





THE SEALS OF CTHULHU DUIS TOME IS JOR. IN DATE Was M. E. UHT at zune . 10 126 11385 Thomas a Edison R 1217 /1880 Haber 8 113 11909 -O chingate 12/30 1916 J.M. atkinson 5 13 1921 Parte 14 /1900 To athy T? 29/1000 the Paras 5 1 pur 137 Rot & Openheir 7 120 119 A 7. Layeter 2 121 /1949 19. COPPER 9 124/71 R. Bachman 6 119 11997 1 1



this note is my last stitch effort to spare anyone else who finds the he lack of torescalat that we had. We thought we knew what it was naight we could contribute the betterment of mailing, but in realist wore children, playing with aded gun that muriders the past espirapathetic links to physical objects in the The cards in the book worthe the Seals. My team adjunted for three of them but the other fact eluded us Theyre holding back 🔀 only-baows-what and we all pray had continue to. We war never respire the integrity of the San's changest waren the two halles are biought toge is constants their effection the I the other hand we to know are historical record when they a red Bs you bade them and the human lives; this has been te Seals, yours manipulating estim both muser and recent. If your never hearth of the OSDI, quished government agency is that never breve the buc names or what's beyond the threshold ... to find an opponent, or one will find you. Either way ragnitude of the forces young the familiar world transforme unleashed. Be prepared to por into the itterly alien when you l the cards. But above all elses 1056 Amon Walres

To whomever is reading this, I'm truly sorry.

This note is my last ditch effort to spare anyone else, who finds the book, from the lack of foresight that we had. We thought we knew what it was, we thought we could control it for the betterment of mankind, but in reality we were children, playing with a loaded gun that murders the past.

The cards in the book are sympathetic links to physical objects in the world; the Seals. My team accounted for three of them but the other four eluded us. They're holding back, God only knows what, and we all pray they continue to. We were never certain if the integrity of the Seals changed when the two halves are brought together, but we did corroborate their effect on the historical record when they were. The effigies on the other hand we do know are human lives. This has been tested and confirmed. As you trade them and the Seals, you're manipulating established history, both ancient and recent. If you've never heard of the OSDI, that was the result of our "game". A distinguished government agency just gone. A world that never knew the true name of the moon. A humanity unprepared for what's beyond the threshold.

You'll find yourself compelled to play to find an opponent, or one will find you. Either way, understand the magnitude of the forces you've unleashed. Be prepared to potentially find the familiar world transformed into the utterly alien when you look up from the cards. But above all else, for the sake of every living human being: DO. NOT. LOSE.

Elmon Asher Former Acting Chief of the Office of the Special Defense Initiative

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THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS

WICKERWELD STATUS REPORT PREPARED FOR

PROJECT



You are in terrible danger

If you're reading this, then I am dead and you possess the book ... It's already too late.

The objects inside are arcane seals, forged to contain forces I don't have time to explain. The c Each is linked to a powerful artifact, and will



w upon you command over history itself. ower comes at a cost, a nemesis will against you. Your equal. Wager the of poor, unwitting souls, read your ionist intent, call their bluff and bring her the seals to save the world. Or descend into madness unend

> LOCAL DEVELOPER The historical sodiety welcomed State Departs on and Son Duong the designer and artist ram, the recently released a new

A STRATEGIC BIDDING & BLUFFING CARD GAME



TRESPASSERS FUEL FEAR OF LAND GRAB

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COUNTY COUNCIL CLAIM NO SURVEYS BEING CONDUCTED

Rodger Taggert has not slept much lately, he's been up most nights watching for the federal employees he insists have been surveying his property at odd hours, "They were in the field last week with one of those weird tripod things at two in the morning. Scared the missus half to death." Two years ago he became the lone hold out in the battle between the Whelming City Council and the land owners of Willows Valley. This effectively killed the long anticipated highway project, which would have directly connected sleepy Whelming with the rest of Massachusetts's growing interstate freeway. Despite earning the ire of much of the commu nity Tagent remains defiant.

LAND GRAB Cont. From A1. "Next time I see them co old .22 will do the talki you can print that." The quickly made a statemen gart's claims. "The hip was a huge loss of course has moved on." Said Ma "We've had no survey pro area of the county sin thing was abandoned." Mr dubious, "I seen em out ain't those scheming, en G-Men, then who is it craw ,my property? And why? I after in the dead of nig

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The Dock Worker's Union



sence due to a ble the Whelmty had run dry s so close to it the board of seeking a buyer operty. "That pening," stated Karter, "Inthose beautiful rst time next ng them open on is is all in donor that has take credit for cash, totaling thousand dol-members of the be regulars at racing to preie new wave of vill be done at

CREDITS:

Artistic Renderings: Son Duong Historical Curator: Sean Epperson Illustrative Efforts: Kris Quistorff & Darrin Michelson Madness Translation: Sarah Sharp

To all those who were privy to the unearthing of this inhuman artifact, we thank you and pray that such minds (forever lost to insanity) will one day find peace.

