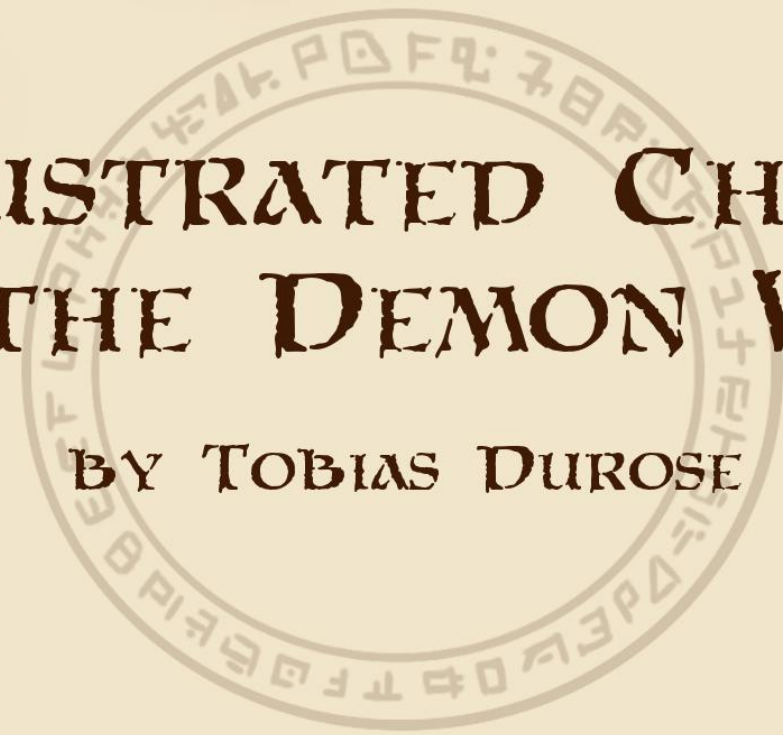


AN ILLUSTRATED CHRONICLE OF THE  
DEMON WARS



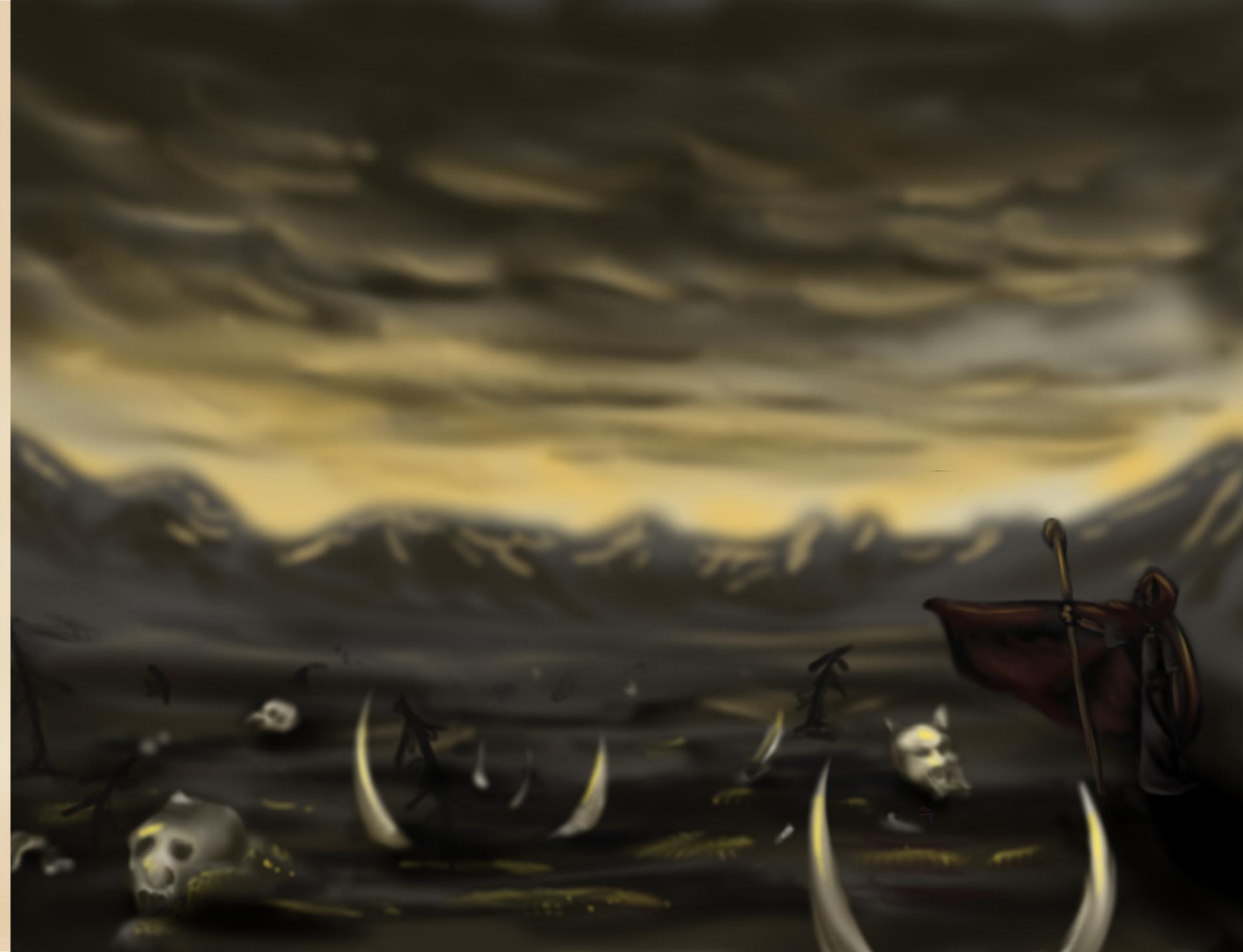
AN ILLUSTRATED CHRONICLE  
OF THE DEMON WARS

