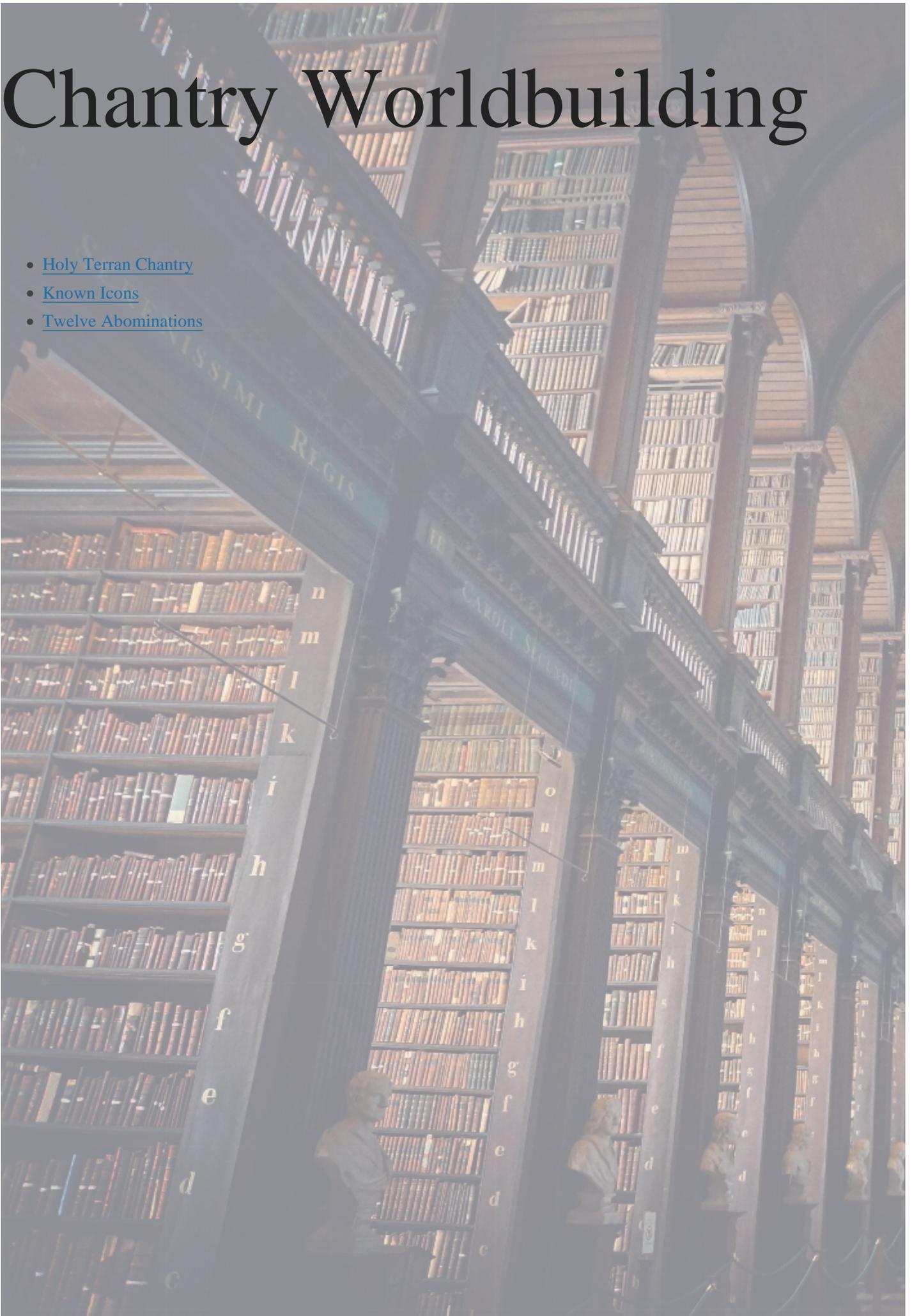


# Chantry Worldbuilding

- [Holy Terran Chantry](#)
- [Known Icons](#)
- [Twelve Abominations](#)



# Holy Terran Chantry

## Lexicon: Words Associated with the Holy Terran Chantry

### *Empire of Silence*

adorator: A member of any antique religious cult maintained by the Empire and tolerated by the Chantry.

anagnost: An initiate in the Chantry clergy.

