Demons' Stories

An expansion module for the game Demon~marked

ARTWORK

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Introduction

The Game

This is a Role Playing Game FOR TWO PLAYERS: one will be the Master, the other one will be the Demon-marked.

<u>Demon~marked</u>

This module is an expansion for the game Demon-marked. To play Demons' Stories you need first to download and master the aforementioned game. You can download it for free on the website: <u>www.daimongames.com</u>.



Expansion For Demon~marked

This module is an EXPANSION for the Role Playing Game DEMON-MARKED. This means that you need to download Demon-marked, and study its structure and rules. Demon-marked is available for free <u>on the Daimon Games website</u>. This expansion module contains:

- two new pregenerated characters (Demon-marked)
- * three Dark Overlords (major enemies), with several additional Chaos creatures to fight against
- three stories and locations for your adventures
- * two brief examples of play, to clarify the game rules for rolling dice
- ✤ a bonus character

Examples Of Play

The module contains also several EXAMPLES OF PLAY. These examples should help the Master to gain familiarity with the game structure and feel, and serve as a reference for the rules (a sort of offline Frequently Asked Questions section). In any case, if you have doubts, questions or even suggestions for the game, feel free to contact me by mail.

Adventures' Seeds

Loyal to the spirit of the original Demon-marked game, this module does NOT contain full adventures, with railroaded and scripted events. The Demon-marked game is supposed to generate a story strongly driven by the character actions. To achieve that, the Master should present and frame open-ended scenes, and on a larger scale, setup THE ADVENTURE INSPIRATION, without planning in advance for a predefined series of events and/or expected ending.

What the Master will find here, therefore, are ADVENTURES' SEEDS, or in other words: strong and precise settings, each that contain enemies, possible developments, some key features. Nothing mandatory and nothing that cannot be customized at will, according to how the game evolves. You draw the blade, but you don't know yet where it will strike.

Adventures Preparation

Each adventure is presented with a generic setting description and guidelines for the Opening Scene and Act One. Although not mandatory, these premises will set the adventure on its path. Then, you will also find a Story Sheet to print, and use during the game to keep track of events, actions, etc. This is already configured with the suggested difficulty ratings for each Act. A third and final page contains additional information, such as new enemies' statistics, special powers, more details about the fiction etc.

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Version

0.1 / June 2015

You are a warrior because: O You were raised by mercenaries O You served in a noble's army O You guarded a sacred place	Now you travel alone because: O Your fellow warriors are all dead O You lost faith in your cause O You are on a personal quest	You received the Demon-mark be O You want to avenge someone O You are going to hunt someon O You want to protect someone	ie	Your Demon-mark looks: O Circles and crosses on your chest O A large skull on your back O Crossed swords on your shoulders
Attributes	Traits (And Items)		Notes	
Body Use to force, resist, brawl, fight □ □ ■ ■	Strong □ ■ Sword fighter □ □ ■ Large sword (damage +4) □ □ Plate armor (protection +2) □	Chain ∎	<i>Chain</i> can be	s (brawl damage +1) used offensively or defensively, with other weapon on +1, damage -1) or (protection -1, damage +1)
Skill	Aim □ ■	4 Throwing knives (damage +1) ■	War-horse (a	dd 🗆 when fighting on horse)
Use to move, do, execute, aim	Ride horses \Box	Swim 🗆		
	Climb □ Hide and sneak □ ■			
Mind	Tracking 🗆 🔳			
Use to think, perceive, detect	Perception □ ■			
	Military strategy 🗆 🗆 🔳			
	Fortifications			
Spirit	Brutal □ ■	Leadership 🔳		
Use to resist, lead, talk, seduce, lie	Vengeful □ ■			
	Brave			
	Inspire 🗆			



Special Moves

Select a move at the beginning of the game. Unlock others at the price of 5 CP. Activating a move costs 1 CP, or take 2 DP. • THE COMMANDER: take +3DD in leading or commanding humans for the entire scene, as long as you act as a leader • MILITARY STRATEGY: take +2DD for the next 3 rolls in combat, when you O FURIOL as you wa

 MILITARY STRATEGY: take +2DD for the next 3 rolls in combat, when you use fortifications, terrains, tactical advantages, etc. FURIOUS STRIKES: take -X protection and +2X damage as long as you waive your sword without parrying or defending 	Wounded O -1D6 Body Shaken O -1D6 Skill	Confused O -1D6 Mind Broken O -1D6 Spirit
Notes	Code Points	Demon Points
15 silver coins	Be neutral & observe, sacrifice & bring justice, accept death. O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O	Stage OneOOOOOStage TwoOOOOOStage ThreeOOOOO

Basic Damage 3

Protection

Hit Points

Combat, Damage & Conditions

3 (total)

