

## Fore-Foreword

"Study Demonology With An Enemy This Sunday." This quote by Thomas the Gnostic adorns page 00061 of the *Principia Discordia*, and as with other instructions, good advice and commandments in the *Principia* there were some stumbling blocks in the implementation.<sup>1</sup> Are there specifically discordian demons? Sure there are, but had anyone who's qualified ever written a book about it, a basis for a study of discordian demonology? For a long time, no such work was known, and at least I only knew of one discordian who also dealt with demonology, namely Cpt. Bucky Saia, the esteemed translator of this book.

But then we discovered on the website of Adam Gorightly, this wonderful hodgepodge called *Historia Discordia*, a small booklet titled *Goetia Discordia* for download<sup>2</sup>. Not only does it contain a whole bunch of demons and interesting thoughts about the nature of the region of Thud - no, it also arose from the cooperation of two discordian veterans, namely Kerry Thornley, who co-founded Discordianism as Lord Omar Khayyam Ravenhurst, and Roldo Odlor, one of the most wonderful Discordian artists, whose work we could already admire on the cover of the *Historia Discordia* (the book of course, not the website) and who kindly allowed us to translate this little treasure, the *Goetia Discordia*, and release it under our own label.

The *Goetia Discordia* thus belongs to a series of "new old" writings that have reappeared in recent years from the muddy shoals of the ancient and early discordian times, ranging from the "JFK Edition" of *Principia Discordia* to the collected and scattered content of the Discordian Archives of the West, which appeared under the aforementioned label *Historia Discordia*. For our generation of discordians, the publication of these finds means a massive expansion of our world, as they show that discordianism is not just some kind of joke hyped by the Internet, based on a silly book full of absurd hippie humor. No, it is a much larger complex of jokes, based on various writings full of absurd hippie humor, hyped by the Internet, but also based on something like a long tradition<sup>3</sup>. And that's frightening, isn't it?

But what is the core of discordian demonology? Well, probably similar to discordianism in general. Not only gods create people, humans also create gods. And it works the same way with demons. That doesn't mean that these demons are any less *true* just because they're made up. A discordian demonologist *recognizes* a demon rather, and if that demon has no name, shape, or other characteristics, the demonologist will give it those that match the demon. And why all this? Because you can only slap someone in the face if they've got a face. The way for us to deal with our demons is to force them into a form in which they are still demonic and grotesque, yet for us becoming tangible, manageable, recognizable in the first place and ultimately with weaknesses to attack them.

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<sup>1</sup> At this point I would like to remind you, for example, of the second commandment of the Pentabarf and our lengthy and unsuccessful efforts to find out how the Official Discordian Document Numbering System works. Or the attempt to count all the stars in the sky at the hour of one's own birth in order to obtain a discordian horoscope. Really, I tried.

<sup>2</sup> <http://historiadiscordia.com/goetia-discordia-kerry-thornleys-illustrated-book-of-the-demons-of-the-region-of-thud/>

<sup>3</sup> By the way, Brenton Clutterbuck's work *Chasing Eris*, which offers an overview of the facets of Discordianism in different corners of our round earth, takes a similar line.

The fact that we proceed in this way creatively of course also means that we discover new demons over and over again and thus such a beautiful but nevertheless rather thin book as the *Goetia Discordia* can by no means be exhaustive for the topic. And so we have taken the liberty to include in the appendix of this issue some of our own statements on discordian demons from the upcoming work *Dictionaire Thuddial - Phone Calls From Hell*.

Finally, we would like to mention the 3183 YoLD English print edition of the *Goetia Discordia*, which is available at Bathtub Books<sup>4</sup>.

Bwana Honolulu, Gammelot Castle on Sweetmorn, 47 Bcy 3184 YoLD

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<sup>4</sup> <https://bathtubbooks.store/>