

Vague, Sweeping Overview

- The key setting questions are:
 - What is the limiting factor for Empire?
 - What differences, cultural, technological, social and historical, would result from real, reliable, repeatable magic?
- The key personal questions are:
 - How do we find ourselves corrupted?
 - Can we find our way to redemption?
 - How do individuals change the course of history?
- Historical inspirations include:
 - Proto-Indo European Culture and Mythology
 - Greek, Roman, Indian, Chinese, Korean, and Japanese history
 - Greco-Buddhism and the cultural and commercial traffic connecting Greece, Rome, India, and China
- Literary influences include:
 - David Gemmell, most importantly *Echoes of the Great Song*, *Lion of Macedon*, and ideas drawn from his body of work.
 - Tom Holt, most importantly *Song for Nero*, *Meadowland*, *Alexander at the World's End*, and *Olympiad*.
 - Robert Graves, *I, Claudius* and *Claudius the God*

Much more to follow.

Back to [start](#)

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