

See the "Cosmic Beings & The Universe" document for explanations of the following : superintelligences, Cosmic Fortresses, Matter Sources/Sinks, Laire, Spore Ships, Swarms, Barys, Cosmocrats/Chaotarchs, Knights of the Deep, Incarnations, the Seven Powerful Ones, and other names below in [brackets].

=====

The Ennox (#1600 to #1649) : 1187-1202 NGE (13 year gap from previous cycle)

New names in this cycle :

Ennox – a race that can teleport long distances; homeworld is Mystery

Philip – an Ennox who primarily interacts with the Galactics

Paunaro – a Blue Nakken (a caterpillar-like race from the Tarkan universe)

Sinta – the mental component of the Abruse (from next cycle)

Voltago – a cyberclone created by the Cosmocrat TAUREC

Henna Zarphis – an Akon ship captain

The Blue Snake – one of seven Akon clones; leader of the Blue Legion

Arcoana – a spider-like intelligent race

In 1187 NGE, Rhodan decides not to take an official office in any galactic organization, and tries to visit the galaxy Truillau and Estartu's planet Etustar, but is told he is not welcome.

In 1189 NGE, Reginald Bell leaves on an expedition to the 62 million light-year distant Fornax cluster to measure the position and sphere of influence of the comonucleotide FORNAX-A. In late 1199 NGE, he returns and reports of a race of arachnoids (spider-like creatures) that has apparently died out. New Year's Eve is celebrated with great joy on all of Terra, since there has not been a peaceful change to a new century for 800 years. But at the same time, there are the first signs of changes in hyperspace.

A couple of weeks later in 1200 NGE, all devices on a five-dimensional basis suddenly no longer function within 5000 light-years of the Sol system. The only one who predicted this incident was the Generalist Boris Siankov, but his warnings were ignored. *Continued measurements indicate that that hyperspace is trying to return to its original state, which may lead to spontaneous singularities and instabilities in hyperspace. Accidents occur on many industrialized worlds. The region within which hyperspace is altered is called a Dead Zone.*

Atlan, who is outside the Dead Zone, does everything he can to investigate the phenomenon and send help or at least news to those trapped.

Ennox, who received a cell activator from IT in 1174 (in the previous cycle) appears, and is given the name Philip. He arrives at just the right time since Philip's people (now called Ennox) can walk the Short Path, a form of transportation through hyperspace similar to teleportation. While human teleporters are also affected by the Dead Zone, the Ennox are not. However, the Ennox behave like pests and are increasingly annoying the inhabitants of the Sol system. Cooperation with the Ennox proves to be difficult. Eventually, however, Philip agrees to transport messages in the form of small data storage devices between Bell, Atlan, and Rhodan, in exchange for free access to all spaceships and answers to all of their questions. The Ennox are unable to take living beings or large amounts of inanimate matter with them.

The ODIN with Perry Rhodan and Voltago, who has awakened from its immobility, is also thrown out of hyperspace and can only travel at sublight speed toward Alpha Centauri. Philip comes to Bell, who gives him a package to deliver to Rhodan. When he arrives on the ODIN, Rhodan sends him to Alpha Centauri with urgent medical supplies. When Philip returns, Voltago has an odd reaction, his face showing the traits of a wide

variety of people and races in quick succession. Philip returns to Earth and updates Bell on the ODIN's situation. *Voltago explains his reaction by saying* that the Ennox are “mentally distorted”.

A Blues scientist detects shifts in the frequency range of hyperspace outside the Dead Zone, and sees the "protrusions" he has observed as proof that the Dead Zone is controlled from outside. Meanwhile, research led by Myles Kantor reveals that the Dead Zone cannot be of natural origin, as hyperspace energies are flowing towards the Dead Zone and directed to a specific point in hyperspace. However, it is not clear whether the Dead Zone is a weapon or merely a *side effect* of a weapon that is used elsewhere in the universe. The Dead Zone pulsates in a regular rhythm and moves around within the galaxy.

The Galactics also take a close look at the Ennox. Rhodan deceives an Ennox into meeting Voltago, who has the same mimicry reaction as before. Voltago later reports that a special organ of the Ennox was responsible for their otherness and that they seemed twisted and convoluted to him. Myles Kantor analyzes the data from Atlan and Rhodan about the Ennox. In contrast to Atlan, who assumes that the Ennox are involved in the formation of the Dead Zone, he concludes that the Ennox are not to be regarded as causes, but have only been attracted to the dead zone for some reason. Atlan notices that a total of about 1500 different Ennox has been observed, but never more than 200 simultaneously. *A scientist succeeds in scanning an Ennox, discovering the so-called “step organ” that radiates in various psionic frequencies*, which enables the ability of the Short Path. All the Ennox suddenly leave the Sol system.

Later, Philip suddenly appears in front of Atlan, indignant that he and his comrades have been misused to convey information about the Ennox that they knew nothing about. Atlan is able to calm him down, however, and asks him if he can identify the images Voltago is showing. Philip confirms that they are images of *races* the Ennox have encountered over time, but gives no further information. Later, Philip appears again and bitterly complains about the breach of trust of the Galactics and blames them for what will happen next. *All Ennox disappear from every Galactic planet or ship.*

There are growing hostilities between the Arkons and the Akons over the domains of their empires, and the Blues and Springers appear to be helping the Akons.

Five months after its appearance, the Dead Zone disappears just as *quickly* as it came. A distraught Ennox appears in front of Atlan, wanting to know if the Terrans are responsible for the end of the Dead Zone. Atlan asks him the same question, and both realize that neither the Ennox nor the Terrans can be responsible for the hyperspace *phenomenon*. The Ennox makes it clear once again that no further contact between them and the Galactics is desired.

Hairline cracks in the five-dimensional structure of space in the Milky Way create a “Local Attractor” in the globular cluster M-3, a hyper-phenomenon that is associated with the Dead Zone. In order to investigate this, Ichō Tolot and Lingam Tennar, *search for Paunaro, and find him with Sato Ambush* in a space-time fold, where they find a call for help from Ambush, and find that Paunaro has come into *mental* contact with an unknown *entity* Sinta. It appears to be preparing to invade the standard universe. The four of them meet with Rhodan, where *Sinta is described as a 5-dimensional spiritual power of a parallel universe. Going to the Local Attractor, Tolot, Tennar, and Paunaro fly into it* and try to protect themselves by creating a space-time fold, *but something goes wrong and they disappear to another level of reality.* Sato Ambush tries to follow them, but his Ki (*paranormal mental abilities*) *finally fails and he is also stranded in some parallel reality, and they are all considered lost by the Galactics.*

Many galactic races take part in the further exploration of the Local Attractor, *which is discovered to be huge tear in space-time.* Including the MAGENTA of the Akons under their commander Henna Zarphis, which Perry Rhodan is *having feelings for* despite the warnings of Atlan and Voltago, *who tell Rhodan to remember Gesil.* Even the suspicious Gendal Jumphar, the MAGENTA security chief, cannot stop Rhodan from deepening his

relationship with Henna Zarphis. On board the MAGENTA a matter transmitter that can *interface* with alien transmitters is *discovered, and damaged by Voltago*.

Thru the co-operation of all those races present, it is discovered that neither space nor time exist within the Attractor, so there could be no space-time folds for Icho Tolot, Lingam Tennar, Paunaro and Sato Ambush to survive in. But it is possible that they landed in another time.

Voltago speaks to Rhodan and suggests that the Terran will one day learn to use him as a tool to open locks. There is a mosaic that is already coming together, and Voltago is a part of it. He can already recognize three other pieces of the mosaic, two of which are closely related. Rhodan will eventually move these pieces into place.

Experts assume that growth of the Local Attractor indicates the emergence of a new Dead Zone. Therefore, preparations are being made on many planets for the expected catastrophe.

Three months after the first Dead Zone disappeared, a new one emerges, but is only 5000 light-years across, and encloses the space around M-13. As it sweeps across the Milky Way, it centers around the area of Arkon. This encourages the Akons, who now want to settle the long-simmering conflict with the Arkonides in public, and annex Arkonide systems. Philip appears in front of Atlan, saying the Ennox are going to help the Akons, so Atlan grants the Ennox unlimited power of attorney for the Arkonides. Philip is tasked with finding all available information about the new Dead Zone.

Not only is the new Dead Zone smaller than the first, but its size pulses at regular intervals, growing by one percent then shrinking every few hours. Myles Kantor interprets the disappearance of the first and the reappearance of the second Dead Zone with modified parameters as a temporary deactivation of some device for fine adjustment.

Multiple projections of various objects and creatures appear all over Arkon, that contradict the known laws of nature. The period of their duration and appearances leads Myles Kantor to conclude they are associated with the Dead Zone. Trying to enter a projection, Atlan is overwhelmed with violent and confusing impressions and visions.

Rhodan prepares an indictment against the Akons' hostile actions to the Galactic Court in the Assembly of the Galactic Council. An Ennox named Rebecca inexplicably takes the Akons' side, and argues extensively with NATHAN during the proceedings, and the meeting is cancelled. Rhodan accuses Philip of taking the rights that the Ennox have been guaranteed by Atlan lightly and seeing the whole thing as a game.

Homer G. Adams receives a message saying that Wanderer will appear in the Sol system, and Ernst Ellert will deliver an important message to the Terrans. Ellert arrives, and says that that IT is waiting for the two mirror-borns to give them the two remaining cell activators (from the end of the previous cycle). Anyone who considers themselves "mirror-born" should come to Wanderer and receive the chips. Rhodan realizes that a run on the two activators will begin and chaos will break out around Wanderer in the next few days, as all kinds of beings from the entire known Milky Way will suddenly see themselves as mirror-born.

It is discovered by Arkonide spies that the leader of the Akon covert intelligence operation Blue Legion, the Blue Snake, is Henna Zarphis.

Another projection of a giant crystal and insectoid spaceships appears above Arkon, which Atlan interprets as a new attempt by Sinta to make contact. After the projection goes out, the Arkonide holds a twenty-one-sided pyramid prism in his hands.

A Cosmic House League specialist opens a secret file created by the Blue Snake :

An Akonian scientist carries out a forbidden genetic experiment in 1152 NGE. They create seven identical female clones in a gene factory. The plant is destroyed six months later by the Cosmic House League, but *the scientist* is able to save the siblings. He adopts one himself and gives her the name Alnora, while the others are given to loving parents. One joins Aia and Pedron Zarphis and lives as Henna on Tolomore.

In 1163, *the scientist* meets the clones Alnora and Saudra Panolo. Saudra deviates from the norm and tries to kill Alnora. In doing so, she leaves behind a blue gemstone in the shape of a feathered snake. Another five years later, Saudra encounters the clone Arnila Velsham. She kills her and leaves behind another gemstone. Saudra then learns the whole truth about her existence and her sisters from Arnila's parents' documents. She now wants to kill everyone who knows this secret. Her own parents are killed first, and Saudra goes into hiding. In 1172, she kills her sisters Allanka and Theadran. Another nine years later, Challenga dies.

In 1184, Alnora founds the Blue Legion and becomes the Blue Serpent. Alnora and Saudra meet again and one of them dies. But is it Alnora or Saudra who assumes Alnora's identity? In any case, the survivor has a new face, which had to be cosmetically treated due to the injuries she sustained. And the murders continue until only three people know her identity as the Blue Serpent. One of them is Jumphar.

In 1185, the XD transponder project (*presumably, the transmat found on the MAGENTA*) is initiated and five years later Henna comes under the influence of the Blue Serpent.

In the present, Alnora realizes the file has been read, and she reveals her sisterhood to Henna. Alnora is convinced that they are the mirror-born, but Henna *disagrees*. Rhodan, who now believes that Henna is the Blue Serpent, lets the MAGENTA hunt her. *Alnora tries to flee to Wanderer, but* Henna uses the XD transponder – and the MAGENTA disappears from the Sol system without a trace.

Pucky, who has been commissioned by IT to search for the last two candidates for the cell activators, the so-called mirror-born, *has been flying* through the galaxy with Alaska Saedelaere *for years* - but without any visible success. Instead, he meets an Ennox with no memory, whom he offers to take to his home planet if he tells him the coordinates, *which are in the galaxy NGC 7793*. Only after a long refusal does the Ennox reveal them, after he is almost on the verge of death. He makes Pucky promise that no Galactic will set foot on the planet Mystery, because the supreme law *of the Ennox is that* no foreign being is allowed to ever land on their homeworld.

Many people land on IT believing they are mirror-born, but they all die, as an unmistakable warning that every hunter of immortality should have understood.

Philip appears to Atlan, and takes the pyramid prism from him to Myles Kantor. It is examined, and found to be hollow and have a negative Strangeness. Shortly thereafter, the scientists bring the prism together with a cell activator that also has a negative Strangeness. The two objects react by adjusting their temperatures of 301.68 Kelvin and 300.22 Kelvin and remain constant at 301.13 Kelvin. One scientist voices his opinion :

“Strangeness greater than zero defines a place that exists in reality, but in a different universe. Is it possible that negative Strangeness points to things that are not real but can become real at some point? Similar to the [psiqs] of a [cosmonucleotide]? It only remains for us to keep all our senses open.”

In 1201 NGE, during the flight to Mystery, IT mentally contacts Pucky and says he no longer needs to look for the mirror-born, because he has failed. When Pucky tries to teleport into Mystery's atmosphere in his own interpretation of his promise (*not to “land” on the planet*), he is *thrown* back and loses *the knowledge* of his paragifts.

Kantor and others study the space-time fold that trapped Sato Ambush, Ichō Tolot, Lingam Tennar and Paunaro. After several probes are sent, a Haultan scientist enters the fold with the pyramid prism, and reports four things:

A: Sato Ambush is on a plane of existence between the para-realities. His Ki, which is responsible for the accident and thus for the presence of the missing, is no longer under his control and acts independently. Sato meets Embuscade, who claims that they are two different *yet* equally probable beings. Embuscade, who cannot be identified by Ambush, wears a cell activator chip and takes over *directing their activities*. First, the two of them switch to another plane of existence.

B: The new reality appears to be Embuscade's domicile. Ambush tells him of his fate, and Embuscade claims to know the TARFALA. They begin their search for the trident ship and switch to a stable plane of existence that has no measurable time factor. The echoes of foreign bodies are reflected in this timelessness. This is how they become aware of the instability caused by the Ki, which blocks the way back for the four missing people. They switch planes of existence again and find the wreckage of the TARFALA and three *empty* spacesuits. But Embuscade claims that the two Haluters and the Blue Nakk are not dead. Rather, they are in a theoretical para-world and he was mistaken in his destination.

C: Further search leads them to a dimensional vortex from which the TARFALA crashes out of. Ambush and Embuscade are picked up by the trident ship, which is the real TARFALA. There Paunaro realizes that Embuscade is a para-real image of Ambush and that the two should not actually exist side by side. **Both Ambush and Embuscade disintegrate.**

D: The TARFALA receives hypersignals that lead them to a planet they name Trist. A planet-wide battle has recently taken place there, as Trist is a site of devastation. However, no bodies are found, and shortly afterwards they meet Crounagger, the supreme commander of the Corrax. They fought against an evil force at this site, which he calls Courill, and died. He, the last fighter, believes Paunaro, Tennar and Tolot to be the emissaries of the evil power, and suddenly attacks them all mentally. When the TARFALA manages to escape, Crounagger commits suicide.