00000

Plate armor 2 Parry 1

00000



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Profile And Description	Select one per group. Gain 1 CP when you act accordingly, and 2 CP if this causes you danger or harm			
 You left your home land because: O Your tribe was slaughtered O The land was cursed O You were banished by your people 	Your travels brought you here from: O A large, ancient city O A small village in the mountains O Across the sea, from a foreign land	You received the Demon-mark be O You want to avenge your peopl O You have nothing left to lose O You knew something of demon	e O Like a large symbol on your back O Like a hundred scars on your dark skin	
Attributes	Traits (And Items)		Notes	
Body Use to force, resist, brawl, fight □ □ ■ ■	Mace fight □ ■ Resistant □ Parry (protection +1, damage -1) □	lron mace (damage +3) □ ■ ■		
Skill	Protection runes (protection +1) □ Aim □ □ ■	Making traps □ ■	Scrap material for traps	
Use to move, do, execute, aim	Swim □ ■	5 1	15 crossbow darts	
	Climb □ Hide and sneak □ □			
Mind	Alchemy □ □ ■			
Use to think, perceive, detect	Perception □ ■			
	Tracking \Box			
	Esoteric rituals 🗆			
Spirit	Brutal 🗆 🔳			
Use to resist, lead, talk, seduce, lie	Solitary □ ■			
	Hunting □ ■			
	Talking with the spirits \Box			



Special Moves

Notes 10 silver coins

Select a move at the beginning of the game. Unlock others at the price of 5 CP. Activating a move costs I CP, or take 2 DP. • SHAMANIC DIPLOMACY: take +3DD for and religious matters, both interacting • BONE BREAKER SAVAGE: take +2DD for bat, but suffer +1 damage if you fail any O LIFE FOR LIFE: spend X Hit Points to ma a human minion or gives you +3 DD. Expire

	Be neutral & ol	bserve, sacrifice	Stage One	00000
	Code Points		Demon Poin	ts
or the next 3 rolls in com- ny of those nake X potions. A potion heals res at end of session.	Wounded Shaken	 ○ -1D6 Body ○ -1D6 Skill 	Confused Broken	0 -1D6 Mind 0 -1D6 Spirit
g with humans and beasts	Hit Points	00000	00000	
costs I CP, or take 2 DP. or the entire scene in spirit	Protection	1 or 2 (total)	Leather ar. 1	Parry 1

00000

00000

00000

00000

Stage Two

Stage Three

Combat, Damage & Conditions

Basic Damage 3

00000

00000

& bring justice, accept death.

Adventure One

Shanger The Overlord

Known for his brutality and usage of explosivesDifficulty: 8Protection: 4Damage: 4 + Large weapon (dmg 4)Hit Points: ••••••••

Moves (enable two by default)

- Monster: add a Large Monster as protector
- Strike: reduce opponent Protection of 1
- Explosives: count as generic dmg 4 in fights

The Invasion

Setting Description

The Chaos legion of the Dark Overlord Shanger, known for his brutality in battle and his mysterious explosive weapons, is marching against the South Keep. The South Keep remains the last standing human fortress guarding The Three Valleys. If South Keep falls, Shanger's legion will invade and plunge the human settlements in The Three Valleys. The attack was unexpected and the South Keep garrison is small and has little chances of holding much longer. The population of The Three Valleys is preparing to run away, but the exodus is chaotic and desperate; the local leaders need more time to evacuate everybody before the arrival of Shanger.

Opening Scene

The Demon-marked should begin the adventure either within South Keep fortress, or in close proximity. He should be aware, or promptly made aware, of South Keep's critical situation. Somehow the Demon-marked is expected to help South Keep hold long enough for the human leaders to arrange the evacuation. THE MISSION is to fight Shanger the Overlord.

Act One Overview

Depending on the Demon-marked status and position, he could be fighting alone, or together with other humans, from inside the South Keep or by distracting Shanger's legion somehow, with other tactics. Shanger should not enter the scene until towards the end of Act One.

Enter Shanger

It is unlikely that the Demon-marked can block Shanger at the beginning of the adventure. As the Master, spend minor difficulties against the character for simple enemies and basic actions. Allow the character to slow down the attack until Shanger will intervene in person. The Overlord will appear heavily guarded by centaurs, leading an attack of explosions against South Keep walls. Use here the highest difficulties to defeat the Demon-marked and force him to retreat to the valleys.

Acts Two And Three

No need to kill the Demon-marked in Act One, when Shanger will defeat him. Allow an escape, a retreat, a lucky event to keep him alive. Depending on the tactics and what the Demon-marked accomplished in Act One, the people of The Three Valleys could still be in trouble organizing the evacuation, or almost done with it. In any case the Demon-marked will now either join the exodus, or help some villagers, or some lonely refugee, etc. The Demon-marked cannot stop the invasion alone, but he can still make a difference for some of the people on the run.

Possible Endgame

There are different ways for the game to end. Of course, if the Demon-marked dies, there will be another one taking his place (i.e. a guard of the garrison, a villager on the run, a soldier), to continue the mission. Depending on how the situation evolves, the mission can change to a more focused one: help someone in particular, or kill Shanger or one of his strong warriors to allow all or some of the humans to escape, perhaps even fight against the entire Chaos legion, with a human army, if the Demon-marked already accomplished a lot and is on a good path.

