CZ0550: CMM CARDS YOU NEED TO KNOW

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CLAP AND SLATE

1) INTRO JORDAN & RACHEL

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Commander Masters is here! And while the main set is a reprint set, there are still new cards to talk about in the Commander precons. Today we're covering the new cards you need to know in Commander Masters, from the Legendary creatures to new staples for the 99. BUT FIRST:

CARD KINGDOM **ULTRAPRO #1** **PATREON: BRANDON CLYBURN**

2) MAIN TOPIC: CARDS YOU NEED TO KNOW - COMMANDER MASTERS

ABSTRUSE ARCHAIC

Activated abilities are pretty clear, but remember for triggers, we're looking for "when" or "whenever"

- Artifacts > Solemn Simulacrum; Skullclamp; Wayfarer's Bauble; Aetherflux Reservoir
- *Eldrazi* > Kozilek, Butcher of Truth;
- Lands > Fetchlands; Maze of Ith; Rogue's Passage; Urza's Saga;

QUESTION: IS THERE A PLACE FOR THIS IN DECKS WITH COLORS?

BOON OF THE SPIRIT REALM

How many times do you want to trigger this before you feel good about it? 3x?

TOO EXPENSIVE?

I look at this and think it's too expensive, but then...

- Doomwake Giant; Celestial Ancient;
- Door of Destinies

CREATURE WINS

Many enchantress decks win conditions rely on tokens.

- Sigil of the Empty Throne; Archon of Sun's Grace; Ajani's Chosen; Hallowed Haunting;
- Not tokens, but helped by anthems > Dance of the Manse; Starfield of Nyx; Opalescence;

CHANDRA, LEGACY OF FIRE

Ramp, draw, payoff, all dependent on how many planeswalkers you control. When she's good, she's GREAT. And when she's alone, she's pretty lackluster.

BUT Planeswalker decks win games by snowballing out of control and Chandra helps you do that. WINNING WITH WALKERS

- 5C Walkers > Usually rely on ultimating planewalkers and extra turn spells, proliferation
- GU Walkers > Usually rely on ultimating planewalkers and extra turn spells, proliferation
- How do you win without blue?
 - *RGB Walkers* > Evolution Sage; Doubling Season; Chandra, Torch of Defiance; Sorin Markov; Vraska, Betrayal's Sting; All Will Be One;
 - GB Walkers > Evolution Sage; Doubling Season; Vorinclex, Monstrous Raider; Genesis Wave; Elderspell;

I'm SLAMMING it into my Lord Windgrace Super Friends deck and I can't imagine it outside of a Super Friends shell.

COMPOSER OF SPRING

- Lands > Nessian Wanderer; Tameshi, Reality Architect;
 - Urza's Saga;
 - Enchantress decks often run Burgeoning or Explorations, so extra land drops are already desirable.
 - \circ This seems like a GREAT way to ramp in a deck that is famous for drawing a ton of cards.
- Creatures > Doomwake Giant; Archon of Sun's Grace; Ajani's Chosen; Nyxbloom Ancient;
 - With a few exceptions, MOST of the creatures in enchantress decks are less than 4 mana
- Of course, this does nothing without lands in your hand so it may feel win-more, especially in enchantress decks where slots are hard to come by.

DARKSTEEL MONOLITH

You reaaaaaally don't want to be hard casting this thing unless you are in a turbo ramp deck. If you are, you want to have another colorless spell that's more than 8 mana to follow it up with.

As always, this is better in decks that can cast things at instant speed like Liberator, Urza's Battlethopter

- *Compare to:* Thran Temporal Gateway
- *Colorless Ramp Decks >* Decks like the precon will be a natural fit, but if you're ramping all that hard... Do you need to cast one spell per turn for free?
- Artifact Decks > Goblin Welder; Trash for Treasure; Saheeli, the Gifted; Chiss Goria, Forge Tyrant; Megatron, Tyrant;
 - If we see it, it'll be in decks that are already trying to cheat huge artifacts into play.
- Eldrazi Decks

DESCENDANTS' FURY

This is definitely more of a typal card, but it's specifically a token typal card. You want to have creatures that you know will connect in combat and you don't mind sacrificing to get new creatures.

TYPAL

- *Goblins >* Krenko, Mob Boss;
- *Dragons* > Miirym, Sentinel Wyrm;

- *Humans* > Winota, Joiner of Forces
- Vampires > Edgar Markov;
- Dogs/Cats > Rin and Seri, Inseperable
- Changelings

TOKEN

• Hazezon, Shaper of Sand > Champion of Lambholt; Elvish Reclaimer; Moraug, Fury of Akoum

GUFF REWRITES HISTORY

So this is a non-enchantment Wild Magic Surge for the whole table? FUN. You HAVE to pick something for each player.