After these events on their side of the space-time fold, the three survivors encounter several different planets, and then are finally able to exit to our universe. The three companions go their separate ways.

Experiments near the edge of the Dead Zone reveal that possibly, Sinta does not come from another universe, but from an alien space. Interactions with the local sphere only take place in the UHF range, for example with the psionic radiation from the call station. They assume that Sinta does not want its actions to be observed. Upon his return, Paunarno analyzes all available data and concludes that Sinta poses no danger, and the negative Strangeness is not a Strangeness of time, but an unknown phenomenon. Later, Paunaro reveals that the projections (like on Arkon) can only occur because the Dead Zone is also a projection. The actual occurrence of this projection certainly has nothing to do with Sinta, who only uses the Dead Zone for its own purposes. The origin of this actual event is in NGC 6503, 13 million light years from the Milky Way.

In the Milky Way, 250 Ennox fall ill, so the only way to save them is to bring them to Mystery. Philip finally agrees, despite his reservations. On Mystery, the expedition led by Perry Rhodan finds a model of the universe that covers 40 billion light-years, which spans the entire planet. The Ennox have been given the task of completely cataloging the universe. They themselves are energy beings whose destiny it is to merge into this model. However, there are still large gaps in the model.

A Lingular peacemaker is smuggled into an Akon Grand Council meeting, and peace between the Blues and Akons, but also with regard to the Blue Legion's actions galaxy-wide, is then only a matter of time.

*The Blue Serpent launches an aggressive attack on Wanderer in an attempt to get a cell activator chip. **She faces an angry and ferocious IT, and is killed.** The stories of the survivors of the attack on Wanderer are enough to persuade the other hunters of immortality to leave the Sol system. However, Henna Zarphis' innocence is proven.*

*Reginald Bell launches a large, multi-racial expedition towards the constellation of the Dragon, where NGC 6503 is, and the actual target turns out to be the Sheokor system, where the Arcoana live, the spider-like creatures whose traces Reginald Bell discovered earlier. **The Arcoana believe this fleet is manned by Ennox, who have manipulated and tortured their race for eons, and start to attack. But Paunaro breaks formation, and sends a radio message that proves he is not an Ennox and expresses a desire for peace. The leader of the Arcoana stands down. But there is a general mistrust of the Terrans, because they look so much like the Ennox physically.***

*Perry Rhodan also arrives after receiving clues from the Ennox. Both meet Colounshaba, a gifted 5-D mathematician of the Arcoana. **As a defense against the intrusive Ennox, she had constructed Maciuunensor, a five-dimensional machine that prevents the Ennox from penetrating the Sheokor system and driving the mentally unstable Arcoana insane. But it also had the side effect of creating the Dead Zones. However, Paunaro recognizes the design flaw, and fixes it.** It is also recognized that the pulsation of the second Dead Zone corresponds to the day-night phase of the main world of the Arcoana. In the Milky Way, the second Dead Zone vanishes. The Ennox make a request to start peaceful associations with the Arcoana.*

*When the expedition returns to the Sol system, Pucky also arrives, having tracked down the two mirror-born Mila and Nadja Vandemar, twins who have unrealized paranormal abilities and cannot stray farther than a couple of miles from each other without being in intense mental pain. Ernst Ellert hands them their activator chips and then disappears to follow IT. **The twins return to their homeworld for the time being.***

Philip now tries to convince the Terrans to explore the Great Void, a region of space 250 million light-years across that is relatively empty of galaxies. According to the Ennox, it harbors the greatest galactic mystery, and is connected to the Third Ultimate Question (who initiated [the LAW] and what does it do?). Voltago also says "go to Coma Berenices", which is in the direction of the Great Void. While Rhodan's request for resources is denied him by the Galactic Council, the Cosmic House League agrees to fund the expedition. In 1202 NGE, the BASE and its huge fleet sets off on the first expedition to the Great Void, which Colounshaba and the mirror twins also join.

The Great Void (#1650 to #1699) : 1206-1216 NGE (4 year gap from previous cycle)

New names in this cycle :

Quidor – a Knight of the Deep, two million years ago

Moria – an immortal Ayindi from the Arresum; a fierce warrior

GAFIF – a group of Arkonide scientists led by Atlan

Damurial – enforcers of the Taboo on the Transition Worlds

Thean (judge) – the highest office of the Damurial

Ertuscan – descendants of Terra who colonized a 3.4 G planet, they evolved to 8 feet tall and 6 feet wide

The expedition reaches *the Great Void* in 1206 NGE, having built “Coma” bases on various planets along the way, as waystations and future Cosmic House League sites. Philip, Paunaro, and Icho Tolot did not arrive with them.

After exploring a nearby pulsar named Borgia, the expedition now enters the phase of exploring the surroundings. To this end, spaceships are sent on flights to the outskirts of the Great Void.

Virtually all the exploring starships find *civilizations of different species*, and ruins of ancient civilizations and the “Quidor” symbol again and again - a figure eight lying on its side, a Möbius loop.

Reginald Bell flies the KAHALO to a cluster of stars 350,000 light years away from Borgia. On arrival in the Lakoor system, the Galactics *are forced* to take part in the Quidor Game as new participants. The crew of the KAHALO had *inadvertently* become part of this game *merely* by flying into the Lakoor system. The aim of the game is to merge the teams of players from different races into the Quidor *mental network*. The Terrans sabotage the Quidor game, causing chaos, and are finally ejected from the Quidor network and taken to their spaceship so that they can leave the solar system.

Philip appears, and reports on the Great Cosmic Mystery : the Ennox are not able to penetrate the Great Emptiness by their Short Path method. With each attempt, they would be thrown to an incredible planet, which they call “Transition Worlds”. The Ennox found that the border at which they arrive at the right destination is about twelve light years *around* Borgia. Spaceships and *teleporter mutants*, on the other hand, can easily pass through this border.

Philip explains that a great empire existed on the edge of the Void several million years ago. About two million years ago, a threat arose that led to the formation of an alliance, which was symbolized by the Quidor. In addition to its function as an emblem of the alliance, this symbol had an even more important function. Around the Great Void there had been defenses, the ruins of which the Galactics have now come across. The twenty one Transition Worlds were the focal points of the Alliance's confrontation with the unknown threat. Philip warns against careless penetration into the Great Void and landing on the Transition Worlds.

Icho Tolot and three other Haluters discover the first Transition World, Noman, *which has an abnormally high gravity*. When told about the “Place of Balance”, Haluter Koul Laffal *enters despite warnings that doing so will cause the planet to perish*. Laffal is unable to free himself from this labyrinth, so an Etruscan (*human descendants of Cajuns*) landing party of the ODIN sets out without orders under the command of Lyndara to free the Haluter. In the course of the next few days, Koul Laffal does find an exit, but the Etruscans are unable to *find an exit leading back to Noman*. In their search for an exit, the Etruscans reach a wall of fog, which they pass through and emerge on the Ennox homeland, Mystery. Homer G. Adams agrees to have the stranded Etruscans picked up if the Ennox report in detail in the future on the progress of the Great Void expedition. *[See below for the rest of the Ertuscan story.]*

Philip requests that the Galactics gather information about the Transition Planets, because the Ennox cannot visit them themselves. The FORNAX visits the Transition Planet Shaft. A vertical shaft is found there which, according to measurements, is 18,000 miles deep, despite a planetary diameter of only 7,800 miles. Three scientists venture into the depths in an unauthorized experiment. When they reach the 1.2 mile mark with their **SERUNS** (*advanced protective and battle suits*), their radio signals fall silent.

Bell arrives at the Transition Planet Tornister, where he discovers the “island of shadows”, a cube of concrete-like material 6-miles on a side. Exploring a cave, they find a lake made of a liquid that resembles water in its density but has a consistency like mercury. Analysis is not possible *because* samples either *evaporate* or return to the lake immediately.

Pucky and Alaska Saedeaere arrive at the Transition Planet Sloughar, where Pucky discovers a metal cube 30 feet long, 15 feet wide, and 27 feet high below ruins that are older than the planet. The cube contains a dune landscape, which, however, has a considerably greater internal volume than the cube and is covered by countless graves.

Rhodan and Icho Tolot arrive at the Transition Planet Trantar, which has a shortened horizon, so that the view is only one fifth of the expected width due to the size and curvature of the planet. They are told of the “Wide Land”, and set out to find it. It turns out to be a 1.5-mile-high plateau of 4000 feet in diameter. In this area there is no short horizon, just normal sight. Exploring a tunnel system, they discover a floating disc 160 feet in diameter and 16 feet thick. Voltago tries to walk across it, and gets smaller and smaller until he disappears from sight. Four days later, he returns, and says there was an invisible labyrinth which his senses allowed him to traverse to get back. He also found a barrier which resembled the transition from Noman to Mystery. He also got the impression there was something in there which needs to be retrieved.

In 1207 NGE, Atlan and Paunaro find the Transition Planet Canaxu, which is divided into numerous sharply defined ecospheres. There he finds a 600 foot diameter shaft which measures 18,000 miles deep, despite a planetary diameter of only 7,800 miles. While Paunaro perceives the shaft as bottomless in the fifth-dimension through his senses, Colounshaba suspects that it could lead to a parallel reality.

It is discovered that all Transition Planets have the impossible hydrogen isotope H-5. A five-dimensional field encloses the super-heavy hydrogen nucleus and thus binds the surrounding four neutrons, making it stable.

Rhodan arrives at Shaft. Voltago and Mila Vandemar then penetrate the vertical shaft into a hyperdimensional labyrinth and find a prism there similar to the one Atlan found (in the Ennox cycle), but with 20 facets and one missing facet and negative Strangeness, which Voltago describes as a “spindle”. Meanwhile, Gish-Vatachh (taboo police) ships appear over Shaft. A guardian on behalf of the Theans (taboo guardian race) tells the Galactics to report to Thean Siodor in the Cruyon system for judgement.

There, a fleet of 300 Gish-Vatachh ships welcomes the Galactics. To prevent an armed conflict with the inhabitants on the edge of the Great Void, Rhodan goes to a huge fortress, the DAMURIAL. The Galactics are accused of committing a taboo crime by repeatedly entering Shafts. The Galactics are sentenced to exile on a remote planet and their spaceships are appropriated. Rhodan does not accept the sentence and is forced to realize that a diplomatic solution is not possible. The group briefly takes hostages and is able to fight their way back to their ships. After returning from the Cruyon system to Borgia, Perry Rhodan reports the verdict against the Galactics and an expected attack by the Gish-Vatachh. Several cruiser and dinghy flotillas are therefore hidden near the pulsar Borgia. *Fortunately, most of the larger exploring battleships had already returned.*

The Gish-Vatachh fleet arrives, calling themselves the Taboo Guardians. The Theans are not prepared to negotiate and allow the taboo criminals to attack. The superior galactic technology and the element of surprise provided by the ambushing cruisers and dinghies lead to the *Gish-Vatachh being repelled*. Despite this successful defense, Rhodan offers the Theans the surrender of the Galactics. As a sign of his goodwill, 100 robotic bears are transported to the Gish-Vatachh. These are equipped with Siganesian micro-transmats, through which Ertruser landing parties can reach the Gish-Vatachh ships. The Theans' ships are also affected by this infiltration, so that they finally agree to negotiate.

A delegation of Galactics with Michael Rhodan and the Linguids is received on a Thean ship and succeeds in convincing the Theans of the Galactics' good intentions, particularly through the use of the Linguid peacemakers. While the landing parties withdraw from the Taboo Guardians' ships, Thean Siodor's original verdict is then overturned. At the same time, the Theans agree to provide information about the origin of the taboos for the Transition planets :

Two million years ago, the Tanxtuunra, the "Alliance of a Thousand Galaxies", existed in the Great Void. The Quidor symbol served as a sign of this alliance. *Thru* the Transition Planets, the Tanxtuunra was attacked by an absolute evil, which appeared in the form of invincible and indestructible giants. Thanks to the great Quidor (*a Knight of the Deep*), who reduced the life span of the giants to a few days with a weapon named after him, the invaders were repelled until they disappeared into the "holes" of the Transition Planets. These "holes", which the Galactics assume must be the peculiarities of the Transition Planets *they explored*, were then closed with seals. Since Quidor's victory over the Nameless Evil, the Theans have acted as "Guardians of the Endless Border" and are responsible for ensuring that the Transition Worlds remain untouched.

Atlan suspects that the spindle found on Shaft could be the weapon of Quidor. The story told to the Galactics makes Perry Rhodan decide to revisit Noman, *with the permission of the Theans*. There, with the help of the Vandemar twins, Voltago finds another *incomplete* spindle.

The two Theans are outraged by the premature action of the Galactics. Their hypothesis is that the spindles may not be the weapon of Quidor, but the seals that could be switched off by the removal of the missing segments, leading them to question Rhodan's arrogance.

The Galactics now want to search the other Transition Planets for such spindles, which they succeed in doing via *using* the cube of Noman's *hyperdimensional tunnels, since travelling by spaceship would take too long*. *Voltago and the twins* are able to collect such spindles on all the sampler planets, except on the planet Monochrome. There, however, they find the three scientists missing from Shaft and return to *Noman, and then to the ODIN*. A total of 20 spindles were found.

Voltago later explains to Rhodan that he analyzed parts of Mila's abilities during the expedition. He concludes that Mila has the gift of seeing things from the front and from behind at the same time. As soon as her sister moves about half a mile away from Mila, a second perspective is added, in which she also perceives things from the inside out.

Paunaro recognizes various higher-dimensional formations in the spindles, while Colounshaba is able to calculate a specific grouping of the spindles, in which the five-dimensional formations focus on one location within the Great Void. The TARFALA and the LAMCIA then launch to these calculated coordinates and are able to find a world without a sun hidden behind a dark field at this location. There they find another spindle which, like the other structures discovered so far, is missing a segment. When they examine the spindle, it splits into its 20 segments. Atlan suspects that these are the missing segments of the spindles found so far.

After multiple instances of the letter M appear on Noman, the Vandemar twins discover a dark purple ship and encounter a 7.5 foot tall humanoid being who introduces herself as Moira, *the guardian of the segments, and says she is going to start a game in which the future and possibly the past are at stake, and the stakes are the lives of the Galactics*. Apparently she has been watching Perry Rhodan for a long time and, out of sympathy for the Terrans, has repelled a third wave of Dolan attacks (*from the M-87 cycle*) on the Sol system, penetrated the Swarm (*from that cycle*) and attacked the Karduhls and the Cynos, and even visited the Endless Armada (*from that cycle*), *all the time killing people and taking their heads as trophies. She was imprisoned by the Knights of the Deep for 500,000 years for killing a Knight that refused to let her join the order*. Moira offers Perry Rhodan her services as a warrior. Perry Rhodan is not convinced of Moira's sincerity and rejects her offer. The warrior then expels the Galactics from *her ship* and claims that they will meet again soon.

Perry Rhodan decides to return to the Milky Way, *but Bell remains behind to find Pucky, Alaska, and some other missing crew members*. During the trip, the spindles and segments (the separate missing pieces) are studied, but the scientists are hindered because Voltago has gone immobile again, and cannot help the Vandemar twins use their psi talents. Several configurations are tried, but it is not possible to connect the segments to the spindles

permanently. Colounshaba flies to the Sheokor system with a spindle and segment, and the Arcoana go to their homeworld with a pair as well. Three spindles and three segments are taken to the moon Titan in the Sol system by some Ennox, but one spindle and one segment are lost and the Ennox transporting them is killed.