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story e			100 mil		-

C-ADB Adventure Keys

Running Segnes

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1	* Prepare the character Profile, if you play with a new Demon~marked. The Player will gain Code	As Master, remember the following keys:	To run the adventure Scenes:
	points according to the Profile, so he will bring these elements into the story.	DESCRIBE: give details, keep a log	FRAME: give an interesting setting or detail
	* Act One/Opening Scene: The South Keep under attack from Shanger, the people of The Three	CHALLENGE: put pressure, create threats	NARRATE: listen and respond to the Player
	Valleys starting the evacuation, the need to hold back the Chaos legion.	FIGHT: be merciless, without bending rules	EVOLVE: if the story stalls, add an element
	Act Two/Act Three: The fall of South Keep, support to the humans in the valleys, how to fight	EXPLORE: do not prepare much in advance	RESOLVE: don't leave hanging threads
	against Shanger and his Chaos legion.	WONDER at what Grama has to offer you	MOVE AHEAD: get out, come back later
	* The Mission: initially to hold back Shanger and the legion from South Keep. Once the fortress		
	falls, move down to the valleys and develop the Mission.		
	Act Ong	Always Watch For	
1	* Complete the Demon~marked sheet with the Player, give scores according to the instructions.	Opportunities to bring up the Profile: create of	danger and give a chance to gain Code Points
	* Run Act One in the first session, or few sessions of play. Remember to:	* Cases when the Player fails the Profile or the	Code, to assign Demon Points
	O Introduce the setting, or at least a solid starting point for Adventure and Location	 Difficulties, struggles, that force the Player to 	take Demon Points by using Demon dice
	O Introduce and clarify the Demon-marked Mission. Make sure it's clear to the Player	* The Stages of Possession: how does it look in	fiction? Is it visible now? By whom?
	O Offer opportunities to show the character Profile, to earn Code Points	The bonds with the humans: are they vulnera	ble to Chaos? Do they see the Possession?
		-	-

- **O** Introduce some possible bonds with humans
- Work with the Code. For now mostly "be neutral and observe" and "sacrifice and bring justice"

Adventure Difficulties

Adventure Prep

Start hard, and t	hen give time to pl	an in Act Two. Mar	k the box when you	completed the scene.
Act One:	□ diff. 12+	🗆 🗆 diff. 10-12	□ □ □ diff. 3-5	□ □ □ □ diff. 3-
Act Two:	🗆 🗆 diff. 8-10	🗆 🗆 🗆 diff. 5-8	🗆 🗆 🗆 🗆 diff. 3-5	00000 diff. 3-
 Act Three: 	□ diff. 12+	🗆 🗆 diff. 8-12	🗆 🗆 🗆 diff. 5-8	□ □ □ □ diff. 5-

- The Stages of Possession: how does it look in fiction? Is it visible now? By whom?
 The bonds with the humans: are they vulnerable to Chaos? Do they see the Possession?

Notes And Log

Additional Info

The Chaos Army

Shanger the Overlord leads a large Chaos army, which should be reasonably able to conquer the South Keep and then attack The Three Valleys. Even if Shanger cannot be defeated at the start by the Demon-marked, he might still act as a fierce opponent and even fight the character directly, with the help of other monsters.

The Chaos army itself is composed mostly by horrible monsters, and Shanger leads it with the help of a few Demon Callers. Note that the Chaos army does not possess siege weapons and not even well trained or well armed combatants. The power of the Chaos army resides mostly in the cruelty of the monsters, fueled by Shanger's own harshness.

Shanger's death should cause monsters' ranks to brake and give the humans a possibility to fight back, if they gather an army large enough. In the same way, when smaller groups of monsters detach from the main army, they are usually lead by a Demon Caller. If the Demon Caller is killed, the monsters are most likely going to flee.

Other Clements

To support the Master here are some other elements that can be inserted in the adventure: * a temporary companion for the Demon-marked, in South Keep; * a fierce battle within South Keep itself; * a weapon to save from South Keep's destruction; * a small group of soldiers to fight with the Demon-marked to slow down the Chaos army; * a South Keep commander who thinks the Demon-marked is a (Chaos) spy; * a village near South Keep, with people who refuse to evacuate; * a series of bridges in The Three Valleys, where to organize the defense; * the Demon Callers spies, a series of small winged monsters, that spy on the humans on the run

Shanger, The Overlord

Shanger's Legionnaire

Centaurs Guards

They serve as personal guards for ShangerDifficulty: 6Protection: 4Damage: 4 + Large weapon (dmg 4)Hit Points: 0 0 0 0Stats are for the pack of three together.Moves (enable Fury & Pack by default)* Fury: add 1 to damage* Pack: there's 3 of them, fighting together

South Keep Soldier

Shanger's Legionnaire

One of the monsters of Shanger's armyDifficulty: 4Protection: 2Damage: 3 + Weapon or Claws (dmg 3)Hit Points: ••••Moves (Multitude enabled by default)* Multitude: there are hundreds, in the legion* Horrible: will scare away possible allies

Adventure Two

The Great Worm

Moves (enable all by default)

- Nest: +1 protection fighting in the tunnels
 Capture: block the opponent one turn instead of doing damage
- ◆ Undead Warriors: accompanied by 3 undead



Setting Description

The city of Keradosh was a rich port and an important merchant crossroad back in the times of the Empire. When the Empire fell, it resisted for a while thanks to the protection of The Last Guard. The Last Guard ruled with an iron fist, crushing the city's merchants' class and destroying its port, to protect it by any possible attack from the sea. Slowly the local Last Guard garrison transformed into a sort of nobility clan, seizing all of the city's power and keeping the population alive but in a constant state of terror.

Opening Scene

During the past few years, hundreds of people disappeared in the city and in the surrounding countryside. The Last Guard intensified its surveillance, more and more of the young men are forced to take the Guard's oath to increase the size of the local army. Whoever resists The Last Guard commands is either executed or forcefully exiled into the woods in the north, where savage Chaos monsters quickly devour their desperate preys. The Demon-marked comes to the city, and perhaps he's even admitted into The Last Guard's Palace, when a family of five disappears. A curfew is imposed on the city: nobody is authorized to neither enter nor leave the city, while The Last Guard performs its investigation on the matter.

