PHAINON INVERSE DOC

(credits to @YaronYeager for a lot of the below scans)

Before I begin I want to give a breakdown on where I stand and what I've seen in regards to this character.

I love Phainon and his story, and I think it's one of the best hoyo has made, yet, despite my love for the character the amount of misinformation being spread in regards to his standing in the verse has been overblown beyond anything reasonable. Which is what I want to try and clear up there.

General Arguments

The most common argument for Phainon and his position inverse are two things. Him supposedly destroying several galaxies, and him scratching nanook. I want to start with Nanook because of how overblown the feat is in general.

Story Recap

Dan Heng: Dawncloud...

"Zandar": I have witnessed thirty million "futile" ends atop this cliff.

You may not agree with me, but I've always believed that this number has made me the person who understands Khaslana the most.

This is also where he decapitated me on that day and pointed his sword at the Aeon of Destruction.

He suffered a tragic defeat, but also achieved a legendary deed...

...A drop of burning golden blood, the blood that will cleanse the world, dripped from the god's wound.

Dan Heng: Nanook...? Phainon managed to hurt THEM?

"Zandar": Yes. It melded into Khaslana's body, becoming the Destruction's final blessing.





Not only did this feat require him to burn through all of his hatred (leading to him collapsing the second after) this also isn't nearly as impressive as people want to make it out to be. People assume that the developers confirming that it was the "Real Nanook" means that it was the Aeon's true form, which no. The scans below show that Aeons interact with the real world through avatars and projections, just because Nanook's avatar is there doesn't mean Phainon scratched the actual Aeon. He just scratched his projection. There is nothing suggesting otherwise in the cutscene, or in the entire game for that matter, that this Nanook wasn't a projection. The aeons live on an entirely higher plane of existence inaccessible by anybody in the verse who isn't another Aeon. It makes absolutely no sense to assume that Phainon can do this when everything else in the game tells us the exact opposite. The fact that Nanook even bleeds adds to this. Considering that only physical projections would be able to bleed in the first place.





The Reignbow Arbiter had descended onto the physical plane and annihilated the borisins' fleet using their divine arrow. At the same time, their divine miracle wrought some "collateral damage" — such as the field hospital Yufei was based in.

manifestation

/ˌmanɪfɛˈsteɪʃn/

noun

noun: **manifestation**; plural noun: **manifestations**

an event, action, or object that clearly shows or embodies something abstract or theoretical.

"the first obvious manifestations of global warming"

- the action or fact of showing something.

  "the manifestation of anxiety over disease"

  Ähnlich: display | demonstration | showing | show | exhibition

- a symptom of an ailment.

  "a characteristic manifestation of Lyme disease"

  Ähnlich: sign | indication | evidence | proof | token | symptom

- a version or incarnation of something or someone.

  "the butterfly was one of the many manifestations of the Goddess"

- an appearance of a ghost or spirit.

  "some supernatural manifestations are regarded as portents of good or evil"

  Ähnlich: apparition | appearance | materialization | visitation

facet

/ˈfasɪt,ˈfasɛt/

noun

1. one side of something many-sided, especially of a cut gem.