The FAMUG, a group "For Arkon's Might and Glory" (*in German*), which aims to re-create the Great Empire, kidnaps a group of scientists with a spindle and a segment. When the scientists are freed in early 1212 NGE, the spindle and segment are destroyed.

Meanwhile, Colounshaba discovers that the segment must undergo a specific rotation in hyperspace so that it can be integrated into the spindle. Furthermore, since the Ennox cannot carry living matter with them, she suspects that the spindles have living components *when connected* with the segments. The Arcoana manages to get Philip and Gerrold to transport the spindle, segment and her findings to Titan.

On Titan, *scientists* work on the practical implementation of Colounshaba's findings. The first attempt takes place in cooperation with Paunaro. *By using a transmat (a device that can teleport things from one place to another),* the segment can be rotated and aligned in hyperspace in such a way that it finally unites with the spindle and forms a bizarre biological life form, which dies after only 20 minutes. The cause of death *of the creature, which has a negative Strangeness,* is determined to be that the various organs were not aligned with each other and were therefore unable to nourish the body. It is *found* that the spindle had *copied* gene structures from various species that were nearby. *Both Titan and Colounshaba refuse a second attempt, so* Ichō Tolot takes a spindle and a segment to Halut, where further investigations are to take place. He repeats the experiment and sees how a living being emerges from the object which outwardly resembles a full-grown Halut. The spindle creature called One possesses all the physical and psychic powers of a Haluter, *and while is ignorant and inexperienced like a baby, it has a capacity for learning very fast.*

Tolot takes One to Titan, where he reports the results of the experiment. In the spaceship CHIMAIRA, in the Oort Cloud on the edge of the Sol system, Myles Kantor joins the spindle and the segment. The result is Two, who resembles a full-grown male Terran, but has enormous physical strength and *also* a remarkable ability to learn. After a short time, however, it becomes apparent that Two has deformities that continue to worsen. This process, which is extremely painful for the spindle creature, leads to it turning against the crew of the spacecraft and sabotaging various critical systems. Finally, the CHIMAIRA must be evacuated and is destroyed by Two, *who dies in the process.*

Meanwhile, for security reasons, several Cosmic House League spaceships are fitted *with 100 foot diameter detachable workshops,* in which further experiments on the creation of spindle beings are planned. There, a being is created on the PAVO that resembles a full-grown male Terran and is again given the name Two. *Two also has a high learning capacity, especially about astronomy. One and Two are brought together, and they immediately feel a kind of kinship, despite being created from different genepools. In a non-verbal communication, they exchange information incredibly quickly through their eyes. In order to be able to control the information flow, the spindle beings are separated again, but allowed to communicate via terminals. They quickly realize that they are connected to the Great Void in some way, and that others like them must exist.*

Perry Rhodan and Homer G. Adams come to the conclusion that, despite the potential danger, Three to Seven should be created *in separate locations,* but Seven's *existence* should be concealed from the other spindle beings *as a safeguard.* The experiments take place simultaneously and produce Terran-looking beings - two women and three men. *They show interests in different areas : research, analysis, strategy, command, and improvisation, which together make them well-suited for space exploration.*

To everyone's astonishment, Six is able to *connect to a syntronic (a computer completely located in hyperspace)* and send a hyperradio message, which is then returned by Seven. The SERPENS is then ordered to the galactic halo with Seven.

Three and Four have been brought together on Akkartil, One and Two are at the research center on Titan. Seven is alone on SERPENS in the halo of the Milky Way.

Five and Six, as well as Reginald Bell, are prisoners of FAMUG after they captured the spaceship on which the two spindle beings were brought together. But the tide turns and ten FAMUG Arkonides and Reginald Bell became prisoners of the two spindle beings. All together they escape in a dinghy.

The spindle beings declare their willingness to exchange Bell for Seven - which is what happens. The next condition is the reunion with Three and Four, which is to take place on Akkartil. The *Galactics* want to set a trap for the spindle beings there. On Akkartil, the spindle beings avoid all the traps, reunite with Three and Four and they leave the planet *to go to* the Sol system, *while* their prisoners, the Arkonides of FAMUG, *are left* behind.

The five spindle beings appear in the Sol system. Then One and Two break out of their living quarters. The Terrans are shocked to see the seven spindle beings take the eight remaining spindle-segment sets and a modified transmat on board their ship. With heavy losses on the Terran side, they withdraw from the Sol system. Icho Tolot, who does not oppose them, is able to follow with the HALUTA. *The Terrans realize that the spindle beings' aggressiveness is only proportional to the amount of resistance they meet in achieving their goals.*

The secret GAFIF base at Mereidden is captured by the spindle beings. When the Arkonide tender LAYSSIA lands, it is taken over by the spindle beings, who *now leave* with two ships. *Tolot, who had lost their trail earlier, finds them again and is careful not to be detected.*

The KYMRE of the Tentra Blues is captured by the spindle beings off the Hanseatic port of Lokkeren. Icho Tolot contacts the spindle beings and asks to be allowed on board. In return, he offers them an important piece of information, namely that there are a total of 20 spindle segment sets. However, he does not tell them that the other five sets no longer exist. *They allow him to board.*

All of the prisoners, and One, are transferred to the KYMRE, so that the gene pool is not endangered in the subsequent creation program. The spindle beings Eight to Fifteen are then created *in the next six days. This results in the realization that there must be a coordinator, which must come from one of the missing spindles.*

The Tentra Blues are able to create a trap for One on their ship and can kill the spindle creature while Icho Tolot has to watch. The KYMRE escapes and Icho Tolot heads for the Sol system.

The fourteen spindle beings now appear on Gatas (*the Blues homeworld*) and then on Ertrus. They gain access to the central syntronic and are not successful *in finding what they want*. Finally, in the Humanidrome's syntronic, they find a file *saying that* all the information about the spindle beings and the Great Void *is on* Arkon. With the help of the FAMUG, they finally succeed in *reaching* Arkon *by transmat*, but the syntronic there is blocked by Atlan from the ATLANTIS. The *traitorous* commander of the ATLANTIS informs the FAMUG, and shows the spindle beings the way into the computer. Here they are arrested by a GAFIF commando. Atlan has killed two birds with one stone: he has arrested the spindle beings and at the same time convicted the commander of the ATLANTIS of treason.

The spindle beings are now taken to a security wing on Titan. As they show interest in Lyndara and her Ertrusers, they are granted access to their data stored on *Saturn's moon* Mimas, *where they become interested in* *Mystery*. Philip, who doesn't want to answer any questions about *Mystery*, takes a Short Path and the spindle beings go berserk again. They take another hostage and take off in a space jet to Mars and there to the *degenerate biomass that resulted from a failed terraforming experiment* in the Sheravyl area.

Five announces that they must go the way of Lyndara, and the spindle beings clear an area 300 feet in diameter, roughly in the middle of the *Sheravyl* area, which they seal off *with an energy field*. They then begin to drill

deep. At a depth of 1000 feet, they come across a field of ruins from which they recover a two-meter obelisk, two million years old, *made of an unknown substance*, with a Quidor symbol at the top. Satisfied, they contact Rhodan and declare that they now want to visit NATHAN. Having arrived at NATHAN's STALHOF (*a section inside NATHAN that is the physical planning headquarters for the Cosmic House League*), the spindle beings literally soak up general knowledge, and the question arises as to when they will reach the core of their search.

Eventually, Five comes forward. He and his fellow species are *baffled about* the Transition planets. The spindle beings insist that they want to speak to the collectors of the spindles. But Rhodan *refuses*, convinced that the Vandemar twins will not be willing to do so, and the cyberclone Voltago *still* remains silent anyway.

Hours later, Five has questions about the *burned-out* cell activators, one of which temporarily existed twice. Rhodan provides information and talks about the Strangeness of time. However, Five replies: "How stupid of you." NATHAN then reveals that the spindle beings are approaching *its* core, and then the syntonics sound an internal alarm.

NATHAN reports that the spindle beings are trying to manipulate it and then Rhodan, Atlan, Michael Rhodan, Tekener and Paunaro are cut off from the outside world. The next day, Paunaro realizes that the spindle beings are influencing NATHAN via *its* 5-D component. NATHAN probably only controls 83 percent of itself which is already making itself felt outside the Sol system due to its galaxy-wide syntonetic networking. NATHAN briefly announces that it is dying. Five declares the victory of the spindle beings over the Terrans. He demands to be taken to the Great Void, otherwise the Sol system will be history. Then the Moon disappears without a trace.

A little later, Michael Rhodan, Tekener and Paunaro discover that NATHAN is building an 1800-foot ship on behalf of the spindle beings, which resembles the TARFALA in appearance, *but can travel 350 million times light-speed*. NATHAN also produces an 1800-foot death satellite. It is also discovered that the spindle beings have nothing to do with the sealing off of Luna. Moira reveals herself to Perry Rhodan, telling him that she has enveloped Luna in a dark field and that she also arrived in the Milky Way with the arrival of the BASE. Moira then tells Rhodan about the planet of death, where she had retreated *to* two million years ago. There, Quidor of Tanxtuunra (*a Knight of the Deep*) saved her from *death by a microbial infection*, which she later tried to unravel when Quidor was long dead and had become a legend. But the mystery had long since become unsolvable.

The spindle beings are now isolated in the STALHOF, and NATHAN begins to slowly regenerate. *Moira* now takes action against the spindle beings and soon all *of them* are captured and taken aboard the STYX.

Voltago wakes up and tells Rhodan something he has remembered :

In 1173 NGE, *two years after he was created by the Cosmocrat TAUREC*, he is on board the SYZZEL with TAUREC, Gesil and Eirene. The small spaceship stood in front of the Great Void, and the Cosmocrat told Voltago everything and that he should memorize it. TAUREC ended with a reference to the danger that the Knight of the Deep Quidor of Tanxtuunra had averted two million years ago, and which could become *active* again. He also mentioned that Mars and large areas of the Milky Way could be threatened. Voltago then dropped the others off at a Matter Source and came to Rhodan as *his helper*, since he still had the status of a Knight of the Deep.

The STYX with Moira, Alaska Saedelaere, Nadja and Mila Vandemar on board *suddenly leaves the Moon* and transports the captured spindle beings to the Great Void. In 1213 NGE, the first destination there is the Monochrome world, where the spindle beings are able to escape through the shaft, by taking *the twins* hostages. However, they can be recaptured over *the course of three years* on the other Transition planets. Apparently, the

spindle beings had been searching for their places of origin. *They also tell Moira that* in order to achieve absolute effectiveness, they must probably *have* 18 spindle beings.

In order to find out more about the background to the Quidor of Tanxtuunra and Moira's own story, the STYX goes to the planet Quidor and thus to the School of Theans. It turns out that Quidor is Moria's "planet of death". There is a Quidor (*psionic*) network in the school. After the spindle beings are inserted into the net, they are attacked, but this leads them to the net's control center. After taking control of the net, the cell activator carriers are also connected to the net, so that they too are informed about the past of Quidor of Tanxtuunra :

Two million years ago, on the day of the 50th anniversary of the battle against the nameless evil, the Knight of the Deep had found a dying warrior of evil on the planet Quidor. After he rescued her, the warrior joined him as a *helper*. However, she was a traitor who eventually fled. To prevent any of the warrior's descendants from posing a danger, the Knight of the Deep had the planet's flora and fauna destroyed. A picture of the *evil* warrior depicts Moira, but without her head of hair.

Moira is angered by this story, calling them lies, and *destroys the entire Quidor network, thus killing everyone connected to it*. Her next target is the Milky Way, because only Perry Rhodan apparently possesses the "key to the truth".

The BASE arrives at the pulsar Borgia in 1216 NGE, after leaving the Milky Way in 1213. After reaching the pulsar, the BASE is threatened by 7000 Damurial ships under the command of seven Theans. However, Perry Rhodan is able to obtain a ten-day period in which the Galactics must prove their innocence, that they have nothing to do with the events on Quidor. During this time, the Transition planets are searched by the Ennox for Moira and the spindle beings, but without success. After the deadline, Atlan and Pucky are able to reach a truce with the Theans with the help of a bluff.

On the ODIN's flight to Charon, the starship is attacked by 300 Gish-Vatachh ships, when the STYX appears and is able to repel the attack. Rhodan and Voltago transfer to the STYX and the ODIN follows to the dark world. The proximity of the spindle beings *releases* a blockage in Voltago and can thus clear up some mysteries:

In 1144 NGE, TAUREC learned about a great danger from the Great Emptiness and the legendary Battle of the Knights of the Deep. He traveled to several Transition planets, taking the spindle of the Monochrome world with him. He finally reaches Charon where he takes one of the segments. He brings the segment and spindle together at his Meliserad base. *In the middle of the creation of the spindle being, he stops the process and Voltago is created from the resulting biomass in a cloning process, which he endows with cybernetic elements.*

The cyberclone also reports that it can determine the birth worlds of the spindle beings. Five, for example, is from Downunder.

The Ertuscans constantly demand the "key for the gateway to Noman", which they believe lies in the Sol system. *They invade the Titan base and take the burnt-out cell activator with negative Strangeness, calling it a "key". The Strangeness of the Ertuscans is also found to be negative – they seem to be time travelers. They then travel to Mystery, but upon discovering that the burned-out cell activator doesn't do what they want, they start hunting people with cell activator chips. It is revealed that when they were in the labyrinth, they saw it as an indescribable place of wonders that allows a glimpse into eternity and houses all the secrets of life and creation. There, they could become an entity higher than a Superintelligence.*

The Ertrusans are *captured and* taken to Saturn's moon Mimas. Lyndara manages to escape from Mimas to Mars with the help of an Ertruscan lawyer. In the nightmare landscape of hyperspace *fever*, she is able to find

the "passage to the other side". She explains to *the Martian Generalist* Siankov that she has created a portal to the higher cosmic realms that does not need a key. In addition, she reports that during her stay on Mystery, she was able to observe countless energy phenomena that would have to be in some way related to the model of the Ennox universe. Lyndara asks the Martian to visit Mystery and search for the burnt-out cell activator. At its location, *he will be able to see what otherwise cannot be seen. With the help of her lawyer, she escapes from Mimas to Mars.* She then deliberately causes a shootout with her pursuers, in which she is killed.

Homer G. Adams and Siankow go to Mystery and begin their search for the burnt-out cell activator. A scientist informs them that the Ennox themselves are part of their model of the universe. He has come to the conviction that there are Ennox on Mystery which cannot take the Short Path. At the same time, he can observe the energy manifestations described by Lyndara, which lead the Galacticians to the sought-after cell activator. A blue light is visible only in its vicinity. An Ennox explains that these are the children of her people. She also announces that she wants to tell the Terrans the story of her people :

The Veego, as the Ennox call themselves, are energy beings that reproduce up to twice in one phase of their existence by dividing. In their first life stage, Veego are practically a tiny hyperspace outline the size of a nanometer. Around it is a blue glowing, extremely strong hyperradiant nebula. This fog can generate a strong electrostatic charge. Young Veego cannot control their color well, which is why the blue *color* fluctuates during emotional outbursts. As they grow up unsupervised, many Ennox pass away during this first stage of their life, which lasts around 50 years.