Act One Overview

During Act One, the Demon-marked will find himself locked into the city, and will learn of the recent disappearance of the family, and hear rumors of the past few years' mysteries. He will have the chance to get involved into the matter, either because of his own interest, or because some-one close or clearly innocent is accused of the crime.

The Great Worm

Among other local stories and rumors, the Demon-marked will hear about the Great Worm, a Chaos creature that the population believes nested in the ruins of the local port. The Last Guard group ruling the town dismisses these claims as useless rumors at best, or treats them as treacherous attempts to suggest that their ruling is inadequate.

Acts Two And Three

The Demon-marked mission will somehow involve an investigation about the latest disappearances and then the Great Worm. If he will venture into the port, let him face the Worm itself, and kill it if luck will be on his side. What the Demon-marked will discover is that the Worm uses the human corpses to procreate. Unable to mate properly, he revives the corpses as undead monsters, which leave the city in waves, directed to the north, where they join the Chaos legions' ranks.

Some Secrets

Under the entire city of Keradosh is a large network of underground tunnels, that span from the port to the Last Guard Palace, to the city's walls and beyond, up in the woods in the north. The Last Guard, or part of it, knows about the Great Worm and the tunnels, but decided to feed the monster in exchange for a sort of protection of the city. Killing the Great Worm might cause the undead army to go into a frenzy and attack the citizens, or even turn some Dark Overlord's eyes against Keradosh.

Adventure Keus

Running Scenes

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Adventure Prep	Adventure Keys	Running Secres
 Prepare the character Profile, if you play with a new Demon-marked. The Player will gain Code points according to the Profile, so he will bring these elements into the story. Act One/Opening Scene: entering the city of Keradosh, hearing the rumors, the disappearance of the family, getting the Demon-marked involved, the first investigations. Act Two/Act Three: Discover the tunnels, explore the port ruins, study The Last Guard Palace and their role in the matter, discover and fight the Great Worm, deal with the consequences. The Mission: find a way for the Demon-marked to be involved: either by his own will, or to protect someone (a friend? An innocent?) he should start the investigation about the monster. 	As Master, remember the following keys: DESCRIBE: give details, keep a log CHALLENGE: put pressure, create threats FIGHT: be merciless, without bending rules EXPLORE: do not prepare much in advance WONDER at what Grama has to offer you	To run the adventure Scenes: FRAME: give an interesting setting or detail NARRATE: listen and respond to the Player EVOLVE: if the story stalls, add an element RESOLVE: don't leave hanging threads MOVE AHEAD: get out, come back later
Act One	Always Watch For	
 Complete the Demon-marked sheet with the Player, give scores according to the instructions. Run Act One in the first session, or few sessions of play. Remember to: Introduce the setting, or at least a solid starting point for Adventure and Location Introduce and clarify the Demon-marked Mission. Make sure it's clear to the Player 	 Opportunities to bring up the Profile: create of Cases when the Player fails the Profile or the Difficulties, struggles, that force the Player to The Stages of Possession: how does it look in 	Code, to assign Demon Points take Demon Points by using Demon dice

The bonds with the humans: are they vulnerable to Chaos? Do they see the Possession?

O Offer opportunities to show the character Profile, to earn Code Points **O** Introduce some possible bonds with humans

O Work with the Code. For now mostly "be neutral and observe" and "sacrifice and bring justice"

Adventure Difficulties

Start easy and increase difficulty later on. Mark the box when you completed the scene.					
Act One:	🗆 diff. 8-10	🗆 🗆 diff. 5-8	□ □ □ diff. 3-5	□ □ □ □ diff. 3-	
Act Two:	□ □ □ diff. 10-12,	🗆 🗆 🗆 diff. 8-10	□ □ □ □ diff. 5-8	□□□□□ diff. 5-	
Act Three:	□ diff. 12+	🗆 🗆 diff. 8-12	🗆 🗆 🗆 diff. 5-8	□ □ □ □ diff. 5-	

Notes And Log

Additional Info

The Great Worm's Nest

The Great Worm is the city's true master. Through hidden tyranny, Keradosh is at its complete mercy, under the false management of The Last Guard. The unpredictability of the situation may either result in the Great Worm being the greatest threat, or just the beginning of an out of control undead plague that results from the Worm's death. The Undead Warriors and The Last Guard's Soldiers represent the bulk of the threat that the Demon-marked will have to face during the adventure. Every now and then, a Last Guard Officer may represent a bigger threat, by acting against the Demon-marked in combat or through subtle manipulation of the citizens.

However, there could be allies even within The Last Guard, and some citizens may also prove helpful if sufficient proof of the Great Worm and The Last Guard's treachery is provided. This adventure is very open ended, and may result in a number of outcomes, it could be an all-out undead assault or it could be handled as a covert ops scenario against the Worm and specific, most corrupted, Last Guard Officers.

