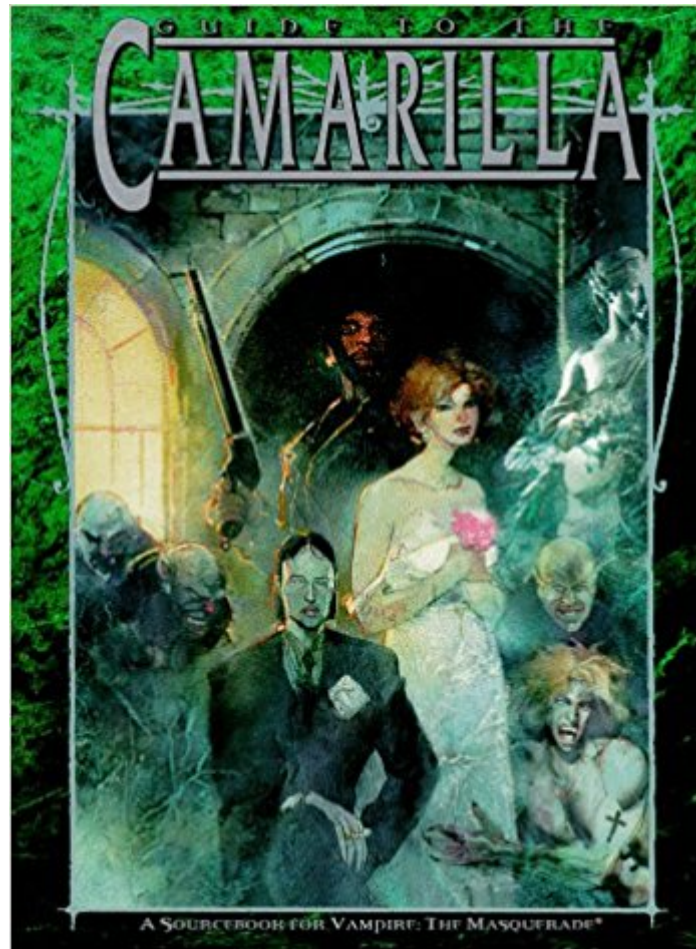


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Guide To The Camarilla (Vampire, The Masquerade)



Synopsis

World of Darkness book

Book Information

Hardcover: 224 pages

Publisher: White Wolf Publishing; Revised edition (January 14, 1999)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1565042611

ISBN-13: 978-1565042612

Product Dimensions: 8.6 x 0.8 x 11.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.2 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.1 out of 5 stars 13 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,169,822 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #47 in Books > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Gaming > World of Darkness > Vampire #121 in Books > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Gaming > World of Darkness > General #592 in Books > Humor & Entertainment > Puzzles & Games > Reference

Customer Reviews

World of Darkness book

This is an excellent book as a resource for most Vampire storytellers. It's not as essential as the Guide to the Sabbat in that the Camarilla is covered almost entirely in the main rulebook. Still, it's information is valuable. I think that the reason I rated this book a 4 is that it focuses too much on information you can find elsewhere. For any hardcore player or storyteller, this is information we already have. Entire sections of the book are devoted to advanced Discipline powers, almost all of which come out of the Dark Ages Companion (in fact, this is stated in the book). There is also a noticable amount of filler, things which are included that could be done without (like examples for each Discipline level). More still is devoted to the Caitiff, a group of vampires overexplained already, as well as the Lasombra antitribu and the Gargoyles, neither of which have any new information. Why do I still rate it a 4? If you buy this book on .com, you're not overpaying for it... It *does* have some useful information, and it does contain good expansions on existing systems. And despite my ravings above, the book does manage to present some new information. What new information? The cecession of the Gangrel from the Camarilla. Still, I would have been happier if it also included the Assamites who joined the Camarilla because this wasn't published long before that "happened"

and it still lists the Assamites in the negative light that the Revised Camarilla viewed them in. All in all, this book is worth buying if you like having a lot of information. Otherwise, you might just stick to the core rulebook.

Good condition.

I liked Guide to the Sabbat, the core Vampire book covers the Camarilla well enough but it leaves the Sabbat out there. So I've always liked that. Surprisingly though, Guide to the Camarilla was good also. Even though a lot about these guys is covered they at first seemed weak when compared to the Sabbat but then you see how these guys get stuff done. The Guide to the Camarilla is like the polar opposite of Guide to the Sabbat. The opening fictions in both books synch up and you wonder who really wins. The first chapter goes into more detail about the Camarilla traditions and laws. The next chapters cover other important information like the Gangrel leaving the Camarilla. It also details the Caitiff, Gargoyles (which are Vampires) and Lasombra Antitribu. The rules chapter is very long. It details not only Vampire powers but has a long list of merits and flaws, abilities and backgrounds. It is very useful, especially considering it gives quite a few thaumaturgy paths. The book ends with Character templates and a few bits on the Anarchs, Elders and Innocu, but not much on the Innocu. All in all, the book is well worth the price for anyone who wants to run a strong Camarilla game but I'd still recommend Guide to the Sabbat first.

To any fan of White Wolf products and avid player of Vampire, Guide to the Camarilla is essential for any GM. Saying one can run a Camarilla campaign without it like saying you can get an understanding of Les Misérables by reading cliffnotes. I hope that thought can highlight the fact that understanding and appreciation are mutually exclusive concepts. With the final nights close at hand this book highlights the significance of the Gangrels departure from the Camarilla and the problems that have arisen since Xaviar of Clan Gangrel left the Inner Council. In fact, in GtC all of the clans are significantly fleshed out to improve any chronicle. Other additions include tips on playing Independents with the Camarilla (confusing until now), new paths and rituals for the Tremere, advanced Disciplines for elders and methusulas, and suggestions on how to run a Conclave. Everything from boons to warfare is covered within. The artwork is on par with some of White Wolf's best and might even lend itself to your imagination. I recommend this book to all GMs running Camarilla campaigns. If you use the ideas within you will make the Final Nights quite memorable for your players.

It has been my experience over the past several years of buying and reading White Wolf's various World of Darkness books, that the core rulebooks get most of the talent that White Wolf possesses on its staff. They have by far the best artwork, and more importantly, best editing. They are finely balanced and intricate, as well as always thought-provoking. They are written as stand alones, which brings me to the White Wolf supplement books like Guide to the Camarilla. The supplement books from White Wolf are usually not even close to the quality standard of the core books. This is true in the case of Guide to the Camarilla. This book is essentially a catch-all for much of the miscellaneous material from earlier editions of Vampire the Masquerade that failed to make it into the Revised core rulebook. I do not find that the material in this Guide adds much of anything to the Camarilla material in the core book, which is very well presented. In fact, it undoes much of what the Revised rules tried to do to re-make the game as a more streamlined and elegant roleplayer. More is not necessarily better, and that maxim is certainly true of this supplement.

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