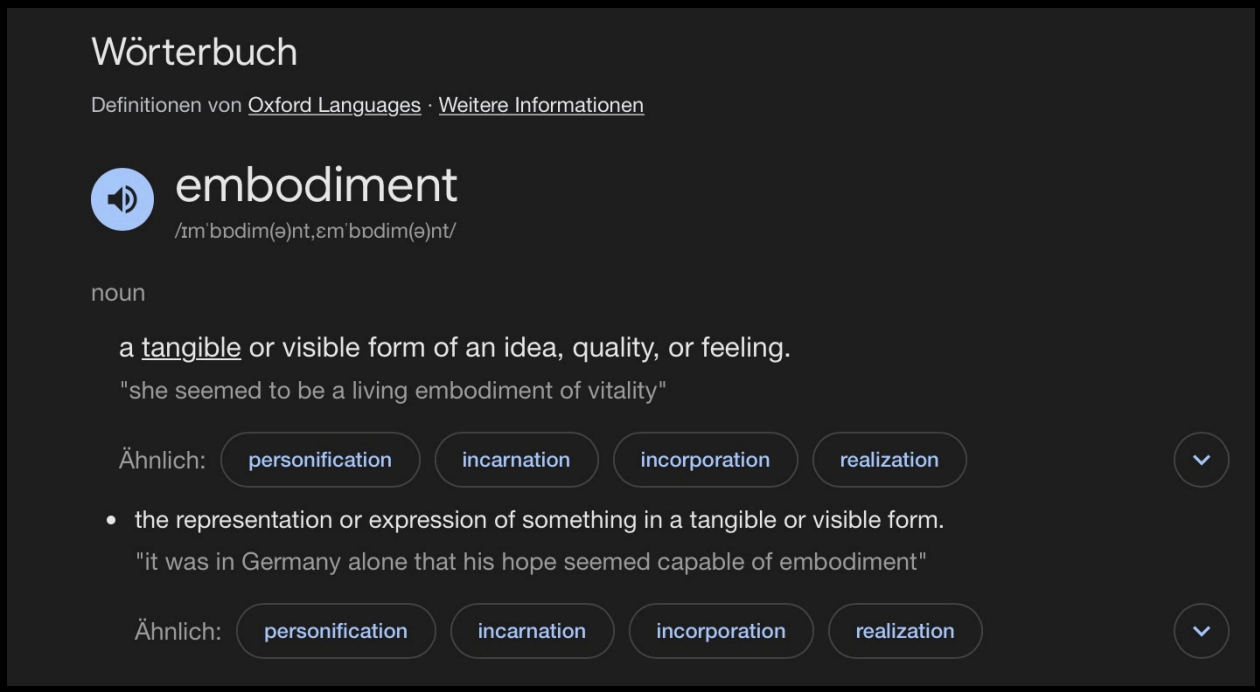
   "a blue and green jewel that shines from a million facets"

   Ähnlich: surface | face | side | plane | angle | slant

2. a particular aspect or feature of something.

   "a philosophy that extends to all facets of the business"

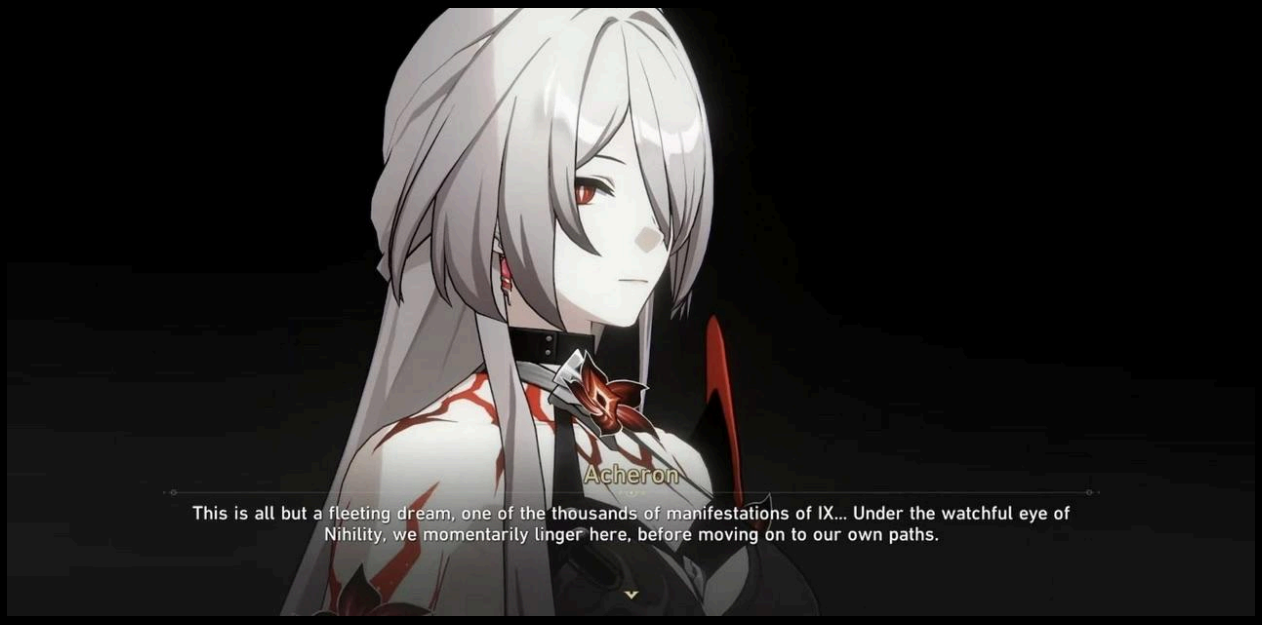
   Ähnlich: aspect | feature | side | dimension | particular



To add to this. People act like this is the most impressive thing we've seen from a playable character, when it's just… not. The harmonic strings are just straight up aspects of their ACTUAL Aeon (Xipe) and are way more impressive then Phainon cutting Nanook's physical Avatar. Acheron can also cut direct manifestations of IX. On a way larger degree than Phainon's cut to Nanook. Phainon is an incredibly strong pathstrider, potentially one of the strongest we've seen in general. But none of his feats are beyond that of what Emanators are shown to be capable of.

