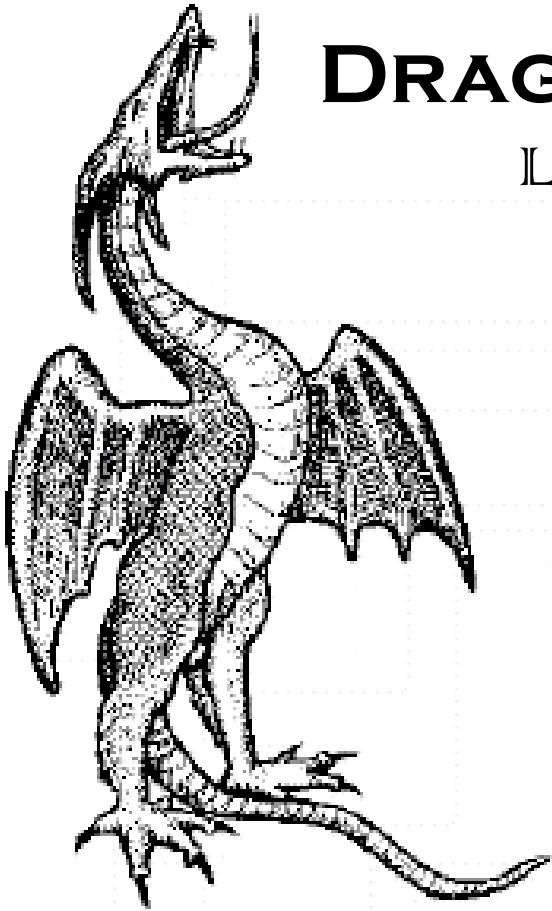


EVENT KIT



DRAGON EGG HUNT

Listen to the Dragon.

Follow the Runes.

Save the Egg.

A dragon book event kit for bookstores & libraries, based on the book, Dragon's Egg by Sarah L. Thomson (Greenwillow).

Best for ages 7-12

DRAGON EGG HUNT

EVENT KIT

Dragons are always in vogue with young readers, but in the past few years the phenomenon has grown bigger, scaliier (and perhaps has even grown to breathe fire). Here is an event kit designed around the popular dragon book by Sarah L. Thomson, Dragon's Egg. The **Dragon Egg Hunt** event kit can be used not only to get children excited about Thomson's middle grade novel, but about your entire dragon book collection.

At the start of the **Dragon Egg Hunt**, readers will receive a dragon egg and a letter from the dragon meant to protect it. The letter will ask the reader to carry the dragon egg to the Hatching Grounds. The path to the Hatching Grounds, laid out in your library or bookstore, will be marked with posters with runes on them. As the reader finds each rune poster, he/she will collect a rune card. When all of the rune cards are collected, the reader can visit the Hatching Grounds and hatch the dragon egg.

ITEMS TO GATHER:

- Plastic Easter eggs that open in the middle (enough for each participant)
- Small toy dragons (enough for each participant)
- The book, The Dragon's Egg (Greenwillow, Trade Edition ISBN 978-0061288487, Library Edition ISBN 978-0061288470)



ITEMS INCLUDED IN THIS PACKAGE:

- Event Announcement Poster
- Entry & Ending Script
- Dragon Letter
- Reproducible Rune Posters
- Reproducible Rune Cards

PREPARING FOR THE DRAGON EGG HUNT:

- **FIND EGGS.** Colored plastic Easter eggs that split in two are great for this event. They are plentiful and inexpensive in stores near Easter. Or you might find that people have many of them in their attics that you can borrow!
- **PURCHASE SMALL DRAGONS.** We recommend the "Bulk Mini Dragons Replica Item # 07340722" sold at the website www.thebigcastle.com. These rubber dragons are just the right size for the Easter eggs and they only cost \$.40 apiece. The dragons are carried in many independent toy stores as well.
- **POSTERS.** Fill in the dates of your event on the poster and post in the community.
- **SELECT TWO PEOPLE** to help with the event. One person will hand out the eggs at the entry of the hunt and the second person will be at the close of the hunt promoting dragon books. Choose outgoing people. The more dramatic the two people are the better. They can even wear wizard, medieval, or renaissance costumes if they choose.

- **PRINT & DISPLAY THE RUNES.** Print the rune posters. You may choose to cut the posters out so they look like scrolls. Post them in different corners of your store or library the day of the event. You might consider doing a display of books near each rune poster related to that rune. For example, put mountain climbing books and books by Jean Craighead George near the mountain rune poster. You could also make props. For example, you could take a blue sheet and hang it over a tall bookcase to symbolize the waterfall rune.
- **PRINT & CUT RUNE CARDS.** The rune cards will need to be double sided. Print or copy and cut the rune card sheets along the score lines. Produce enough so each reader participating in the hunt can keep a set of six. Place a stack of each rune card near the corresponding rune poster the day of the event.
- **COPY THE DRAGON LETTER.** Make a letter for each participant. The letter is on a scroll graphic. You might consider cutting out the scroll for better effect. Place the letters on the entry table the day of the event.
- **FILL THE EGGS.** Place a single dragon in each egg. Prep enough eggs for each participant.
- **MAKE A DISPLAY OF DRAGON BOOKS.** **The Dragon Egg Hunt** is based on Dragon's Egg by Sarah L. Thomson. If you would like bookplates signed by the author for your copies of The Dragon's Egg, contact the author at www.sarahlthomson.com. You may also want to display your other favorite dragon books. Decorate the table with stuffed dragons, large rocks, eggs, gold coins, costume jewelry, or other dragon-like things if you like.
- **READ ALOUD.** This **Dragon Egg Hunt** is based on the action on pages 53-57 of the Dragon Egg by Sarah L. Thomson. You might choose to read aloud from these pages as part of your event.

