

The Orders of Wizardry Coalesce

Historical Event · The Time of Nightmares

Date: ~-100 TN

Summary

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Magnus, who would later become the chief arcane advisor to the last Vennite Emperor Weohstan, is the historical figure most associated with the early Orders' formation -- though the records from this period are incomplete enough that his precise role is described differently in different sources. What is consistent across accounts: the early Orders were a response to the unregulated proliferation of magic during and after the Venn collapse, and they were built on the premise that arcane power without institutional accountability was a threat comparable to the giants that magic had originally been given to defeat.

The regulatory framework established during this period -- the three-robe structure of White, Grey, and Black, the licensing requirements, the Triumvirate governance model -- reflects the particular anxieties of an era in which magic had been a tool of imperial power that had just failed catastrophically. The founders were not building an institution for peacetime. They were building one for the specific aftermath of collapse, which gives the Orders a defensive architecture that has persisted long after the original emergency that produced it.