Mensurator in Chief, Hereditary official responsible for weights and measures in Old Romarth
- Mirchdil. pupil of Grashpotels who has been on field trips with Volune . She is the sole girl and youngest in a family of twelve siblings, children of a lordling of the upper

Derna. Each child was taught lore of arms from the age of three, according to a ritual believed to have been Khang in origin

Mortiquan Off times called a poet. Normally dwells in Kaiin

- Mylin. A pupil of Grashpotels who has been on field trips with Volune. Prior to these trips she was regarded as the most timid of waifs, worried even to handle a sewing needle lest she prick herself. However her experiences in the field hardened her somewhat and it must be admitted that the memory of Mylin, wearing the long silk gown chosen to symbolise chastity and innocent, with her hair dressed in a style symbolising vulnerability, slitting the britches of a terrified apprentice embroiderer with a flensing knife will live long in the memory of all who were present.
- Nestam the Ineffable. One time business partner of Volune. He was Savant, Priest and merchant adventurer from Val Ombrio. He once sought information about the cult of Iz'had'graz, demon of the seven vices. He commuted twelve years of humiliating servitude for a one off cash payment, paid the weregeld when caught seducing the temple virgins and eventually became high priest after winning the position in a gambling game. Admittedly his luck failed him and he was finally killed by an erb when trying to out run an assortment of creditors but his untimely death was in no way connected to his religious activities.
- Nilam Arenduk. a previous favourite of Kandive the Golden she now lives quietly in her families palace overlooking the harbour of Kaiin
- Nisus the logotheus. Regularly commissioned by the barely literate of Kaiin to write odes. He prefers to do them in Sotadic form. A thankless task had pays him a miserable stipend
- Panakina. Pupil of Grashpotels who has been on field trips with Volune. Can be prone to being overly censorious.
- Panitzcogel. A scholar of considerable reputation especially in the summoning and binding of Sandestin and Daihak. At one time he was head of the Sapitentiary in Val Ombrio.
- Pantileniks, author of a "Universal history of the 18th aeon". His is the only account which mentions that the Ghar-Knights of Mealass who rode Hoons into battle. He also recounts how they were overthrown by insurrection from within rather than by external enemies. It appears that the Hoons, originally created in Vats, came to be allowed to breed naturally as the only way to replace battlefield casualties and the results of attrition. Apparently someone introduced a factor into the matrix which meant that many of the stud bulls sired progeny that were erratic and mentally unstable, becoming less and less tractable as time went on.

Paranymph . The official title of the head of the lost temple

of Hillusk the Golden

Parsan of Troon. Inadvertently purchased two kidnapped choristers from Dolbuk.

Perbergenple and Vrazdlekuth, purveyors of fine foods, in Taun Tassel

Perrin, also known as Kemawick Perrin, Arch Mage, Inferator of the Syncretic Symposium for the Simulation of Reality, holder of a half share in a temperance hotel in Taun Tassel, a trusteeship of a home for elderly and distressed gentlewomen, and the appointment as Domestic of the Walls of Kaiin. He is also Treasurer of the Scolasticariums wine evenings

Phetmus the Invigilant. An 18th aeon savant whose work on the Great Tumble is still considered one of the definitive works.

Pomperous. High Confalator in charge of Scorum, small riverside guest house , owned by the Symposium on the North bank of the Scaum.

Promebaust Taun Tassel Tailors and milliners

- Qweadipket. Archveult who fought a duel two hundred years ago against various archmages. There is still an area of blasted ground north of the lands of Duke Tambasco on which nothing has ever grown since the duel. probably that caused some two hundred years ago by the duel between the
- Rabasion the Mole Slayer, A 20th aeon hero who after a surfeit of sun-apple Calvados, earned his sobriquet with just such a spear. The symbolism of his actions was apparently lost on him

Saish Shortshanks Kaiin ne'er do well, boon companion and business associate of Dolbuk the shorecomber

Sardaal, Sardaal and Maulmundolde, makers of ladies undergarments in Kaiin

Sethiyallow and Crips, Taun Tassel Tailors and milliners Shamrine Abelane An elegant hostess in Kaiin and a purveyor of Dream Powder

Simbilops. Ex-mistress of Kandive the golden who conspired against him. (see Krashimdaar)

Skasserldol A clan who once ruled Kaiin, now lost within their own palace they are debauched and sodden with liquor. Inbred and degenerate that all appear to be the results of many generations of incestuous mating.