HOLDING THE DRAGON EGG HUNT:

- **ENTRY.** Greet your young readers at a table that has a basket of eggs with dragons inside them. Have copies of the Dragon Letter printed and on the table as well. Read the entry script and perform the actions described. Feel free to jazz it up in any way you are comfortable with.
- **CHECK PERIODICALLY** to make sure you have enough rune cards at each location.
- **ENDING.** Use the script as a guide to allow readers to know that they have successfully “reached the Hatching Grounds,” can crack the Egg and keep the dragon and the rune cards. You may want to collect the eggs for further use. Then introduce the readers to Dragon's Egg by Sarah L. Thomson and/or other favorite dragon books.



DRAGON EGG HUNT

Listen to the Dragon.
Follow the Runes.
Save the Egg.

ILLUSTRATION
BY JOHN ROCCO



BASED ON CHAPTER BOOK, **DRAGON'S EGG** BY SARAH L. THOMSON

DRAGON EGG HUNT

EVENT SCRIPTS

ENTRY SCRIPT

Use this script or one of your own invention to lead readers on a quest to take the egg to the Hatching Grounds.

“The dragon that was meant to carry this Egg to the Hatching Grounds has perished at the hands of a dragon slayer.” **[Hand the child an egg.]**

“Do not crack the egg. Keep it safe. Keep it warm.”

“The dragon has given you the task of carrying the egg to the Hatching Ground. Here are his directions.” **[Hand child the Dragon Letter.]**

“Find each one of these places in the store (or library). Each one is marked by a rune. At each location, collect the rune card.” **[Point to the runes and list of locations on the letter.]**

“When you reach the Hatching Grounds there will be a surprise. Good luck!”

-----cut here-----

ENDING SCRIPT

Use this script or one of your own invention to conclude the Dragon Egg Hunt.

“Have you followed the path that the dragon laid out?”

“Yes? Then show me your cards.”

“You have reached the Hatching Ground and the Queen of the dragons is well pleased. You may have the honor of cracking open the Egg.” **[Child opens the egg; dragon comes out.]**

“He is yours to name. If you would like to know his story and the story of Roger and Mella who also took this journey, it is all here.” **[Show copy of Dragon’s Egg by Sarah L. Thomson.]**

Or you may explore other great dragon stories.” **[Indicate the rest of the dragon book display.]**

Dear Human,

I, the dragon Kieron, have failed to get the Egg home to the Hatching Grounds.

You must take the Egg to the only place it can hatch.

Here is the path of your journey ~



Place the Egg in fire to keep it warm

Find the human town. 



Follow the river.

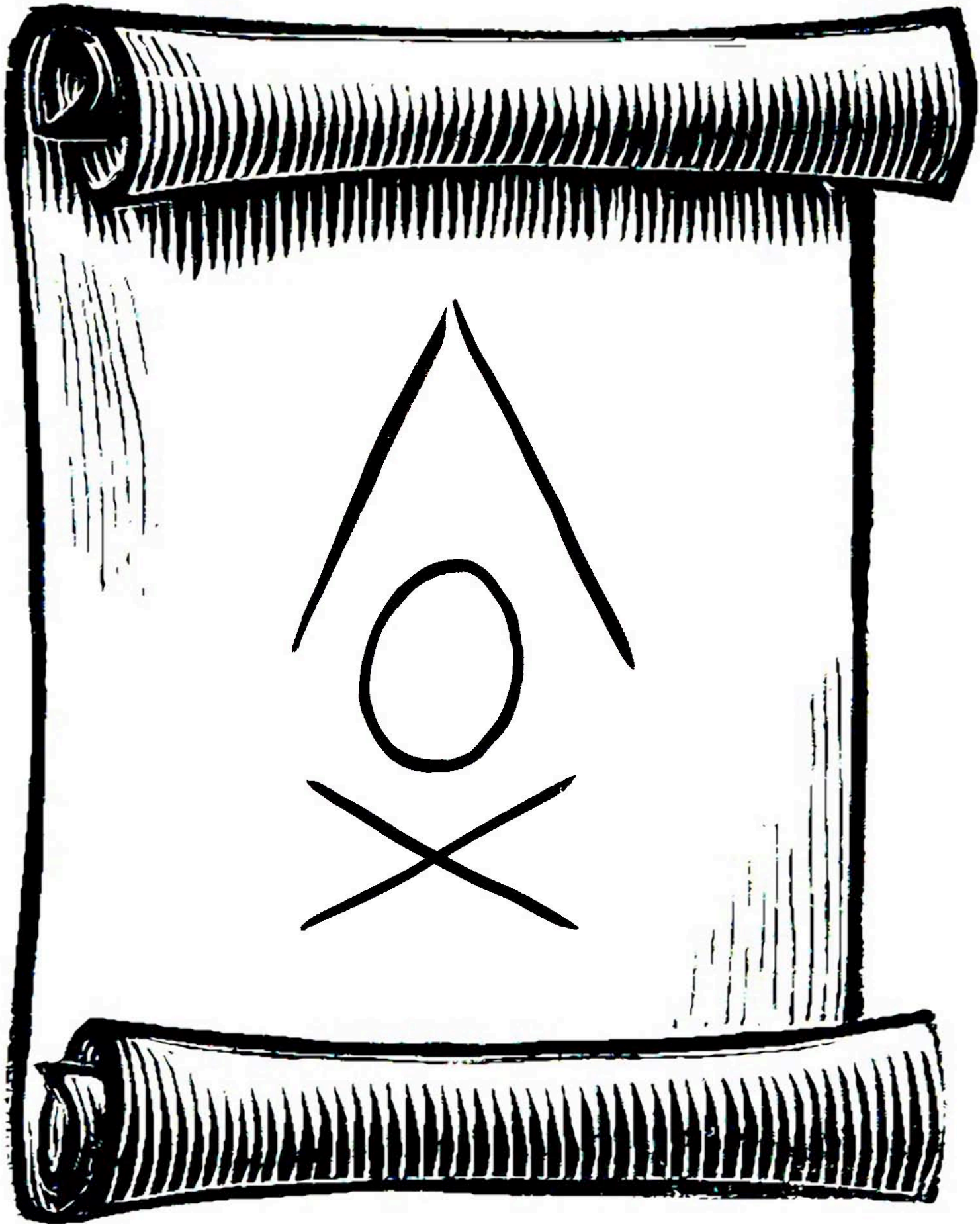
Look for the waterfall. 

