

EXTRACTED FROM
"THE PSYCOACTIVE MUTATIONS AFTER THE MUTAGEN WARS"
BY ELIAS ETHAN, HOLOVOLUME I, INTRODUCTION

Towards the end of the twenty-seventh century of the old calendar, many were the causes that had brought the human race near to its own extinction. The overpopulation and the resource scarcity, the continuous fights between the economic Monopolies and the national governments and, last but certainly not least, the Martian and Venusian colonies secessionist movements.

Incapable of solving the problems in a civil way, the humans triggered the violence daemon, this time incarnated into subtle and terrifying bacteriological and mutagen weapons.

After decades of pitiless war, that left out only the far colonies on the Jovian moons, the Mutagen Wars reached an end with an historical armistice at Chazertown: Human beings survived the terrible test, but not without paying the price of hundred of millions of deaths and horrible suffering. It was ratified that such a holocaust never should be repeated, and to strengthen this concept the old calendar was abandoned: that was the first day of the Year Zero AMW (After Mutagen Wars).

Even as the war was officially ended, it still left a horrible inheritance. The terrible mutant agents were still spreading on the planet and continued their inexorable drive forward, inducing malformations, diseases and genetic abnormalities that brought death and suffering.

Many people brought with them

the signs of the mutations, often as physical deformities and aberrations that continued in their progeny.

Human kind struggled to resume its vigor. The population, drastically reduced, left behind the aberrant megalopolises to return to the suburbs and rural areas. Scientific progress encountered many obstacles on this road as many scientists had disappeared during the war and because of the resentment that the population had against science, considered by most only as the creator of the weapons of mass destruction. These feelings, along with the new freedom of space and resources, brought human kind back to a lifestyle more in harmony with nature's needs.

Only a few generations after the end of the war, something unexpected had happened.... Some descendants of the survivors started to show signs of extra sensory perception and abilities such as telekinesis, telepathy, levitation, psychokinesis, mental manipulation of matter, extra corporeal experiences and in some rare but not isolated cases, even the capacity to see into the past and forward into the future. These capacities, that for millennia had lain as latent capacities or poorly acquired in a few persons, now started to appear in many individuals. These new powers were becoming the dominant genetic characteristics. They were handed on to the next generation, and gradually increased

in strength with every new generation. So, with the passing of time, these characteristics had become more common in a greater segment of the population.

The new faculties of psycho-active persons (or Psya, as people with these powers had become commonly called) and their capacity for controlling these powers with awareness varied within each individual. A social fracture started to grow between the Psya and the people who didn't have any powers.... These people called themselves "normal", giving the abnormal status to the Psya, who on their side started calling them PsyNeg, a contraction of Psycho-Negative.

The millennium old social structure of human history had divided into castes and received a true shock. Now there were two social classes that coexisted in the human world. Both of them started to despise each other: the Psya were afraid that they were going to be pursued because of their 'diversity', whereas the PsyNeg believed that the Psya were going to gain power because of their belief that they were the "superior race."

A new racism appeared between the Psya and the PsyNeg and hatred was born. Alas, as through so much of human history it was supported by their respective behavior. This situation activated violent outbreaks many times, with the risk of the whole of humankind falling into an abyss of suffering

and endless war.

A small but stubborn group of intellectuals and scientists managed to put together the more responsible and moderate forces of both factions, and together created a preliminary New Paper of Human Rights, a comprehensive guideline of all the reciprocal rights and duties between the Psya and the PsyNeg, and a written limitation to the use of the PSI powers. This strong willingness to establish a basis for cohabitation, empowered by the reminder of the Mutant war horrors, and because of the possibility of a new and even more frightening psychic war, brought to fruition a status of civil and peaceful cohabitation between the Psya and the PsyNeg.

Civilian society in a few years not only returned to a quiet hiatus, but also the attainment of new heights in the scientific and artistic disciplines. The Psya created artwork capable of emotionally intriguing the spectators, and the Psya, with their powers, were capable of transforming matter at a sub-atomic level enhancing technological progress with the introduction of new psycho reacting materials, especially the psychoplastometers and new machines, powered by PSI powers. The advantages of these discoveries were passed on to the whole human community.

Even in the medical sector, the Psya showed capabilities of going well above the normal surgical and pharmacological methods, making it possible to interact and cure patients who before had been incurable.

This new social interaction made racism between the two races al-

most nonexistent. Mutated people finally didn't have to hide their deformities and diversities and were even researched towards the greater good of the population.

