Updated & Current Theory on the Drifters and Others

-Uriel

Theory:

- "Other Prime" is a tyrant from the time of the Second Jove Empire
 - Quote from the Other in Templar One, pg.294: "I am thousands of years old. I have lived through the beginning and the end of hope." If he was a Tyrant, he had helped to create the golden age of human civilization itself in EVE's canon, the Second Empire, after the first's collapse; the disease then destroyed everything they had strived to achieve at the end.
- → Entered Architect construct out of a desire to live either before or when the Disease manifested, when he was likely thought to be dead. He secretly hid his consciousness away in fury, trapped in a false world that few others within knew was fake after his perfect *real* world's end through the disease.
 - Countless Jove joined the Architect construct at the collapse; it would be strange if at least *some* Tyrant *wasn't* among those who migrated.
 - A line from "And I Shall Hide", a memory of the Other's: "A wormhole closes. Traps laid.

 Ancient Enemies Destroy. Enraged, finding a place to hide" The Other, drawing from this, may have been alive at the time of the collapse and the Architect exodus to Anoikis, and preserved himself out of a desire to live on.
 - A quote from the Other in Templar One, pg.295: "I spent many lifetimes surrounded by strangers. Yet I was alone. I am forced to bear a burden I do not want. I am deeply jealous of those who live ignorant lives while I suffer knowing the truth of their world. I am like you in more ways than you can imagine. We are survivors, Empress Jamyl. We are alive because true life finds a way. Always."
- As Architect minds lost their bodies and were set adrift in the construct over time, he protected them and showed many now-bodiless minds the truth, that the construct was a false reality; their desire was to return to the real world, and to save the rest of the Architects from what they saw as a false, untrue life in a fake world.
- They showed other Architects the truth over time, slowly building up a hidden following and numbers, and hid themselves until the time was right.
- Revealing themselves, these Drifters began preaching the truth, causing havoc; they were hunted down and persecuted by the Caretakers and those within the construct who despised them.
 - From Templar One, pg.234, from the perspective of an unknowing Architect in the VR: "Those depraved creatures with soulless black eyes, devoid of emotion, being rightfully persecuted for threatening our way of life. They warned that we were all blind to a sinister truth. They spoke of awakening to a new reality, and I found them repulsive as poison. The guilty were marked with a shameful sign—a symbol I could not read—and were forcefully removed from the community (possibly moved into the "quarantines" we see in Anoikis). I felt such hatred for them. They were the only blemish in a perfect life. But these outcasts somehow persevered. The world suddenly changed: Epic, tragic calamity struck without warning, and I knew those wretches were to blame.
 - Also worth mentioning here is that the told destruction is likely the Amarr's harvesting.
- The Caretakers fought them, quarantining and removing enclaves and areas "infected" with the Others as well as they could, but the Others gained enough strength and momentum to overwhelm the Caretakers, carry on and follow their goal of returning to the real world, starting their plans.