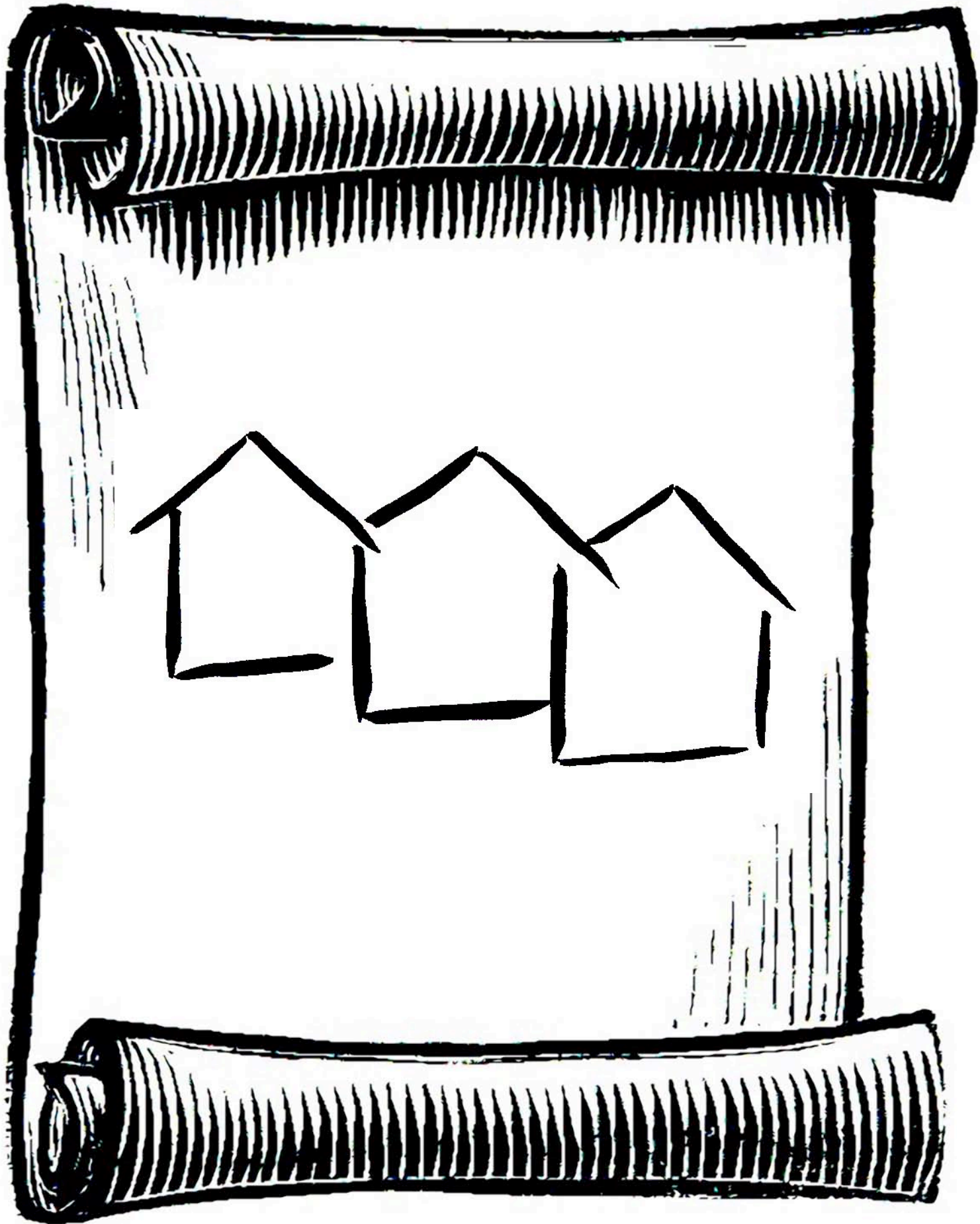


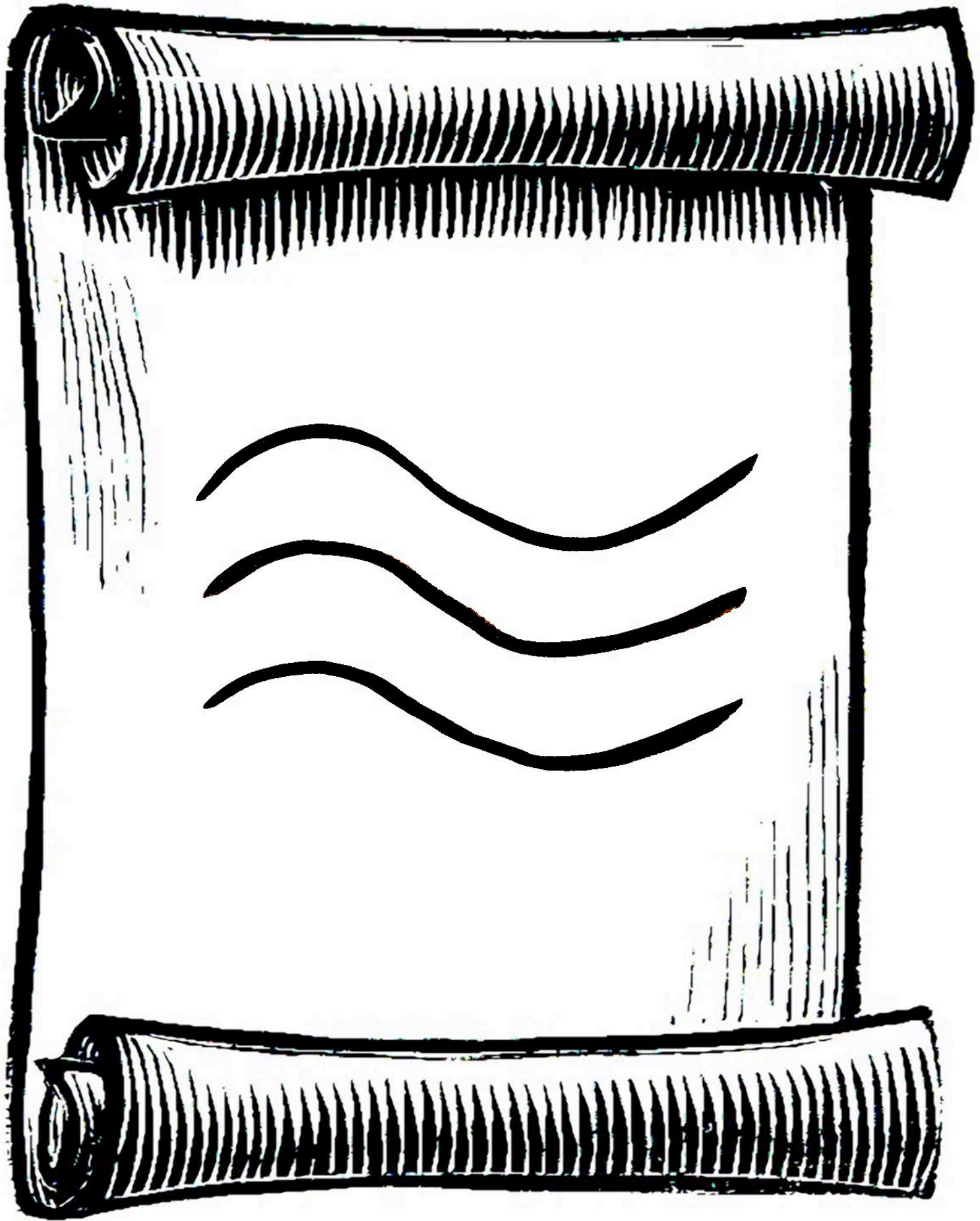
Find the Fangs, the