If you send your Commander to the Command Zone instead, you still shuffle and reveal.

• *Compare to >* Chaos Warp; Wild Magic Surge; Indomitable Creativity; Chaotic Tranformation

QUESTION: WHEN IS THIS BETTER THAN CHAOS WARP?

LEORI, SPARKTOUCHED HUNTER

There are a lot of great pieces from this deck already in the precon. We're going to talk about the cards that aren't in the precon.

YOU MUST CHOOSE

Pick a planeswalker or two that speaks to you. I wouldn't do more than three different types of Planeswalker to maximize your Commander's power.

- Chandra > 18
- Jace > 14
- Teferi > 9
 - Including Invasion of New Phyrexia
- Ajani > 8
- Gideon > 8
- Elspeth > 7

WALKER SUPPORT

- *Defense >* Gold-Forged Thopteryx; Mila, Crafty Companion; Deification;
 - In the precon > Semester's End; Nevinyrral's Disk; Vronos, Masked Inquisitor;
- Additional Activations > Displacer Kitten; The Peregrine Dynamo; Teferi's Talent; Rowan's Talent; Elspeth's Talent;
 - In the precon > Oath of Teferi
- Additional Loyalty > Ichormoon Gauntlet; Lae'zel, Vlaakith's Champion; Resourceful Defense;
 - *In the precon* > Flux Channeler; Deepglow Skate; Gatewatch Beacon;
- *Payoff* > All Will Be One;

DOUBLE STRIKE

- Boros Charm; Duelist's Heritage; Flaming Fist; Sunhome, Fortress of the Legion;
- Mithril Coat

MIDROLL POINT

NARCI, FABLE SINGER

SAGA TO TASTE

There are a TON of strong Sagas in this color so feel free to go wild here. Pick the ones you like!

• The Restoration of Eiganjo; Binding the Old Gods; The War in Heaven; The Eldest Reborn

COUNTER MANIPULATION

- Add Counters > Satsuki, the Living Lore; Evolution Sage; Cankerbloom; Unnatural Restoration; Resourceful Defense;
- *Remove Counters >* Hex Parasite; Scholar of New Horizons; Power Conduit; Nesting Grounds;

ENCHANTRESS

You still want a lot of the normal enchantress stuff, but there are some cool saga-specific ones, too.

- Femeref Enchantress;
- Historian's Boon; Weaver of Harmony

ARISTOTRESS

 Enchantments that sac > Sterling Grove; Khalni Heart Expedition; Alseid of Life's Bounty; Seal of Primordium; Gaea's Touch;

BRING 'EM BACK

- Bring sagas back > Brought Back; Cosmic Intervention; Teshar, Ancestor's Apostle; Hall of Heliod's Generosity
- *Bring everything back >* Eerie Ultimatum; Brilliant Restoration

OMARTHIS, GHOSTFIRE INITIATE

+1/+1 Counters

- *Counter Creatures >* Cryptic Trilobite; Stonecoil Serpent; Walking Ballista; Liberator, Urza's Battlethopter
- Add Counters > Forge of Heroes; Ruins of Oran-Rief; Steel Overseer
- *Modular* > Arcbound Ravager; Arcbound Stinger; Scrapyard Recombiner; Arcbound Crusher;
- *Payoffs >* Towashi Guide-Bot; Canoptek Spyder;

COUNTER MANIPULATION

- Preserve Counters > The Ozolith;
- Proliferate > Sword of Truth and Justice; Staff of Compleation; Karn's Bastion;

SAC OUTLET

Your commander has a dies trigger and sac outlets are VERY important in Modular decks.

• Spawning Pit; Altar of Dementia; Throne of Geth; High Market;

COLORLESS SUPPORT

• Forsaken Monument; The Mightstone and Weakstone; Wandering Archaic; Mystic Forge

ONDU SPIRITDANCER

We talked about how enchantress decks are often token-based. It's not hard to imagine this card being very broken.

• Calix, Guided by Fate

• Anointed Procession; Parallel Lives

COPY TARGETS

- Big ones > Nyxbloom Ancient; Rhystic Study; The Kami War;
- Utility ones > Kenrith's Transformation; Privileged Position; Overgrowth;

QUESTION: DOES THIS GO IN EVERY ENCHANTRESS DECK?

RISE OF THE ELDRAZI

This is 12 mana, 3 colorless pips does force you to bend your mana base around it a bit. It's more expensive than Expropriate.

BIG SPELLS?

There are lots of spells commanders that don't bat an eye at big mana costs, but they would balk at those three colorless pips.