Other Clements

The Great Worm

Lives in the ruins of Keradosh port Difficulty: 8 Protection: 3 Damage: 4 + Spikes (dmg 2) Hit Points: Moves (enable all by default) Nest: +1 protection fighting in the tunnels Capture: block the opponent one turn instead of doing damage Undead Warriors: accompanied by 3 undead

Last Guard Soldier

Undead Warriors

The protectors of the Great WormDifficulty: 5Protection: 2Damage: 2 + Regular weapon (dmg 3)Hit Points: •••••Stats are for the three of them together.Moves (enable Comeback & Pack by default)**♦** Comeback: raise again for a surprise attack**♦** Pack: there's 3 of them, fighting together**♦** Infection: the first dmg will inflict Shaken

Last Guard Officer

Undead Warriors

 The protectors of the Great Worm

 Difficulty: 5
 Protection: 2

 Damage: 2 + Regular weapon (dmg 3)

 Hit Points: □ □ □ □ □

 Stats are for the three of them together. Moves (enable Comeback & Pack by default)

 * Comeback: raise again for a surprise attack

 * Pack: there's 3 of them, fighting together

 * Infection: the first dmg will inflict Shaken

Adventure Three

The Lord Of Blades

A mysterious figure that corrupted Heaven's Gate citadel Difficulty: 8 Protection: 4 Damage: 4 + Scimitar (dmg 3) Hit Points:

Moves (enable all by default)

- ✤ Invisible Blades Attack: +2 dmg when the player rolled more odd than even numbers
- * Invisible Blades Defense: +2 protection when the player rolled more odd than even numbers
- * Blades Sacrifice: at any moment the Overlord can renounce to the above moves (cannot be used anymore), but heal 4 Hit Points and keep fighting



Setting Description

The dreaded citadel of Heaven's Gate was once one of the strongest and brightest bastions against the Dark Overlords and their Chaos forces; however and surprisingly to all, the city fell in less than a week, becoming one of the most dangerous and grotesque places in all Grama. A small group of The Last Guard agents has been sent to the wretched citadel, to see what caused its fall, to find any survivors, and to neutralize, if possible, the growing threat within it. The group of agents disappeared and has not been heard of since. It is up to the Demon-marked to find out what happened to them, and if possible, complete their mission.

Opening Scene

The Demon-marked should begin the adventure just outside Heaven's Gate citadel. He should be thinking of a way to get inside the city and see if there are any Last Guard agents that have survived the perils of the dreaded citadel. This is the mission, but as the Demon-marked makes progress, his priorities may change.

Act One Overview

Entering the citadel, maybe through the sewer system or climbing the walls, should be the first thing to do. Once inside, finding out where The Last Guard survivors are should be prioritized. Being a large citadel, this search could take place in graveyards, libraries, markets, docks, plazas, etc. The monstruous inhabitants of the citadel could pose different challenges.

Creatures In The Citadel

Different monsters, presented in this adventure's Additional Info section could serve as enemies, or even bartered with if the Game Master believes there is some semblance of humanity left in them. All this background will be explained in the Additional Info section, it must be read carefully to see in which ways the Demon-marked will fight or perhaps negotiate to gain information about The Last Guard's surviving agents.

Acts Two And Three

Eventually, the Demon-marked will find a small group of The Last Guard survivors; if the appropriate checks are made, they could serve as allies as described in the More About Moves page. The mission should now refocus on finding a way out of the citadel, because the survivors will tell the Demon-marked that a Dark Overlord, called the Lord of Blades, rules the citadel. The Overlord has placed a curse on the citadel that stops anyone from leaving it; the curse cuts in half anyone trying to exit the walls, as if invisible blades are floating around every exit.

Possible Endgame

There are different ways the Demon-marked and The Last Guard survivors could escape the city: maybe by creating an alchemical formula in an alchemical lab that dispels the curse, or perhaps by finding a temple with relics that make them immune to the curse. Another option is finding out where the Lord of Blades is hiding and killing him; if The Last Guard survivors die along the way, this should be the top priority, as the Demon-marked will seek out vengeance. Be sure to use exciting and creepy locations within the citadel.

Adventure Keus

Running Scenes

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	Adventure Prep	Adventure Keys	Running Scenes
	 Prepare the character Profile, if you play with a new Demon-marked. The Player will gain Code points according to the Profile, so he will bring these elements into the story. Act One/Opening Scene: Getting inside the Heaven's Gate Citadel, navigating the city, finding out where The Last Guard survivors are. Act Two/Act Three: Protecting The Last Guard survivors, exploring the city to find a way out, getting out alive and killing The Lord of Blades if possible. The Mission: Find The Last Guard agents before it's too late and get them out of the city; depending on events, the priority could shift to killing The Lord of Blades. 	As Master, remember the following keys: DESCRIBE: give details, keep a log CHALLENGE: put pressure, create threats FIGHT: be merciless, without bending rules EXPLORE: do not prepare much in advance WONDER at what Grama has to offer you	To run the adventure Scenes: FRAME: give an interesting setting or detail NARRATE: listen and respond to the Player EVOLVE: if the story stalls, add an element RESOLVE: don't leave hanging threads MOVE AHEAD: get out, come back later
	Act One	Always Watch For	
1	 Complete the Demon-marked sheet with the Player, give scores according to the instructions. Run Act One in the first session, or few sessions of play. Remember to: 	 Opportunities to bring up the Profile: create Cases when the Player fails the Profile or the 	e Code, to assign Demon Points

