

GUIDE TO HUMAN-SETTLED SPACE

NOTE: The following information is gleaned from sources dating to the year 3014 Old Earth Calendar (OEC). In the hundred years preceding this year, humanity had emerged from centuries of dark age to travel the stars again. By 3014, most human colonies had joined together to form the Democratic Confederacy of Human Colonies (DCHC).

Anticus: DCHC name for the home world belonging to the apparently sentient race called Anachromites (or “mound-builders”). In the past nine hundred years, human scientists have not found reliable ways to communicate with Anachromites, and this is part of the reason that the Anachromites’ status as sentient beings is still debated today. Humans had research settlements and a religious settlement on Anticus that were unaffected by the PBT Crisis.

Bona Vista Station: artificial habitat in space.

Castor and Pollux: two habitable planets of the Dioscurin system (not to be confused with the stars originally called Castor and Pollux in the constellation Gemini)

Centauri: agricultural world with two continents and three archipelago chains, third of the original worlds to form the DCHC in 2990.

Drop-in-the-Ocean: remote starbase in interstellar space, refueling station.

Earth (and the Sol system artificial habitats): status largely unknown.

Eventide: home world for the sentient stone age race who call themselves Jarinyi. Humans have established three research facilities on Eventide with Jarinyi permission. A branch species of Jarinyi known as Nguwuu also inhabit an area of Eventide but remain hostile to humans.

Foucault’s Moon: Capital of the Democratic Confederacy of Human Colonies (DCHC)

Landfall Island: Oceana’s second largest island, Chipper’s home.

Nakayama Station: A habitat orbiting one of Centauri’s moons; an old CUSET-era multi-corporation server-base and storage facility.

Oceana: DCHC world with a small population.

Pride of Mao: originally a Chinese world before the dark age, Pride of Mao was one of the three original worlds to form the DCHC in 2990. (“Mao Kuo” official name for people from Pride of Mao).

Red Star: though largely arid, this world is habitable. But Red Star was the source of the PBT virus and it remains officially off-limits to humans.

Theseus: DCHC world, earth-like but with fewer oceans and uninhabitable around its equatorial zone because of extreme daytime temperatures; Theseus's highest urban and commercial centers are around its poles.

Xerxes: in 3014, Xerxes fledgling government is negotiating to join the DCHC. First settlement and mining/farming established in 2131. First urban center established in 2138. Three waves of settlement arrived on Xerxes between 2131 and 2140, its settlers predominantly Spanish, Filipino, Central American, Mexican, Scottish, US and Irish.

Yun Dao: isolationist world, status largely unknown.

Short Lexicon of Terms Used in the *Envoys* series

Auxiliary CIC:	a starship compartment serving as a backup processing and control center for ship's systems and information in case its bridge or flight deck are compromised or damaged (CIC, an old term meaning Command Information Center)
baka:	<i>cow</i> (insult, origin Filipino)
bulala:	<i>an idiot</i> ; evolved Filipino low-level insult (originally a Tagalog-language adjective meaning <i>star-struck</i> or <i>stupid</i>)
CUSET:	A late-21 st to mid-22 nd Century union of corporations formed to venture into Earth's solar system and to colonize beyond it.
cycle:	the Tluaan term for a day (approx. 30 Earth-hours long)
Devilfly:	1) predatory insect-analog indigenous to Pollux; 2) an Umaga-Morgen F380 Devilfly is a single-occupant fighter-interceptor capable of operations in space and in atmosphere, and armed with laser cannons, countermeasures and two ship-to-ship high explosive missiles.
fifteenth:	the Tluaan equivalent of an hour, the Suuchaat day being divided into fifteen segments of approx. 2 Earth-hours long.
frog it:	slang for <i>running fast, leaving fast</i> (reference to the Faster-Than-Light technique known as leap-frogging)

glitchy:	dangerous, changeable, uncontrollable (Thesian slang)
hack:	an expression of profanity; a swear word referring to the hacking of another person's data or personal systems (which was the ultimate antisocial act in the 22 nd Century when the term is thought to have originated)
heartbeat:	Tluaan version of human seconds; approx. 1.1 Earth-seconds
hún dàn:	scoundrel; bastard; hoodlum; wretch (Mandarin phrase)
Kh'het:	The Tluaan name for the closest star system to theirs.
Liberty Habitat:	Huge artificial habitat where most of Domain Space's population and governance resides
Lioness:	1) extinct earth predator; 2) a Mumford T15 Lioness is a "pursuit runner" class of space vehicle, with fast acceleration, long-range fuel-tanks, one forward-firing laser emitter and a ship-to-ship missile bank
ngéh:	<i>no</i> (Tluaan Domain Space dialect)
orbit:	the Tluaan term for a year (i.e. one orbit of Suuchaat around its star), approx. 242 Earth-days (in Domain Space language, one orbit is a <i>p'hush</i> while <i>p'hushto</i> is the plural form)
PRC:	People's Republic of China, a former "superpower" political civilization of the 20 th -22 nd Centuries who were CUsET's main competitor in colonizing other star systems.
porquería:	<i>piece of crap</i> (Spanish)

retinaid:	Xerxian tech, a cyber-neural enhancement sending electronic images direct to the brain's visual cortex
sahsah/sahss:	yes, (Domain Space dialect)
shārén bù zhǎyǎn:	stone-cold killer, one who kills without blinking (Mandarin phrase)
sophie off:	to <i>siphon off</i> or <i>steal</i> (also the word <i>sophie</i> is sometimes used on its own to mean <i>steal</i>)
sugary:	<i>excellent</i> (Polluxan slang)
Suuchaat:	Tluaan home world
Tlaa:	female Tluaan
Tlu:	male Tluaan
Tluaan:	collective adjective for things to do with Tluaanto; (e.g. <i>this object is Tluaan in origin.</i>)
Tluaanto:	collective plural for a group of Tluaan individuals where gender is not specified; (e.g. <i>Look at the crowd of Tluaanto over there.</i>)
tulalâ:	<i>vacant-brain</i> (Xerxian slang) (evolved Filipino phrase originating from the Filipino/Tagalog word for <i>staring into space</i> or <i>astonishment</i>)
weaners:	Xerxian slang for weaklings, referring to babies newly weaned from their mothers