# A Guide to the Basics of the **VAST** Universe

(Last updated: 6/8/2017)

VAST is a science fiction role playing game show created and gamemastered by <u>Jackson</u> <u>Lanzing</u>. It's a space adventure in the spirit of Star Trek.

#### HISTORY OF THE VAST UNIVERSE:

In 2025, the Earth was destroyed by an interstellar natural disaster known as "the Slate".

But humans live on.

For with the Slate, came our first contact with an alien intelligence -- the **Pac Ha**. This ancient and powerful race appeared in the sky at our darkest hour and saved us. They moved us to **Terra**, a new homeworld under the protection of their **Peacekeep** forces. We were the new kids on the block in a galactic community filled with strange aliens and advanced technology. We had a lot to learn.

One hundred and eighty years later, across the galaxy, the Slate has begun to close in on the most dangerous civilization the Peacekeep has ever known, **The Brightest Eye**. The two galactic powers suddenly find themselves on a collision course.

Season one begins the story of **Lucy Bard**, the first human Captain of a Peacekeep Starcrosser, and the crew of her ship, **The Avalon**.

But they're not alone...

The Brightest Eye has sent their fiercest warrior, **Visionary Destroyer**, and the crew of his Warship, **The Screaming Valor**, on a mission to save The Eye by any means necessary.

VAST follows two different starship crews, playing on alternating weeks:

## **The Starcrosser Avalon (season 1)**

A ship of the Peacekeep on a mission of science, exploration and diplomacy.



**Lucy Bard, CAPTAIN** - (Human) A big hearted farm girl who fought and studied her way first to the Peacekeep Academy and then to the stars. She is devoted to her mission, proud to steer a new course for her species and determined to see and to safeguard as much of the universe as she can. Played by <u>Amy Dallen</u>

**Louvin "Lulu" Yikjaal Muur, FIRST OFFICER** - (Kiraeyi) Despite growing up in a culture that values beauty above all else, Louvin rebelled by embracing her cerebral side. She is fiercely loyal, highly intelligent and incredibly effective. Twin sister of Rayk. Played by Gina DeVivo

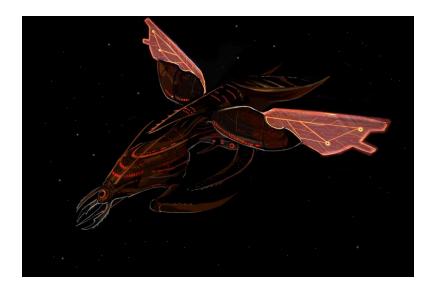
**Sira the Unbidden, SECURITY/TACTICAL** - (Flame) While her people are primarily workers, warriors and builders, she is fascinated by the unknown and yearns for new experiences. A bruiser with her eyes pointed skyward, Sira's physicality and skill with weapons make her an invaluable asset to her crew. Played by <u>Kate Leth</u>

**Rayk Yikjaal Muur, PILOT** - (Kiraeyi) The only ugly duckling in a culture obsessed with beauty, Rayk grew up with a chip on his shoulder. A fast talking rogue who will go the distance for that next dollar or his twin sister, Louvin, Rayk has managed to become one of the best pilots for hire in the galaxy. Played by <u>Jeff Torres</u>

**This Might Be a Good Idea, SCIENCE** - (Tongue) An escaped Brightest Eye vassal who spent most of his life in tight captivity, Good Idea wants to see the universe that was always denied to him. A skilled translator with a genetic gift for language, he is also a brilliant scientist. Played by Collin Kelly

### The Screaming Valor (season 1)

A Warship of Brightest Eye violently bent on carrying out the will of their mysterious hive mind.