- Kaza, Roil Chaser; Vadrik, Astral Archmage; Mizzix of the Izmagnus
- *Cast without paying at all >* Jhoira of the Ghitu; Jeleva, Nephalia's Scourge; Mizzix's Mastery; Mnemonic Deluge; Eleven, the Mage; Yusri, Fortune's Flame

QUESTION: HOW MUCH BETTER IS THIS THAN TIME WARP?

RUKARUMEL, BIOLOGIST

So what does she.... do? She's like a Maskwood Nexus/Conspiracy/Arcane Adaptation, but for one creature type, in the Command Zone.

SLIVERS

The cleanest way to build this is to name, "Slivers." Now any creature can join the sliver hive!

- Gemhide Sliver; Cloudshredder Sliver; Harmonic Sliver; Spiteful Sliver; The First Sliver; etc.
- *Deceivers* > Professional Face-Breaker; Akroma, Vision of Ixidor; Toski, Bearer of Secrets; Leaf-Crowned Elder;

OTHER TYPES

Here's where things get wild. You don't need slivers at all? If you choose another creature type, you can use other typal cards for anything! Always wanted to cheat an Avacyn in with a Didgeridoo? Me too! Rukarumel makes that possible.

- *Minotaur* > Didgeridoo; Deathbellow War Cry; Ragemonger;
- Zombie > Cleaver Skaab; Wayward Servant; The Scarab God; Rooftop Storm
- Dragon > Magda, Brazen Outlaw; Dragon Tempest; Miirym, Sentinel Wyrm
- Pirate > Malcolm, Keen-Eyed Navigator; Admiral Becket Brass; Coercive Recruiter
- *Myr* > Myr Galvanizer; Urtet, Remnant of Memnarch; Myr Battlesphere;
- *Praetor >* Realmbreaker, the Invasion Tree
- God > The World Tree
- *Ninja >* Yuriko, the Tiger's Shadow
- Demon > Liliana's Contract
- *Rebel >* Lin Sivvi, Defiant Hero
- *Egg* > Atla Palani, Nest Tender;

This is a real brewers challenge. Feels like there are a million ways to build this and they are all unique and hilarious.

TITAN OF LITTJARA

NOTE: Each *other*

So this can go in any blue typal deck as another top end draw spell? Nice! Although including non-typed cards in my typal decks always feels off.

- *Blue Typal Commanders >* Minn, Wily Illusionist; Kumena, Tyrant of Orazca; Miirym, Sentinel Wyrm; Wilhelt, the Rotcleaver; Inalla, Archmage Ritualist;
- *Compare to >* Distant Melody; Pact of the Serpent;
 - A creature is more easily blinked, reanimated, etc.
- *Compare to >* Tishana, Voice of Thunder; Lord of Change;
 - Do you run this even if you're only going to get one or two cards per trigger?

VRONOS, MASKED INQUISITOR

+1: PHASE

- Compare to: Kaito Shizuki
- **other target planeswalkers**
- This is great protection for planeswalkers that you are hoping to ultimate. But you do still have to defend Vronos if you want to activate it multiple times.
- This feels like the reason they go into a deck
- This is not perfect protection. I've found that a LOT of the removal for planeswalkers is Beast Withins/Generous Gifts rather than attacking or sorcery speed removal.

-2: BOUNCE

• This is very strong defensively. You can pick off the best attackers on your opponent's boards to buy you more time with your walkers

-7: CONSTRUCT

• Easily accessible, but not necessarily game ending? Also you have to have an artifact

This is planeswalker is all about defending your other planeswalkers and it is not cheap. Makes sense in Super Friends decks but not necessarily a slam dunk elsewhere

QUESTION: DOES THIS GO IN DECKS WITH PLANESWALKER COMMANDERS?

FAVORITE NEW CARD FROM COMMANDER MASTERS? Jordan = Guff Rewrites History Rachel = Narci, Fable Singer

MOST POWERFUL NEW CARD FROM COMMANDER MASTERS? Jordan = Composer of Spring Rachel = Titan of Littjara

3) TO THE LISTENERS

What did you think about the Commanders precons? Are you excited about any of the cards in particular? Are there any Commanders you're excited to build?

CARD KINGDOM #2 **ULTRA PRO #2**

4) CLEAN-UP STEP

Big thanks to our amazing team here at The Command Zone! Damen Lenz; Eric Lem; Megan Yip; Gaurav Gulati; Jamie Block; Arthur Meadowcroft; Manson Leung; Josh Murphy; Jake Boss; Sam Waldow; Evan Limberger; Ladee Danger; Craig Blanchette; Katie Cole; Mitch Trafford; Gabriel Pozos; Josh Lee Kwai; and Jimmy Wong.

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