

OFFICIALLY DECIDED

SIDE LENGTH = 1 KILOMETER

HEX AREA = 2.6 SQ KM (~= 1 SQ MILE)

- The shade of the big big tree causes magic
- It gets more magical as you get close to the tree
 - Fairy circles lead to fairy realms
 - Time warp near the tree
- The tree, as seen on the map, is just the trunk; the foliage extends for several more kilometers.
- The ring around the big big tree is a mind bending zone, where terrain shifts
- The big big tree produces fruity fruity fruit which may be eaten
 - There are different stages of development for the fruit where it's more magical before it falls from the tree and is therefore desirable

Types of life in the forest

- Ents
- Insect people
- Fungus people
- Faeries/sprites
- Humans
- Beings that can only live in the shadow?

dhewett's idea: all of the civilizations formed around tree with goal of getting to big big tree, but it's a labyrinth, they've been trying for thousands of years maybe and so multiple societies and languages and mythologies (aka different branches of religions, which is why the societies are separate and divided) formed around the mysteries of the tree. they don't know anything about it truly other than it's a massive tree that causes magic stuff to happen. The path to the center of forest and the tree is very complex and dangerous and it gets more dangerous and disconnected with reality as you approach (think stalker 1979 or annihilation 2018) maybe: also the places change when they're in the trees shadow, aka a parallel universe type deal where they're similar but "different", or a shifting labyrinth that makes it easy to get lost forever

Dejvid's rewrite of dhewett's idea: Since the dawn of this land there has been a big big tree several kilometers tall located in a dense dense forest. As one approaches the tree from afar, magical flora, fauna, and anomalies grow more frequent. The land immediately surrounding the base of the tree is a labyrinth-like obstacle of trees, roots, vines, creeks, trenches, hills, valleys, cliffs, and monsters. Land that falls in the shadow

of the big big tree has increased magical properties, including: shifting landscapes, rerouting rivers, many magical creatures, and quickly moving plants.

For thousands of years, creatures of various type have interacted with each other, especially in the lands around the dense dense forest. Most languages in the area have a common ancestor: the proto-language of the tree-people. Various societies and settlements in the area have their own language variety and their own perspective on the big big tree and its relation to them.

In recent centuries, increased trade, communication, cooperation, and war has stirred the people (and their languages), and many have turned their focus on the big big tree and its surrounding forest. Fuelled by millenia of diverging religions, excursions begin in earnest through the dense dense forest and on to the big big tree...

HOW THE TREE PEOPLE WERE CREATED:

Narrative 1: The trees worship a sun god, with the central tree blessed as the king of the plants, a subsidiary life-creator god (given the most sun/rain, allowed to grow the greatest and create the rest). Because the trees are a single mind, the non-tree plants see the central tree as the world-god secondary to the sky-god. They view the trees as the limbs of the central tree. A section of the trees separated from the one mind and committed a sin (parallels to the Fall of Man in Genesis) that causes them to be disconnected from the tree, spiritually, mentally, and life-force wise (and brought closer to mankind). They view the central tree as the creator they betrayed. *Early religion (esp. In the Mediterranean) focused on servant spirituality (people work for the higher power), which was pretty constant until the beginnings of covenant spirituality (people have an agreement with the higher power) in Judaism during the Babylonian exile. So mirroring the development of religion, the tree people serving the central tree would be a likely development, esp. after a fall of man incident, at least in terms of conceptualizing their creation.* Alternatively, It could also be a world parent myth, where the tree people are descendants of the sky and the earth (the tree being the physical manifestation of the earth mother).

Maybe a conflict arose between the sky and the earth and “limbs” were dismembered from the earth, which sprouted the tree people (*for some reason severed limbs are common in early myths, I genuinely don't get why though*).

Narrative 2:

IDEAS

Spooky twist: when you die in the forest, you become reanimated as one of the many trees of the forest/connected to the tree network

^ to add on to that, when many spooky undead tree souls are concentrated together it creates magical stuff when put into shadow

David Kewett and Andrew's idea: we *all* eat unimaginably large quantities of big big fruity fruity fruit

Location of big big tree: southern hemisphere, near the equator so the sun goes directly over the big big tree

Duality between shadows/magic and photosynthesis

Tree people might debate on the morality of not caring about your fruits, which contain seeds that make more tree people

Are these tree people racist? yes

- invasive species

How do they feel about invasive species? How do they feel about regular trees?

what is good/bad for trees

What do we need?

- Protolang is coming from trade between these different groups of people with different languages
- Protoplantlang > different languages > a single trade pidgin used sometimes
- Lore: life comes from big tree