matching mountain peaks.

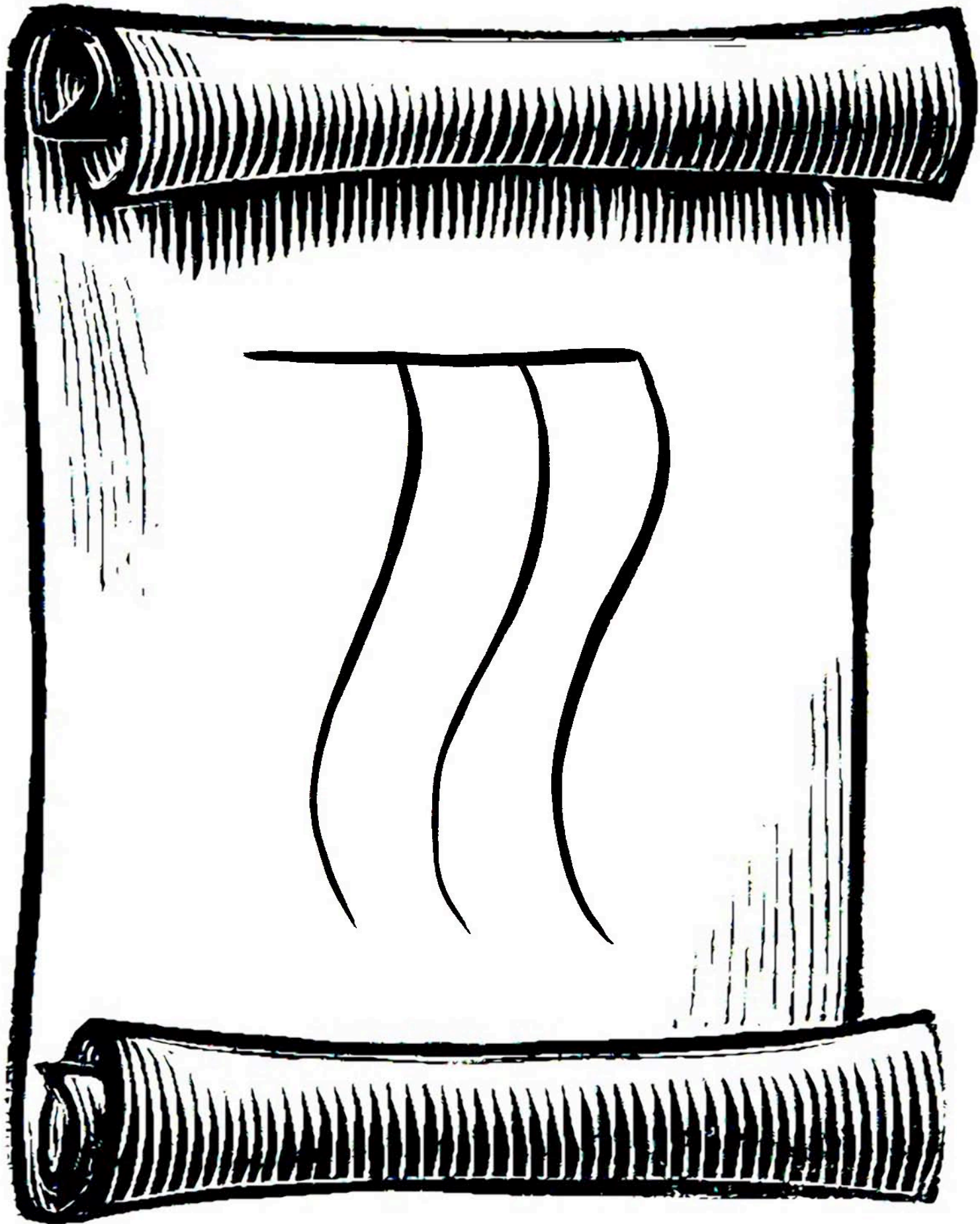
Deliver the Egg to the Hatching Grounds. 

