



# *Sisterhood of Eporita*

*She-Bears, Witches, The Liberal Feminist Agenda*

*We are the granddaughters of the witches you couldn't burn.*

*-Tish Thawer, The Witches of BlackBrook*

## *History*

In the third century, as the legends go, a young pagan by the name of Eporita caught the eye of Emperor Aurelius, and he wished her to marry his son. When she refused, she was imprisoned in the amphitheater, where she was attacked by one of her guards. At that moment, a she-bear appeared and saved her from her assailant. The emperor ordered her and the bear put to death on the pyre, but it is said Eporita's power called forth the rain and doused the flames. The she-bear disappeared in the confusion. Enraged and at the end of his wits, the emperor had her beheaded.

The sisterhood itself grew out of the wives of the Senators of Gaul who witnessed her unjust persecution and wished to carry on in her name. They aimed to protect and uplift women within the empire and teach them to fight back against the depredations of men. Using the magic of the old faiths, these women spread their influence slowly, eventually reaching across the entirety of the Roman Empire.

Always acting behind the scenes, these brave women wielded influence both subtle and far-reaching. At times, counting among their members the lowest of servants and the most powerful of empresses, they sought to protect those that could not protect themselves. Eventually, the sisterhood found itself occupying all corners of the world.

## *Structure & Organization*

Loosely organized into covens, the sisterhood of Eporita largely leaves its members to their own devices. Each coven sets its own strictures and tenets that its members must follow. The covens themselves are organized under the Grand Council, a secretive coven based out of Sens, France, that sets guidelines and policy for the organization as a whole. The grand coven also acts as a neutral arbiter in intercoven disputes as well as ambassadors to other organizations within the Armageddon Compact.

Traditionally restricted to fem-presenting members of society, the Sisterhood opened itself up to those who identify as male during the Victorian era. Each male wishing to join must undergo a grueling ritual where they journey into the woods to commune with the spirit of a she-bear. Those that survive are considered to have noble intentions and are allowed to join.

In ancient times, they made extensive use of secret glyphs and ciphers to communicate with each other while avoiding the notice of the menfolk. In modern days, this practice has largely fallen to the wayside as cell phones and social media have come into prominence.

## *Philosophy & Goals*

Since its inception, the Sisterhood of Eporita has sought to protect women from those who would abuse them. As time has gone by, they have expanded their purview to cover not just women but any who are oppressed and underrepresented.

Always fighting for the marginalized, the Sisterhood is not afraid to get its hands dirty. Some members help fund and organize eco-terrorist cells, while others seek to run community outreach programs. Passing on their secrets by word of mouth and traditional apprenticeships, members of the sisterhood never fail to aid a fellow in need. In fact, to turn down an earnest request of aid from a sister is seen as a grave offense.

In modern day, the Sisterhood of Eporita has found itself quickly adapting to changing times. They no longer restrict their membership to only those who identify as women. Any who would act on behalf of the oppressed is welcome among their ranks. That said, the vast majority of their members do identify as female. Any who wish to join are put through a grueling initiation ritual requiring them to seek out a natural place and commune with the ancient spirit of a she-bear. If the spirit finds them worthy they are welcomed into the fold. If not, they are never seen again.

## *Sample Characters*

*Hedge Witch*

*Hierophant*

*Occult Bookstore Owner*

*Shaman*

*Guru*

*Spiritual Warrior*

*New Initiate*

*Social Worker*

## *Granted Skill*

**Old Magic:** You may design and lead Old Magic rituals. Such rituals should be focused on the concept of empowerment, unification, protection, or retribution. The performance of the rituals should invoke themes of nature, femininity, symmetry, or expression of self.

## *Aesthetic*

Those of the Sisterhood of Eporita tend to value unique and eclectic styles. Natural colors and styles tend to be popular among the witches. The following link contains images to give a feel for the aesthetics of a typical member of the Sisterhood of Eporita. Feel free to use this as inspiration when picking out your costume.

<https://www.pinterest.com/LandsEndGaming/sisterhood-of-eporita/>