PLAYTES

PROJECT WICKERWELD

FIELD OBSERVATION REPORT

1 tried to stop it, but it want stay burned. Heaven help me, what have I unleasted ...

4 (i) Influence Markers 4 (i) Influence Markers 10 Artifact Cards 14 Elder God Cards

THE CONTENTS

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Player Count: 2 game Length: 20-30min

Itemized: 4 Investigator Influence Markers 4 Cultist Influence Markers 5 Investigator Artifact Cards 5 Gultist Artifact Cards 7 Cultist Elder God Cards 7 Cultist Elder God Cards 7 Cultist Elder God Cards 4 Anvestigator ID Cards 4 Investigator ID Cards 4 Cultist ID Cards - if a piece is missing, a war begins History Thus Far

Cultists have moved into the enigmatic city of Arkham. They are attempting to collect artifacts that will let them take control of the city, summon the **Elder Gods**, and bring about the end of the world.

A team of **investigators** must try to stop them, by gaining control of these artifacts for themselves, in the hopes that humanity may yet be saved from such **madness**.

Will you take on the role of investigator to save the world, or will you lead the cultists to its **demise?**





Give each player the matching Influence Markers and following cards from their faction, investigators or cultists:

- Gate
- Gate Closure
- Journal
- Necronomicon
- Potion
- Chosen Elder God +

†Shoggoth is recommended for a player's first game. See **pg. 13** for Elder God descriptions.

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Each player will take all 6 of their cards into their hand, and **guard** them cautiously.

The game ends after each player has taken 5 turns.



GAME PLAY OUTLINE

Each card in a player's hand represents half of an **artifact**, or **Elder God** which they have the potential to control. Each half of the artifact has a given amount of **influence** and **control** value.

By bidding forces and artifacts to their opponent, players can gain control over cards to complete artifacts. Completed artifacts have special **powers** to be used by the player that controls them. The player at the end of the game with the most control points will control Arkham, either saving the world or ending it, and win the game!



HOW TO PLAY

The player with the Active Player marker will choose a card from their hand and place it FACE-DOWN on the table between themselves and their opponent. The active player will then set a number of Influence markers next to the card. This is the active player's Influence bid to gain control over the FACE-DOWN card. Each marker represents 1 Influence.

Note: You may bid 0 (none), at the risk of letting your opponent control the bidding. This can be a viable strategy.

The opponent then decides on one of two options:

• Take the influence bid, give up the card.

• They take the active player's Influence bid and add them to their own Influence markers. The active player then takes the FACE-DOWN card and places it FACE-UP in front of themselves. The active player now has "control" over that card.

• Place their own influence bid.

• They must bid at least 1 more Influence than what the active player bid. The active player then decides to either take the entire Influence bid, and give up the FACE-DOWN card, or increase their Influence bid to be at least 1 more than what their opponent just bid. This continues back and forth until one player decides to take the Influence or they are unable to bid higher than the other player.

Bidding with the Influence Value of cards:

Once a player has control of a FACE-UP Artifact or Elder God card, they may choose to use its Influence Value to help win a bid. If so, the FACE-UP card could end up sacrificed, like the Influence Markers, for the sake of gaining control over the FACE-DOWN card in the center of the play area.

Example:

Sean is the active player and has placed a card from his hand FACE-DOWN in the middle of the play area, and bids **2 Influence**.

Based on cards played, Sarah thinks the FACE-DOWN card will **complete** an artifact.

Going all in, she bids all 4 of her Influence markers.

Sean bids his remaining 2 Influence markers, and pushes forward the FACE-UP **Gate** card for a total of **9 Influence**.

Sarah has nothing left to bid, so she takes the bid **including** the Gate card, which is now in her control. Sean takes the FACE-DOWN Artifact card and places it FACE-UP in front of himself, as now it is under his control.

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Completed Artifact Abilities

Each card's ability may ONLY be used if both of the following conditions are met:

1. You must control **both** halves of the card, FACE-UP in front of you. This completes the artifact and allows you to activate the ability.

Note: An exception to this is the **POTION**, which does NOT need to be completed in order to be used. Once it is FACE-UP in front of you, then you may use its ability regardless of which faction the potion came from.

2. The abilities of completed artifacts may ONLY be used by the active player during their turn. Abilities may be used at the START of a turn, during the bidding process, or the END of a turn.