**Visionary Destroyer, CAPTAIN** - (Brightest Eye) A reckless warrior dedicated to the Concordance. Loyal, but unforgiving. Violent even by the standards of a violent culture. Strong and fierce, he's not just the leader, he's also the tank of this crew. Played by Max Isaacson

**Nydar, FIRST OFFICER** - (Mind) Like many vassal species, Nydar secretly dreams of one day freeing his people from the yoke of the Brightest Eye. In the meantime, he serves as an effective first officer, using his psychic powers to keep the crew in line. Played by Ray Utarnachitt

**Tkaah, SECURITY/TACTICAL** - (Limb) Forcibly recruited from her occupied planet, Tkaah hates space and is determined to do whatever it takes to survive long enough to get home. Her many limbs and natural agility make her a swift and dangerous combatant. Played by <u>Jody</u> Houser

**Noble Defender, PILOT** - (Human) The only human to live amongst the Brightest Eye, Noble is seen as a very useful pet by his "brother" Visionary Destroyer. An outcast picked on his entire life for being different, he is curious, loyal, and quick to defend the weak. Played by <a href="Dylan">Dylan</a> Dovale

**Hansarald "Hans" Neuroon, SCIENCE** - (Ta'al Klee) Mentally acute but socially stunted, he left home soon after the death of his parents to The Slate. He lacks a rigid moral framework, but is not without his own moral compass and perspective -- he just happens to believe that what's best for science is best for people. Played by Jon Callan

## <u>Glossary</u>

BRIGHTEST EYE - A warrior species that has more in common with cockroaches than humans. They are durable, intense, focused and brutal. Brightest Eye are linked by a philosophical/technological connection known as "The Concordance" and are governed by a single individual known as "The Mother". They are highly aggressive as a culture and have subjugated the Limbs, Tongues and Minds as their vassals. (*Pictured: Visionary Destroyer*)



**CONCORDANCE** - A philosophical/technological link connecting Brightest Eyes and their elevated vassals. It is used to coordinate militarily, culturally and morally.

**CROSSING DRIVE** - The engine a ship uses to travel at light speed or faster.

**CYRYN** - An insectoid species that has attained an exceptional level of racial and gender diversity. Their society acts as a center of unregulated trade and intense piracy. They inhabit many planets - mostly those unwanted by larger powers. Their culture is accepting of any and all vices, free to the extreme.

**DIITOPIS** - A species that naturally exist in a gaseous state. They must use mechanical containment suits to interact with solid species. Often clever and arrogant by nature. Diitopis are typically aligned with the Peacekeep.

**EARTH** - The birthplace of humanity and their home until 2025 when it was consumed by the Slate.

**FLAME** - A species that takes the form a sentient flame. Capable of forming bodies out of the stone of their home world, most Flame present themselves as hulking rock monsters. Flame are typically aligned with the Peacekeep. (*Pictured: Sira the Unbidden*)



**HUMAN** - Two arms, two legs, vulnerable to stabbing, but full of potential. Originally from Earth, their homeworld is now Terra. (*Pictured: Lucy Bard and Noble Defender*)



KIRAEYI - A species of slender, beautiful "cat people" with four arms, gorgeous features, and a sleek layer of fur across their bodies. Aided by the mild, mood controlling pheromones they naturally produce, they are highly effective diplomats recognized across the galaxy for their social skills. They were the first race rescued from the Slate by the Pac-Ha and are the most populous race within the Peacekeep. (Pictured: Louvin "Lulu" Yikjaal Muur and Rayk Yikjaal Muur)



**LIMBS** - Hailing from a jungle planet, Limbs are a dexterous species with four arms, four legs and a tail. Swift and athletic, they are intimidating physical opponents. Limbs are typically aligned with the Brightest Eye. (*Pictured: Tkaah*)



**MINDS** - A telekinetic species that is, essentially, a brain in a jar. Highly psychic -- minds are capable of influencing the mental states of those around them, for good or ill. Minds are typically aligned with the Brightest Eye. (*Pictured: Nydaar*)



**PAC HA** - The nature and appearance of Pac Ha are unknown since they are always hidden by the towering suits of armor they all wear. An ancient, advanced and mysterious race with a near religious level of commitment to saving species endangered by the Slate, the Pac Ha established both the Peacekeep and the Starcrosser Force.

**THE PEACEKEEP** - A collection of safe-haven planets in the galactic core populated with species that have been rescued from the Slate by the Pac-Ha.

