

Lacothea, River Goddess of the Söll

Description: The origins of the many of the local river deities of the Empire are tied in some fashion to Taal, his storm god aspect of Domthar, or his river god aspect of Karog. Lacothea is said to have sprang from the wound Taal suffered in battle against the rampaging dragon, Crysothela. The God of the Hunt tracked the mighty beast in its lair beneath the Vaults and fought against it in the dark for three days.

Lacothea is the goddess of the River Söll and is often depicted as a slender woman with a very fair complexion and smooth bluish white hair. Though her appearance is very much in keeping with the usual cool clear waters of the river, Lacothea is believed to take a new different appearance when an unusually warm spring thaw turns the river into a raging torrent. In these situations, Lacothea takes on the guise of an angry woman with wild white hair and an insatiable appetite for destruction. Great flooding would occur, prompting the use of Human sacrifice in ancient times to placate the goddess. Such practices are believed to have died out long ago.

Alignment: Neutral

Symbol: Lacothea's symbols are three parallel wavy lines or a wavy silver line.

Areas of Worship: As a local goddess, the worship of Lacothea can only be found along the River Söll from Sonnefurt to Meissen.

Temples and Shrines: There are no temples or shrines specifically dedicated to Lacothea. Small shrines are generally included within the area temples to Taal and Rhya or in some corner of the homes of those making their living from the river (such as boatmen and fishermen).

Friends and Enemies: The cult of Lacothea is friendly with the religions of the rural areas of the Old World such as the Old Faith, Taal, Rhya, and Ulric. In all other matters, the cult follows the leanings of the cult of Taal and Rhya.

Holy Days: There are two days of particular importance for the worship of Lacothea. 17 Nachexen represents the first day of Spring and the beginning of the spring thaw along this stretch of the River Söll. Celebrations may include tossing garlands of flowers, festivities, dancing, or pouring of last year's wine into River Söll in reverence to the goddess as well as an appeal to minimize the Spring flooding. 17 Nachgeheim is the first day of Autumn and snowfall appears in the high mountains, ushering the time when the Söll turns colder. Like that of 17 Nachexen, the ritual and celebration of the first day of Autumn varies from place to place along the river.

Saints: The cult of Lacothea is too small to consider saints.

Cult Requirements: Open to all who live along the stretch of the River Söll where Lacothea is worshipped.

Priestly orders, including monks: None

Sponsored fighting orders- Templars: None

Strictures: The cult of Lacothea has no dedicated priesthood, so there are no specific strictures

Spell Use: As a local deity, Lacothea has no power to grant spells.

Skills: The cult of Lacothea has no dedicated priesthood.

Trials: Lacothea does not require followers to undertake trials.

Blessings: Those blessed by Lacothea in her area of worship may temporarily gain a +10 modifier to any test involving the Fishing, River Lore, Rowing, Sailing, or Swim skills.