

This large book was once locked with metal fittings. Like most of the book the cover and locking mechanism were destroyed by fire. Only small portions of it are still readable. The book is written in a very neat hand. The writing seems to deteriorate somewhat towards the end.

19th day of Sagittarius 1347

[Monk] returned from Carcassonne with disturbing news. Innocent III called a crusade against the Cathars and the French nobles are following his call. This could mean *[unreadable]*

[later on the same page]

I have to finish this spell. We are running out of time.

5th day of Taurus 1353

Benedictus called for a council meeting today. It is the second time he summons us this season, how am I supposed to work with all these distractions? He claims that he found the key and that we must invite some young Magi to join us. I cannot see how this will help but he insists. Finally the decision was delayed until Mandalus returns.

[date unreadable]

This Fool! He destroyed the stone and passed into twilight. Who knows if he will return? Why couldn't he wait? He told us that we cannot succeed without the new Magi.

14th day of Virgo 1355

Still no sign of Benedictus. We were searching for his book but could not find it. I started to reconstruct it from memory but it will not be the same.

23rd day of Leo 1356

Hope at last! I found a ritual that will allow us to repair the damage Benedictus caused. We need more Vis.

13th day of Scorpius 1356

Mandalus returned. He was attacked on his way back. He managed to save most of the Vis but is severely injured. He says his attackers were aided by magic. Who would dare to do this?

1st day of Aries 1357

It failed! My ritual was not strong enough. We used almost all the Vis in this attempt to repair the stone and it failed. I have to improve it. Fast.