Assumption of Earth: In the Chantry religion, the departure of Mother Earth following her destruction. It is said she will return when men are worthy.

bastille: Chantry judicial and penal center, usually attached to a temple sanctum.

Cantos: The Chantry holy book, a collection of songs, laws, and parables.

cathar: A surgeon-torturer of the Holy Terran Chantry.

chanter: The average priest or priestess of the Chantry religion.

Cult of Earth: See Holy Terran Chantry.

Dark/Outer Dark: Space. In the Chantry religion, a place of desolation and torment.

Elegy for Earth: The Chantry call to prayer performed at sundown each day. A funeral hymn for Mother Earth.

Exodus: The expansionist period following the environmental collapse of Earth. The peregrinations from Old Earth System before the Foundation War.

Foundation War: The war between the early Empire and the Mericanii, in which the Mericanii were destroyed and the Sollan Empire was founded.

Four Cardinals: In the Chantry religion, the four most important icons: Justice, Fortitude, Prudence, and Temperance.

Golden Age of Earth: The mythic epoch leading up to the Exodus, culminating in the Assumption of Earth and the colonization of the solar system.

High Litany: In the Chantry religion, a weekly ritual held to commemorate the destruction of Earth and to pray for a better future for humankind.

Holy Terran Chantry: State religion of the Empire. Functions as the judicial arm of the state, especially where the use of forbidden technology is involved.

icon: In the Chantry religion, a spirit or god embodying an ideal, virtue, or natural law such as Fortitude, Evolution, or Time.

Index: The catalog of punishments—monetary, corporal, and capital—maintained by the Chantry and enforced by the Inquisition.

Inquisition: The judicial branch of the Imperial Chantry, primarily concerned with the use of illegal technologies.

inquisitor: A Chantry official tasked with conducting judicial investigations and overseeing the torture of criminals.

Mother Earth: The deified homeworld of humanity and principal god of the Chantry religion.

Peregrination: Any of the historical evacuations from Earth's system for the extrasolar colonies.

praxis: High technology, usually of the sort forbidden by Chantry law.

prior: In the Chantry clergy, the chief cleric in a prefecture.

sign of the sun disc: A gesture of benediction made by circling thumb and forefinger and touching forehead and lips before holding the hand up to the sky.

Synarch: The highest ecclesiastic office of the Imperial Chantry. Their most important function is the coronation of new Emperors.

Synod: The ruling body of the Holy Terran Chantry; a college of archpriors presided over by the Synarch.

troglydote: A human being without higher brain functions either voluntarily for personal or religious reasons, or as the result of an accident.

Twelve Abominations: The twelve most grievous sins according to the Chantry's Index. Legal privileges do not apply in such cases.

vate: Any preacher or holy man who is not formally a part of the Chantry clergy.

warden: Any member of the Chantry's private armies used to defend holy sites from unwanted incursions and pillaging.

White Sword: A ceramic greatsword used by Chantry cathars for formal executions, especially of the nobility.

Writ: The Chantry's legal and moral code, enforced by the Inquisition and the Index.

Your Reverence: Form of polite address for members of the Chantry clergy, particularly priors.



# Known Icons

First Mentioned in *Empire of Silence*:

Beauty  
Bloody-Handed Evolution  
Charity  
Death  
Ever-Fleeting Time  
Fate  
Fortitude, one of the Four Cardinals: the four most important icona  
Freedom  
Justice, one of the Four Cardinals: the four most important icona  
Prudence, one of the Four Cardinals: the four most important icona  
Temperance, one of the Four Cardinals: the four most important icona

First Mentioned in *Howling Dark*:

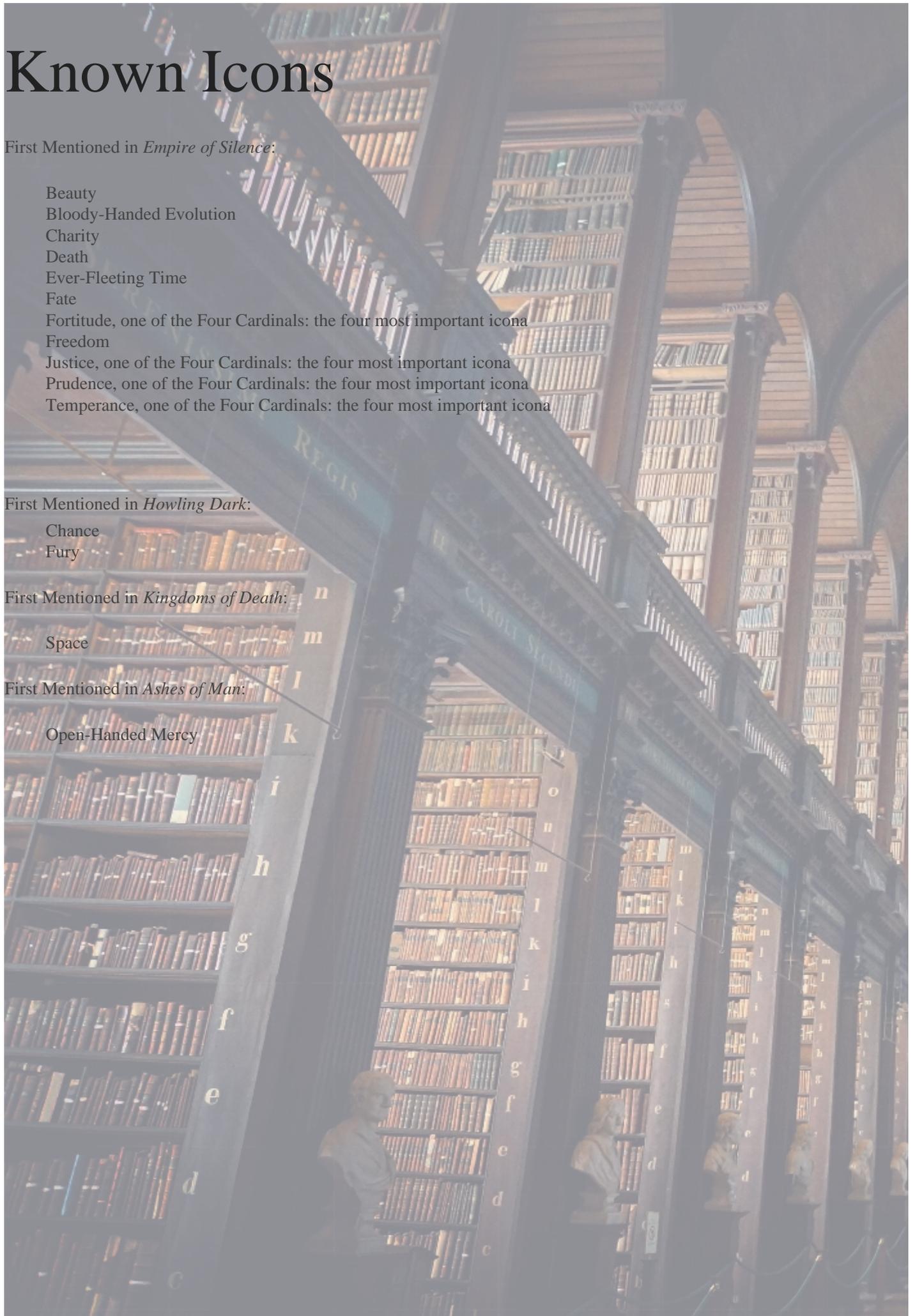
Chance  
Fury

First Mentioned in *Kingdoms of Death*:

Space

First Mentioned in *Ashes of Man*:

Open-Handed Mercy



# Twelve Abominations

One of the arch-sins for which the Chantry would execute *anyone* without trial or second thought.

Known Abominations:

Perversion of the Body with Technology  
Consortation with Enemies of Man