- **O** Introduce the setting, or at least a solid starting point for Adventure and Location
- Introduce and clarify the Demon-marked Mission. Make sure it's clear to the Player
- **O** Offer opportunities to show the character Profile, to earn Code Points
- **O** Introduce some possible bonds with humans
- **O** Work with the Code. For now mostly "be neutral and observe" and "sacrifice and bring justice"

Adventure Difficulties

Increasing difficulty, that becomes really hard when The Last Guard survivors are found.					
Act One:	□ diff. 8-10	□ □ diff. 5-8	🗆 🗆 🗆 diff. 3-5	□ □ □ □ diff. 3-	
Act Two:	□ □ □ diff. 11+	🗆 🗆 🗆 diff. 9-11	□ □ □ □ diff. 6-9	00000diff. 6-	
♦ Act Three:	□ diff. 14+	□ □ diff. 9-13	🗆 🗆 🗆 diff. 6-9	□ □ □ □ diff. 6-	

- * Difficulties, struggles, that force the Player to take Demon Points by using Demon dice
- The Stages of Possession: how does it look in fiction? Is it visible now? By whom?
- The bonds with the humans: are they vulnerable to Chaos? Do they see the Possession?

Notes And Log

The Citadel

Heaven's Gate citadel was once a place of healing and justice, however, a priest inside the city became tempted by the power of the Chaos Lords. He sold his soul to a thousand demons, gaining power over cutting steel, naming himself The Lord of Blades. He sacrificed innocent townsfolk to allow demons to come into Grama and eliminated the city's armed resistance. When the Demon-marked enters the city, The Lord of Blades will not be aware of his presence, until The Last Guard survivors are rescued. Then, the Lord of Blades will actively send his forces after the Demon-marked, this should be seen with increasingly aggressive attacks. The enemies that chase the Demon-marked are the result of demonic sacrifices and sacrilegious rituals, that have twisted the very soul of the city's inhabitants. Some of the monsters are demons that The Lord of Blades has called from the darkest places beyond Grama.

Other Clements

To support the Master here are some other elements that can be inserted in the adventure: * The Last Guard survivors can be any number and any type of allies as described on the Allies Moves section (soldier, scoundrel, sage, priest); * One or some of The Last Guard's survivors could be potentially a traitor; * Monsters within the citadel could retain a small trace of humanity, and they could be negotiated with for information; * Be sure to develop scenes in interesting locations within the citadel; * Diaries, dving people and other clues could reveal what caused the fall of Heaven's Gate; * Powerful objects and alchemical substances could be found hidden in the citadel; * Create scenes where the Demon-marked has to choose between saving survivors, it's possible not all of them will make it out alive; * The Lord of Blades should make an appearance every now and then, and flee if the odds are against him.

The Lord Of Blades

Crying Child

Difficulty: 4

Hit Points:

Crying Child is slain

Damage: 3 + claws (dmg 3)

Moves (enable all by default)

fore a Cursed Parent appears

Protection: 3

* I want my mom: When a Crying Child ap-

pears, roll 1d6 and divide the result by 2

(rounding up), that's the number of turns be-

Cursed Tears: If the Demon~marked gets hit

by the Crying Child, the child's tears will fall

on him, reducing his protection by 2 until the

A mysterious figure that corrupted Heaven's A child deformed by the demonic forces Gate citadel Difficulty: 8 Protection: 4 Damage: 4 + Scimitar (dmg 3) Hit Points: Moves (enable all by default) Invisible Blades Attack: +2 dmg when the player rolled more odd than even numbers Invisible Blades Defense: +2 protection when the player rolled more odd than even numbers * Blades Sacrifice: at any moment the Overlord can renounce to the above moves (cannot be used anymore), but heal 4 Hit Points and keep fighting

Cursed Parent

One of the townsfolk, they asked for their children, got cursed with disease instead Difficulty: 5 Protection: 4 Damage: 3 + Claws (dmg 4) Hit Points: * I'm here honey: If the Cursed Parent comes for a Crying Child, he attacks by surprise * Disease Aura: Every round the Demon-marked spends fighting them, either his AD or DD are reduced by a cumulative 1 (to a maximum of minus 3 dice total in 3 rounds)

Hungry Demon

Summoned through human sacrifice, they're hungry for untainted flesh Protection: 5 Difficulty: 7 Damage: 4 + Bite (dmg 4) Hit Points:

Moves (enable all by default) Hungry for more: Each time the Hungry Demon bites the Demon-marked, it regenerates 2 hit points Brutal bite: Even if the Demon Marked wins a combat round, if he added more successes from the AD than the DD, he suffers 1 Hit Point of damage





Use Enemy Moves

The different enemy moves, abilities and powers are left open to the Game Master's interpretation, in order for him to shape each encounter according to his own vision. However, here are some examples and applications for these moves (new moves, presented within this module, are included).

✤ Fierce: Add +1 to the damage this enemy deals if wounded.

Comeback: The monster comes back from the dead and forces the Demon-marked to make one attack roll; if he succeeds, he deals no damage this round, but if he fails, he takes damage from the monster/enemy as usual.

Sneak Attack: The enemy forces the Demon~marked warrior to make one attack roll; the Demon~marked warrior can deal no damage during this roll, but he will take damage as usual if he fails the roll.

✤ Horrible: Roll a six sided dice; on a 1-3, the Demon-marked loses any bonus or abilities provided by allies.

