

# Ring of Fire: Factions

## Atlanteans

Atlanteans were primarily a good race, showing a great deal of compassion toward themselves and others, helping other cultures when it was vital to the civilization's survival. All are very powerful (the equivalent of Mega-Heroes) and it was these beings that led to myths regarding gods, demons, and angels (all Atlanteans closely resemble humans). Unfortunately, they have since become an embittered race, bent on destroying the Dark Ones and preventing the extinction of their species. Where they once asked "will you help us or hinder us," they now state "you are with us or against us." While still primarily good-natured, Atlanteans are absolutely merciless toward the Dark Ones and their allies.

In addition, Atlanteans could not pass on their morals and good nature to their hybrid kin. The hybrids run the full range of alignments, from the most scrupulous individual that is the pinnacle of chivalry to the most diabolically evil villain. This has caused a number of problems as the Atlanteans attempt to educate their kin on the war and obtain reinforcements to their thinning ranks.

The Atlanteans have worked for thousands of years, keeping their involvement and survival on Earth a secret from the Dark Ones, destroying any of their ships that ventured too close (into the solar system). The Atlanteans did this both to aid their cause and to aid the human race should the Atlanteans fail.

## Mutants

Mutants make up approximately 5% of the world population (prior to World War II, they made up less than 1%). All are the direct descendants of an Atlantean. While other super-powered humans do exist, they are viewed by Atlanteans as unnatural and are generally sought out and destroyed when possible (this primarily applies to the Experiment power category). Powers typically manifest themselves in their late teenage or early adult years. The mutant is unaware of his ancestry, after all, Atlantis is supposed to be a myth. The mutant is sought by Atlanteans to be educated and trained to fight the Dark Ones, which remain a mystery to even the Atlanteans. Those that are found, but do not wish to aid the Atlantean struggle are executed as traitors to the cause.

## Dark Ones

The Dark Ones are an alien race, much like the Atlanteans, who developed advanced technology, including space travel, and super abilities. Their early acquisition of the incredible technology and their abilities fueled their egos. They began to believe that only they were worthy enough to possess such a high-level of technology and these god-like abilities. As they traveled the galaxy, they uncovered the existence of other civilizations with similar technology and abilities. These cultures were wiped out indiscriminately. Those that were able to repel the Dark Ones were considered worthy possessors and allowed to continue to exist.

While the Atlanteans were unable to repel the attack, they were able to escape, only to "contaminate" humankind (at least in the view of the Dark Ones). The Dark Ones only recently began to hear rumors of the Atlanteans contamination, but have sent numerous probes and reconnaissance patrols to the Sol system in the past, only to have them destroyed. For over a thousand years, the Dark Ones avoided this region of the Milky Way, believing it to be a black hole. This only served to fuel the Dark Ones' rage when the truth was discovered.

The Dark Ones are an intangible race of black mist, able to take human form for a short time. They feed on the life force (P.P.E.) of sentient creatures and are nearly impossible to kill. In their intangible form, Dark Ones possess abilities equivalent to Energy Expulsion (Electricity) and Intangibility. In human form, the abilities vary from individual to individual, but all are the equivalent of Mega-Heroes (determine number of super abilities as per Table C of the Experiment power category).