

Securis Victoriae

Description: a small, heavy-headed throwing ax. The design is Anglo-Saxon, but the haft is made out of north Indian rosewood and the head is made of the finest Scoonthorpe steel. There is a deliberate lack of ornamentation on the blade or handle, but *Securis Victoriae* radiates magical energy fiercely enough that even non-mages can (barely) detect it.

Powers: spell-breaking. *Securis Victoriae* can rip through a magical shield like it wasn't there at all. It tends to hit the weakest part of a magical shield, too.

Oh, yes, every British monarch has had a personal occult weapon created for him or her. What, was that a surprise? There's a lot of mystic oomph in sacred kingship, even when the king (or queen) is a constitutional monarch. And the best way to use that oomph is to have a focus for it. The actual weapon varies - Henry VIII used a club, Elizabeth I had a stiletto, while Elizabeth II insisted on a [Janson rifle](#) - so it's not very surprising that Victoria went with an Anglo-Saxon throwing ax. Particularly since this was the *third* weapon designed for Victoria: the woman had an adventurous reign. The kind of reign that's very hard on magical artifacts.

She got full use out of *Securis Victoriae*, too. The mid- to late Victorian period was an increasingly occult-heavy time, which meant occult-themed Masterminds and Villains. Surprisingly, only *some* of them were interested in usurping the Throne; those who did invariably tried for a direct approach, counting on prototype crude magical shielding to shock-and-awe the government into submission. The *looks* on their faces when the Queen-Empress pulled out a throwing axe, and shredded their elaborate occult defenses? *Priceless*.

...and brief, because when *Securis Victoriae* came out, every British guard in the vicinity knew to shoot the person it was thrown at. The British Empire didn't get that way by being stupid about things.

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