BY TOBIAS DUROSE



Long, long ago the material plane and the seven Hells were separate. But one day something destroyed the seal and hordes of demons came pouring into the material plane, seeking new lands to settle in, since centuries of segregation had caused the Hells to become overcrowded.

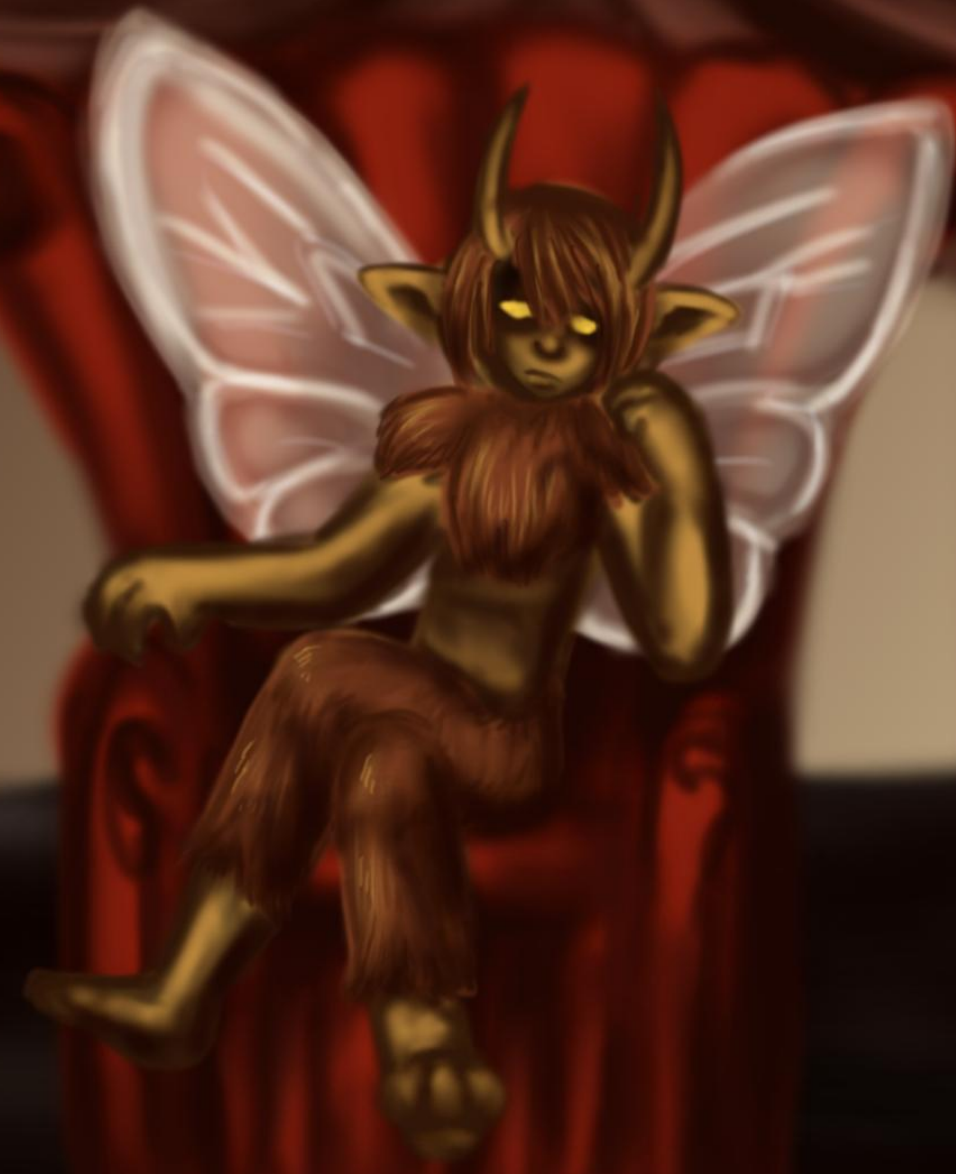
The races of the material plane formed a Great Coalition and sent vast armies to stave off the intrusion. The war raged for a very long time, until both sides realized that if they continued on like this the only true loser would be the land itself; the very commodity they both fought to obtain.