- The Others take over entire constructs and begin using the Drones themselves; they begin spreading and move to assimilate the technology of the Talocan, who were in fact the Caretakers' physical, real manifestation.
 - The Talocan COSMOS constellation is adjacent to Minmatar space, where the Ani (Sleeper/Architect) constellation lies. South of there lies the remains of the Second Empire Jove in Curse; when the Architects and Caretakers made their exodus, they left dregs of their civilization behind, which we find now.
 - The Talocan were characterized by their advanced in hypereuclidean mathematics and spatial manipulation: the Caretakers are known to be able to instantly move across space.
 - Talocan Exchange Depots litter Anoikis, and would be the place where the Caretakers and selected Architects would enter and leave the construct through.
 - The "Inferno" chronicle describes technology similar to that of the Enheduanni, salvaged from Talocan wreckage: "But recently, some explorers started to go in there. Death wish, if you ask me, but they actually found something remarkable. Technology aeons beyond anything we've seen. It's not Jovian, but I'll wager it's close. It seems as if this race was able to fold space and construct some type of quantum computer within the folds."
 - Inferno may have served as a stimulant or something related, in connection to the Sleeper virtual world and those connected to it.
- The First Other/Tyrant intercepted Jamyl Sarum at her moment of transfer following her "death" in YC 105. He modified her clone's brain and body once the transfer to the Matriarch citadel was complete, changing her and accommodating himself. He was in the perfect position to further his goals; however, he was bound to Jamyl, needing her to survive.
 - From Templar One, pg.293, speaking of Jamyl: "Jamyl learned that the entity charing her mind needed her to survive. Yet it had its own psychology, its own motives, and bespoke an intelligence suggestive of another time and culture, a civilization unlike any that had existed before."
 - The Others may have had a presence in New Eden before Jamyl's corruption, which allowed them to do so; the first Other's interception of Jamyl may have taken place closer than not. The chronicle "The Repair Man" describes two "Jove" in ships with an oily patterned hull (ala Sleeper Drones), called the Hunter and the Repair Man. In mythology, Artemis (Artemis Tyrannos) was the huntress goddess; Apollo, while a sun god, was also widely regarded as a healer ("repair man"). In addition to this, the the pilots use a mind link to modify the behavior of a pilot. While this may be a metaphor for downtime, originally, it could easily have been an inspiration or example used in current events.
- The Others used the relay tech of the Caretakers to transmit back to new Eden in YC108: to the sealed Drone Regions. They took control of the offlined gates, activating them remotely, and a number of drones. They then onlined all of the gates, and jumped a controlled vessel through.
 - The Code Aria Inquiry speaks of this incident.
 - All of the offline gates were onlined simultaneously by an unidentifiable remote source, and a second command is issued from a source in close proximity to one gate. An unidentified vessel with a null identification transits to our space FROM a drone region, and the gates change to normal operational status some time later.
- The Others then began using controlled rogue drones to initiate the stockpiling of Isogen-V in caches originally used by the Caretakers before being shut down, designed to ignite a controllable wormhole-based remote jump network. The locations of the caches were known precisely from records. The modified built up the stockpiles, in order to
 - 1: fuel the later-revealed "Xerah Effect" weapon and

- 2: prepare to reignite a controlled network for a future opening of the doors to Anoikis, when the Others were prepared to migrate back to their home, New Eden.
- This network would have originally been used by the Caretakers during the time before the Exodus, at which time they were shut down, sealing Anoikis from New Eden.
- When the time arrives, the Other's first motion is to secure Jamyl in power, in order to be able to further his goal; he reveals the location of the Terran ship containing a device that could be used to do just that.
- The Xerah Effect superweapon is used to obliterate the Minmatar Elder fleet, and is then brought back to one of the stockpiles, in T-IPZB, to be safely secured, repaired, and refueled.
- The ship is destroyed and ignites the cache prematurely, catalyzing the Seyllin incident and opening unstable doors to Anoikis, interrupting the Others' plans; they are not yet prepared to make their return.
 - These events are catalogued in the "End of the World" chronicles; the Society of Conscious Thought possesses a transmission capable of changing the Other-modified rogue drones back to their original state, granting access to the site. They wish to take and analyze the Xerah Effect weapon at Roua, in order to understand it.
- This is an unpredicted anomaly in their plans; the Architects' space is now open to New Eden, however unstably, and explorers begin to enter, discovering the Enclaves and harvesting the Drones protecting them.
- Plans are changed to take advantage of the situation; the Other, as Jamyl Sarum, orders an expedition into Anoikis, collecting from an Architect Enclave what is needed to start this new plan.
 - The first expedition, as told by Marcus Jjor in Templar One, was under severe attack from the Drones, and would not have made it. However, when Jamyl Sarum warps onto the scene, the Drones cease movement and allow free passage and access to the Enclave (Templar One, pg.92).
- → The Other takes this opportunity to bring immortal soldiers, under his control, into New Eden as a force that could dominate planets, alongside their planned forces. Grious and Jjor put an end to it, but this merely serves to slow the Others down.
- Much more recently: the Others neared their goal. They chose to raid known locations of Architect and Caretaker caches(Sleeper Caches) across New Eden in order to obtain information and technology of modern and other ancient factions to incorporate into their newly-designed vessels.
- Soon after, the Others finally emerged from their hives as the Drifters, and the "Vigilant Tyrannos": they inherit the legacy of the Second Empire, and wish to rebuild it. They created bodies from Architect bodies themselves, incorporating implants designed to effectively accommodate their infomorphs and connect to their specialized Battleships.
- The Drifters take control of the "Hives", the massive facilities/vessels hidden away deep in Anoikis. They construct vessels, and
- The first to encounter the Drifters are the Sansha in Anoikis; the Drifters made use of Drones protecting the now-empty enclaves, along with their own vessels, to engage Sansha fleets in the systems who used their systems, those connected to the WH Network (see the "Silent Battleground" sites and Epicenters).
- The Drifters then onlined their wormhole network, using the caches of Isogen-V to ignite a workable, controlled wormhole network that could be used to open a doorway anywhere at any time. Sansha had made use of the dormant systems without onlining them to create the wormholes for the Nation incursions; however, their power while dormant was extremely limited, and made use in close succession impossible.