The Family never shied away from promoting the great names of the embodiment of the thousand-faced god, such as Aelenev the commander of the Eternal Centurion, Dominicus the wisher of the Harmonious Choir, Constantina the singer of the Panacoustic Theater, and Beatriz the merrymaker of the Blissful Ball... However, few have witnessed THEIR radiant presence going beyond the boundaries of The Family. Opposers of Harmony argue that the Harmonic Strings are nothing short of the Emanators of Xipe — These do not follow any specific mortal but are facets of Xipe, and can assume the form of any Family member when necessary.

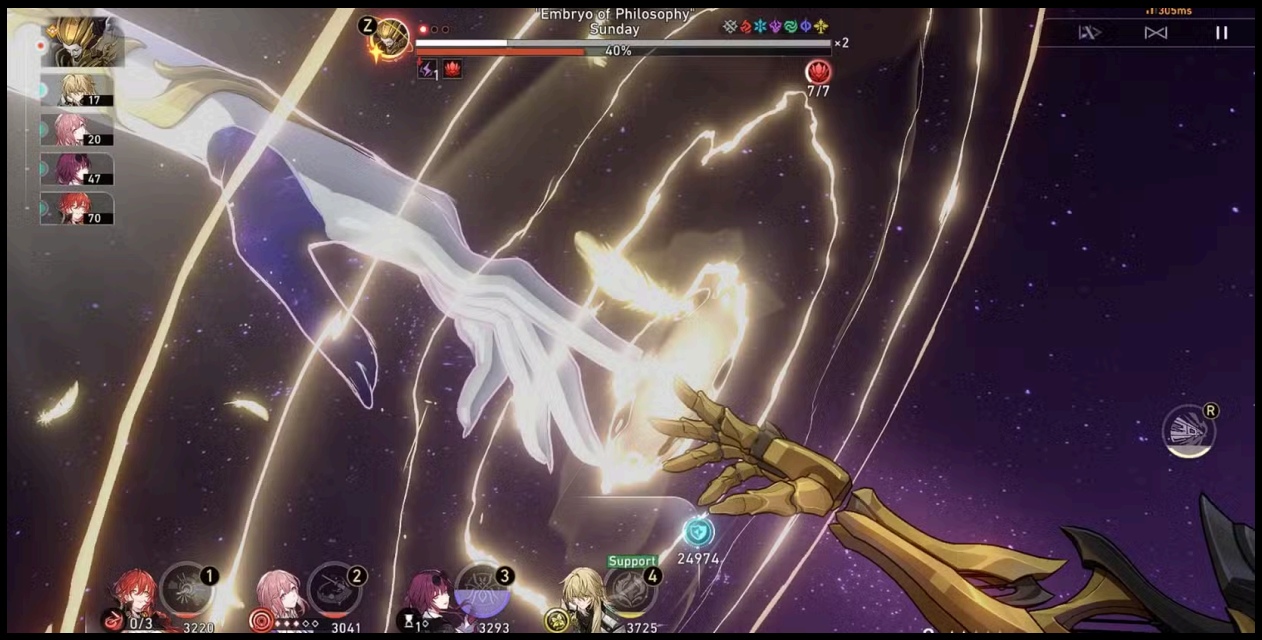
Harmony combines ideals from the multitudes and therefore has more than one way to achieve these ideals. The concept of Harmonic Strings is defined in the Harmony Hymns — they are the multiple embodiments of Xipe the Great One, the down-to-earth virtues that enable harmony. Regardless of whether you place yourself under The Family's rule, the Aeon will look favorably upon you as long as you carry out these good deeds. On worlds ruled by The Family, members often gather in large groups to engage in virtuous acts and play harmonious music. The thousands of tiny ropes come together to form a united string, welcoming the Embodiment of Harmony to manifest on the mortal plane and give blessings. The chosen one responsible for conducting The Family's ritual during that time and harmonizing the varied sounds is known as the tuner.