Both sides realized the other would not relent, thus a pact was formed; the war would be resolved by proxy, through one on one combat. Each side would send six champions to fight for the fate of their race. The tournament was to be held on the Lacoste mage training facility, the heart of the Coalition's military might.



*The Demon Prince Pigrita of the sloth layer of hell stayed home because she was too lazy to come out and participate.*



The first to fight was the Prince Rabiem, of the Wrath Demons. The fire mage Vatra took up his challenge



*It was a hard fight, but Vatra displayed great self control in the face of Rabiem's mindless rage, incinerating the Demon Prince where he stood, and claiming the first victory for the Coalition.*



The next to enter the ring was Prince Superbia, of the Pride Demons, the ruler of the seven Hells, the pride demons' might was unrivalled in battle. A throng of his fans cheered him on from the sidelines. To take his challenge was the air mage Urak.





*He was every bit as strong as they said, every blow she suffered only seemed to fuel his power and the cries from his followers grew louder and louder, but using her guile and wit she wove flows of air into the mouths of his fans, to silence their cries; without their support and adoration he was as helpless as a kitten.*



After seeing Demon Prince Superbia fall the demons were afraid, but Prince Invidebit of the Envy Demons, long defiant of the Pride Demons' rule decided to prove he could best his predecessor. To oppose him came the metal mage Primorati



