

HANDOUT 1

The following is a description, in order from west to east, how the different elaborately painted scenes that decorate the walls and ceilings of the 20-foot wide and 20-foot high hall. This list only details those paintings that can still be made out. Many have been eroded away, beyond interpretation.

Picture 1

This picture shows an arid land. Hills and an ocean shore form a frame around sluggish rivers, forlorn stands of pine trees and dusty plains. A lone peak stands away from the hills rising from the midst of a plain. A gray cloud hangs over the lone mountain.

The shoreline shows depictions of crude ships and the hills show humans on horseback. The depictions suggest travel into the arid land from outside of the picture frame.

Picture 2

This picture shows a gigantic red dragon atop a great cliff among many jagged hills in a chain. Below the dragon are lines and lines of crudely drawn humans. The humans are leading packhorses and dragging sleds of cargo. Soldiers, men, women, elderly and children are shown, be it crudely.

The dragon has a red crystal the size of a man's head, floating near its own head.

Picture 3

This picture shows a blue dragon sitting atop a lone mountain peak set in the midst of an arid plain. A dark cloud with lightning hovers above. Its eyes stare down at a procession of humans carrying bodies on stretchers. More humans are lowering bodies into caves and shafts in the base of the lone mountain. The humans seem to be of Flannish descent.

The dragon has a blue crystal the size of a man's head, floating near its own head.

Picture 4

This picture shows a group of humans conducting acts of agriculture and irrigation. A river is being dammed, irrigation trenches dug. In one scene, several centaurs assist the farmers with the construction of a small bridge. With ridiculous perspective, a very large black dragon hides not far away behind a single small tree. Its 'hands' rub together in an almost conspirator gesture.

The dragon has a black crystal the size of a man's head, floating near its own head.

Picture 5

This picture shows Flan felling pine trees. In one scene, a human wielding a scimitar and bearing a round green circle on his tunic, is attempting to mediate a dispute between a group of the woodcutters and several angry centaurs. With more outrageous perspective, a massive

green dragon hides nearby with only a few bushes to conceal him.

The dragon has a green crystal the size of a man's head, floating near its own head.

Picture 6

This picture shows a landscape similar to the previous pictures. Children play and adults hold gatherings. A walled city with several spiraling towers takes up a prominent position in the picture. A fog has covered the city, and in one block where housing should be, a white dragon sits motionless among the human passersby, its eyes ever watchful.

The dragon has a white crystal the size of a man's head, floating near its own head.

Picture 7

This picture shows the lone mountain peak with storm clouds above it. The mountain is shattered. About its feet lies a vast debris field of rock and stone.

All five dragons from the previous pictures are gathered about the top ledges, near a large cave mouth.

Floating in the air before the dragons, dwarfing them in size, is a five-headed dragon made of shadow. It is not black like the black dragon, or white like the white dragon, but more similar to the smoky depiction of the storm clouds.

In the background, a human kingdom with towns and cities stretch across the paintings width. At first glance all seems to be happy, but a closer look reveals many depictions of soldiers and executions. A royal-looking figure and dark-clothed counselors or priests assist him as he presides over a mass slaughter of peasants within a large city.

Picture 8

The majority of this picture is of an ornate crown. The centerpiece of the crown is shaped like a scorpion. The crown rests in the palm of a giant shadowy hand, as if reaching down from the heavens. The rest of the painting is filled with various kinds of scorpions. Many of these scorpions have the head, arms and torso of a humanoid.

Picture 9

This is similar to picture 1 with its border of hills and oceans, but the interior of the land is depicted as a harsh desert, filled with scorpions and creatures that are half-scorpion/half-human. In several scenes, these 'man-scorpions' are shown fighting bitterly with groups of centaurs.

Picture 10

This picture shows the five chromatic dragons gathered in a temple chamber around an altar. Small lizard-like humanoids run about their feet carrying out a variety of menial tasks. The altar has five slots placed about it. All

the slots save one have been filled with the colored crystal normally depicted about the heads of the given dragons. In this scene, the white dragon is holding on to its white crystal and bringing it toward the empty slot.

Picture 11

This last picture shows hundreds of the small lizard-like humanoids from the previous picture, but now all of these creatures have a distinctive blue hue to their skin. Many are draped in blue or purple robes. Five of the largest humanoids have purple crystals set into amulets about their necks. Standing in front of some kind of altar, is a blue-hued human of Flan descent. He is shirtless and on his chest is the picture of a scorpion. In his right hand is a sword that crackles with dark energy. In his left is a hammer that burns with holy light. The altar is covered in the crushed petals of a flower. He has a notably sad look in his eyes.

HANDOUT 2

This is an ancient scroll written in Draconic upon parchment made from the skin of a gold dragon.

“A time will come to pass when evil will once again hold sway over the land. Three stars and crescent Luna will mark it.

Be it known those who write these words shall not live to meet those who carry the words. Only the worthy shall carry forth these words at the pre-ordained time.

There shall come a time when a gift will be granted to man. A dark crown with a dark gift will be wrought.

A curse shall befall the land and it shall wither like skin stretched across a rock. The poison of men shall scurry under the harsh sun. Only the shadow within the crown can restore the parched land.

For all, the crown must be destroyed.

<A sprawl of arcane incantations are here>

“Seek out a living thing of Sulwi protected by the sleeping tower.

Seek out a Sulmite weapon of unholy wrath; forgotten in faded Utaa.

Seek out an Itarian weapon of holy glow, lying in drowned sennerae.

Seek out the purest star metal and the prison of souls; locked within the herald of great sorrow.

Seek out the crown, bring it forth and unmake it.

The unmaking must happen. The unmaking must be. The unmaking shall bring salvation.”

At the seat of darkness will be the ending.

<more sprawling arcane incantations and ritual diagrams>