

INTRODUCTION TO THORHAMMER

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Welcome!

ThorHammer is my personal writing project, and it is in no way meant to be a perfect one. If I had the time to go back and make the writing on an equal level with the last chapter, I would, but I don't. Instead, I view ThorHammer as a work-in-progress. With that, I ask for the reader's patience when reading, and I'm always open for questions.

This Guide section will contain articles I feel are relevant to the ThorHammer universe. Things I think the reader should - or would want - to know. These articles are not meant to remain stagnant, and will be revised and updated from time to time, with new information and even corrections to my logic or the unfolding of the ThorHammer universe. This is all as much a trip for me as it is you. I simply sit down and start writing, never knowing what's going to happen next.

There are a few things I suppose I should set out for you all, like some kind of background or foundation to start thinking from. So, that as it be, get ready for some crazy notes!

Time period. Well, no one really knows, least of them me. You can safely assume it has been a very long time since man first launched the space shuttle to explore his upper reaches of the atmosphere. At this point in human history, Anthros had already, in some places, colonized other worlds, so the Anthro race has definitely been around longer than the human race. There is no social pivot on this notion, though, and humans are not treated (or thought of) as inferior. In many ways, the human colonization of the galaxy is just as impressive. One estimate that I came to was that it has been many thousands of years since humans and Anthros first met, while another theory only puts it at about two thousand years. Either way, humans and Anthros have been drifting about the stars for a very long time.

Size of the galaxy and its colonization. That's a touchy subject. Much of the galaxy's portion known as the Central Core has been mapped and claimed. This goes to say that colonization is very extensive, and you would be right. Populations for whole governments can number in the trillions, even tens of trillions for larger governments. The use of faster-than-light ship engines enables people to travel the stars as easily as one of us going to the supermarket. However, distance is still relevant, and as you may know from reading some of the chapters, it can take weeks, even months, to go from one government to another (even one system to another). Why haven't the people of the Central Core ventured outside of their galaxy if they could do it in only a few months travel? Well, for starters, it's not very practical to go beyond the boundary of civilization to colonize, and much astronomical work is done with probes and unmanned craft anyway. More importantly, however, we arrive on the scene in ThorHammer when the galaxy's occupants have just begun to fill the wholeness of the Central Core, meaning they just haven't reached that stage yet. Also, the Central Core was just recently (over the past two dozen years or more ago) involved in a galaxy-wide war that left many civilizations in ruins.

The war. The Great Galactic War, as it is sometimes called, is one of only a few galaxy-wide wars in history, and the last one was by far the most devastating and memorable. An Anthro by the name of Xiou, with a genius's mind for conquest and an insatiable appetite for destruction, suffering, and control,

managed to build an empire so great it threatened the very survival of every free being in the galaxy. Much like Alexander the Great swept over the known world in ancient times, Xiou poured through the galaxy with his forces (who were often brainwashed, fear-controlled, or forced into allegiance). Many governments were forced to surrender to him, and his power grew. One memorable aspect of this war was Xiou's use of the Draxiix and the Thalleen races, which were alien races who lived separate from the Central Core and possessed incredible military technology and might. With these races came such war monstrosities as the dreaded Spheres, which were stations build for war, capable of traveling like starships, holding millions of troops and countless pieces of war equipment. The Spheres were capable of employing an optical cloaking device consisting of an array of carefully positioned mirrors on their surface, making their sensor echo no larger than a star-fighter (if any at all) and looking visually like a fast moving black hole. The effect was terrifying, not to mention the way a fleet could hide inside a sphere, slip in through front lines, and deploy in seconds, reeking havoc. The Spheres themselves were not defenseless either, having enormous weapons capable of destroying whole cruisers and battleships with just a couple shots, and able to bombard a planet's defenses from orbit. Also dreaded on the Spheres were its arsenal of nuclear cannon and relativistic rail-guns, each.

Xiou was defeated when an uprising of the remaining free governments managed to tear away at Xiou's forces from the inside, behind his advancing heavy forces. Also, the introduction of the race of the Ka'thal'rentha, a dinosaur-like reptilian species, and the entrance of the Leviathan army into the war, aided greatly in the eventual defeat of the Black Empire and Xiou. Xiou himself was believed killed when the already famous bounty-hunter Redhawk faced him on one of Xiou's Spheres which had begun to break up after being badly damaged. In the end, countless worlds lay in ruin, trillions lay dead, the Ka'thal'rentha had been severely reduced in number, and the Leviathan army had been crushed and obliterated in the last days of the war. To this date, finding a Leviathan is very hard, and visiting their homeworld proves a visit to a radioactive molten planet drifting dead in space.

What else? Well, I suppose for safety sake, I should cover the issue of bestiality, since we are talking Anthros and humans living together. Bestiality has no bearing in ThorHammer. Anthros are not simply animals, in any way more than humans are just animals. Anthros are intelligent, highly social people, capable of thinking just the same as humans. (Read the article "The Anthro Society"). Humans frequently engage in sexual actions with Anthros, and Anthros do the same with humans. There are human-Anthro marriages. Bestiality isn't a part of ThorHammer.

Well, I hope you stick with me as we voyage through the ThorHammer universe, chapter by chapter, article by article! Please feel free to comment by either sending me an email or positing to the forum. I welcome all responses to anything, good or bad.

Thanks!
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