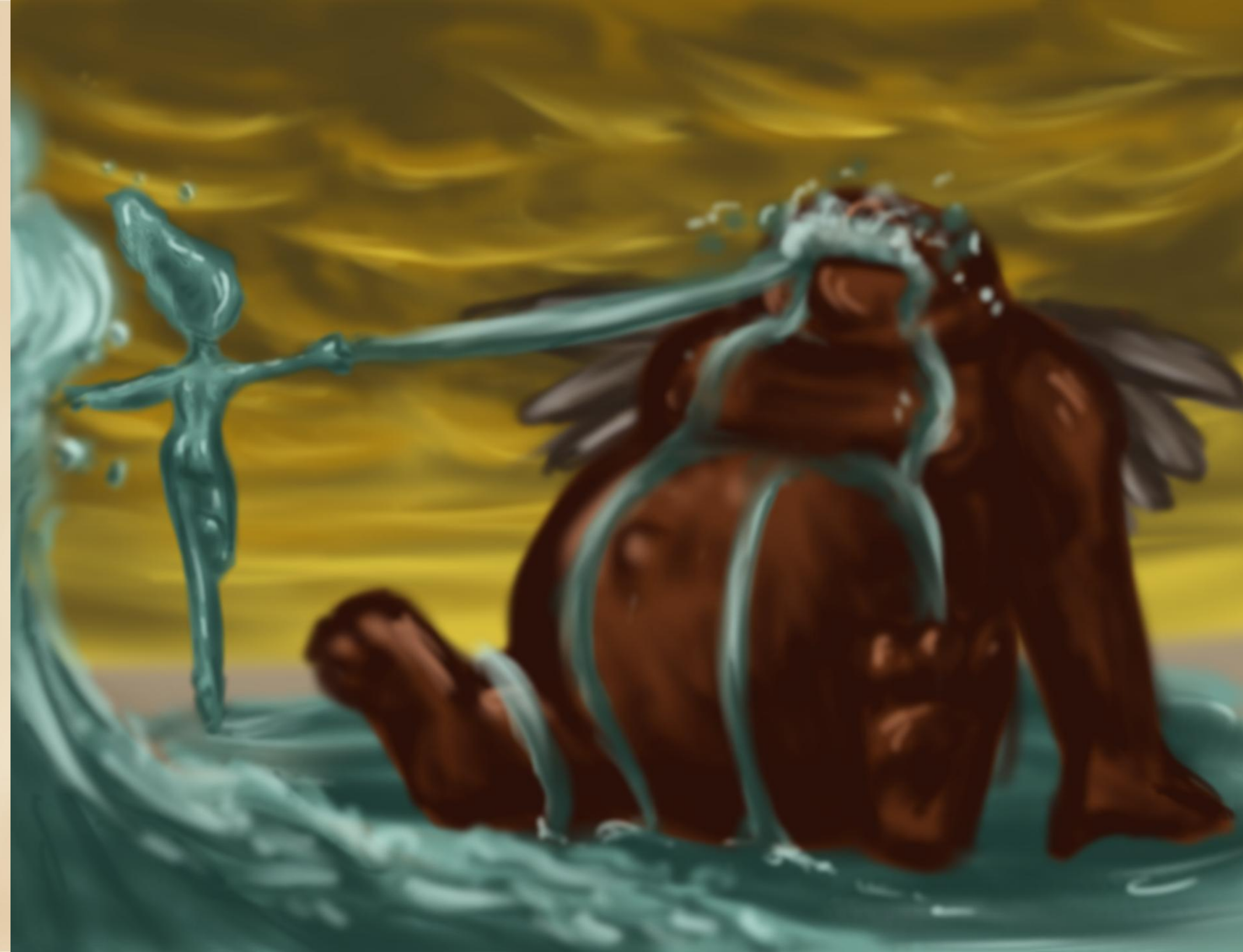
Prince Invidebit used his vile magic to confuse Primorati, he told her wicked lies of how her comrades thought they were stronger than her, and how he could make her greater than they. It appeared as if she would turn on her companions, but at the last moment she thrust her sword through Invidebit's chest, breaking his control and proving her loyalty to her friends once and for all.



*The Prince Gula of the Gluttony demons was eager to show his might after Invidebit's failure, to meet him was the water mage Voda.*



Voda battered the Demon prince with whips of water but each time he took a blow he would eat and regenerate, and each time he ate he grew larger and larger, until her attacks could no longer pierce his thick hide. Things looked grim for Voda until she hatched a devious plot. She began feeding him her water, instinctively he consumed and drank until he was so large he could no longer move. Thus Voda claimed another victory for the Coalition.



The next challenger, Prince Libido, of the Lust Demons decided to enter the ring. To challenge her was the stoic earth mage, Oluja.



Instead of fighting him, because she knew she could not win in a test of strength, she began to seduce him, using her forsaken magic to twist his mind and confuse his heart. Just as it looked as if he was going to concede to her, his wife, the water mage Voda called to him from the sidelines, and brought him back to his senses. He denied the lust Demon's wiles and defeated her deftly.



The last challenger was the Prince Vis, of the Greed Demons, she approached the podium alone, while the others had brought vast hordes of their brood to watch. Lacoste however, had no more challengers to offer, their five finest mages lay exhausted from the combat, easily disposed of if the Demon Princes took even one victory.





*As Prince Vis began to declare her victory due to lack of an opponent, a mysterious, hooded mage stepped into the ring, much to her dismay.*



As soon as the combat began the hooded mage cast a powerful spell that wreathed their battle in an impenetrable veil of smoke.



After many nervous hours of waiting, the smoke dissipated and the mysterious, hooded mage emerged alone. He said not a word to the questioning masses and disappeared after the battle. Fading into the pages of history.



With their Princes defeated, the demon hordes returned to their home plane, but because demons are notoriously bad at keeping promises, the five Princes were locked beneath the Lacoste military base, as a constant reminder to the Hells of who had emerged victorious in the Demon Wars. Their power syphoned and used to provide light, heat and mobility to the establishment. The five champions became scholars and teachers and transformed Lacoste into a great academy where young mages could learn to weave the arcane flows under masters of the craft. And from that moment forward the land remained in peace.

The Lord