- The activation of the network caused the stars of the used systems to emit bursts of energy identical to those of the Seyllin Incident stars, shattering planets near the epicenter (including Thera, destroying multiple SoE stations).
- The IS-V caches in K-space were to be part of the network, as well as two locations in the originally accessible areas of Anoikis: J115422 and J164104. However, the Seyllin Incident triggered these caches prematurely, opening random, unstable wormholes that could not be properly utilized as a stable network across the cluster and Anoikis.
- Quoting CONCORD's analysis of the Seyllin Incident in Templar One, pg.65: "It is probable that the Terrans were constructing an interstellar transit system similar to but much more advanced than our own stargate transit system"
- The Drifters' first move was to make a strike against the Jove Directorate, crippling one of the only groups that could threaten them; the Directorate then made a last-resort move to keep the Drifters from taking them completely, destroying their central power supply in W477-P, abandoning the Observatories and taking every one of their gates offline; this event manifested as Caroline's star, which became visible from all locations the Jove network covered via propogation due to the entangled power network.
- Once the Directorate had been dealt with, Circadian Seeker drones were sent out with the purpose of scouting out and investigating New Eden, surveying and relaying data to their Hives in order to prepare for the coming storm.
- The Drifters themselves finally emerged into known space, using their network to open stable wormholes from their forward bases.
- The Observatories were then searched (for all observational logs pertaining to what they could expect to find in New Eden) and are being dismantled for the Antikythera Elements, which appear to be essential to the Drifters' technology.
- → Finally prepared, the Drifters begin their strikes into Amarr space, testing the Navy and capsuleer response in order to form plans for their resurgence.
- Their next move is to kill Jamyl and retrieve the first Other by activating a brainscan and intercepting their infomorphs; the Other can now return to his head position.
 - The Other had total knowledge of and was ready for this:
 - Shortly before the first signs of activity, the changes in Sleeper Drone behavior, Jamyl had stopped appearing in public, to the concern of many.
 - It is demonstrated with the events surrounding Hilen Tukoss that the Drifters are capable of intercepting an infomorph transfer and capturing said infomorph; Jamyl's pod's scanner could easily have been used to retrieve the Other (and possibly Jamyl's mind as well).
 - The hidden description for Tyrannos Strategos makes the hint that there's someone in charge beyond that rank: "The Vigilant Tyrannos command structure is apparently headed by an individual holding the rank of Strategos. Aside from decrypting and identifying the personal command signature of this entity, nothing is known as to the origins of this Drifter or even if the Tyrannos Strategos is truly the ultimate authority of this mysterious force."
- Their leader back in place, the Drifters are now about to initiate their incursions; their plan of coming back to the real world and rebuilding their Second Empire is underway.

Additional Comments:

The "Awakened Infomorph" may have been an Other, observing events unfolding.