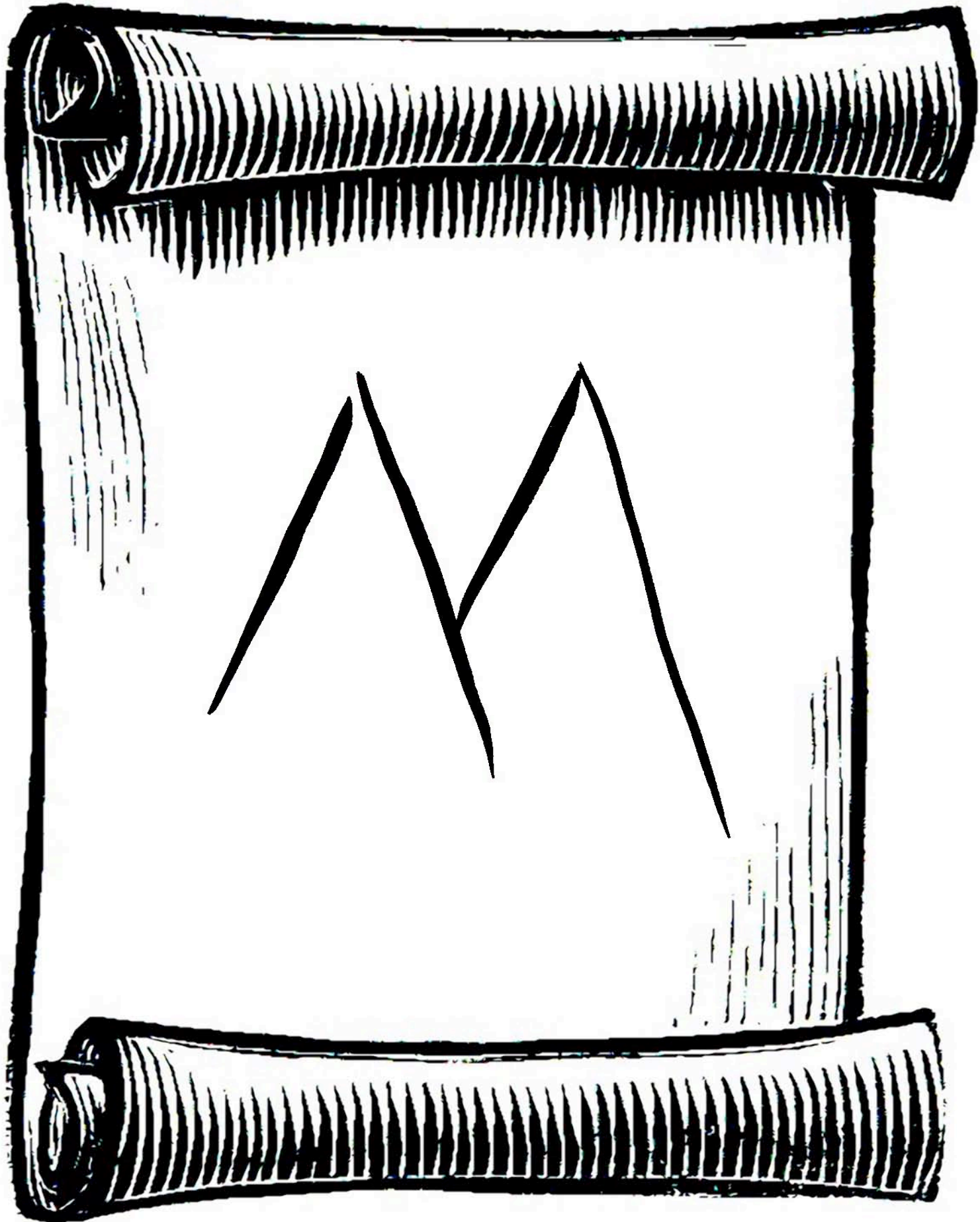
Good flying. May the wind rise beneath your wings.