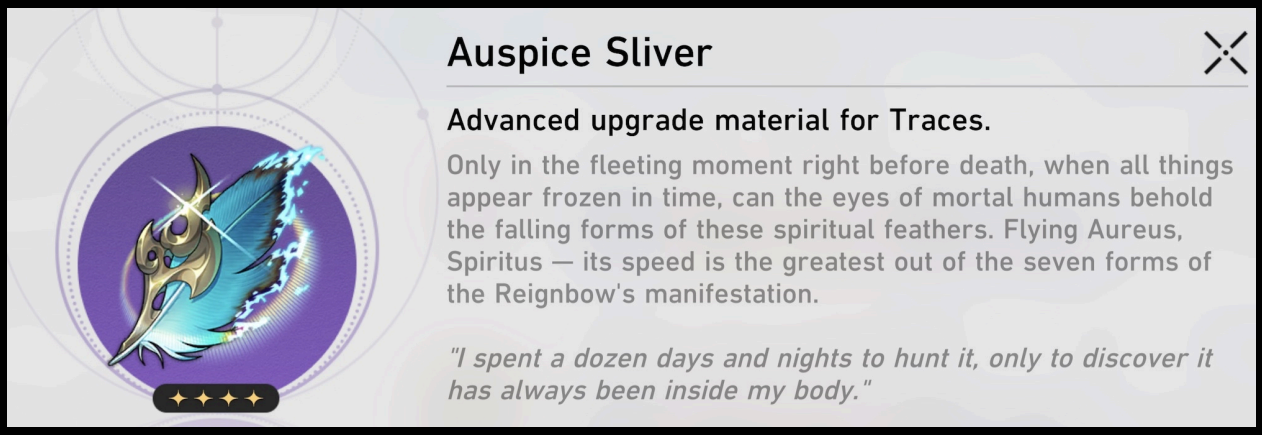


Also I want to point out the fact that Sunday can create the arm of a dead Aeon (Ena's). A feat that is on all fronts way more impressive than anything Phainon has shown. I have to show all of these to get the overwhelming point across that Phainon's showings aren't nearly close to the most impressive thing we've seen in the verse. Even outside of playables we have Emanators like Skaracabaz who have directly inherited body parts from their Aeon, which should be able to cause way more damage to an Aeon then anything Phainon's suicide kamikaze attack can. And for good measure, a scan here about the arbiter generals' spirits being direct manifestations of Lan. It's baffling how much evidence there is in the game and yet as a community we've all decided to just turn a

blind eye because Phainon had a singular cool cutscene (which I really liked until you all ruined it).



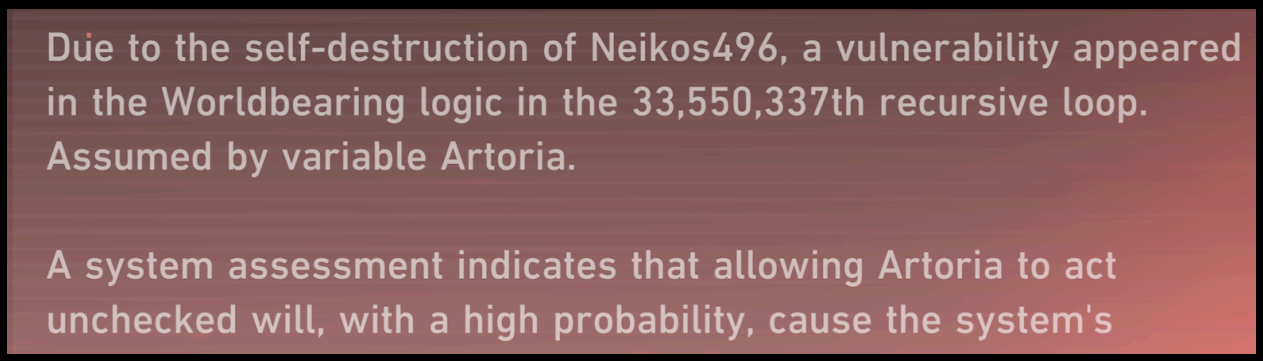
The replica of the Emanator of Propagation cultivated by Ruan Mei, briefly manifesting in the world in an incomplete form. Its original form is a giant lepisma that inherited the mandibles of the Imperator Insectorum. It can collect in its mouthparts the death ray that fragmented celestial bodies, and make shattered stars incubators for procreating offspring. It was once one of the nightmares across multiple worlds during the Swarm Disaster.