In the second stage of life, when the Veego call themselves "active", the solar plexus organ develops, and the aura becomes more stable. The color only fluctuates under extreme psychological stress. When they come into contact with other peoples, they appear in humanoid form, which can be traced back to a "memorable encounter". However, they always take names from the peoples they visit in order to disguise their origins. This phase of their lives lasts at least 100 years. During this time, the Veego use their Short Path ability to explore the universe and record all their findings in a data memory that they always carry with them. After every ten to twelve jumps, the solar plexus organ must be recharged on Home, the Veego *name* for Mystery.

After the atrophy and subsequent failure of the solar plexus organ, the Veego remain on Mystery as "creatives". During this *part of their life*, they work their collected data into the Grand Model of the Universe. Reproduction in the form of splitting off an offshoot also takes place during this time. At the age of around 340 years, the life of a Veego ends when they enter the hyper-energetic layer around Mystery, which also visually reflects the model of the Ennox.

50,000 years ago, the Ennox encountered the Great Void, to which they were denied access. At the same time, they discovered the 21 Transition planets. Since no people on the edge of the Great Void were advanced enough, or prevented from exploring this phenomenon by taboos from two million years ago, the Ennox searched for a long time for a civilization that they could win over as a partner. This is how they came across the Arcoana, who *apparently* committed collective suicide when the Veego tried to pressure them into cooperation. The peace-loving Ennox were plagued by deep feelings of guilt *until* the superintelligence IT appeared *and* reminded them of the cosmic task they had taken on by creating their Great Model, and *promised* that *making one of them immortal* would lead them to a people with whom they could explore the Great Void. Philip volunteered, even though he would never be able to share, work on, or enter the model.

After rediscovering the Arcoana, who again reject the Ennox's wish to help them and fend off further visits with the *Maciunensor device (in the previous cycle)*, Philip remembers the Galactics he met on Wanderer (*at the end of the Lingular cycle*), and seeks them out.

Although the Ennox asked them to leave them alone, the Galactics continue to explore their home world. Boris Siankov recognizes that a reversal of the magnetic field of Mystery, which recurs every 50 years, triggers the propagation and division of the Ennox. *Two Ennox decide to tell the Galactics more of their history. When they*

met their first alien race, they adopted their shape in order to interact with them. Later, they met some Anorees (the keepers of the Black Star Road from the Cantaro cycle), and partially adopted their shape, randomly resulting in a resemblance to the Terrans. The Ennox claim that the completion of the Great Model could enable the answer to the third Ultimate question (who initiated [the LAW] and what does it do?).

The Ayindi (#1700 to #1749) : 1216-1218 NGE (0 year gap from previous cycle)

New names in this cycle :

Ayindi – one of the two intelligent races in the Arresum

Aariam – the system in the Arresum with planets allowing transition to the Parresum planets

Nocturne – large intelligent crystalline creatures that live and roam in space

In 1216 NGE, during the flight to the Great Void in Moira's STYX, Alaska influences the Vandemar twins to break through their para-gifts. He activates a psionic stimulus radiation that affects the twins. *The one mile limit disappears, their blocked gifts begin to awaken, especially in Nadja, previously psionically blind, who now becomes eight times more powerful than her sister.* Meanwhile, Voltago is rejected by the Spindle beings, despite being their "brother".

Moira tells Rhodan again of the war between the peoples of the Great Void and some unknown attackers, which Quidor finally defeated, and sealed off the passage to the attacker's world thru the Transition planets. As the attackers retreated, they left the spindles and segments on those worlds as a means to allow them to return. Quidor imposed the taboo to prevent their return by destroying the Transition planets. Rhodan believes that IT has tasked him with preventing another war.

The STYX reaches Charon, and the spindle beings and Voltago learn that they *each* belong to a Transition planet and are *then* networked with Moira, who acts as Sixteen. Then they all fly together to the Monochrome world, where all the spindle beings and Voltago are dropped off. Voltago distributes the spindle beings to their respective Transition planets, who now realize that Voltago is the "precision mechanic" who can get them to their destinations. *As they arrive on their worlds, they realize that the H-5 is the means to destroy the worlds by negating the 5-D field holding it together.* Voltago has a vision of a Mobius strip as a model for the universe, and then returns to the Monochrome world.

The ODIN appears at Charon. After difficult preparations to compensate for the missing spindle beings, Moira is ready : Voltago is the first to ignite. The H-5 hydrogen isotope incinerates him and his world. As Charon is the focus of all the Transition worlds, Moira is able to distribute the pulse triggered by Voltago to all 21 planets. From there, impulses return to Charon one after the other, where a tunnel builds up piece by piece. Ten is the last to act - and the breakthrough to the other side is created. At this moment, Mila and Nadja experience *some kind of* horror through their gift of mirror vision.

The stars and the universe *disappear, leaving absolute darkness*, but after 2:50 minutes the screens are filled with stars and galaxies again. They shine where the Great Void used to be. There are 3000 spaceships in Charon's orbit and they all resemble the STYX.

The BASE goes into orbit around Noman. *Two weeks later* there is a tremendous shock to the fabric of space-time, then a huge spindle measuring 12 by 0.5 miles appears over Noman (and *later it is realized* over all other Transition planets as well). When the spindle dissolves, 200 spaceships appear, resembling the STYX, and *attack the Theans' ships. The Theans recognize the ships of the ancient invaders, who they call Ayindi.*

Shortly afterwards there is a *video link to the STYX* from a female member of Moira's species, the Ayindi, who is bald, and named Iaguul, *who is the Ayindi coordinator.* The warrior speaks to her in her mother tongue. Moira

finally seems deeply disappointed because she is considered a traitor and the STYX is quarantined. But then Moira reports : *the universe corresponds to the two sides of a mirror, or a Möbius strip. The universe has a plus and a minus side, so to speak, called the Parresum and Arresum, respectively. Where there are empty spaces on one side, there are stars and galaxies on the other. In addition, there are mirrored Strangeness readings on both sides (each one sees the other's Strangeness as negative).*

Moria takes the ODIN in tow and flees *into Arresum*. She wants to remain free and mobile in order to prove her innocence. The two ships then separate and agree on a meeting point : the planet Thyssan. On the STYX, Moira claims that she has come back to witness the end of all life. She also states that there has been no technological progress among her people over the past two million years. She admits that she has gaps in her memory, *which she hopes to fill in* on the planet Thyssan, and thus prove her innocence. Thyssan was the place of her education and training and is two million light years away from Aariam (*the system in the Arresum with planets allowing transition to the Parresum planets*). *Her ship makes a sudden stop because it has detected the Abruse, which she calls "the soul-eater", near Thyssan. She decides to go to Baloo, another training center, where the Ayindi have built a gigantic defense wall from spaceships and stations and seem to be waiting for a major offensive of the Abruse. Going to another training center, some gaps in her memory come back : the Abruse kills in order to create new, degenerate life. Even as children, the Ayindi are prepared to fight against the crystalline death. But the victory of the Abruse is inevitable, as the Ayindi realized two million years ago. This is why they advanced into the Parresum, where the war with the Tanxtuunra began. It was the result of a misunderstanding, because the Ayindi did not want to conquer, but merely emigrate.* Iaguul contacts her again, and Moira explains that she is still alive because of her hair. Some Ayindi come on board, and after sifting thru the data storage of the STYX, Moira is no longer considered a traitor. The Galactics learn why the Ayindi could not win against the Tanxtuunra : *beings from the Arresum can exist only 50 days in the Parresum, then they inevitably die. The same applies to beings from the Parresum who travel to the Arresum.*

The ODIN reaches the Thyssan system with a planet of the same name. There they locate a bizarre, 2400 foot large object that has a crystalline structure and is given the name Snowflake. It makes a peaceful impression, but *it suddenly attacks* - the ODIN is wrecked and crashes on Thyssan. Of the 550 people on board, only 346 are still alive and many are injured. The former Ayindi buildings are covered with crystalline structures and Pucky even discovers crystalline creatures whose thoughts he cannot receive and who flee from him as if in fear. Moira confirms that the ODIN has fallen victim to the Abruse *in its Death Zone, regions where living creatures always die of crystallization*. For her, it is fantastic and incomprehensible that the Galactics still live. The Ennox Philip overcomes all his fears to get help, takes the Short Path and heads for the STYX. *He is then told to hop over to the BASE in the Parresum, but later it is revealed that he ended up on Mystery and almost died trying, and no Ennox will ever again try to enter the Arresum.* The Ara Magkue reports the onset of symptoms of illness among the stranded, apparently caused by the crystals. *Two weeks later*, it becomes clear that the symptoms *observed* by Magkue are fatal. The ATLANTIS reaches the Thyssan system, lands on Thyssan and rescues the crew of the ODIN. There are only 70 people left, but the dead are also taken on board. All the men and women of the ODIN, apart from the cell activator carriers, die during the escape from the Death Zone.

In 1217 NGE, Moira invites Rhodan and Atlan to visit her people, and meets with several coordinators. They offer them three of their ships, with which they can operate in the *Dead Zone* of the Abruse, allowing them to collect information *unavailable* to the Ayindi. They also say that the Cosmocrats of the Parresum must know the danger of the Abruse, and that the Tanxtuunra *Alliance* was founded out of the erroneous thought that Ayindi were the danger. *Moira also reveals the Abruse has three components, namely crystal ships, restructured habitats (on planets), and pseudo-material projections called quasi-spy islands. If the latter were to be materialized by the Abruse one day, it would mean a quick end for Ayindi and Barrayd (the only other known intelligent species in the Arresum).* Theoretically, there also had to be points of maximum concentration where the Abruse existed in its original form. These unproven manifestations were called commanders.

Rhodan, Atlan, Ichō Talot, and Paunaro arrive at the BASE, *which* is able to *enter* the Arresum via the Monochrome world. In the Aariam system, the BASE intervenes in the Ayindi's defensive battle against

Snowflakes and is able to destroy the last, *most powerful* Snowflake in the system's asteroid field, *which then materializes over Mars in the Parrseum*.

The BASE *returns to the Parresum*, and arrives at the Monochrome world, where Paunaro finds the body of Voltago, *and claims there is still life in its body*, which is brought to the BASE.

The first fragment of the Snowflake from the Aariam system crashes onto Mars. The people in the vicinity become nauseous and the first deaths from crystallization occur. Further fragments of the Snowflake continue to fall onto Mars, and it has to be evacuated. When the evacuation of *1.6 billion Martian peoples* is complete, it is clear that 120,000 Martians have died. Two days later, Mars is completely crystallized. The nausea level continues to *extend outward*, reaching 17,000 miles above the planet's surface. *Scientists conclude that the deadly radiation's intensity grows with the mass of the crystal structures*. This means that if Mars *is completely crystallized*, it will *kill everyone in the Sol system*.

At the Titan research center, Boris Siankov's team discovers that the cuboid containing the insectoid skeleton, which was recovered on Mars five years ago, loses substance at the same moment that the crystal hits Mars. The affected areas on Mars are cordoned off and partially evacuated. *When the block is taken to Mars, it evaporates, leaving the skeleton, which speaks a message in the language of the [High Powers] saying "This is what Permanoch von Tanxbeeche, the guardian of the bridge, tells you. You must never remove me from this world. The consequences would be a catastrophe for all peoples in this part of the universe!"*. *The skeleton sends another message :*

Two million years ago a Knight of the Deep arrived on Mars, and found negative Strangeness signals there. With the Porleyters help, he concludes that a bridge has been built from the negative side of the universe, which is not in the interests of the Cosmocrats. He is told by Quidor that a gigantic danger lurks on the negative side of the universe. Machines were sent to Mars to stabilize the space-time weaknesses that allowed the bridge to be built, but they were not implemented. The space-time weaknesses diminish over time, but never go away.

This resulted in the Maciuunensor *device* of the Arcoana (*from the Great Void cycle*) automatically *connecting* to the weakest points of its 5-D environment, which is why the Local Attractor and the two Dead Zones *were created in the Milky Way*. The ignition of the Transition planets, in turn, strengthened the Transition field of Mars, *allowing the crystals to be sent there*.

A data crystal from a Cosmocrat Factory which was designed to seal the connection between the Parresum and Arresum in the Sol system is found, which contains the plans of the Factory, which are started to be studied. A device called Dorado is built orbiting Titan, and testing commences, but the device explodes, just like the Cosmocrat device did. Boris Siankow analyzes the data and starts again.

On board the BASE, Voltago awakens, *speaks of an inner coercion*, and flees to the Arresum in a space jet. In the Aariam system, he poses as a representative of Perry Rhodan and is thus able to steal a spaceship. At the same time, three of these ships are made available to the cell activator carriers, whose operation has been adapted to the Terrans. *The Galactics take the ships, hoping to find Voltago as well as a commander of the Abruse. They find Snowflakes and skeletalics (humanoid-shaped creatures that telepaths cannot detect)*, then an immaterial projection of the Abruse appears, which almost *captivates them*. Shortly afterwards, something is located which could be a command unit of the Abruse. *Only the ship with Bell, Pucky, Alaska and the twins is able to follow*. It is determined that the object measures 4500 feet across and *appears as a diamond ship, and Pucky briefly picks up intelligent and strange thoughts. After travelling ten million light-years in the Death*

Zone, they fall back into normal (Arresum) space, and the diamond ship attacks immediately. Only the Vandemar twins retain their ability to act and, thanks to their psi gifts, see immaterial projections and Snowflakes approaching their ship. Their ship is damaged before they can escape, and the Abruse plays mental games with the twins while repairs are being made. The three Ayindi ships piloted by the Galactics return to Aariam, and when the coordinators are briefed, they immediately request a diamond ship to study. Three scout ships are sent to the Death Zone, and 20 million light-years into it, one of them observes how tens of thousands of Snowflakes use a star to renew their energy. The refueled units fly into a sector where hundreds of thousands of Snowflakes have already gathered, along with eight diamond ships. They eventually shoot one of the ship's engines, making it immobile. Upon boarding it, they discover diamond attack robots and two barriers to the command center, which are eventually taken down by the mutants. There they find 14 crystalline humanoid commanders, who start to die. Once they're all dead, the diamond ship starts to dissolve to nothingness.

In the Sol system, NATHAN uses a large percentage of its capacity for tasks about which it remains silent to the LFT leadership. For example, it refuses to release *its resources* for scientific tasks on Titan. With the help of the 5-D mathematician Aaron Sebastian, it is possible to print out a list of what NATHAN had been working on. The list contains the names of all the people whose consciousnesses were taken in by IT in the year 3581, shortly before Terra fell into the Maw (*in the Aphilia cycle*), as well as the 16 mutants it took in 3587 (*in the Cosmic Castles cycle*). NATHAN announces an evacuation plan for the entire Sol system, which it says must start immediately.

Mars' Death Zone reaches a radius of 40 million miles. At this time, Terra and Mars have reached the greatest distance on their orbits around Sol, approximately 100 million miles. From now on, the distance will become shorter again and Terra will enter the Death Zone a year from now.