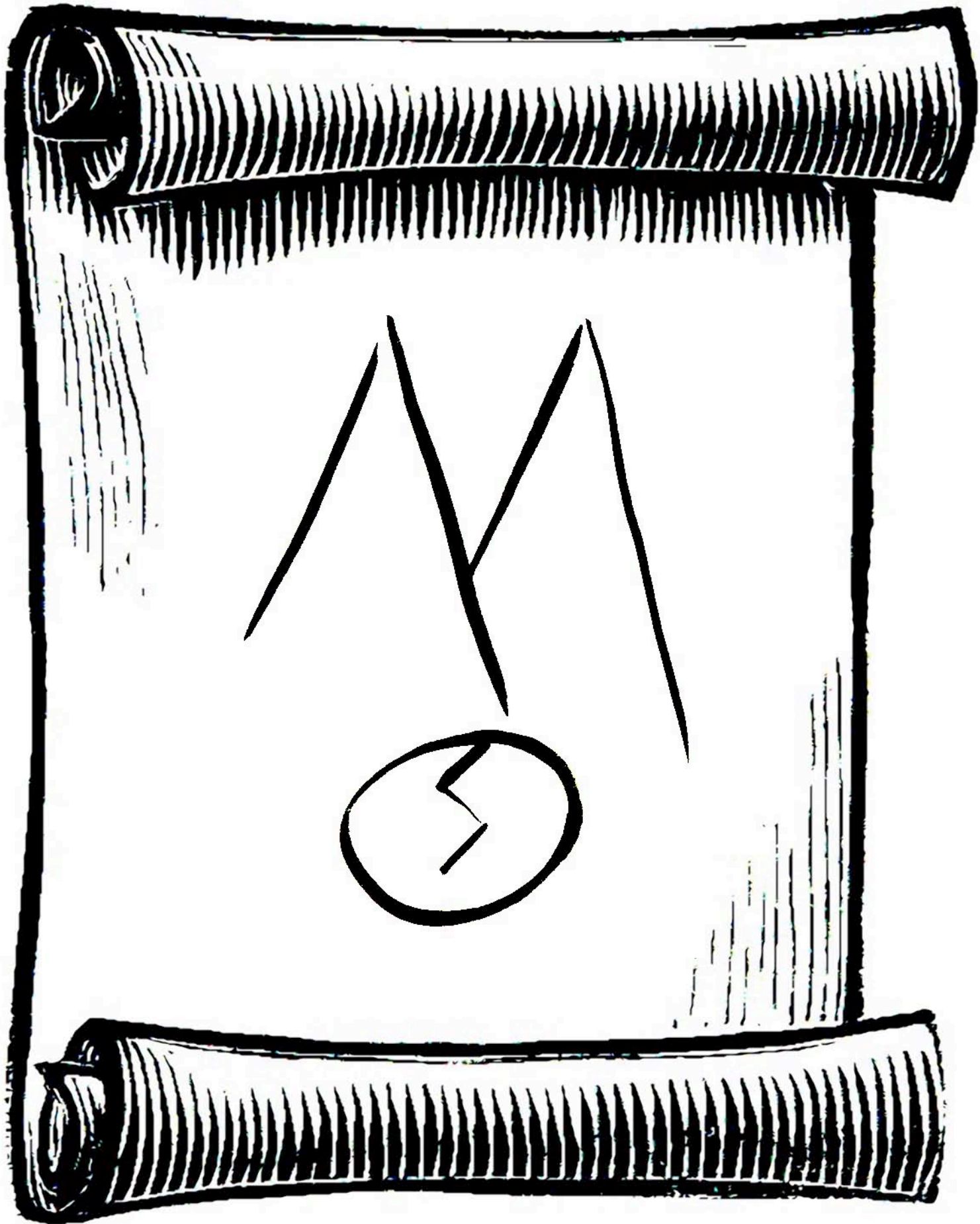


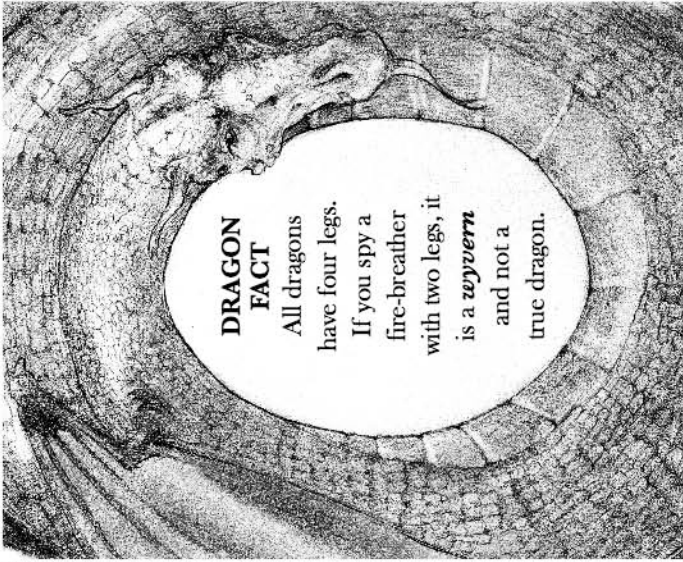










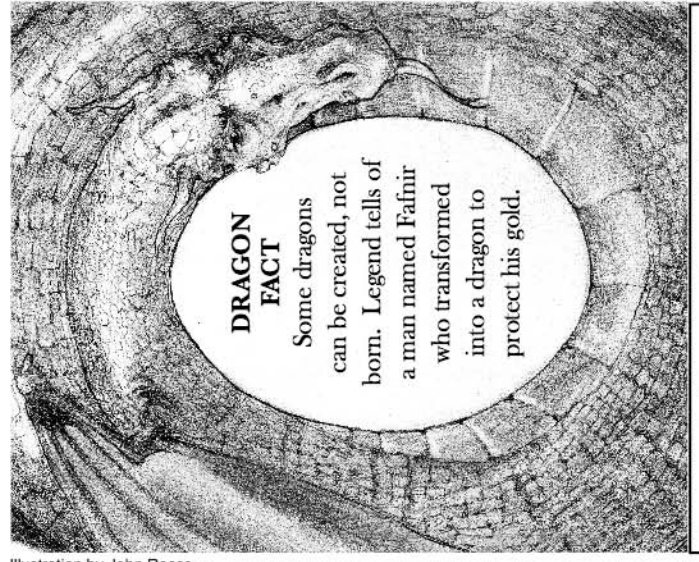


**DRAGON
FACT**

All dragons have four legs. If you spy a fire-breather with two legs, it is a *wyvern* and not a true dragon.

DRAGON'S EGG BY SARAH L. THOMSON

Illustration by John Rocco

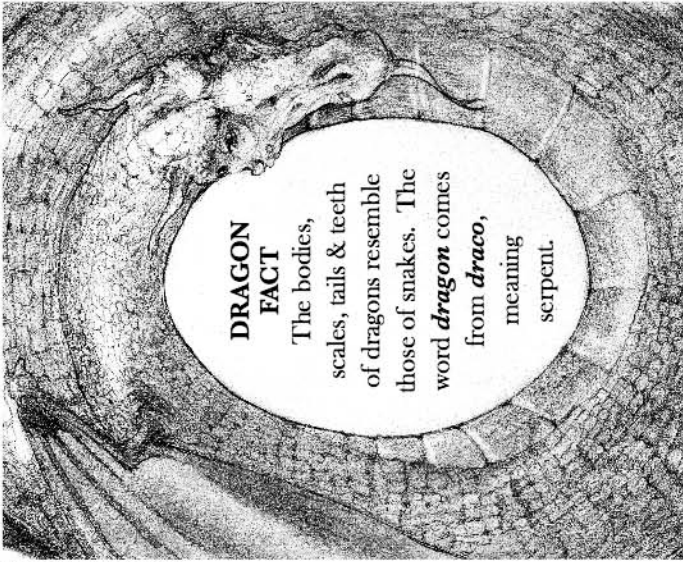


**DRAGON
FACT**

Some dragons can be created, not born. Legend tells of a man named Fafnir who transformed into a dragon to protect his gold.