Once a card's ability has been used on a turn, it is "spent" and should be rotated 90 degrees to show that it is no longer accessible.







Typically, abilities may only be used once per turn. **However**, if the artifact is "broken" in some way (part turned FACE-DOWN, or placed back into a player's hand, etc.) and the artifact is re-assembled that turn, the ability may be used again! Very powerful combos can be created through using an artifact, **breaking** it, and reassembling it to re-use the ability. Gaining the other half of a card can give you a large advantage in the game!

Artifact	Ability
Gate	If you control both halves FACE-UP, you may flip 1 half FACE-DOWN. If you do, flip any other FACE-DOWN card FACE-UP.
Necronomicon	If you control both halves FACE-UP, you may swap 1 FACE-DOWN card you control with 1 from your hand.
Potion	You may flip this card FACE-DOWN to flip another FACE-DOWN card you control FACE-UP.
Journal	If you control both halves FACE-UP, you may swap 1 FACE-UP card you control with 1 from your hand.
Gate Closure	If you control both halves FAGE-UP, you may flip 1 FACE-DOWN. If you do, flip any other FACE-UP card FACE-DOWN.

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- a Sixth is unseen

END GAME AND SCORING

Each player takes 5 total turns. That means there will be 1 card left in each player's hand that is unplayed, and thus will not be scored unless otherwise stated by a card effect.

Note: Some Elder God powers and player powers can change how cards are scored or when control values are tallied.

At the end of the 5th round, each player adds up the **Control Value** (the Roman numeral at the top of each card) of all their FACE-UP cards. The player with the highest Control Value is the winner!

Tie Breaker

If both players have an equal total **Control Value**, the winner is declared by:

- 1. The player with the most **Influence Markers**; if still tied then...
- 2. The player with the most **FACE-UP** cards; if still tied then...
- 3. The player with the most FACE-UP cards of their **faction** (Cultist or Investigator);

If a tie still exists, **BOTH** players lose! The cultist is **devoured** as punishment for their inability to secure the city. The investigator is **fired**, mocked for their inability to put away the cultists. They are left to fade away, penniless, into obscurity and shame.



GAME OPTIONS

Elder God Cards

There are **7** Elder Gods in the game. After you have learned the basics of game play, we encourage you to try them out. See the following chart for a list of their powers:

Elder God	Power
Shoggoth Recommended First Play	If you control both halves FACE-UP, you may flip one half FACE-DOWN. Then flip one FACE-UP card an opponent controls FACE-DOWN.
Cthulhu	If you control both halves FACE-UP, flip all your non-Cthulhu cards FACE-DOWN.
Nyarlathotep	If you control both halves FACE-UP, flip both halves FACE-DOWN. You only score FACE-DOWN cards at the end of the game.
Yog-Sothoth	If you control both halves FACE-UP, flip one half FACE-DOWN. You and your opponent must exchange one card of opponent's choice from your hands.
Shub- Niggurath	If you control both halves FACE-UP, your opponent may look at your hand & chooses the card you will place for bid. If they do, flip one half FACE-DOWN.
Azathoth	If you control both halves FACE-UP, you may flip them both FACE-DOWN. Score their control values as positive if you have both FACE-DOWN.
Hastur	If you control both halves FACE-UP, destroy one other FACE-UP non-Hastur card you control at the end of your turn by placing it back in the box.

GHARACTER ID GARDS

To add variety to play, players may choose one of the ID cards associated with their faction. These allow players the opportunity to play as different characters with unique character abilities.

During setup, players secretly choose one ID card from their faction, cultist or investigator. These are chosen AFTER an Elder God is chosen.

erald OF Arrival

True names unverified

Do masks defeat the purpose?

Tricks of the trade, gifts, and curses of sights unseen.

The abilities on the ID cards give each player a new way to approach the game, new things to do on their turns, and new threats to pose to their opponents. The timing on using these abilities is very important for success.

Abilities are only usable once per game. When an ability is used, the ID card is flipped FACE-DOWN abilities are as listed below. FSTIGATORS

Abie Jones	Once per game, you may force your opponent to turn their bid card FACE-UP.	
Gabriel Moretti	Once per game, you may banish a FACE- DOWN card and remove it from the game.	
Alex Smyth	If your FACE-UP cards equal exactly 13 CONTROL POINTS, at the end of your turn, you immediately win.	
Sohn Kang	At the end of the game, arrest any cultist influencers you control. Gain 2 CONTROL POINTS for 2 influencers & 5 CONTROL POINTS for 4 influencers.	
CONTRACTOR CONTRACTOR CONTRACTOR		
Gultists		
Herald of Arrival	Once per game, you may replace a FACE- DOWN card you control with 1 from outside the game. Place this new card FACE-DOWN.	
The Golden Dawn	Once per game, you may force an opponent to turn their bid FACE-UP, during the bidding.	