Studying one of the crystalline commanders, Pucky mentally sees a plant-like structure, which he describes as a carnation. Moira identifies it as a representation of the Nihhat Nebula. Rhodan believes that it is a central point of the Abruse, while Alaska Saedelaere assumes that the Abruse plans an attack there, so life must exist there. Upon arrival, they find a complete void of 100,000 light-years, and that 45% of the nebula has been crystallized. Then they see Barrayd ships fighting Abruse ships, and intervene. Once the fight is over, the Barrayds take them to be Ayindian (because they are using their ships), and because they think all Ayindians to be crystallized, they must be the Abruse's messengers. After a while, the Galactics convince them of who they really are and their real intentions, and after the Barrayds share some information with them, they leave.

When the Galactics get back to the Ayindi, they share with them the ABKOS from the Barrayds, which stands for the Abruse Coordinate System, which requires key information to decode. Searching for clues, the Galactics find a system where nebulous figures appear out of nowhere on board the ship, which feeds a commander's crystalline head that is on board for study. It suddenly grows, and starts shooting crystal needles which cool everything they hit to near absolute zero. This process is named the crystal icing. The head eventually explodes, destroying the ship, which is abandoned. The crew is picked up by another ship. After reaching Aariam, the Galactics return to the Parresum.

A month later, Moira appears and says a new Ayidian ship is ready for them. Philip appears and when the Galactics hear about the state of the Sol system, they are appalled. Moria offers them the use of her STYX, which could get them back there in two weeks.

The STYX arrives in the Sol system with Moira, four cell activator carriers, and a few Ayindi. They want to find out about the problems with Mars in particular. *When the Ayindi with them hear of the Dorado project, one of them disables the machine completely. When they explore Mars further, they conclude that help is only possible from the Arresum, so the destruction of the machine was the right thing to do. The STYX travels back to the Great Void, but Homer G. Adams stays behind.*

*The STYX returns to the Great Void, and Paunaro returns from the Arresum. With the Ayindi, he has worked out different space sectors in which shipyards or academies of the Abruse must be found. The latter are the presumed birthplaces of the commanders of the Abruse. Three scout missions are launched using the Ayindi spaceships, which have been modified with a sensor that could distinguish shipyard planets from other crystal planets at a great distance, a **transformer gun (delivers bombs into another ship thru hyperspace)** that could deliver **structural bombs(?)** to the planet, triggering a crystal fire, and a **crystal reflector that makes the ships look like crystal ships to the crystal ship's detectors**. Bell's ship finds a shipyard, but no commander, and returns to the meeting point at the pulsar Snowman. Rhodan's ship finds a shipyard protected by Snowflakes, and triggers a crystal fire before leaving for the meeting point. Atlan's ship finds a shipyard, which attacks them with a fan-shaped crystal field (later called Eventail), which starts to turn the ship to crystal. Philip finds Atlan's ship, which is rescued by the others.*

The two remaining ships fly to Aariam, then to the Parresum and then to the BASE. A conference is held between the Ayindi and the Galactics. The Ayindi have found that Eventail is based on an unknown hyper-radiation. They are confident *about their theories* of the problem of Mars in the Sol system. Alaska Saedelaere suggests that the Nihhat Nebula once again be *investigated*, thinking further information can be elicited from the Barryd. *Travelling there, they hear a story about a Barryd who met someone called Voltago, who took him to the Nihhat Nebula, just after the departure of the Galactics. Voltago gave him the coordinates of a meeting place on the periphery of Nihhat if the cell activator carriers were to come back. There, the only information found says the fight against the Abruse started four million years ago, and during a gigantic battle between the Abruse and Ayindi, 100,000 units of the Ayindi were cut off from the remaining fleet. This developed into a legend that the lost fleet, led by Avanatas, will one day return to destroy Abruse forever.*

Voltago explains that the compulsion which made him leave the BASE was to separate himself from Rhodan. During his travels, he destroyed Snowflakes and identified commander ships, but did not contact any commanders. Then he tried to map out the Death Zone, but realized he could not get any farther than 100 million light years from Rhodan. During his mapping, he found a data crystal of Avanatas', in which she said her goal was to destroy the so-called Heart of the Abruse, which she had identified the coordinates of, and had forwarded that data to Aariam. She discovered it was a strong hyper-radiator made of more than 100 individual components. Voltago followed this hint, but only located a double object : two Black Holes in the center of a small galaxy. The forwarded data is finally found on an Ayindi archive world, along with a segment of the ship, within which is a data crystal with a set of coordinates. It also contains information about a project the Ayindi started four million years ago, called Sonnensh, which Avanatas' armada didn't complete.

The Galactics take off to the new coordinates, which takes them to a crystallized ship cemetery, which was surrounded by 17 suns. But they find nothing, even under the unique searches of Voltago and Paunaro. The cell activator carriers are perplexed, until Paunaro indicates the ship's cemetery is the crystallized fleet of Avanatas that once headed the Sonnensh project four million years ago. During an excursion of the Vandemar twins together with Alaska Saedelaere into the largest crystallized ship, the twins discover a crystallized data store, which explodes under their influence. Immediately they are in the action, which happened four million years ago :

Avanata's armada, consisting of 200,000 spaceships, cruises in the void, where seventeen solar systems stand deserted. At a distance of 2000 light years, the armada is encircled in a spherical shape by the tenfold

superiority of the Abruse hordes, *which don't attack*. The suns have a special feature: they emit special radiation. This is the birth of the idea of using this radiation to develop a shield that prevents the Abruse from advancing any further. The Sun Shield project has the task of positioning all seventeen suns in the form of a sphere and fixing them in hyperspace, with the suns orbiting around the common center of gravity. The suns are to be used to create a powerful transmitter that will stop the crystal ships in front of this bulwark.

During the work, the hordes of the Abruse approach unusually slowly. Initially still 2000 light years away, they are 20 light years away by the time the *project is* finished. Avanata is still able to send 20 courier ships home when the first 100 crystal ships come within two light years. Meanwhile, she deposits important information from the armada in an asteroid. When the crystal ships then attack, with more units already approaching, it becomes clear that the effect of the sun shield on the crystal ships is zero. When 200,000 crystal ships materialize in the center of the 17 suns, Avanata's armada is finished. By the time Avanata gives the order to *attack* the crystal ships, it is already too late - none of the ships can react.

The Galactics in the Arresum arrive at the twin black holes that Voltago's data found, dubbed Voltago's Eye. The question arises : could Sinta (*from the Ennox cycle*) and the Abruse be identical? Going to the planet of the Corrax (*mentioned in the Ennox cycle*), the Galactics talk to them, and are apprehended as being the "destroyers of true life". On the way back to the Ayindi, it is discovered that the Corrax are a "pseudo-life" of the Abruse, consisting of "chameleon molecules", which can copy any living or inanimate thing. But in the Corrax, they have since degraded, leading them to wonder who the real, original Corrax were. But there is now no doubt that Sinta is a product of the Abruse, in the form of a para-realistic phenomenon. It is the mental imprint of an intense desire of the Abruse, namely to advance into the Parresum.

Paunaro and Kantor discover that the impossibly long length of the shaft on Shaft (18,000 miles) is the sum of the diameter of Shaft and the diameter of its Arresum twin planet. The shaft also has an unusual 5-D structure which has a changing Strangeness. They also talk about *connections* to Mystery, which every Transition planet has, and that the Ennox will be able to enter the Great Void via the Short Path when the Transition planets are deactivated at some point.

So-called digital ghosts appear in the Sol system in systems operating with syntronics, disturbing the syntronics, who beg or scream at the humans for help. Finally, Wanderer appears in the Sol system, sets course for Luna and penetrates the satellite of Terra. In the process, IT absorbs all the digital ghosts into its consciousness and disappears without comment. NATHAN can then devote its capacities to solar matters.

In 1218 NGE, the Hamiller tube on the BASE in the Parresum is behaving more and more *cryptic*, mentioning "events that cast forth their shadows", and speaking of the "one who will come". Deputy Commander Lugia Scinagra asks Alaska Saedelaere to speak to the syntronic, as he has known Hamiller the longest. He learns from the tube that the expected events were all initiated by IT. This involves a long-term plan in which both Hamiller and NATHAN are involved. The two expeditions to the Great Void are also part of it. Shortly afterwards, the Hamiller tube sends a radio message: "If IT doesn't find us, we'll find IT."

The tube then *moves* the BASE into the Arresum, *which upsets the Ayindi, who inform the Galactics* that the Abruse has begun to advance a corridor of the Death Zone to *their home galaxy*, and the Ayindian *outer* defense belt has collapsed in places. The BASE makes slow progress and has to contend with power problems. Nevertheless, the BASE is difficult for the cell activator carriers to find. The Ennox Philip finally reaches the BASE with two jumps. Philip determines the position of the carrier ship and returns to Rhodan.

On the BASE, the Hamiller tube comes to his senses. Not only that, the *tube* opens - and out steps Ernst Ellert. The messenger from IT has taken command of the BASE, *in order to finalize project Insideout, whereby the 20 billion human consciousnesses taken in by IT in the year 3581, shortly before Terra fell into the Maw (in the Aphilia cycle) were stored in NATHAN in preparation to be released into the Arresum as living beings. Those consciousnesses which did not go along with this plan appeared as digital ghosts.* The entire crew of the carrier ship learns that *this is part of a long-term plan of the Superintelligence that began with the redistribution of the cell activator chips. As a result, the Galactics had become aware of the Ennox, and through them had come to the Great Void, where they met the Transition planets, Moira and the Spindle Beings. Finally, they reached the Arresum with the Ayindi and the Abruse. It is the Abruse that could affect one aspect of the Third Ultimate Question (who initiated [the LAW] and what does it do?), which could mean the end of the known universe. However, Ellert says that not only has the Hamiller tube failed, but also the cell activator carriers and the Ayindi as well, whose cooperation has not produced useful results. He says that IT is of the opinion that the Heart of the Abruse should have been found and even destroyed by now.*

The Third Ultimate Question is much more complex than even IT is aware of. It consists of a wheelwork of countless elements, where these wheels are dimensionless *concepts*. Their totality causes the stability of the universe. One of these cogs *requires that the Arresum and Parresum should not be allowed to merge.* The Ayindi had *started this process out of necessity to escape the Abruse* and proved how dangerous the project was. The Abruse, however, wanted more and was, metaphorically speaking, grinding away at the separating layer between the minus and plus sides of the universe. It thus threatens the cosmic system of order and must be destroyed. Accordingly, IT's long-term plan *was that islands of life should stand up to the Abruse, because only life energy is an effective weapon against the Abruse.* The 20 billion consciousnesses that IT absorbed when Terra fell into the Maelstrom of the Stars were ready for the long-term plan. They are currently in NATHAN, where they are being prepared for their task. *In a few weeks, IT will bring them back to Wanderer and take them to the Arresum. By then, three islands of life would have to be created. The islands of life would in turn consist of three Nocturns, as well as the Fool and the Sage of Fornax (each of which consists of many Nocturns).* In order for the cell activator carriers to accomplish this work, they would need the support of the Ayindi, who would have to *provide transportation ships as needed.* The cell activator carriers want to set off to find three strategic locations for the life islands. Before the *consciousnesses* arrive in the Arresum, however, the Abruse must be found and destroyed. Ellert points out that the Heart of the Abruse consists of 123 5-D emitters, which are traveling or drifting through the Arresum and can now certainly be found near the Ayindi's area of life. The messenger from IT then leaves the BASE, which moves to the Parresum, *and then to Noman, from where Philip returns to Mystery.*

The STYX and six *Ayindi* ships appear in the Sol system. Moira reports to the LFT leadership about the long-term plan of the superintelligence IT. *While Moira goes to collect the three Nocturns, and the Fool and the Sage of Fornax, the Ayindi attempt to destroy the crystal armor of Mars with Sholuna's hammer (an energy field that batters crystals to dust using hyperfields), but fail miserably. Now, the only way to save the Earth from Mars' Death Zone is by the Ayindi's Project Adoption – the exchange of Mars for a planet in the Arresum.*

An oversized hyper-radiator *detector* consisting of more than 100 components is located in the Aariam system. Thanks to *its* information, Paunaro is successful, and the 123 hyper-radiators, which are neutron stars, are located at a distance of 0.5 million light years. They are located within a dust *cloud* and are surrounded by deadly crystal structures. *The Heart of the Abruse is thus found.*

A creature called Hyzzak is created by the Abruse from an advanced form of pseudo-life. He knew only one goal, namely to extinguish all those forms of existence which were competing with the Abruse and were incompatible with it. As a pseudo-life, he could read someone's mental and physical pattern and create a

pseudo-life copy of them. By this means he was able to replace low-level command Terran personnel. But Moira detected him, and destroyed those copies. But now he had Moira's pattern, and sent those copies of himself to all three Terran ships. On one ship, the Vandemar twins and Pucky recognized the pseudo-life, and killed it in a psionic duel. Atlan became suspicious of his Moira, and bathed her in a specific light frequency. Meanwhile, on the CIRIAC, the false Moira withdraws because she wants to quietly copy Perry Rhodan. These three attacks depleted Hyzzak, so he fled, right into the Nocturne, who killed him, destroying all his copies.

The cell activator carriers have defined the points at which the life islands are to be created. The Sage of Fornax, accompanied by most of the Immortals, flies to the Heart of the Abruse; the Fool of Fornax, accompanied by Paunaro, flies to the Nihhat Nebula of the Barryd Enclave; and a Nocturne, accompanied by Voltago, flies to the Gurraïn system in the Calldere Galaxy.

At the Heart of the Abruse, when the Galactics enter the surrounding dust cloud, they all begin to have recurring visions of past events in their lives. The Vandemar twins free Rhodan, Bell, Michael Rhodan, Tekener, Saedelaere, Kantor, Atlan, Dao-Lin, Tolot and Tifflo from their vicious circles.

Project Adoption is ready. The planet Trokan fades from the Gurraïn system at midnight. Mars appears instead, successfully completing the transfer. Shortly afterwards, Wanderer appears above the third planet in Gurraïn, Sainor, which was selected to be an island of life. There, physically *real* and overjoyed people materialize, *but IT says the mutants will stay within it.*

The Abruse itself is very surprised at the fact that the foreign life has escaped from its vicious *plans*. It feels an intense pain due to the vital energy of the adversary.

The Sage of Fornax *enters the dust cloud surrounding the neutron stars and lands on the only planet.* The Abruse suddenly feels an unprecedentedly intense pain. For the first time in her life, she feels a tinge of fear. When the Nocturne lands, the Vandemar twins recognize that the planet is spanned by a filigree crystalline network. This network is the Heart of the Abruse. They set crystal fires on the planet, which are initially put out, but they persevere and *the Abruse finally dies, and the dust cloud disperses.* Wanderer appears over the planet, terraforms it, and deposits *more humans, creating the second island of life.*

A planet in the Nihhat Nebula is selected as the third island of life, and Ellert says these three planets will ensure the decline of the Death Zone. In addition, IT has given the humans the seeds for new life so that an evolution can begin on other planets. Paunaro finally joins with IT.

The cell activator carriers *return to the Aariam system.* They hand over their scout ships and say goodbye. The Ayindi will close the passages into the Parresum forever, *to keep apart what must be separated.* The BASE departs for home.

Sidestory

In 1217 NGE, the first mysterious items appear in the Large Magellanic Cloud, which appear to be *highly addictive to their owners, and coveted by those who don't have them, who will kill to get one.* Later, a huge Hamamesh (*fish-like humanoids*) caravan from the galaxy Hirdobaan appears at the *stellar transmat* Gom Gate. Four Hamamesh bazaars are set up in the Magellanic Cloud and the inhabitants of the Cloud go into a shopping frenzy. *The Terrans observing this visit a bazaar, and fall victim to the items' addictive power. But some Blues with them are immune, and administer a drug that breaks the addiction. Some items are studied, but the method of addiction remains unknown.* It becomes clear that the Hamamesh will also open bazaars in the Milky Way.

