

Documentation

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Shadows on Wyrnwood Isle

A 4-Episode Mini-Campaign for levels 3-5

“Some mysteries should remain buried beneath the Spanish moss...” - Madame Beaumont, Island Oracle

Campaign Overview

In the misty waters off the American Southeast, Wyrnwood Isle holds dark secrets beneath its veneer of antebellum grandeur. What begins as a simple ghost hunting expedition evolves into a desperate race against time as investigators uncover an ancient cosmic horror preparing to awaken.

Core Themes

- Southern Gothic atmosphere meets cosmic dread
- Mystery that peels back layers of reality
- Transformation of mundane to supernatural
- Weight of ancient sins and present consequences

Episode Guide

Episode 1: “The Invitation” *A Ghostly Beginning* - Arrival at Wyrnwood Plantation’s decorated gates - Meeting the mysterious Blackwood family - First encounters with seemingly harmless phenomena - Discovery of the plantation’s detailed records

Key NPCs Introduced: - Elizabeth Blackwood (Current Owner) - Old Samuel (Groundskeeper) - Madame Beaumont (Local Oracle) - Professor Harrison (Historian)

Episode 2: “Something Stirs” *Escalating Horrors* - Supernatural encounters intensify - Ancient ritual sites discovered in the bayou - Connection to missing persons over centuries - Strange alignments in the night sky

Major Developments: - Hidden passages beneath the mansion - Ritual circles in the surrounding swamps
- Mysterious symbols appearing in dreams - Growing influence of cosmic forces

Episode 3: “Beneath the Moss” *Dark Revelations* - The Cult of the Unnamed emerges - Ancient temple complex revealed - True nature of hauntings exposed - Cosmic alignment’s purpose understood

Critical Discoveries: - Plantation’s true purpose - Cultist infiltration of local society - Connection to elder beings - Timeline of the coming ritual

Episode 4: “When the Stars Align” *Final Confrontation* - Race against cosmic alignment - Cult’s master plan revealed - Elder horror manifestation - Fate of Wyrnwood Isle decided

Climactic Elements: - Multiple possible endings - Moral choices with cosmic consequences - Final confrontation variations - Legacy implications

Major Characters

The Blackwood Family

- Keepers of ancient secrets
- Generations of dark knowledge
- Complex motivations
- Hidden allegiances

The Cult of the Unnamed

- Ancient bloodlines
- Modern infiltrators
- Cosmic devotees
- Ritual masters

The Investigators’ Allies

- Local historians
- Skeptical authorities
- Hidden resisters
- Supernatural aids

Key Locations

Wyrnwood Plantation

- Antebellum mansion
- Sprawling grounds
- Hidden passages
- Ancient foundations

The Surrounding Bayou

- Ritual sites
- Lost temples
- Natural barriers
- Cosmic convergences

The Town of Port Sorrow

- Suspicious locals
- Hidden cult presence
- Historical records
- Safe havens

Game Mechanics

Investigation Systems

- Clue discovery
- NPC interaction
- Research mechanics
- Supernatural detection

Horror Elements

- Sanity checks
- Cosmic revelations
- Supernatural encounters
- Reality distortions

Combat Scenarios

- Cultist confrontations
- Supernatural entities
- Cosmic horrors
- Environmental hazards

Character Progression

Level 3

- Initial investigations
- Basic supernatural encounters
- Local mysteries
- Character establishment

Level 4

- Deeper revelations
- Increased danger
- Supernatural abilities
- Complex challenges

Level 5

- Cosmic confrontations
- Ultimate choices
- Maximum tension
- Campaign conclusion

Campaign Goals

Primary Objectives

- Uncover the truth of Wyrnwood Isle

- Stop the cosmic ritual
- Save innocent lives
- Preserve (or destroy) knowledge

Secondary Goals

- Explore all locations
- Understand family histories
- Discover hidden lore
- Build alliances

DM Resources

Mood Setting

- Southern Gothic descriptions
- Cosmic horror elements
- Environmental details
- NPC personality guides

Plot Flexibility

- Multiple investigation paths
- Alternative endings
- Side quest opportunities
- Character arc possibilities

“In Wyrnwood Isle’s shadows, every answer leads to darker questions...”



Figure 1: A majestic but foreboding Southern plantation mansion beneath a strange night sky where stars form unsettling patterns. Spanish moss drapes ancient oaks, while a path leads through wrought iron gates. The scene combines antebellum architecture with cosmic horror elements - reality seems to warp slightly at the edges. Style: Detailed architectural illustration meets dark fantasy, atmospheric lighting with an otherworldly quality.



Figure 2: A richly detailed antique leather-bound tome lying open on a Victorian desk, its pages showing arcane diagrams, star charts, and plantation maps. Tendrils of cosmic energy weave through the illustrations, while Spanish moss and mystical symbols frame the edges. Style: Victorian scientific illustration meets eldritch grimoire, with detailed pen and ink work enhanced by supernatural elements.