Even as a new cultural and social situation was becoming a norm, some groups within the Psya and the PsyNeg continued not to accept this new equilibrium. They considered the other side to be dangerous and inferior; and hostilities continued to exist, becoming well seated as a social cancer. It had become an acceptable brand of fanaticism amongst some of the Psya and the PsyNeg. The real danger wasn't from common criminals and the various PsyNeg terrorist groups, as many of their attacks were prevented due to the perceptive capacities of the Psya. What really worried the World Government were the single Psya individuals that refused to accept an equal social level with the PsyNeg.

These individuals were forced to, by necessity, to become criminals. These Psya, because of their powers, not only were capable of more brutal crimes against normal delinquents, but were also more prone to hide and to avoid the consequences of their anti-social acts.

The limit was reached when a Psya criminal confessed that he was capable of using his psyakinesic powers also through the Temporal Axis, transferring his mind into another individual lived in a past historical age and taking control of their actions.

After the initial incredulity of the scientific community there were reports of a feeling of terror within many people, when it was discovered that a group of Psya scientists

was capable of reproducing and to control this power, and thus made the existence of Mindstalking official.

It was time that a limit was set on some mental powers, especially 'Temporal Mindstalking'.

The new World Government that was born right after the end of the wars, gave this mandate to a highly selected group of Psya to create a plenipotentiary organism to keep under control the use of mind powers, and in some cases to impart the use of violence, both physical and mental.

This was the birth of the Ordo Excubiarum, whose members were simply called "Sentinels" by the common people.

The Ordo recruited primarily Psya, who were selected and trained according to their personal attributes. United under the Ordo symbol, were grouped religious, highly trained warriors, skillful spies, scientists, medics and erudites divided into six Castes with a rigid and inflexible military-religious hierarchical structure.

In a secret location somewhere in a valley of the Himalayan Mountains, a majestic mountain fortress was built, this became the Ordo center. At the base of the mountain, at the only point of access to the Fortress a luxurious temple was built and dedicated to Nax. Within time a whole city grew using the services of the PsyNeg as a labor force for the Fortress.

The citadel and the whole of the mountain were under the PSI protection of the Ordo Meditators.

It was established that, within a year of its birth, all children were

to be examined by an Ordo representative, and purposely tested to capture any PSI energy emanating from them and, if any were found, consequently report them to the Ordo Registrar.

The Psya children, at the age of six had to undergo a four year formation period by attending the Ordo schools – that where now all over the planet – in order to make them more responsible and more knowledgeable of their powers, and use them without conflicting with the World Laws.

The more promising students, if they wished to, were recruited as potential members and were brought up inside the Fortress.

Although, even with the control exercised by the Ordo, many families didn't declare the birth of their children, and the ones with PSI powers where raised unattended in a degrading environment and often chose the more natural way of using their powers. To survive or to excel, ignoring or deliberately eluding all the restrictive laws on the use of PSI Powers.

Thus a new type of criminal was formed and the introduction of a new problem became apparent: the normal detention centers were becoming less effective against their more powerful minds.

At some point some individuals, even if physically killed, could not be stopped, because they were capable of exercising a permanent form of Mindstalking, transferring their minds from the condemned corpse to another person, whose mind was annihilated.

The solution to the problem was radical but necessary: a new underground level was excavated

in the Fortress and equipped with tens of thousands of Mental Cages, devices for psychic containment in which the Psya evil minds where imprisoned, confined in a dreamless limbo for eternity.

The same Fortress was protected from mental attacks and from possible influences of Temporal Reflux Waves through a device fed by the psychic powers of the Sho-Sa - the Meditators - and the most powerful Psya of the Ordo.

The Sho-Sa, in the chambers of meditation located at the deepest levels of the Fortress, dedicated their lives to feed and control all the psycho-electric devices, such as the Temporal Protection Bubble and the Mind Cages.

This solution, serving also as a major deterrent, proved to be very effective. Even against all the arguments and considerations of an ethical nature that were raised by various social and cultural associations, it was capable of returning the level of social danger to a more normal physical level.

Even the cases of Temporal Mindstalking where almost eliminated, although even nowadays sometimes an Ordo Recovery Squad is

sent on a temporal mission to imprison or clear the mind of some criminal that seeks to escape.

The Ordo Excubiarum, from the impenetrable Fortress protected by the Bubble, oversees and protects humanity from its own madness, in all historical ages and in all places, from now until the End of Time.