**THE PEACEKEEP STARCROSSER FORCE**- The military/expeditionary force that serves the Pac Ha and defends the Peacekeep.

**PLANAR** - A two-dimensional species - literally. Strange and whimsical, the Planar use mechanical devices to allow them to work within the three-dimensional world. They are known for their stealth. Planar are typically aligned with the Peacekeep.

**RELATIVE DRIVE** - The engine a ship uses to travel at sublight speeds.

**THE SLATE** - A mysterious and devastating phenomenon of unknown origin that has been described as a primal, cracking field of energy. Suspected by many to be a cosmic natural disaster of some kind, it has been consuming swaths of the galaxy for thousands of years.

**TA'AL KLEE** -The alien species we might call "Greys" -- big heads, hollow eyes, and a predilection for abducting and experimenting on "lesser" species. Pariahs that roam the universe in their Worldships, they continually push at the boundaries of science and have not developed anything close to a sense of "empathy." (*Pictured: Hans Neuroon*)



**TERRA** - The custom designed planet to which the Pac Ha relocated humanity after the destruction of Earth.

**TONGUES -** A humanoid species most physically notable for their large mouths and frailty. Naturally gifted in linguistics, a Tongue can learn a new language just minutes after hearing it. Tongues are typically aligned with the Brightest Eye. (*Pictured: Good Idea*)



**XOCOLTOL** - Despite appearing physically similar to other humanoids, the Xocoltol are a fungus based species (imagine a sentient mushroom shaped like a person). They are notoriously hard to kill due to their ability to reform themselves from a single spore. Xocoltol are typically aligned with the Peacekeep.

## **Credits/Viewing Info**

VAST was created by <u>Jackson Lanzing</u> and is produced by <u>Edward Doty</u>

#### <u>Vast s1 Writers Room</u>:

Rick Budd

Rick Baer

Isaiah Samson

Anne Mortensen-Agnew

Nick Bragg

**Emmett Furey** 

Nick Gilman

#### Vast s2 Writers Room:

Rick Budd (story editor)

Nick Gilman (story editor)

Rick Baer

Isaiah Samson

Anne Mortensen-Agnew

**Emmett Furey** 

Zeke Pinheiro

#### Illustrations by <u>Tom Campana</u>

New episodes of VAST air Monday nights at 7PM (PDT) on <u>Geek & Sundry's Alpha</u> Season one is rebroadcast Monday night at 7PM (PDT) on <u>twitch.tv/geekandsundry</u>

#### **SEASON ONE**

Selected episodes are available on YouTube:

S1E1 - Into the Eye

S1E2 - The Primal Scream

S1E3 - The Vast and the Furious

#### S1E4 - The Corsairs

#### Episodes exclusive to Alpha VOD:

S1E5 - Gunboat Diplomacy

S1E6 - Third Arm Stellar Survival Directory pt.1

Cast/Writers Q&A Special hosted by Amy Dallen

S1E7 - Third Arm Stellar Survival Directory pt.2

S1E8 - The Cyryn Contract

S1E9 - Force Majeure

S1E10 - The Hunted and the Dying

S1E11 - Links

S1E12 - Finale pt.1 - The Truth

S1E13 - Finale pt.2 - Concordance

#### TALES FROM VAST

TFV1 - The Battle of Farmworld

TFV2 - Lost in the Woods

TFV3 - The Rampel Gambit

TFV4 - The Box

#### **SEASON TWO**

Cast/Writers Q&A Special hosted by Jackson Lanzing

S2E1 - The Sanctum

S2E2 - Ghost Ride the Whip

S2E3 - The Bards' Tale

S2E4 - Trust but Vrerify

S2E5 - The Promise

Article with cast bios: Save the Universe or Watch it Burn in Our New RPG Show - VAST

For more info, follow us on Twitter at <u>@VastRPG</u> and Instagram at <u>@VastRPG</u>

Disclaimer: This is an unofficial document. It's a "cheat sheet" compiled to help new viewers get up to speed and follow along.

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