At the end of your turn, you may swap your Enforcer hand with your opponent. of Truth Your opponent always plays first. At the end of the game, you may sacrifice

any of your opponent's influencers that you control. Gain 1 CONTROL POINT for each that you sacrifice.

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Blade In

The Mist









GAME

@thing12games

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SOHN KANG

Age: 50 Height: 5'4" Honorary: Commissioner Occupation: Law Enforcement Skills: Street Smarts, Authority

Street smarts & an iron will drive Sohn to see all cultists imprisoned.

At end of game, arrest any of your opponent's influencers that you control. Gain 2 CONTROL POINTS for 2 influencers & 5 CONTROL POINTS for 4 influencers.





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GABRIEL MORETTI

Age: 64 Height: 5'8" Honorary: Archbishop Occupation: Religious Leader Skills: Spiritual Control

A lifetime of piety and spiritual education led Gabriel to become the preeminent leader in the rites of exorcism.

Once per game, you may banish a FACE-DOWN card and remove it from the game.





Age: 38 Height: 6'2" Honorary: Spirit Guide Occupation: Medium Skills: Occutt and Arcane Knowledge Learning some of the secrets of the cultists has allowed Alex to use their mystic arts to try and save humanity.

and

Abie will stop at nothing to expose the

cultists to the light of truth.

Mysticism is the enemy of science,

Skills: Intelligence, Focus, Drive

Occupation: Scientist

Honorary: Doctor

Age: 47

Height: 5'11'

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Once

opponent to turn their bid card FACE-UP.

If your FACE-UP cards equal exactly 13 CONTROL POINTS, at the end of your turn, you immediately win.

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Blade in The Mist

Age: ??? Height: ??? Honorary: Grand Ferrum Occupation: Assassin Skills: Fear and Terror

The Blade in The Mist strikes terror in the heart of the Investigator team.

At the end of the game, you may sacrifice any of your opponent's influencers that you control. Gain 1 *CONTROL POINT* for each that you sacrifice.

ENFORCER OF TRUTH

Age: ??? Height: ??? Honorary: Grand Khadae Occupation: Lobbyist Skills: Deception, Manipulation, Trickery

The Enforcer of Truth is filled with dark talents, crafting their own twisted tales to manipulate the web of society.

At the end of your turn, you may swap your hand with your opponent's. Your opponent always plays first.



HERALD OF ARRIVAL

Age: ??? Height: morary: Grand Magus cupation: Herald ills: Sorcery The Herald of Arrival is spoken of in whispers, for their ability to summon great power is legendary. Once per game, you may replace a card you control with 1 card from outside the game. Place this new card FACE-DOWN.







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GATE GLOSURE

If you control both *FACE-UP*, you may flip 1 *FACE-DOWN*. If you do, flip another *FACE-UP* card *FACE-DOWN*.



Yog-Sothoth

If you control both *FACE-UP*, flip 1 *FACE-DOWN*. You and your opponent must exchange 1 card of opponent's choosing from your hands.

JOURNAL

If you control both *FACE-UP*, you may swap 1 *FACE-UP* card you control with 1 from your hand.



Shub-Niggurath

If you control both *FACE-UP*, flip 1 *FACE-DOWN*. Your opponent then looks at your hand & chooses the card you will place for bid.



Azathoth

If you control both *FACE-UP*, you may flip them both FACE-DOWN. Score their control values as positive if you have both FACE-DOWN.



HASTUR

If you control both *FACE-UP*, destroy 1 other *FACE-UP* non-Hastur card you control at the end of your turn.



You may flip this card *FACE-DOWN*, to flip another *FACE-DOWN* card you control *FACE-UP*.



Shoggoth

If you control both *FACE-UP*, you may flip 1 *FACE-DOWN*. Then flip 1 *FACE-UP* card an opponent controls *FACE-DOWN*.



Necronomicon

If you control both cards *FACE-UP*, you may *SWAP* 1 *FACE-DOWN* card you control with 1 from your hand.



NYARLATHOTEP

If you control both *FACE-UP*, flip both *FACE-DOWN*. You only score *FACE-DOWN* cards at the end of the game.





If you control both FACE-UP, you may flip 1 FACE-DOWN. If you do, flip another FACE-DOWN card FACE-UP.



GTHULHU

If you control both *FACE-UP*, flip all your non-Cthulhu cards *FACE-DOWN*.













