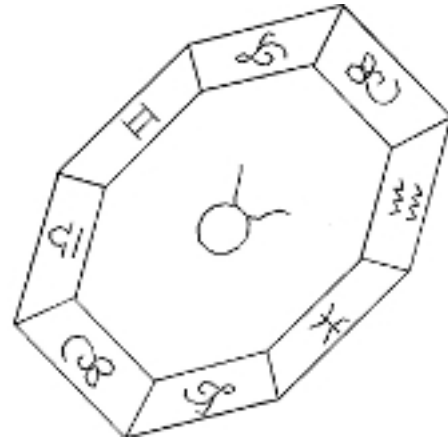


(excerpt from *Compendium of Historic Gemstones*)

Galadiir, the

One of the oldest gem-based legends is that of the galadiir.

The sketch at right is taken from a scroll that forms the basis for the stone's legend. According to a Sylvan translation of the scroll, a godlike creature named Azazel had started a war that threatened to destroy the world. Three of Azazel's own kind then created the galadiir, infused it with immense psionic power, and then used that power to imprison Azazel below a mountain for all eternity. They then departed the Material Plane, but not before entrusting the galadiir (and presumably the accompanying scroll) to “the long-lived people of the wood” in case something should awaken Azazel, necessitating the use of the stone again.



Physically, the galadiir is a glossy black stone with an oblong octagonal shape. Facets are cut in the edges and each facet contains a symbol of undocumented origin. The material defies identification – it resembles volcanic glass in color but is harder than diamond and appears indestructible.

Magical divinations reveal that the stone carries a powerful magical aura of no specific school, which would be consistent with the statement that it stores psionic potential. An examination of the stone by elders of the Society of the Mindful provides some insight as to the nature of the power:

“The stone stores pure psionic energy, and is in some ways similar to a cognizance crystal but with marked differences. Its capacity is not known; one attempt to determine its maximum storage resulted in the stone siphoning all remaining power points from the examiner's mind, leaving the individual stunned and drained.

“The galadiir is also unlike a standard cognizance crystal in that it appears to channel its power through its possessor rather than simply serving as a storage tank for power points. The energy released is clairsentient in nature, suggesting that the stone could be used to manifest *reality revision* or similar powers but at a very high level and without the usual drain on the individual's resources. Testing in this area has been limited by the stone's custodian, however.”

Custody of the galadiir passes from each individual to an heir of their choice, occasionally bypassing blood relations at the discretion of the individual. Families who have had possession of the stone consider themselves privileged even after the stone has been passed on to another. The exact line of succession is not recorded, and even the age of the stone itself is a matter of conjecture. Over time it has relocated with its guardians countless times.

While there is no obligation to secrecy most guardians do keep their ownership of the stone secret during their lifetimes. The most recent alleged guardian was Murveen D'hael of Aelhandra, but the family never confirmed this and it is not known which of her children inherited the stone upon her death.