

SHADOW OF LOCUST HISTORY

The following historical points are taken from various sourcebooks. All relate in part to the tumultuous events that will sweep across Hæstra unchecked unless the characters do their best to awaken the slumbering 'watchful' orders and instill some survival instinct into what areas they can. For the most part these fragments of history have been used to formulate the campaign as a whole.

Second Era of Ire

- 2500: The Changramai Monastery is founded in the Choak mountains by the Loremaster Tanris Dekdarion, grandfather of the famous T'vaar Dekdarion. This quasi-religious order seems filled with contradictions to outsiders, but they are soon renowned as unsurpassed warriors in unarmed combat.
- 3000: The Charón Lord Andaras gains a following among the Jush of southeast Uj and the Sandraiders of the Charn Plateau. Laan settling in Hæstra, drive out the Shay in 1000 S.E.I. and by this year, are easily called to the Darkness, servants of the Unlife begin their slow work undoing the power of the Laan.
- 3100: The first stirrings of discord among the Masters of Emer.
- 3345: Forces of the Dark God, Andaras attack Uj via Land and Sea. Because of the ongoing fight amongst the Titans, the Master of Uj (Kio Viax) leads an army himself.
- 3347: The fight for Uj climaxes with a confrontation between the Titan Kio Viax and the God Andaras. Kio is nearly slain before his brethren arrive to help. Uj is overrun, signaling the end of the undisputed reign of the Masters.
- 3450-5000: Emer in chaos, corruption is rife, even in the Xiosians. Everything the Masters built falls apart. The Laan of Hæstra revolt, seduced by dark gods.
- 6400 Andaras incites Uj and Hæstra, raising all forces in a deadly game of political undermining that along with the other dark gods' actions plunges Kulthea into the Wars of Dominion as the comet arrives. Many spirits and brethren join Andaras against the Loremasters and Titans, and finally the Lords of Orhan. The Loremasters seal away many of the dark forces in a massive effort to set enchanted, immortal Guardians at the many Portals to guard against new incursions of dark forces.

Third Era of Ire

- 300: A group of Dyar Elves, led by the Black Prince Wuentar Daal, arrive on the western shores of Emer. They are traveling east from their homeland, seeking new lands to settle. After some exploration they find a high hidden vale in the Mountains of Gold, and a cave complex directly beneath. They establish a small kingdom of their own there and name it Skystone.
- 1372: Aldaron doubles the membership of the Order of the Silver Sword from 88 to 176 plus an equal number of adherents.

BOOK ONE: SHADOW OF LOCUST - "HISTORY"

- 1618-1648: The next thirty years are marked by religious inquisitions presided over by the Order of the Cloak, now generally known as the Church of Zanar.
- 1650-1660: Second Zanarian Purge.
- 1653: Aldain City is sacked by raiders (mostly Shay brigands from the countryside). Only hours before the looters reach the old city, a force of Loremasters and Navigators enter and rescue what art, books and other treasures they can salvage.
- 2000: The goddess Mynistra first appears in Hæstra and cults following her spring up across the land.
- 2059: The Lingering Pain sweeps northern Emer coinciding with a Darkside Zenith conjunction of Charón, the Sun, and perigee – a conjunction every 3995 years in northern Hæstra.
- 4000-5000: Most of Hæstra remains in a dark age.
- 5000: With the decline of terrestrial powers comes a rise of religious rivalries in Hæstra. Mynistra's followers wield considerable influence in the southwest, while Priests of Andaras gain power in Stroane.
- 5030: All but imperceptibly, Flow-storm activity increases across Kulthea.
- 5922: The Loremaster Selas Vey enters ruins believed to be of Jinteni origin in Uj, otherwise known as the City of the Dead, he is not heard from again.
- 6019: The Nameless One enters the Palace of the Hu-tarn of Nuyan Khôm and warns the ruler of a great disaster. That night the Butterfly Scepter of Khôm is stolen.
- 6020-6022: Plagues devastates Silaar, killing between thirty and forty percent of the population of Nuyan Khôm – including nearly the entire royal family.
- 6037-6045: Under the influence of Robersin, a Priest of Andaras, Niév becomes even more radically conservative. The cleric of Andaras preaches that all nonhumans are evil. A law is passed making it illegal to be an elf in Niév.
- 6041: The Katra of Stroane, urged on by his advisor Shatang (a high priest of Andaras), begins his expansion campaign, drawing nearby Miirian holds under his rule by oaths of fealty. Those who resist are laid siege. This expansion continues for the next few years.
- 6044: The Dyari of Skystone inadvertently release a mighty Ordainer – a Lord Demon of the Essænce. It slays many of them before they drive it out. It takes up residence in the caves of the Lugróki to the north, enslaving them.
- 6046: In the first enforcement of their anti-elven law, an elven traveler is prosecuted.
- 6049: Lugróki under the Ordainer of Gorlhach expand their realm under the northern Mountains of Gold. They enter the Ash Lairs.
- 6050: *Spring*: The Loari inventor/adventuress Selia Rendanaar of Námár-Tol leads an expedition to the City of the Dead in Uj. (She finds the lost journals of the Loremaster Selas Vey – and something else. In a laboratory deep within the catacombs of the city she discovers a cache of jewels of varying sizes, all faceted spheres. She discovers that these have the power to absorb energy and release it in a controlled manner, allowing them to fuel certain machines, devices – and vehicles, one of which she discovers

and repairs. She and her party flee the city in the flying vehicle, barely escaping its golem guardians. She returns to Námár-Tol.)

Autumn: Secret rebellious factions form and grow in major Hæstra cities; local lords begin making plans to retake their lands – and perhaps expand in the chaos they know is coming.

Fall: Rebellious activity in central Hæstra increases, funded in secret by Sarnak, Izar and Danarchis. Smuggling and tax evasion is rampant. The Stroane government, having taken out huge loans from Sel-kai to pay its mercenaries, and now unable to effectively collect new taxes, is near bankruptcy.

6051: *Summer:* The Prophet of Valris first makes her presence known at Selkai. A tall Iylar Elf with golden blonde hair and wearing shimmering blue robes, she refuses to give her name or home, saying only that she comes 'from the east'. Claiming to be a follower of the Orhan Goddess of wisdom, she is apparently an Astrologer who can see into people's futures. After a month in Sel-kai city, during which her reputation and influence grows, she travels towards Danarchis.

Fall: A caravan in Uj returns to Kaitaine to tell of a mighty battle between their Navigator Sulfean and a Herald of Darkness. Their situation was looking desperate when a Storm Herald suddenly appeared and helped to drive off the Minion of the Unlife.

6052: *Fall:* The Prophet of Valris arrives in Kaitaine, preceded by her reputation. In an abrupt deviation from her predictions for individuals, she warns of an imminent world-wide catastrophe. She relays dire visions of earthquakes and storms, and claims to see Kaitaine in flames. The council orders her banished from the city for inciting panic.