The Hamamesh caravan leader Kjauras is able to win over the Top News Terra station for an advertising campaign and declares galaxy-wide that ten bazaars will be opened in the Milky Way, *under a contract with the*

Cosmic House League, which does not really exist. The Galactic Council rejects the Cosmic House League's evidence, believing they want to hold a monopoly on trade, so the shops are allowed to open. On the Eastside of the Galaxy, the Blues show no interest in the items. This allows for the discovery that the Hamamesh are smuggling transform cannons to the Galactic Guardians (the largest criminal organization in the Milky Way), which are destroyed before they can be delivered. Linguids react very badly to the items, almost dying.

In 1218 NGE, the LFT must finally give in when Homer G. Adams is made addicted to an item. As an addict, Adams strongly supports the establishment of the Hamamesh bazaar in Earth orbit. After its opening, a run on the bazaar ensues and the LFT leadership is powerless against the ever-increasing number of addicts, thus the evacuation of Terra to avoid the Death Zone on Mars stalls.

The First Terran and the Commissioner of the LFT attempt to evacuate the Earth again, but no one wants to leave because of the items. The Commissioner contacts NATHAN, requesting Homer G. Adams' dismissal as the head of the Cosmic House League because of his addiction, but due to lack of evidence, NATHAN refuses. The Hamamesh announce that the bazaars will be closed due to a sell-out and that the journey home to Hirdobaan will begin.

The evacuation of Earth is fast-tracked, and finally accomplished.

In the Sol system, the first humans return after their evacuation from Terra. The new planet Trokan is still inaccessible due to its negative Strangeness, but the Death Zone is rapidly shrinking.

The Hamamesh (#1750 to #1799) : 1218-1220 NGE (0 year gap from previous cycle)

New names in this cycle :

Hirdobaan - galaxy where this takes place

Hamamesh - leading race in the galaxy

Mashtars - 9 Hamamesh in charge of the Trade Lords

Trade Lords - 8 Hamamesh in charge of their Octets of Hirdobaan

Fermyyd - a Hirdobaan police force

Arcoana - an intelligent spider-like race

Tréogen - a genetically engineered Arcoana, a fierce and powerful warrior

Aachthor - servant of the Cosmocrats

AACHTHOM – his spaceship

Gomasch Endredde – positronic AI; shut itself down and left RobRepair in charge

RobRepair - positronic AI (less powerful than Endredde) in charge of Endredde's District

Queeneroch : a galaxy near Hirdobaan

Note – imprint items are different than imprint cubes.

In 1218 NGE, Homer G. Adams is removed as the leader of the Cosmic House League, until he can be cured of his addiction to the Hamamesh items. On Titan, it is discovered that the items emit a jagged pulse in a previously unexamined wave range of psionic radiation. Due to the equally pronounced psionic imprint on all the items, it is concluded that it is a machine-made effect. As long as the imprinted item does not come into contact with a living being, the psionic radiation remains intact. After contact, first a weak, then a strong interaction occurs, which increases the psionic potential of the person affected. This increase leads to the feeling of happiness that all item addicts experience when they come into contact with the items. The imprint acts like a

wedge that leaves an unclosable gap as soon as the psionic radiation of the *item* wears off. This gap causes the actual addiction.

The effects of the imprinted items in the Milky Way are wearing off and all living beings who have come into contact with them are experiencing withdrawal symptoms. The giant sun Turmalon becomes a gathering point for Imprint Outlaws (*so named because they stole their ships*) to fly from here to the galaxy of Hirdobaan, 108 million light years away. They want to try to get new Imprint items there, and take high-tech *equipment* with them in exchange. In total, around 13,500 spaceships take off with around 39.5 million addicts on board.

On the way there, one fleet of ships, headed by Adams, loots the outposts Coma-1 thru Coma-6. Meanwhile, the BASE is on its return flight from the Great Void and is struggling with technical problems. It reaches Coma-6 and finds the base ransacked. Some of the androgyne robots who stayed behind report that the looting was carried out by Galactics on their way to a Hamamesh base in the Hirdobaan galaxy. In order to obtain support for the technically critical situation on board the BASE, it is decided to follow the fleet of Galactics to Hirdobaan.

In 1220 NGE, 11,200 ships *with about 30 million addicts* reach Hirdobaan. Once there, however, the Hamamesh know nothing about Imprint items. The Imprint Outlaws then begin to spread terror throughout the galaxy. It turns out that Hirdobaan is divided into eight octants. According to the Treaty of Pendregge, the Hamamesh are not allowed to leave their respective Octants. Trade between the octants is conducted via the so-called Borderland Stations *manned by multiple races*.

When the BASE reaches the Borderland Station Schermott, it takes up position near it and becomes a collection point for the Imprint Outlaws flying in from the Milky Way. Atlan and Ronald Tekener follow the Galactic fleet with the ATLANTIS in the direction of the Jondoron Octant. The BASE tries to deter the Imprint Outlaws from entering Hirdobaan by reporting on the situation in the galaxy and the lack of Imprint goods. Only makeshift medical care for the addicts can be provided.

On the planet Porlock, Atlan and Tekener learn that *all technology is* manufactured and repaired at *Endredde's District* in the center of the galaxy which is a taboo zone, so technical devices can only be procured *via container worlds, one per Octant, which receive goods from the center via transmat*. However, there have been delays in deliveries for some time. Atlan and Tekener are then captured by the Cryper Coram-Till, *whose fleet attacked Porlock*. The Crypers are *aggressive descendants of environmentally adapted Hamamesh* who were forced to emigrate to the Queeneroch galaxy centuries ago. *Eventually becoming friends, they follow him to another planet, where they hear that since the return of the Hamamesh, no technical goods have come from the center region. They then accompany him to Queeneroch, which is also the home of the Arcoana (spider-like beings). There, the Cryper leaders say they know nothing about the imprint items, and that such information is probably only available in the central region of the Hirdobaan galaxy. Coran-Till accompanies them there.*

The Hamamesh make Rhodan, who they call the “Lord of the Milky Way” and the BASE responsible for the acts of the *addicted Galactics* in Hirdobaan. *A data crystal is decoded, telling about a trade caravan sent to the galaxy Aquonia by the trade lord Galosch in 818 NGE and again in 834, that returned with items similar to those that have addicted the Galactics. Some time later, Hirdobaan was invaded by millions of addicts from Aquonia seeking “enchanted items”, which they cannot find, and then they suddenly disappeared.*

The fleet of the Akonides flies to the Grencheck Octant to receive news that imprint items are available on the container world Torresch. The fleet flies to the planet and lands. Containers holding 220,000 imprint cubes materialize in one of the funnel towers on Torresch. Meanwhile, two crew members are able to escape from the container world in a space jet and try to reach the BASE they had heard about, *who along the way find evidence that a race in the Thooriol galaxy became addicted to the items about 800 years ago. Under the influence of the*

imprint cubes, all the crew members become apathetic, so that Fermyyd (*a Hirdobaan police race*) task forces, who have encircled the container world, empty the hangars of the Akonen fleet and also take possession of several spaceships. As if by magic, the crew of the Akonen fleet disappears.

Meanwhile, in the Ammach Octant of Hirdobaan, the Imprint Outlaws are urged by a voice of unknown origin to visit the container world of Rixxo, where imprint items are being distributed. *Several ships go there, where they find imprint items.* Coram-Till, Atlan and Tekener also fly to Rixxo after hearing about the distribution of imprint items taking place there. *Galactic ships in orbit do not respond to radio calls.* When Atlan and Tekener fly to Rixxo in a dinghy, they are *captured* by the Fermyyd. Atlan and Tekener are given imprint cubes *by the Masthar (the true leaders of the Octants) Grirro*, which turn them into addicts.

Coram-Till manages to escape, reaches the BASE, and tells Perry Rhodan about [Atlan and Ronald Tekener's abduction to the prison world of Schingo](#). Rhodan then flies to Shingo to free Atlan and Tekener. Thanks to the Galactics' superior technology, two squads are able to penetrate the prison. However, the Galactics do not find the prisoners in their cells. According to Commander Ten-Or-Too, "the divine Gomash Endredde has brought the prisoners to himself".

The mind of a dead addict is studied thru pseudo-reanimation, and a portion of its psionic spectrum (the Zuckerman spectrum) is found to be identical to that of the Blues, which is determined to be the cause of the Blues' immunity. The Akonide escapees reach the BASE and tell Rhodan about the Admiral and her whereabouts. Reginald Bell sets off with the CIMARRON to get to the bottom of the events on the container world. Bell and some companions manage to land on the container world in a space jet. The landing party finds the ships of the Akonian fleet largely abandoned. Bell and his companions learn from the *Akon's flagship's* syntronic that the missing Imprint Outlaws were de-materialized. When they subsequently search the captain's cabin, the Galactics come across a bag of fresh imprint cubes and are immediately hooked by the sight of the cubes. All Galactics are asked by hyperradio to fly to the container worlds, as there are imprint items available for everyone, in exchange for high-tech. The Hamamesh set up bazaars there.

Reginald Bell and his companions return from Torresch. They appear quite apathetic and quickly retire to their cabins. Pucky realizes that Bell is in possession of an imprint cube before Bell disappears before his eyes.

Scientists discover that cubes have an imprint that is 56.6 times stronger and slightly shifted on the psionic band than the items from the Milky Way. After the condition of the addicts being treated has deteriorated to such an extent that they will die in the near future, the ship's commander arranges for the imprint items to be distributed. The scientists observe that a group of wavelengths within the Zuckerman spectrum grows rapidly among the addicts after receiving the items, although this happens much more slowly among the non-humanoid Imprint Outlaws.

Reginald Bell and his five companions reappear exactly 13:01 hours later. They reappear exactly where they disappeared, but they are in a coma-like state (dubbed "off-phase"). Another 13:01 hours later they disappear again, only to rematerialize after the same period of time. This phenomenon is known as the oscillation effect, while the people affected are called "phase jumpers". Kantor sees the reason for this in the fact that the six Galactics have only come into contact with the new "Hirdobaan-Imprint" cubes *as opposed to those items* distributed in the Milky Way. Apparently the phase jumpers exist somewhere materially during their periods of absence ("on-phase"). On the prison world of Schingo, the Fermyyd discover that "those whom Gomash Endredde has brought to himself" can return, as Atlan and Ronald Tekener also reappear in their cells. *Pucky and Alaska go to the planet where the Akon ships were taken, discovering the scavenged remains of other races' ships.* [It appears that the imprint items are being used to get their technology.](#)

Now that phase jumping is known, Rhodan sets off again for Shingo to *rescue Atlan and Tekener*. They succeed once again in capturing the two, *but after their next disappearance, they reappear in their cells. Going back to*

Shingo, they find them again and secure them with **paratron screens** (*shifts energy attacks into hyperspace & prevents transmatting*). Atlan and Ronald Tekener can now be looked after and given medical treatment.

Dao-Lin-H'ay goes to the Perm Octant to meet its Trade Lord, where she learns about the "mummy fever", which leads to premature aging. With an antidote that only the Mashtars have, the aging can be temporarily reversed. According to rumors, the Mashtars infect the Trade Lords with this disease in order to make them dependent on them. While trying to avoid being taken prisoner, Dao kills the Mashtar.

The crew members of the Akonen fleet wake up on *the* twelfth planet in Endredde's District. There are fourteen planets, but two of them are inaccessible. The Imprint Outlaws realize that they are no longer addicted to the imprints, but they are subject to a suggestive influence that drives them to repair the technical facilities on the planets. These technical facilities are located underground on the fourteen planets and can be reached via funnel towers, of which there are several on each planet. There are several canteens around the funnel towers where you can eat, sleep and wash. Each funnel tower has a regional carousel, a kind of transmitter that can be used to reach the other funnel towers on the planet. On each planet there is *one* remote carousel that can be used to reach the other planets. *Atlan, during one of his early "on phases" before he was rescued, hears a story told by a machine that long ago, the divine Gomash Endredde could no longer fulfill his destiny of bringing peace and life to the universe due to the murder of his people on his homeworld by foreigners. In order to create a new nucleus of peace, the Divine One came to Hirdobaan to create "Endredde's District" in its center. There he formed fourteen planets and called them "Levels". Atlan explores the reachable levels, discovering they all have different environments, and are periodically shaken by earthquakes.*

The *other Galactic* phase jumpers materialize on several Level planets in Endredde's District, but are able to suppress the suggestive influence. However, they have the problem of not attracting attention because the workers in Endredde's District are monitored by Opera robots. In the aftermath, Atlan and Reginald Bell meet and try to curb the Imprint Outlaw' repair frenzy with the "Anti-Endredde" movement, as they fear that they are literally working themselves to death. Unfortunately, the campaign does not have the desired success. With the help of his extra sense, Atlan finally manages to open his eyes one minute before his return to Endredde's District. Atlan is gradually able to extend his waking phases and report to Perry Rhodan about the District.

The Cryper Coram-Till announces that he has new information about the "train of the rulers", a meeting of the eight Trade Lords on the planet Borrengold, says he wants to capture all of them at the event, and asks Rhodan for help. He agrees on the condition that all the different Cryper groups participate. *After some negotiations involving some intrigue, all the groups agree to work together. The Trade Lord of the Octet containing Borrengold is visited by a Mashtar and warned to take special security measures because of the Galactics.* The Galactic attack fleet has relatively few problems with the Fermyyd ships in their defense of Borrengold. When the first ships *start* to land, the Mashtars activate a new protective screen over the meeting place, and countless gun turrets rise from underground *bunkers*. These defensive measures are technically much more advanced than the usual Hamamesh weapons, and *stop the Galactic troops from landing. Eventually, the Galactics enter the meeting place and capture all the Trade Lords.* The rulers of the Octects cannot give any information about the whereabouts of the dematerialized Imprint Outlaws, which makes it clear that the trade princes are only puppets of the Mashtars. The Mashtar Morran is also captured during the raid.

Mashtar Morran is interrogated on Shingo. Morran shows no willingness to cooperate and falls into a kind of trance. An examination of the Mashtar's equipment by the Vandemar twins reveals that the Mashtar emblem contains sensors and a transceiver. The Mashtom *belt* is equipped with a thermal emitter, a disintegrator, two

neuropips (*non-fatal pain inflictors*), a holoprojector and remote control, observation and tracking devices. Both items are secured by self-destruct devices. Pucky learns a few things about the Mashtars through Morran's telepathic surveillance during an interrogation conducted by Michael Rhodan. They believe that Gomash Endredde, whose Incarnations they believe themselves to be, is located in Endredde's District, which even the Mashtars cannot enter. Finally, the Galactics learn that the Mashtars are hiding on the planet Tampir near the container world Bodson of the Vankanton Octant.

Atlan asks Perry Rhodan to send support to Endredde's District. Rhodan agrees and with 40 unused imprint cubes, four task forces become phase jumpers, *called* the Gonozal Command. The groups are equipped with SERUNS and weapons *that* are superior to the Opera robots. Homer G. Adams can be convinced that the Galactics who have received only one imprint are actually subject to phase jumping. However, he is still convinced that the only way to leave Endredde's District is to help Gomash Endredde and eliminate malfunctions *in the Levels*.

