

Oaths of the Covenant of *Reservo Scientia*

Unlike most covenants, which have only a single oath for members, the covenant of *Reservo Scientia* maintains three oaths for individuals of differing status within the covenant.

The first oath is the traditional Oath of Covenant, which is taken by all magi who are accepted for membership in the covenant. Taking this oath binds the magus to the covenant indefinitely. Because of the long period of probationary membership at *Reservo Scientia*, it is uncommon for a magus to take this oath if he or she does not intend to spend the remainder of his or her life at the covenant.

The second oath was created for recent graduates of the covenant who have not yet determined on a long term goal or course of action to pursue. The covenant charter allows such individuals to swear the oath *secundus* and bind themselves to the covenant for a period of up to 10 years. In return for service the magus receives food, shelter, limited use of the extensive covenant library, a modest lab, and a small yearly stipend of *vis*.

The third oath was created for magi who are not members of the True Lineage Houses, but still wish to make use of the covenant's extensive library. Such individuals agree to teach at the covenant for a period of 15 years while training an apprentice. In exchange for their teaching services, and the production of a book for the covenant library, such individuals can make limited use of the covenant's library, and receive a moderate stipend of *vis* each year.

All three of the oaths are taken in two forms – verbal and written. The verbal form of the oath is taken in front of the covenant Council of Members, and consists of the oath as presented here. The written form is signed and witnessed by at least two members of the Council of Members, at least one of whom must be a Guernicus magus. The written form contains not only the oath but a copy of the Charter of Covenant.

Below are the three oaths.

Oath of Covenant

(This oath is sworn by all those accepted for membership into the covenant of *Reservo Scientia*)

Being the charter of the Covenant of *Reservo Scientia* in the (BLANK) year of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

I, [Name], swear that I am a magus in good standing within the Order of Hermes. Further I do swear that my training, inclination, and allegiance is to the True Lineage of [insert True Lineage House], and that all my apprentices will be likewise trained. I hereby renounce any and all ties to other covenants, and agree, of my own will, to swear allegiance to the covenant of *Reservo Scientia*. I shall abide by the covenant charter and accept its terms and conditions, in their entirety, by my acceptance of this oath.

I pledge my lifelong support and loyalty to the covenant of *Reservo Scientia*, and declare that the trials and fortunes of this covenant are now my own. Just as I am pledged to the Oath of Hermes, so do I pledge the covenant to the Order of Hermes and the authority of the Tribunal of Iberia. I swear to uphold and protect this covenant regardless of personal price. Over all the years of my life and throughout my studies and travels, I will neither betray the covenant nor give aid to its enemies. In times of need I will aid the covenant in whatever way I am able, and I will devote myself to its service if the need is clear. I will abide by the decisions of the ruling council of this covenant, and I will treat these decisions as though they were my one. I will treat my fellows with respect and fairness, and I will not attempt to harm them in any way. Their blood is my blood. Where the covenant stands, there do I stand; how the covenant grows, so do I grow; should the covenant fall, then do I fall. This I so swear upon the honor of my house and its Founder.

Oath Secundus

(Sworn by graduates of *Reservo Scientia* who wish to associate with the covenant and continue receiving support from it)

I, [Name], swear that I am a magus in good standing within the Order of Hermes. Further I do swear that my training, inclination, and allegiance is to the True Lineage of [insert True Lineage House].

I do hereby of my own free will pledge myself to a period of service to the covenant which has been my home, which has trained me, which has given me shelter, (and which has taught me the use of my Gift)¹ I offer my services to the covenant under the terms of the covenant charter, in exchange for continued shelter and support. I agree to abide by the terms of the covenant charter as they apply to me. I swear to uphold and protect this covenant regardless of personal price. In times of need I will aid the covenant in whatever way I am able, and I will devote myself to its service if the need is clear. I will abide by the decisions of the ruling council of this covenant, and I will treat these decisions as though they were my one. I will treat my fellows with respect and fairness, and I will not attempt to harm them in any way. This I so swear upon the honor of my house and its Founder.

¹ Non-Gifted Mercere may omit this portion of the oath.

Oath Tertius

(Sworn by Magi of other Houses who have been accepted as magi in residence at *Reservo Scientia*).

I, [Name], swear that I am a magus in good standing within the Order of Hermes, and the House of [insert name of House].

I hereby declare that I am free of allegiances to other covenants, and do now pledge myself to the covenant of *Reservo Scientia* for a period of 60 seasons. During this time its covenant charter shall apply to me, and I shall submit myself to the rule of the covenant's Council of Members. I offer my services to the covenant as a magus in residence, and accept all the duties and responsibilities that derive from that status. I further present [name of apprentice] who I declare to be my apprentice. I swear that [name of apprentice] has been my apprentice for less than one year and has received no prior training, and declare my intent to train him during my time at *Reservo Scientia*. I pledge to train him in the manner of my House, and to make him ready for his wizard's gauntlet.

For 60 seasons this covenant shall be my home, and I shall regard it as such in all ways. I will treat my fellows with respect and fairness, and I will not attempt to harm them in any way. Their blood is my blood. Where the covenant stands, there do I stand; how the covenant grows, so do I grow; should the covenant fall, then do I fall. This I so swear upon the honor of my house and its Founder.