

# FACETS

By Jeff Dunne

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## CHARACTERS

CORNELIA	An experienced mystic/druid/sorceress type
MAGRATTA	An initiate mystic/druid/sorceress type
OTHER INITIATES	A bunch of other initiates (however many available)
OTHER INSTANCES OF CORNELIA	Six other identical Cornelias, representing: Impatience, Caution, Fear, Curiosity, Fury, and Guilt.
OTHER INSTANCES OF MAGRATTA	Seven other identical Magrattas, representing: Fear, Indignation, Self-Image, and Distraction, as well as Distraction's manifestations of Flight Distraction, Horny Distraction, and Confused Distraction.

## SETTING

A mystic gathering in a nature setting.

SCENE

*(Cornelia stands before a shimmering portal. She has just finished casting a spell, and leans on an open tome on a nearby pedestal. Magratta was keeping her distance with a crowd of other initiates, but now approaches.)*

MAGRATTA

You did it! That was incredible! We all thought it would turn out to be a bust, you know, just a bunch of unpronounceable gibberish someone penciled into the back of the book. But you did! You actually did it!

*(Cornelia looks at her with undisguised disdain.)*

You look tired. Are you tired? I'd be tired.

*(Cornelia just stares.)*

Oh, hey. Do you want a drink? I brought some juice boxes! I'll get you a juice box. What do you want? Fruit punch, Tropical Breeze, or I think we may still have some Orange Twister left? *(Turning...)* Michi? Do we have any Orange Twister left—

*(Several of the other initiates are shaking their heads in a "shut up now" way. Magratta turns back to Cornelia.)*

I think we're out of Orange Twister.

*(Cornelia stares at her.)*

So... Cornelia... This is... Did I mention that this is a-ma-zing? So... What is it?

CORNELIA

A manifestation portal.

MAGRATTA

Oh my god! I love those! Those are the best!

*(Again, Cornelia stares at her, disgusted. Again, Magratta misses it.)*

What does it do?

CORNELIA

For you, nothing. Just go sit over there with the other initiates.

MAGRATTA

Okay!

*(Magratta trots back to the edge of the circle and sits on a stump. She takes out a box of Junior Mints and a juice box and settles in. Meanwhile, Cornelia turns to face the portal. She gazes into it, and a moment later a replica of her – her impatience – emerges from the portal.)*

CORNELIA'S IMPATIENCE

*(Impatiently, obviously...)*

Well?

*(Cornelia is taken aback.)*

You're just going to stand there doing nothing? Wasting your life away? Come on, already! Use the portal!

*(Just then, Cornelia's caution emerges. Cautiously.)*

CORNELIA'S CAUTION

Whoa, slow down, sister. We can't be sure what's happening here.

CORNELIA'S IMPATIENCE

And we're not going to find out by standing around! Get a move on!

*(During the last line, Cornelia's Fear has come through the portal.)*

CORNELIA'S FEAR

But what if we can't undo this? What if it spirals out of control?

CORNELIA'S CAUTION

It might be better to close the portal right now.

*(Cornelia's Curiosity steps out of the portal, already speaking.)*

CORNELIA'S CURIOSITY

Are you kidding?? And lose this opportunity? We could learn something incredible here!

*(All of Cornelia's facets begin to talking in their own nature – impatience, caution, and fear – at the same time, completely ignoring Cornelia herself as she says...)*

CORNELIA

Wait. Wait! Everyone, just be quiet for a moment! WAIT!

*(And then emerging from the portal...)*

CORNELIA'S FURY

SHUT THE HELL UP!!

*(Everything goes silent. A long pause, and then we hear the loud slurping of Magratta reaching the bottom of her juice box. Cornelia's Fury storms over to her, glaring.)*

MAGRATTA

*(Terrified, and then holding out the box of Junior Mints...)*

Mint?

*(Cornelia's Fury bats the box out of her hand, scattering mints everywhere. Magratta is terrified.)*

I'm sorry! I'll...

*(She starts scurrying about, trying to clean up the mints. This also results in her getting closer to the portal.)*

I'll just clean these... I didn't mean to make a mess...

*(Magratta's Fear and Magratta's Indignation simultaneously emerge from the portal.)*

MAGRATTA'S FEAR  
Please don't hurt me! I didn't mean it!

MAGRATTA'S INDIGNATION  
I was just trying to be nice. You're  
so rude!

*(Cornelia's Fury turns to these newcomers with a snarl,  
just as Cornelia's Guilt emerges from the portal.)*

CORNELIA'S GUILT  
I'm so, so sorry! We didn't mean to upset you. Fury just slipped out of the portal...

CORNELIA'S IMPATIENCE  
Don't waste your time with her. She'll get over it.

CORNELIA'S CAUTION  
Can we really be sure of that?

CORNELIA'S IMPATIENCE  
Or she won't. Whatever!

MAGRATTA'S INDIGNATION  
How dare you? How *dare* you talk about me like that? I *matter*, damn it!

MAGRATTA'S FEAR  
Except maybe I don't. What if I don't matter?

CORNELIA'S CURIOSITY  
Would it change anything if you didn't matter?

MAGRATTA'S INDIGNATION  
Of course it would!

*(Stepping out of the portal...)*

MAGRATTA'S DISTRACTION  
Oh my, it sure is crowded around here.

CORNELIA'S FURY  
Then leave!!