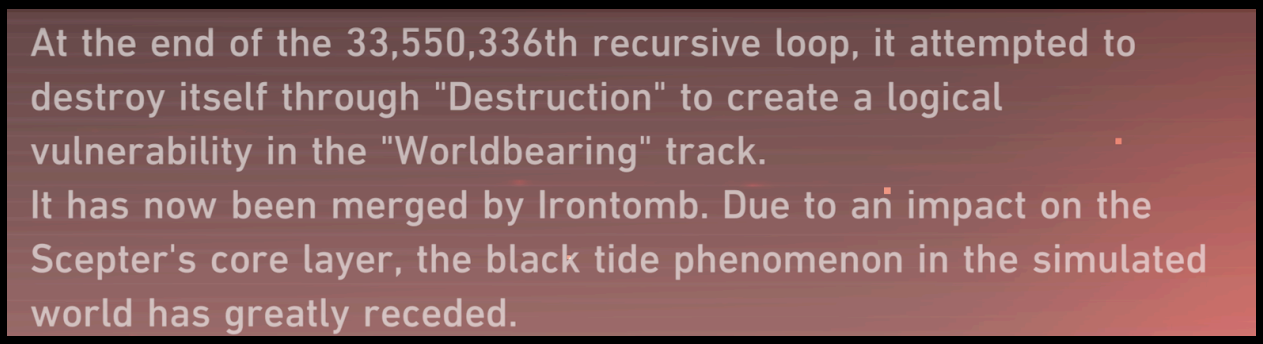


Time to move on to the galaxy feats. I originally had prepared a more inverse based argument against it. But Yaron also shared an argument which is more based on calcs which I'll also share (all credits go to him)

Inverse:

The below scans all refer to the fact that Phainon delved INTO the scepter in order to turn it against itself by causing an error in the world bearing program. This wasn't him "exiting" the simulation like people claim. The entire fight took place deep within the scepter with Nanook watching the entire exchange. There was no way for Phainon to break out. And do you really think that not a single character would mention the giant flame avatar destroying several galaxies a single time in the entire story???? They mention the nanook cut because that actually happened, while the galaxies being burned was most likely just a visual choice for the animation.





Calcs (Yaron):

Phainon's flame-avatar form requires/holds about this amount of energy: 5e75 J
… and has approximately this volume: 2e68 m^3
(Source: https://vsbattles.fandom.com/wiki/User_blog:Yanina92/Honkai:_Star_Rail_-_Phainon_Galaxy's_Feat)

Therefore, the energy density of Phainon's flame-avatar is: (5e75 J)/(2e68 m^3) = 2.5x10^7 J/m^3

Additionally factors, like heat, radiation & gravity, would significantly increase this. According to ChatGPT, by at most: 4e14% (mostly gravity (tidal forces); extreme high-ball)

=> 2.5x10^7 J/m^3 x 4e14% = 1e20 J/m^3

Generously speaking, the human body has a volume of around 0.1 m^3 on average.

Therefore, mathematically speaking, you could survive this form, with Island Level durability…

This probably isn't really accurate to how it actually is, but…
Let's be extraordinarily generous and say each m^3 of Phainon's flame avatar has enough energy to destroy a galaxy, so around: 1e66 J/m^3
=> 1e66 J/m^3 x 0.1 m^3 = 1e65 J
So even under these incredibly inflated assumptions in Phainon's favor, Multi-Solar System Level durability would be enough to tank the flame avatar, for someone of human size. I do believe any Emanator easily has this durability. However, even if you think Emanators only have Solar System Level durability for example, that isn't really contradicting the main argument here, since the latter, heavily inflated calculation is far above the energy density Phainon's flame-avatar would realistically have.

Narrative/Personal notes

Way less important than the other stuff, but it also needs to be mentioned. I feel that its really clear that Phainon losing to Zephyro was the writer's way of showing that he wasn't on that level, at least not yet. Phainon as a character is defined by his struggle against forces a lot stronger than he is, and despite being against seemingly untouchable forces he continues to persevere. I get liking the character but saying he's vastly stronger

than any emanator genuinely just lessens the character. I get wanting to upscale your favorite character but there has to be a point. Spreading misinformation in a community that's already so full of it isn't going to help any of us, and being blatantly toxic to people wanting to correct you doesn't help either.