DRAGON'S EGG BY SARAH L. THOMSON

Illustration by John Rocco

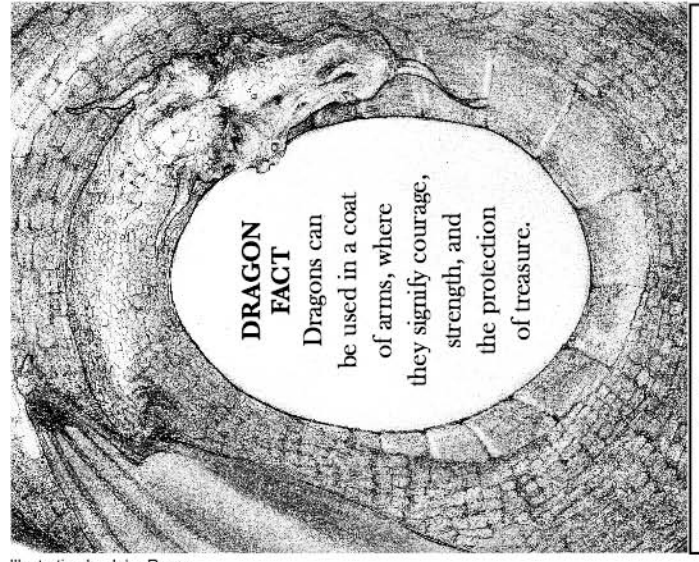


**DRAGON
FACT**

The bodies, scales, tails & teeth of dragons resemble those of snakes. The word *dragon* comes from *draco*, meaning serpent.

DRAGON'S EGG BY SARAH L. THOMSON

Illustration by John Rocco

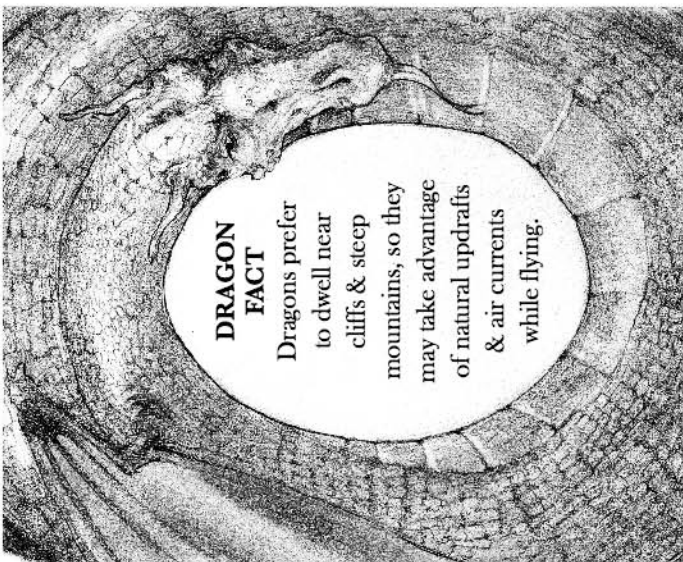


**DRAGON
FACT**

Dragons can be used in a coat of arms, where they signify courage, strength, and the protection of treasure.