CORNELIA'S GUILT  
I'm sorry. That was rude.

MAGRATTA'S DISTRACTION

*(Pointing to a spot on Cornealia's Fury's face...)*

You have a little something right th—

*(Cornelia's Curiosity comes over and studies the spot on Cornelia's Fury's face.)*

A little to the left... There, you got it *(without pausing...)* I'm hungry. Is anyone else hungry?

*(Magratra's Self-Image jumps through the portal...)*

MAGRATTA'S SELF-IMAGE

Can't you stop eating for five minutes?

MAGRATTA'S FEAR

You're going to get fat!

MAGRATTA'S INDIGNATION

I am not!

MAGRATTA'S DISTRACTION

I wonder if I should get a parrot.

CORNELIA'S IMPATIENCE

Don't you ever shut up?! Seriously, what the *hell's* the *matter* with you?

*(There's a long, silent pause, and then suddenly all ten personality facets start bickering with each other with their own characteristic attitudes. Magratra and Cornelia shuffle off to a front corner of the stage, as the bickering is "stage muted" so we can hear them talking.)*

MAGRATTA

This is...

CORNELIA

No matter what word you were thinking, yes. It really is. I think I understand why they put that incantation all the way in the back.

MAGRATTA

*(Pointing to Magratta's Distraction...)*

Is that what I'm really like?

*(Cornelia raises an eyebrow with a "yeah, actually" expression.)*

Oh dear. That must get annoying.

*(Cornelia repeats the expression.)*

MAGRATTA

Sorry.

*(Suddenly above the background din we hear...)*

CORNELIA'S IMPATIENCE

I don't care what you think, just get it for me!

CORNELIA'S FURY

Or I swear I'll rip your damn head off!

*(Cornelia grimaces in embarrassment, and slowly looks to Magratta. Magratta nods a "yes, that's you".)*

CORNELIA

I'm sorry too.

*(They smile at each other, a genuine and long-overdue appreciation of the other. A moment later there's a commotion in the crowd. Magratta's Distraction has been shoved, and nearly collides with the manifestation portal. Out jump Magratta's Flighty Distraction, Magratta's Horny Distraction, and Magratta's Confused Distraction.)*

MAGRATTA'S FLIGHTY DISTRACTION

We should all go on a cruise! I love cru—

MAGRATTA'S HORNY DISTRACTION

Did any of you see that new Benedict Cumberbatch movie? He's sooo—



MAGRATTA'S CONFUSED DISTRACTION

Wait! Wait!

*(Everyone looks...)*

Has anyone seen my thermos?

CORNELIA'S IMPATIENCE

You didn't bring a thermos, you idiot. You're slurping juice boxes, remember?

*(Another muted pandemonium erupts. While everyone is bickering...)*

MAGRATTA

Is there any way to...

CORNELIA

I think if we get them all back into the portal, we should be able to close it with a basic grounding.

MAGRATTA

We better hurry before more of us show up!

CORNELIA

ALRIGHT EVERYONE LISTEN UP!

*(All the manifestations turn to look at her.)*

Playtime's over! Everyone back through the portal!

*(There's a general moan of comments to the effect of "aww, do we have to?" and "but we just came outside", and a quietly whined "but mom!" from someone, but most of them shuffle back through – with Cornelia's Impatience pushing her way to be first back in. Just as the rest of Cornelia's manifestations are through, Cornelia's Belligerence jumps out.)*

CORNELIA'S BELLIGERENCE

You can't make me stay in there! I can come out if I want to! You're not the boss of me!

*(Cornelia gives Cornelia's Belligerence a shove back into the portal.)*

CORNELIA

Move it!

CORNELIA'S BELLIGERENCE (OFF)

Awww.

MAGRATTA

Alright, now all of you.

*(Magratta's manifestations start to file through. Magratta's Self-Image is first, and pauses to check herself out in the portal like it's a mirror. Magratta's Indignation snorts in disapproval, pushes her through, and then follows. Magratta's Distraction starts to go through, but then stops to look at Magratta's Flighty Distraction, who is skipping around. Magratta's Flighty Distraction and Magratta's Distraction collide, and both tumble through the portal. Magratta's Fear rushes through, worried that they might be hurt. Magratta's Horny Distraction and Magratta's Confused Distraction remain, however, looking around. Magratta approaches Magratta's Horny Distraction, points into the portal, and says...)*

Look! Benedict Cumberbatch!

MAGRATTA'S HORNY DISTRACTION

Oooh! Where?!

*(Magratta's Horny Distraction runs through the portal.)*

MAGRATTA'S CONFUSED DISTRACTION

Where? I don't see Benedict in there.

MAGRATTA

It's okay. You'll see him when you get through.

MAGRATTA'S CONFUSED DISTRACTION

I will? Well, ok— Oh, that looks like a water heater!

*(She trots through. Cornelia and Magratta look at each other, and simultaneously exhale sighs of relief. Cornelia waves the other initiates over.)*

CORNELIA

Ready? Annnd...

ALL

*(Each stomping the ground with a foot as they count...)*

One! Two! THREE!!

*(The portal schwocks out of existence with a pop. There's a pause as they all look around to confirm that everything's back to normal, and then Cornelia puts an arm around Magratta as they all start to exit.)*

CORNELIA

I could actually go for a juice box if there are any left.

*(Magratta squeals in delight, and rushes off more quickly to get one. Lights out.)*