The Gonozal Command advances into the subterranean levels of Level 3 and the deeper they go, the more an organic-looking bronze colored material, dubbed vario-metal, is found everywhere. They call the area where the metal predominates the Evolution Level and reach a control center, the Dachhat, which does not appear to have grown so organically. The walls of the Dachhat are permeated by pulsating streams of energy. Only at one point are these currents interrupted by a "P" marked with a horizontal line. Atlan and Tekener recognize the negative imprint of the symbol in the region Chasch on the planet Syssod. The symbol of Syssod seems to be a kind of key that could cause an interruption in the energy flow. After Atlan reports the negative imprint to Perry Rhodan, Icho Tolot flies to Syssod, retrieves the key and goes to Shingo. There he exposes himself to an imprint cube in battle gear with the key and begins to oscillate in Atlan's cell.

Icho Tolot is able to use the key and is informed that a control center exists on Level 10 that is superior to the Dachhat. On the following day, the Galactics come across destroyed areas covered in dead vario-metal on the Evolutionary level of Level 10. In the center of the destruction, the phase jumpers find a large egg-shaped bubble. Icho Tolot activates the Dachhat II by inserting the module. Shortly afterwards, the bubble bursts, releasing 33 *Opera robots and a creature called* Tréogen, which looks like a conglomeration of different species, from its interior. Only dimly *seen* in battle through teleportation and telekinesis, he kills all the Opera robots and seven Galactics from Gonozal Command. The off-phase saves the remaining phase jumpers *by returning them to their place of origin*.

Atlan and Icho Tolot fly to the flying factory above the Bebenheim regional carousel on Level 3 with the help of the Haluter's battle suit. They are able to reach the factory unnoticed at an altitude of 30 miles. Inside the factory, they discover machines that produce imprint cubes that are sent thru a miniature carousel. When they are discovered and attacked by Opera robots shortly afterwards, they retreat through the miniature carousel. The factory is badly damaged by the battle and crashes. *Meanwhile, Bell and others travel to a moon above Level 12, which turns out to be Level 13, where the Galactics no longer phase-jump.* There they encounter around 3,000 glass cups, which rest on thirty-foot high stems and are connected to each other. In the cups there is a pink mass, which is seemingly intelligent and radiates an aura that is irresistibly attractive. The Galactics gradually disappear into the interior of the masses. Reginald Bell, who can hold his own against the influence *for a while*, recognizes their identity shortly before his *absorption* into the masses.

Thru the miniature carousel, Atlan and Icho Tolot then enter a station, which they name Network. They come across a grid matrix made of normal matter and vario-metal in which the Haluter recognizes a complex energetic image of the known Levels of Endredde's District. He concludes that Network is the central switching station for the planetary transmitters, and is also responsible for the phase jumping. When Tréogen suddenly appears and attacks, the off-phase of the two phase jumpers happens. Later, they are able to reach Network again via the slightly damaged miniature carousel in the wreckage of the crashed factory. After an intensive

examination of the energetic matrix, Tolot can make out 39 glowing points representing the phase jumpers on the twelve Levels. Ronald Tekener finds 100 androgyne robots on Level 11, which he activates. On the following day, all the phase jumpers invade Network with the robots. There they find another grid matrix, in which the key worlds and the Borderland Stations are listed. A point outside Himanova is also displayed, which is believed to be in Queeneroch. During an attack by rod-shaped robots, Tolot is able to destroy their control system and some other facilities, [which means that the Galactics are no longer subject to the oscillation effect.](#)

After a Mashtar is killed during a prisoner exchange, Rhodan fights 10,000 Fermyyd spaceships over the prison planet Schngo, where Opera robots are attacking Galactics on the ground. [Another Mashtar dies, and another commits suicide.](#) During more combat, [four Mashtars are killed, and when the last two try to escape via transmat to Endredde's District, they are mangled by the transmat.](#) After another attack by Tréogen, 20,000 Opera robots begin to *attack the Network*. Atlan and Tolot decide to abandon Network thru the miniature carousel.

The captured Trade Lords of Hirdobaan are informed on Borrengold by Rhodan that the Mashtars are dead. One of the Lords then tells of the legend that Gomasch Endredde will now send one of his messengers.

On Level 6, Ichu Tolot is able to recognize by evaluating the data from Network that there must be another central facility in the south polar region of Level 6 with a large number of miniature carousels. According to the phase jumpers, there could be a spaceport there from which the former Imprint Outlaws could be brought out of Endredde's District. During the search, the Galactics discover that the condition of the former addicts has deteriorated dramatically. The meagre diet in the canteens and the constant frenzy of repair work have led to total physical exhaustion among the Galactics, many of which have already died.

When they find the facility, *which takes them to the South Pole*, they see that it is huge, with a tower at its center that resembles a lighthouse because of a disc-shaped structure at the top. Surrounding this lighthouse are eight objects, which are the counter-stations to the *transmats on the eight container worlds of Hirdobaan*. At the northern end of the entire complex is a large transmitter, which represents a connection to four mining and shipyard worlds, MINE-1 to 4. Overall, the complex resembles a loading station and is therefore named Railway-Station.

Ichu Tolot penetrates a dome surrounding the lighthouse and is able to establish contact with a primitive central positronic (*not syntronic*). While the other Galactics are attacked by Opera robots, the Haluter is able to trick the positronic into believing that Tréogen is attacking the station. This leads to an overload of the central positronic, which results in the explosion of the eight transmitter links to the container worlds. [The Opera robots are also deactivated.](#) The *rest of the Galactics* can now get into the lighthouse.

In there, Atlan touches a “narrator” device, which tell the story of the Hirdobaan galaxy over the last 2000 years :

<p>Railway-Station's positronic, RobRepair, receives an electronic message from Gomasch Endredde, according to which a procreation process is to take place in two years. A short time later, Tréogen appears in the Network station, having overcome the transition screen (a transmat barrier to all lifeforms without cube imprints) around Endredde's District without using the transmitter links with the outside world. The creature proves to be superior to the Opera and rod-shaped “Staff” robots. However, RobRepair observes that Tréogen is not able to use its teleporter-like abilities everywhere. As a result, the creature is trapped in a bubble of n-dimensional energy in the level 10 Evolutionary plane. However, this bubble can only hold Tréogen for a short time. He escapes from this prison and wreaks havoc in the Evolutionary plane. Tréogen can only be</p>

stopped when Level 14 robots again create a bubble from a substance unknown to RobRepair. At the same time, 33 Opera robots, which were *fighting* against Tréogen, are trapped in the bubble with him. Gomasch Endredde then orders that Tréogen must not be touched.

As Gomasch Endredde initiates the procreation process, the facilities on the individual Levels - starting with Level 1 - are put into operation at one-hour intervals by means of a powerful hyper-physical impulse. This *action* is accompanied by earthquakes. When the process reaches Level 13, it is interrupted and the whole process fails. In a final electronic message, Gomasch Endredde then orders all data *about* levels 13 and 14 to be deleted. However, the process starts again on Level 1 after a period of thirteen hours and is repeated at the same rate thereafter. RobRepair's efforts to eliminate the defect in the procreation process with the help of robots fail.

After a few decades, RobRepair realizes that the obvious damage cannot be repaired by robots, but that organic beings are needed for this, as they possess a certain creativity. His first choice is the Hamamesh. These have been genetically modified by Gomasch Endredde so that they are integrated into the network emanating from Network. Some time ago, Endredde also had spaceships built for the Hamamesh in the district on the worlds MINE-1 to 4. Due to the transition screen, organic beings can only enter Endredde's District with the help of two imprints. The first imprint (*via "items"*) establishes a connection with Network's network, which also triggers an addiction. The second imprint (*via "cubes"*) serves Network as a position marker to finally transfer the person in question to Endredde's District.

Due to the genetic networking of the Hamamesh, they only need the second imprint, which RobRepair has imprinted on items that are sent to the container worlds of Hirdobaan via the transmitter connections. Over the next 800 years, many groups of Hamamesh arrive in Endredde's district. By setting up an omnipresent suggestive influence, the arrivals are driven to carry out repair work. However, the positronic discover that the Hamamesh are also unable to repair the existing damage. Moreover, the Hamamesh always die after a while. The Sydorrians found on Iquama, a world in Endredde's District, who live there in various stages of evolution and whose development was obviously influenced by Gomasch Endredde, also prove to be unsuitable.

Meanwhile, RobRepair realizes that a war has broken out among the Hamamesh in Hirdobaan between the League of Geuch and the Olkheol Consortium. An interruption in the supply of Seal technology via the container worlds does not lead to a cessation of hostilities, so the positronic sends an Opera robot with the appearance of a Hamamesh. This rebel, Fir, ends the war by uniting the divided League of Geuch and destroying the central world Pendregge of the Olkheol Consortium. Under the leadership of another Opera robot named Fir, peace negotiations then take place on Borrengold with the participation of all the Hamamesh Trade Lords, resulting in the "Peace of Pendregge". This peace provides for the division of Hirdobaan into the eight Octants, which may not be left by the Hamamesh inhabiting them. At the same time, the panther-like Fermmyd are equipped with ships and installed as the police force of Hirdobaan, while the Vakuta, at borderlands, are responsible for trade between the Octants. The Sydorrians are sent by RobRepair to the courts of the Trade Lords in order to influence politics in the Octants on behalf of the RobRepair. When they leave Endredde's district, they lose all memory of their origins.

RobRepair *puts* the Mashtars above the Trade Lords in hierarchically. After Fir is installed as the first Mashtar, secret facilities are set up on the Tampir moon of Coenus and the world of Borrengold, which house the new rulers' bases as well as the Mashtar school. To underpin their claim to leadership, they use the still-present legend of Gomasch Endredde, whose representatives they see themselves as. An image of the constellation above Level 13 of Endredde's District becomes the symbol of the Mashtars.

Shortly afterwards, the Crypers appear in Hirdobaan. They are the mutated descendants of Hamamesh war refugees who had sought refuge in Queeneroch. Due to the mutation, the genetic link to Network is no longer present. During an expedition to the neighboring galaxy initiated by RobRepair, it is discovered that the

Crypers are using ancient stations that were most likely once built by Gomash Endredde himself. Since a campaign against the Crypers could jeopardize the stability of Hirdobaan and the goals of RobRepair, the rebels in Queeneroch are left largely unmolested.

Subsequently, the Hamamesh are instructed by RobRepair to make contact with peoples throughout the accessible universe who, due to their technical development, appear suitable for the repair of Endredde's District. Once such contact has been established, trade caravans are dispatched with imprint items, which, in the usual manner, lure members of the respective races to Hirdobaan along with their highly developed technology. In the case of the Milky Way, whose strength RobRepair sees above all in the multicultural factor, the imprints are set up primarily for the humanoid species, although the effect is expected to be felt by all other species after a delay.

However, the imprint addicts from the Milky Way show up unexpectedly early in Hirdobaan, so that initially there are not enough cubes with the second imprint. Furthermore, the positronic discovers that in addition to the addicts, a large number of non-addicted Galactics are also reaching Hirdobaan, an *event* that had never occurred before. When some Galactics are exposed only to the second imprint, they are brought to Endredde's district by Network, but due to their non-networking due to the lack of the first imprint, they are each transferred back to their place of origin after 13:01 hours. The lack of networking also means that these Galactics are not subject to the suggestive influence on the levels. As its primary function is to maintain *and repair* the district, it is difficult for RobRepair to take strategic action against the non-networked Galactics inside and outside Endredde's District.

Unexpectedly for RobRepair, these oscillating individuals manage to infiltrate the Evolutionary plane, a process that has only ever occurred once before with the Origins. The opening of the plane disrupts the syntronic technology of the Galactics, while positronics such as RobRepair and the advanced technology of Network and Railway-Station are unaffected. The work in the Evolutionary plane means that parts of the vario-metal systems, which normally switch from "deactivated" to "active" when the procreation process *will be* initiated, are suddenly in "active" mode. When the Galactics free Tréogen, RobRepair has to use most of its resources to fight the creature. This enables the intruders to capture Network and deactivate its computer. Shortly afterwards, Tréogen attacks in several places simultaneously - in reality a manipulation of the positronics by Icho Tolot. This causes RobRepair to shut down.

At the same time, the remaining former phase jumpers find a matrix hall, similar to the corresponding facilities in Network. The transition screen around Endredde's District is visible in the grid matrix and Ronald Tekener switches off the transition screen. He is then asked to program PSW.3456. When this programming fails, the transition screen *starts to* rebuild. When the transition screen goes out, the BASE, which is at the edge of the transition screen, is hit by strong hypershock waves. These shock waves propel the carrier ship and the accompanying ships about a light year towards the center of Hirdobaan. When the transition screen rebuilds, the small convoy finds itself within Endredde's District.

The BASE then flies to Level 12 and from there, several expeditions set off to explore Endredde's District and bring help to the former Imprint Outlaws. *When Rhodan finds the goblet-shaped structures with the pink biomass, he is able to resist its influence and wonders if Bell got caught, but examination of the biomass yields no results.* The former Imprint Outlaws are found, who are largely close to death – driven by the compulsion to repair and being poorly fed. *The survivors are brought to the BASE, but when the Network is re-activated, so is Tréogen, who repels the Galactics, but does not follow them.*

Reginald Bell and the other four former phase jumpers awaken inside the pink biomass. They can recognize embryos around them in the mass, *which allows the Galactics to mentally communicate with each other.* For a short time, they can see through the otherwise opaque outer walls of the cups. They see Perry Rhodan and his team examining the cups from a safe distance. However, they are unable to draw Rhodan's attention to them before they are denied any further view. Bell concludes that the embryos were created from the genetic material

of *some kind of arachnoid*. The danger posed by these beings with their psionic abilities and destructive character seems to have been recognized before the birth process was initiated. An activation of Level 13 would probably initiate childbirth and thus cause a major threat to Hirdobaan.

On the BASE, the Life Support program is launched to evacuate the 30 million Galactics from the Levels via the transmitters from Railway-Station to the shipyard planets. At the same time, the cell activator carriers want to switch off the suggestive radiation, but repeated attempts to get Network under control have so far failed. After the first attempts of the BASE crew to bring the former Imprint Outlaws to the assembly points fail due to the suggestive radiation, it is announced at the suggestion of the Hamiller tube that major repairs need to be carried out on Railway-Station, which would *also* serve the goal of helping Gomash Endredde. As a result, the workaholics begin to make their way there via the various regional and long-distance carousels.

Meanwhile, on the second continent of Level 13, Atlan and Homer G. Adams find a deactivated remote regional carousel. Under a hill they come across a counterpart to Network on Level 12. This inactive station is given the designation Network II. Meanwhile, Atlan believes he sees a connection between the arachnoid characteristics of Tréogen and the genetic structures in the cups on Level 13. To substantiate his suspicions, he sends an unencrypted radio message, stating that the cups must be destroyed to stop the suggestive radiation. Shortly afterwards, the radiation is switched off by Tréogen. Voltago awakens and tells Rhodan that he will visit the Hamiller tube.