DRAGON'S EGG BY SARAH L. THOMSON

Illustration by John Rocco

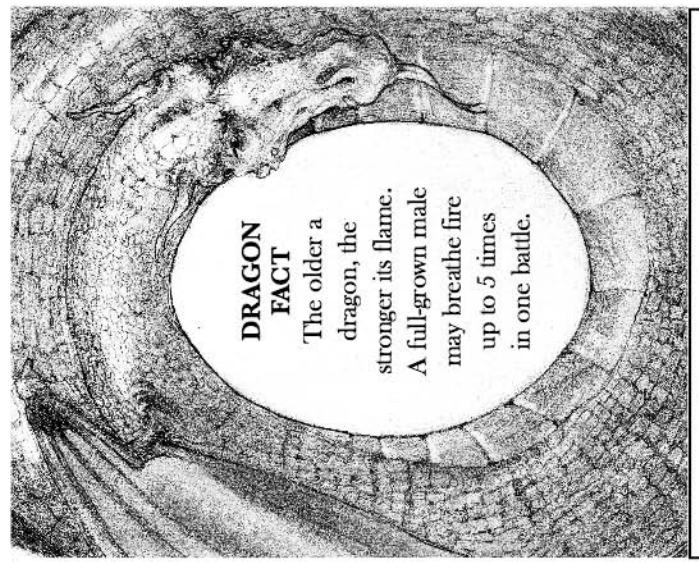


**DRAGON
FACT**

Dragons prefer to dwell near cliffs & steep mountains, so they may take advantage of natural updrafts & air currents while flying.

DRAGON'S EGG BY SARAH L. THOMSON

Illustration by John Rocco

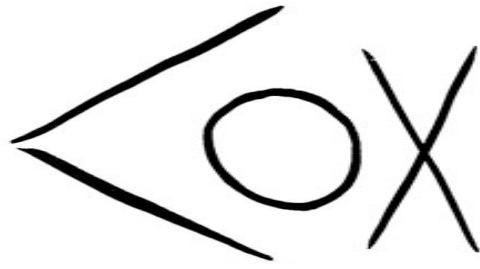


**DRAGON
FACT**

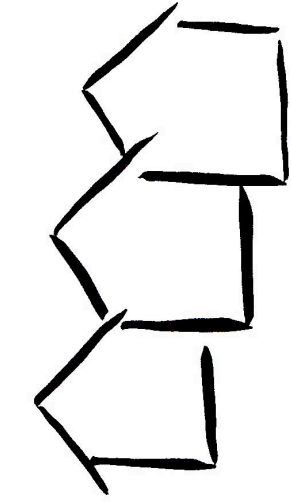
The older a dragon, the stronger its flame. A full-grown male may breathe fire up to 5 times in one battle.

DRAGON'S EGG BY SARAH L. THOMSON

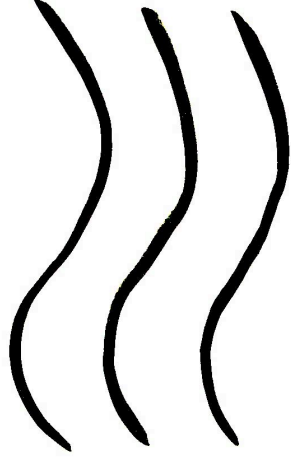
Illustration by John Rocco



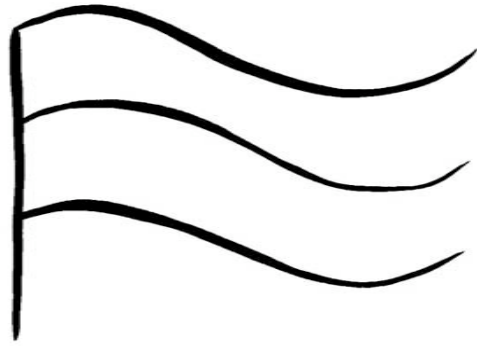
DRAGON'S EGG IN FIRE



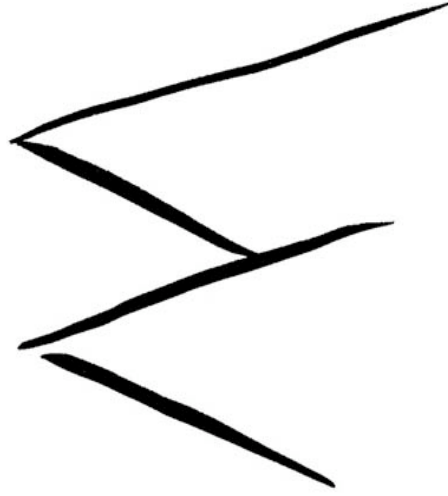
THE HUMAN TOWN



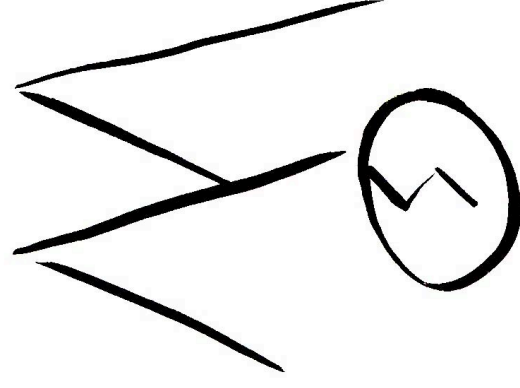
THE RIVER



THE WATERFALL



THE PEAKS



THE HATCHING GROUNDS