Use Allies Moves

♦ Group: Each round before attacking, roll a six sided dice; on a 1-2, the enemy calls an enemy of the same kind, to help against the Demon~marked warrior.

Explosives: Each round, the Demon-marked warrior must make a Skill test against difficulty 4, if he fails, he takes 4 damage. He may use traits and tools in this test according to the player's creativity e.g. 1 swing across with my rope to avoid the explosion, etc.

Multitude: Each round before attacking, roll a six sided dice; on a 1, the enemy gets 2 extra attacks, each attack works like Sneak Attack. This represents the violent hordes that sometime jump into the fray to aid the enemy.

Here are some rules that allow the Demon-marked warrior to receive bonuses and abilities according to the allies that come along with him. It is recommended that the Game Master carefully monitors the number of allies the Demon Marked warrior takes with him (you don't want him to have things too easy), and that these allies join the warrior after fulfilling quests or tasks in their favor, or perhaps after being successful in a diplomacy check. Notice that allies might often fall victims of the mark itself, or the dark curse persecuting the Demon-marked.

✤ Soldier: For each one of these allies, when the Demon~marked takes damage, the player may decide to sacrifice a Soldier to reduce damage by 1; if so, take 1 Demon Point and the Soldier obviously dies (he can no longer take damage for the Demon~marked).

Sage: The player may choose to get +1 AD during a Mind or Spirit related roll. If you roll a 6 in any of your AD, the Sage goes insane (he can no longer help the warrior) and the Demon-marked warrior gains 1 Demon Point.

♦ Scoundrel: The player may choose to get +2 DD during a Skill related roll. If you roll a 6 in any of your DD, the Scoundrel dies (he can no longer help the warrior) and the Demon-marked gains 1 Demon Point.

✤ Priest: After each combat, the player may choose to roll 1D6; on a roll of 1-3, the Priest heals the Demon~marked a number of HP equal to the die roll. If the player rolls a 6, the Priest dies from exertion, drained by the mark; if this happens, gain 1 Demon Point.

An Example Of Play

Example One

The Demon-marked warrior runs and jumps across the rooftops; stealing the precious Artifact of Shadows wasn't easy. Following him at great speed, there is a group of Minions sent by the Dark Overlord, they want to recover the artifact.

Game Master: The Demon-marked stops for a moment, because before him, there is a wide gap between buildings. Will he be able to jump across? His enemies are almost upon him. Player: He takes a chance and jumps!

The Demon-marked uses his Skill Attribute (2 AD and 1 DD) and his Fast Trait (1 AD and 1 DD) to try to jump across the buildings and escape his enemies. Adding all dice together, he rolls a total of 3 Action Dice and 2 Demon Dice, getting the following results: 5, 1 and 2 on his AD, and 3 and 5 on his DD.

A total of 3 successes are obtained: 1 for the AD showing 1 + 2 for the AD showing 2.

The Master informs the player that those successes are not enough to make it across, so, the Demon-marked player decides to use the 3 he rolled on his DD to gain 3 additional successes, but he also gains 1 Demon Point.

Game Master: The Demon-marked warrior successfully lands on the roof of the nearby building. Player: Gliding across the air thanks to the power of his Demon Mark. He turns around and shoots a crossbow bolt at one of the pursuing demons!

Once again, he uses his Skill Attribute (2 AD and 1 DD), but this time, he adds his Aim Trait (2 AD and 1 DD), and his Small Crossbow Item (2 DD) rolling a total of 4 Action Dice and 4 Demon Dice. He gets the following results: 1, 2, 2 and 1 on his AD, and 2, 1, 2 and 6 on his DD.

A total of 11 successes are obtained: 1+1+1 for the AD and DD showing 1, 2+2+2+2 for the AD and DD showing 2.

The 11 successes are more than enough to match the Minion's difficulty rating of 2.

The Minion's protection rating of 1 is no match for the Demon-marked warrior's damage of 5 (2 Basic Damage plus 3 Crossbow Damage) suffering a total of 4 wounds (5 damage dealt, minus 1 protection), killing it.

Game Master: One of the hideous minions falls down the building with a choked cry, and the crossbow bolt sticking out of its bleeding neck.

Player: The Demon-marked keeps running, confident that he will outrun his enemies, and will kill them from afar if he has to.

Example Two

Game Master: You try to rally the people into action, before a group of Chaos Champions and Warriors will attack their town. However, the people are scared and think it is best to ask for mercy. "Maybe they will spare us?" Says a man shaking in his boots.

Player: "Nonsense! Listen to me, you will be butchered immediately! Take courage!" The Demon-marked decides to inspire them with a valiant speech.

The Demon-Marked uses his Spirit Attribute (1 AD and 2 DD) and his Brave Trait (2 AD and 1 DD) to try to inspire courage in them. He adds all dice together and rolls a total of 3 AD and 3 DD, getting the following results: 1, 5 and 6 on his AD, and 2, 3 and 5 on his DD.

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It's not enough to rally the people; the Demon-marked could take a Demon Point to take that 3 he rolled on his Demon Dice and get 3 more successes, but, because he already has too many Demon Points, he decides not to. Because he failed this time, he will be affected by the Broken Condition, taking a -ID6 on his next Spirit rolls.

Game Master: Despite your encouraging words, the townsfolk are too scared and refuse to listen "No, we can't fight them, perhaps we can reason with them" says a woman holding a baby in her arms; this is very disheartening to you, you feel broken. Almost immediately, you hear a loud crash and screams, the town is being by the Chaos forces! The people run and scream in a disorganized mess!