Slayomund. He ferries passengers half-way across Tsmouth before demanding a double fee. His aged mother (Phanpen the toothless) sits on the stern of his small boar in a rocking chair, knitting

Stafdyke, Author of the well respected "A Survey of all the Aeons"

Stark, Co-author of Willo and Stark, "Journeys from Tugesbir"

Subab A chef from Kaiin who prepares the food whenever Shamrine Abelane entertains. Known as an excellent cook with an unequalled touch when it comes to the heavier meats. Suishelmous, the eunuch door keeper from Llorio's dwelling on Sadal Suud.

Sulin Questor, author of "Notes from the Hurit Expedition" Suletta, Initially she claimed to be a specialist in the

- resensory jade carvings of Old Kharai before moving to Kaiin and becoming the favoured mistress of Kandive the Golden.
- Syncretic Symposium for the Simulation of Reality. A small group of the most senior faculty members of the Scolasticarium who are guaranteed perpetual tenure.
- Syrofinodules and daughters. Twk men who have trained their offspring (which they raise inside hollowed-out apple pips) as surveyors.
- Thrump, One of the enforcers who maintain order within the scholasticarium
- Thrumpgel and Woe. An Azenomei legal partnership.

Thrumpkindaals Author of "The Aristocracy of the Land of the Falling Wall in the 20th aeon."

- Tinkimwal. The 19th aeon author of "The Principles of Lemniscate Hamartiology with special reference to the demon realms"
- Tobihd a Kaiin Shorecomber

Troon (the younger) One of Kaiins better sous chefs

Tturber. Egotistical 20th aeon sculptor, his works are both collectable and widely copied.

Turvin, the Redactor of the Scholasticarium. In charge of the enforcers who maintain order within the scholasticarium

Txcalin. A cook of the highest quality is mentioned in the most recent issue of the Culinary Travelogue as "a maverick whose dishes range from category Gold (sublime) to category Puce (Fetid)"

Ulanke. A lady of considerable dignity and quite impressive power. Possibly the chief of the witches of the Cobalt mountains.

Uphas Under Chief Scullery Maid to the Lower Kitchen in the Scholasticarium , where he prepares boiled diurnal weed for the students

Upstanding Maugifiers. Servants of the Scholasticarium who are employed by the Dean to maintain order and protect the interests of the Scholasticarium outside its bounds. They are equipped with danny-sticks.

Volune Stinobric, normally known as Volune. Eroticist, lecturer at the Scholasticarium and Guardian of the sacred flowers of Falgunto. Has previously spent considerable amounts of time on the road or engaged in various endeavours purely to earn an honest crust. In the course of a moderately long and active life he has served in the Green legion, been pack man, sailor, beast trainer, night soil collector and Priest Lord of a small city in the far south. According to Perrin "As to my appointing this man Volune, I do recall the incident now you mention it, but it was after my Superior Viticulture practical lecture, at which time I fear I am somewhat garrulous. He stated that Grashpotels nose was superior to mine. I believe I said in response, "If Grashpotel can tell the difference between a Scaum Valley Leitvine and an Almery Rubydew, then you're a lecturer in Erotic Studies!"

Vrazizardlam. A 19th aeon eroticist who first perfected the spell "The Reliable engager of affections"

Vydorsk. Author of that seminal work, "Miscegenation, The Underworld, And You." Currently visiting lecturer in Old Romarth.

Willo, co-author of Willo and Stark, "Journeys from Tugesbir"

Xolon of Tugesbir, who calls himself an erb hide merchant. Yana van der Neffte. A nearly immortal but unusually young-looking lady who dominates the social scene in Kaiin.

Yartuine's Author of "The Slaying" which may or may not be an entirely fictitious account of a hunt in the Great Erm

Yminchik. Savant from Mahaze and current compiler of the "Culinary Travelogue"

Zaffbalnot. Kaiin assassin and business man Zamu Daliet. An architect from the mid 21st aeon who subscribed to the theory of ruins, which argues that anything great in life would leave great ruins. Therefore, to give posterity the impression of true magnificence, there was no point in building sumptuous edifices and wait for them to fall down. Rather money would be better spent on truly extravagant ruins. Hence the pylons in Cansaspara were planned deliberately, and the civic architecture around them distressed to make it look like they had collapsed. An alternative theory is that Zamu Daliet was one of the worst architects ever to live. However, his explanations for the inevitable collapse of his buildings add colour to his otherwise unspeakable reputation.

Zinquin the Encyclopedist. Late 20th aeon Arch mage who trained the predecessors of most late 21st aeon Mages.