Voltago abducts Perry Rhodan, Teaser Kroom and the Hamiller tube from BASE and takes them all to Network II on Level 13, into which the Hamiller tube is integrated. With Teaser Kroom's headband, whose imprint item Voltago calls the Cospian Key, the booting process to revive Gomash Endredde is set in motion again. Network II takes over all the functions of Network, which then shuts down. Voltago explains that 2000 years ago, an element *in Network II* was destroyed which could be replaced by the Key and the Hamiller tube. This could activate all fourteen Levels and awaken Gomash Endredde. He adds that Rhodan would receive a sign that he would not know how to classify at first, but would lead him to a gate that could only be opened by him. He then would take a Bridge to Infinity. He should walk the way of the honeycomb, walk the posts and see the world of the Galhorns and the Heliotes. This path will offer endless possibilities, but it will also carry a great danger of failure.

On Level 13, Reginald Bell, who is still in the pink biomass in the cup-shaped structures, can reach some embryos. He notes that they are externally similar to Tréogen. In the meantime, he recognizes that the activation of Network II plays into his hands, since this process will initiate the birth of the brood. He sends a senseless radio message to a corvette, thus reaching the dinghy and from there to Level 13. Atlan recognizes that Tréogen is not a teleporter, but a wave sprinter (*a teleporter who travels along any form of energy*).

Since Atlan was already *considered* by the narrator of Railway-Station to be *an acceptable* person, the Arkonide enters the circle of the machine and thus learns the story of Gomash Endredde:

A long time ago, Aachthor (*a brother of the [Seven Powerful Ones]*) arrives in the Queeneroch galaxy to carry out a project of existential importance. The Kospi serve as his auxiliary people. When aggressive Arcoans invade the galaxy 200,000 years ago, the Kospian people are wiped out in a defensive battle. Meanwhile, Aachthor evacuates the fourteen individual parts of the project to the center of the neighboring small galaxy of Hirdobaan, where he places them on various planets, which he calls Levels. However, he has to leave one important thing behind in Queeneroch : *a quantity of [biophores], which he hid in hyperspace so the Arcoans could not find it.*

In Hirdobaan, Aachthor sets up a simple positronic, the parts of which are distributed across all fourteen Levels: Gomash Endredde. He is to finish the project while he himself withdraws. Endredde subsequently expands the levels. He builds the various carousels, canteens and funnel towers for possible auxiliary races. At the same time, the Hamamesh and Sydorrians are bred. While the Hamamesh are conceived as a working

race, the Sydorrians are to act as organizers. However, neither race are fighters who could repel the Arcoans from Queeneroch. He therefore takes genetic material from a dead specimen of the Arcoans in order to create a suitable auxiliary race from their "positive" characteristics.

Shipyards are built on MINE-1 to 4 to construct the warships needed in the conflict. When Gomash Endredde carries out his first explorations of Queeneroch, he discovers that the galaxy has now been cleared of Arcoans. There is also no other intelligent life to be found. As he is unable to reach Aachthor, Endredde tries to retrieve the important object, which he calls the "mission", from Queeneroch himself. However, the search for it is unsuccessful, so Endredde plans to unite with the gene mass in the cups on Level 13 in order to increase his abilities and computing power.

When Tréogen appears shortly before the union is to take place, Endredde manages with some effort to imprison this being at Level 10. He places the key to Tréogen's prison in the Chasch, an old Arcoana facility in Queeneroch, so that no one can free him before the unification has been completed. Shortly afterwards, Gomash Endredde activates the fourteen Levels to initiate the unification. The levels are gradually reactivated every hour. Endredde first comes into contact with the biomass during the activation sequence on Level 13 and immediately realizes that the genetic material is degenerate and that Tréogen is the first result of this mass. *Before the final fusion with the biomass, Endredde is able to destroy a crucial element, which leads to the interruption of the fusion and the extinction of the positronic's artificial consciousness.*

Ichu Tolot realizes that the activation of the Levels poses a great threat to the Galactics, but also to Hirdobaan. However, despite threats of armed force, he is unable to persuade Voltago to interrupt the activation. When Levels 13 and 14 are activated, all cell activator carriers go to Level 13 while the newly awakened Gomash Endredde announces in the [Language of the Mighty] (*used by servants of the Cosmocrats*) that all living beings on the Levels must leave within 28 hours, otherwise certain death is imminent.

After all the Levels have been activated, the biomass in the cups on Level 13 expels the embryos it contains and Reginald Bell and the other prisoners are also released from their captivity. They are confronted by many chimeras *from the biomass*, all outwardly similar to Tréogen, but not yet fully grown and quite inexperienced. Bell's group sets off in search of the Galactics. During this search they have to defend themselves again and again against the attacking chimeras.

Perry Rhodan and his companions are also attacked by the chimeras at the distant carousel of Level 13. The area around the remote carousel is then protected by a paratron screen.

Rhodan makes contact with the Hamiller tube connected to Gomash Endredde via Network II. However, Endredde reports that the destruction of the levels is an inevitable consequence of the plan of resurrection, over which only Aachthor himself has control. Moreover, Aachthor would judge and punish Endredde for his failure. Rhodan realizes that the biomass is increasingly taking control of the positronics.

When Reginald Bell's group has almost reached Rhodan's location, Tréogen appears and rips the cell activator chip from Bell's shoulder with a bite, in a demonstration of his superiority. He spits it on the ground before disappearing again. While Bell, his group and the cell activator chip are being recovered, a final message from the Hamiller tube reaches Rhodan, urging him to find Aachthor and warn him *about Tréogen*.

Through a link to the remote carousel within the paratron screen, the chimeras attack the Galactics again and Perry Rhodan and a group of twelve cell activator carriers, corvette crew members and the unconscious Reginald Bell descend to Level 14 via the carousel's only functioning link. When Rhodan and his party leave the remote carousel on Level 14, it deactivates immediately. In the Language of the Mighty, an unknown speaker threatens them with annihilation, since Level 14 is no place for unworthy life.

The group led by Perry Rhodan enters AACHTHOM, the spaceship of Aachthor, after heavy fighting and a confrontation with the guardian of the AACHTHOM, Klaymon. There they came across the sarcophagi of the Kospians and Aachthor, having been awakened by Klaymon. Aachthor is full of arrogance and is reluctant to speak to the Galactics. Only when he touches Perry Rhodan and Atlan and senses the aura of the Knights of the Deep is he prepared to listen to them and extend the deadline for the evacuation of the levels by another 28 hours, but a further delay was not possible, since the Plan of the Resurrection now had to be finally carried out. Before Aachthor disappears again, he takes the seriously injured Reginald Bell and the cell activator to help him. A day later, Reginald Bell returns to Perry Rhodan's group *healed and* with the cell activator chip implanted.

Almost all the Galactics have been transferred to the MINE planets as part of the Life Support program, and Aachthor initiates the Plan of Resurrection *to complete the 200,000 year long project*. As the fourteen Levels explode, the vario-metal of the Evolutionary levels separates from the planetary crusts and then coalesces into a sphere with a diameter of around 900 miles. At the same time, the AACHTHOM also detaches from Level 14 and turns out to be a pear-shaped spaceship.

Tréogen is able to escape with 300 chimeras on board the sphere of vario-metal. Aachthor sends the Galactics into battle against the creatures, in which they can do little, but Voltago can kill the creatures. When Aachthor himself intervenes in the battle, he destroys the chimeras one by one. Finally, it creates an opening in the outer wall of the vario-metal, which sucks Tréogen and the remaining chimeras into space. When they are all destroyed, the AACHTHOM merges with the sphere of vario-metal.

Aachthor's story is told telepathically by looking at a sarcophagus in his ship :

Aachthor admits he does not know his creator. He woke up one day in an indescribable environment and was told by invisible beings that he had been chosen for a cosmic mission. With the blueprint for a gigantic spaceship and the formula for the *vario-metal* from which the ship was to be built, he then set off with his ship in search of a helper race until he came across the Kospian (*the leading species of the galaxy Queeneroch at the time*). He sets up fourteen construction sites in the galaxy.

As the attacking Arcoans advance further into Queeneroch, Aachthor urges the fourteen master builders to increase production, fearing that the Arcoans, who are obviously experts in five-dimensional mathematics, might be led to the construction sites by the vario-metal's radiance. When the Arcoans finally reach the Mirgon construction site, the vario-metal structure and its builder can be saved, while all other living beings in the system are killed. The other objects can also be brought to safety with their respective master builders. He then fuses the fourteen elements into a large spherical starship and sends out a pulse requesting the cargo for the ship. However, before he can take this cargo on board, the ship is beset by a large fleet of the Arcoans. He is forced to take himself and the ship to safety in the neighboring small galaxy. In the center of this galaxy, he divides the vario-metal object into fourteen worlds and seals off the area from the Arcoans with the help of a transition screen. He creates the positronic Gomash Endredde and goes into his deep sleep chamber after the fourteen master builders have died one by one.

When the group around Perry Rhodan stands before Aachthor again after this report, he tells them **that the new ship is a [Spore Ship], and the cargo to be transported consists of [biophores], [on- and noon-quanta] – this is the Plan of Resurrection**. He needs the vital energy of the cell activator carriers and the aura of the Knights of the Deep to locate the cargo in hyperspace and bring it on board. Since the cell activator carriers have already experienced the effects of on and noon quanta when handled improperly on the PAN-THAU-RA (*in the cycle of the same name*), they reject Aachthor's demands. Only when the Pounders (*descendants of the Origaners*), emerge from the vario-metal and are now on board the new Spore Ship, do the Galactics agree to cooperate. However, Rhodan emphasizes that the cooperation is limited to the recovery of the biophores.

The AACHTHOM flies to the BASE *which is at the MINE worlds rescuing the Imprint Outlaws*. When Rhodan talks with Myles Kantor about the problem of the billions of addicted Galactics in the Milky Way, the two cell activator carriers realize that the addiction of the former Imprint Outlaws has disappeared since the transition screen was deactivated. Rhodan therefore intends to demand such a screen field generator from Aachthor as a reward for his assistance in the recovery of the biophores.

Only the cell activator carriers, supplemented by the Vandemar twins, remain on the AACHTHOM, which flies towards the Queeneroch galaxy. Aachthor destroys the planet Syssod, and hence the Chasch, killing many sentient peoples, on the grounds that the Arcoans could target certain hyperphenomena in order to find the biophore stored in hyperspace. In order to recover it themselves, these tracking stations have to be destroyed.

When Aachthor enters one of the Arcoana's stations, he is hit by radiation that destructively affects his cells. Voltago brings the dying Aachthor back to the AACHTHOM while Perry Rhodan realizes that he really must be a *representative* of the Cosmocrats, similar to the Seven Powerful Ones or Laire. Shortly afterwards, Voltago reports and explains in Aachthor's voice that he has been instructed to continue the mission of recovering the biophores, for which he needs the help of the cell activator carriers.

At the moment of his death, the aura of Aachthor passes to Voltago, who accepts his facial features and from now on resembles him in *other ways as well*. The destruction of the Arcoana stations means that the biophores can be returned from hyperspace. With the help of the cell activator carriers and especially the Vandemar twins, countless containers can be brought into the Spore Ship from the biophore depot. Tekener speculates that the Cosmocrats only have the biophores distributed so that they can "harvest" the resulting life and use it for their own purposes. *During this process, they experience several hyperspace quakes*.

Later, a spherical gateway to the Arrseum opens. Several thousand Ayindi ray ships enter the Parresum. Among them are Ernst Ellert and many Arresum Terrans, who report on life there. *The materialized consciousnesses of the Arresum Terrans are taken by Voltago/Aachthor as crew on his Spore Ship, which is going to spread life in the Arresum*. Ellert tells the background of the events in the Arresum :

Seven Powerful Ones appear in the Arresum in the distant past. All of them were previously rulers of great star empires. They are tasked with sowing life in the Arresum with the help of the biophores and their Spore Ships. One of them, who feels superior to the other powerful beings due to his enormous height of 30 feet, cannot accept the equality among the beings. *He tries to prevent his comrades-in-arms from taking up their task and at the same time experiments with the biophores. He strives to develop anti-life that will stand against the higher powers and give him a god-like position. The result of these experiments is the Abruse, which manifests itself in the form of billions of crystals.*

When his machinations are discovered by the other powerful beings, a battle ensues in which all the Powerful Ones and their Spore Ships are destroyed. Only one of them was able to release the first biophores before the battle, from which the Ayindi and the Barayen emerged. At the same time, there was a legendary primordial race in the Arresum that was the first spacefaring civilization. In the meantime, the Abruse did not develop in *the intended way*. Only when it encounters the Ayindi and the Barayen does it begin a growth that will one day threaten the entire Arresum. *The pseudo-life is later formed by the Abruse from left-behind biophores.*

Perry Rhodan receives the construction plans for a shield field generator from Voltago/Aachthor, with which the remaining imprint addicts in the Milky Way can be freed from their addiction. Then the Ayindi disappear back into the Arresum together with the AACHTHOM.

Meanwhile, a fleet of 8000 large Blues spaceships has appeared in Hirdobaan. This fleet was sent to support the Imprint Outlaws *against the Fermyd and Hirodbaan fleets*, as the Blues are immune to the imprint. After the Mashtars have been eliminated by the Galactics, peace negotiations between the Trade Lords, the Sydorrians and Fermyyd take place on board the MONTEGO BAY over Borrengold. The aim is to determine the future political structure in Hirdobaan. When the news arrives that the transition shield around Endredde's District has been extinguished, the negotiations are interrupted. The MONTEGO BAY and the 8000 ships of the Blues fly to the center region. They learn of the successful evacuation and the destruction of the Levels and the Blues' ships set off for the MINE worlds to bring the former Imprint Outlaws back to the Milky Way. In order to bridge the greatest difficulties due to the elimination of the supply of Seal technology from Endredde's District, the Galactics hand over construction plans for faster-than-light-speed engines to all the parties.

A short time later, Ellert reappears on board the MONTEGO BAY. [He informs Rhodan and Atlan that they are now free and no longer have to fulfill any orders from the Cosmocrats or IT. However, their aura as Knights of the Deep would remain. This freedom also applies to humanity as a whole.](#) IT will withdraw from them for an indefinite period of time.

Ellert does not answer questions about the "Bridge to Infinity", he merely states that Rhodan has no choice and must enter it. What sacrifices this demands depends solely on Rhodan's behavior and decisions. Prompted by Myles Kantor, Perry Rhodan raises the question of the hitherto unexplained phenomenon of the dual existence of the annealed cell activator of Ras Tschubai and Fellmer Lloyd. Ellert, who seems to have been expecting such a question, hands him a cube-shaped black box. Before he disappears, Ellert says: "If you open it and know how to interpret the signs correctly, your path into the new era will be a good one. If you don't recognize the signs, the opposite can happen, and every new day can also be the last - or the first. Take this gift and use it well. Then everything will fall into place."

Subsequent investigations show that only Rhodan and Atlan are able to open the black cube for 30 seconds at a time by touching one of the walls. The interior initially appears empty, but later the heat imprint of an object in the egg shape of the old cell activators can be detected.

At the beginning of [1221](#) NGE, the BASE leaves Hirdobaan for the Milky Way.

Copyright (c) 2025 Bruce R. Linnell

Permission is granted to copy, distribute and/or modify this document under the terms of the GNU Free Documentation License, Version 1.2 or any later version published by the Free Software Foundation; with no Invariant Sections, no Front-Cover Texts, and no Back-Cover Texts. A copy of the license is available [here](#).