Player: Knowing that things will turn even worse unless I do something, I've decided to face one of the Chaos Champions in single combat, maybe his death will lower the enemy morale. Is there one nearby?

Game Master: Yes, one has just entered through the main gate and is a few yards away from his Minions.

Player: I draw out my sword and attack him, preparing a Furious Counterattack just in case.

The Demon-marked spends 5 Code Points and unlocks this new Special Move: Furious Counterattack. It will allow him to add 2 DD to his next three rolls in combat, only after getting hit.

In the fight he uses his Body Attribute (3 AD and 1 DD), his Sword Fight Trait (2 AD and 1 DD) and his Demon Sword Item (1 AD and 1 DD). He adds the dice together for a total of 6 AD and 3 DD, rolls the dice to attack the Chaos Champion, and gets the following results: 3, 4, 1, 3, 3 and 6 on his AD, and 1, 6 and 6 on his DD. Just two successes.

This is not enough to beat the Champion's difficulty of 5; the Chaos Champion deals 9 damage to the Demon-marked. However, these 9 damages are reduced by 3 because of the Demon-marked warrior's armor, so he only takes 6 damages. And now that the Demon-marked has been hit, by spending 1 Code Point to activate the move, he will benefit from his Furious Counterattack, adding 2 DD to his next three rolls.

Game Master: The Demon-marked swing is parried by the Chaos Champion, and the enemy takes advantage of this opening and draws first blood with his axe. You smell your own blood as it drips and slides through your suit of armor.

Player: I clench my teeth and prepare for a gory vengeance, as the pain empowers my oncoming Furious Counterattack.

Who will win this bloody match? Only the gods of life and death can tell.

Demon~marked "The Coward's Legacy

Profile And Description	Select one per group. Gain I CP when you act	accordingly, and 2 CP if this causes you danger or	r harm
 You left the martial academy because: You surpassed the academy instructors You never followed the rules Your fighting style was not accepted 	You went searching for power because: O You are obsessed by your own weakness O There's someone you want to protect O You want to perfect your fighting style	You received the Demon-mark because: O The demon sealed by the mark likes you O You have a strong sense of justice O You wanted supernatural powers	Your Demon-mark looks: O Like a circle with strange markings O Like a mandala of shifting colors O Like slowly ever-changing black symbol
Attributes	Traits (And Items)	Notes	
Body Use to force, resist, brawl, fight □ □ ■ ■	Strong □ □ Katana strike □ □ ■ Dark katana (damage +4) □ □ Demon-skin (protection +3) ■ ■		
Skill Use to move, do, execute, aim □ ■ ■	Aim □ ■ Run □ □ Hide and sneak □ ■ Shuriken throw □ □ ■	20 shuriken	(damage +1)
Mind Use to think, perceive, detect □ □ ■	Perception □ Meditation □ □ ■ Decipher □ Hypnotize □ ■ ■	mark of this switch the d traits. The d	Coward's, Last Emperor, spirit, resides within the character. Once per day, you can meditate and lice of two attributes (i.e. Body with Skill), or of two lice remain switched until you revert them another decide instead to switch two different ones.
Spirit Use to resist, lead, talk, seduce, lie □ □ ■	Speak with the dead □ ■ Unshakable □ □ ■ Intimidate □ □ Sense the supernatural ■		



Special Moves	Combat, Damage & Conditions			
 Select a move at the beginning of the game. Unlock others at the price of 5 CP. Activating a move costs 1 CP, or take 2 DP. O BUSHIDO: take +3DD in any katana attack (or action) for two rolls during combat O WAY OF ZEN: take +2DD for any Spirit or Mind action during the entire scene O SHURIKEN: take -X protection and add X successes to your attack made with shurikens; count X as DD for damage 	Basic Damage	3		
	Protection	3 (total)		
	Hit Points	00000	00000	
	Wounded Shaken	● -1D6 Body ● -1D6 Skill	Confused Broken	0 -1D6 Mind 0 -1D6 Spirit
Notes	Code Points		Demon Points	
1 gold coin	Be neutral & observe, sacrifice& bring justice, accept death.OO		Stage One Stage Two Stage Three	00000 00000 00000

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Character Sheet

Profile And Description	Select one per group. Gain 1 CP when you act accordingly, and 2 CP if this causes you danger or harm					
-		You received the Demon~mark because:	Your Demon~mark looks:			
0	0	0	0			
0	0	0	0			
0	0	0	0			
Attributes	Traits (And Items)	Notes				
Body Use to force, resist, brawl, fight						
Skill Use to move, do, execute, aim						

Mind Use to think, perceive, detect

Spirit Use to resist, lead, talk, seduce, lie

	Be neutral & observe, sacrifice& bring justice, accept death.OOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOO		Stage One Stage Two Stage Three	00000
Notes	Code Points	Demon Points		
0	Wounded Shaken	0 -1D6 Body 0 -1D6 Skill	Confused Broken	• -1D6 Mind • -1D6 Spirit
0 0	Protection Hit Points	(total) 0 0 0 0 0	00000	
Select a move at the beginning of the game. Unlock others at the price of 5 CP. Activating a move costs 1 CP, or take 2 DP.	Basic Damage			
Special Moves	Combat, Damage & Conditions			