

# 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.

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Last update: **2007/02/11 16:31**

