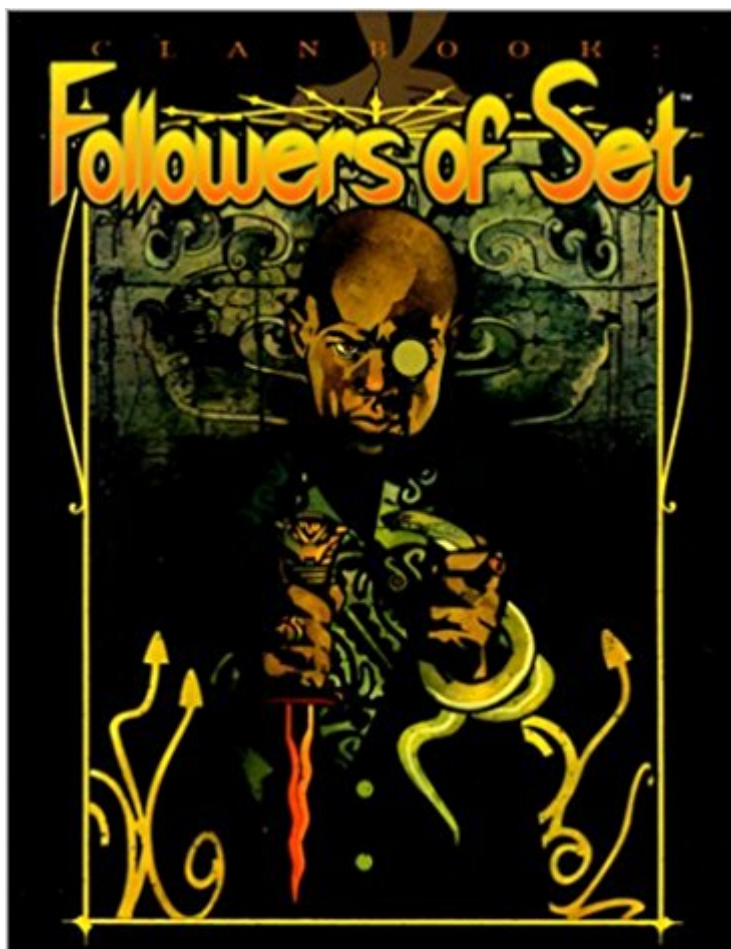


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*OP Clanbook Followers Of Set Rev Ed (Vampire: The Masquerade Clanbooks)



Synopsis

Clanbook: Followers of Set is a complete overview of the clan, with new skills, expanded discipline abilities and complete history of the clan from its inception to the modern nights. Detailed notes regarding the most famous and infamous of the clan members as well as starting templates for character creation round out a well done package.

Book Information

Series: Vampire: The Masquerade Clanbooks

Paperback: 104 pages

Publisher: White Wolf Publishing (March 15, 2001)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1588462048

ISBN-13: 978-1588462046

Product Dimensions: 8.4 x 0.2 x 10.9 inches

Shipping Weight: 11.5 ounces

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 6 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,348,259 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #66 in Books > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Gaming > World of Darkness > Vampire #157 in Books > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Gaming > World of Darkness > General #62261 in Books > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Fantasy

Customer Reviews

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Far better than the first Followers of Set book that White Wolf Studios put out, this book really makes the Followers of Set a viable, playable clan. As it is with White Wolf products of that era, there was a noticeable minor error in the beginning of the book, marked on the footer of the credits page, was Clanbook: Lasombra instead of Clanbook: Followers of Set. No real concern there though!

Recommended if you are looking at diving deeper into the World of Darkness

Lets face it. The previous clan books were pretty [bad], so the Revised clan books have a lot to make up for. Well this one certainly does an excellent job of making the Followers of Set actually playable. After you read this book, you will actually be able to incorporate Setites into your games without disrupting it. The opening fiction gives us plenty of hints that what we think about them might not be so accurate after all. And then we get the kicker. The first chapter about history is written by a skeptical Setite! There's a heavy focus on Egypt, and it looks like the authors really did some homework here. It starts off in pre-dynastic times, with the conflict between Osiris and Set and continues throughout dynastic Egypt into the Persian invasion and Alexander's liberation of Egypt. From then on, we get some stuff on Carthage, Cleopatra, Roman north Africa, the Coptic period and Set's disappearance. Byzantine and Muslim Egypt, along with the Crusades in the Holy Land, are then explored, with lots of juicy little tidbits. It goes on to the Ottoman era and the slow spread into Europe (the "Dark Continent"). We finally get into the modern era, along with some hints at non-Egyptian Setites! And then we are left with a disturbing ending. The next chapter is the meat, explaining the role of the Setites, Egyptian mythology and the Path of Typhon-Set. We learn that the Setites are not base corrupters, but religious fanatics, servants of a dark and terrible god who offers freedom and scholars who seek to preserve forbidden lore. Definitely a better motivation than undead pimps and drug lords. We get some hints for "Playing a God", a revision of the Path of Typhon (and the new Path of Sutekh), cult structure and some sample temples (mainly in northern Africa). Aside from the stereotypes of other clans and supernaturals, we also get to learn that the Setites are indeed not exclusively Egyptian. Aside from the orthodox cults, other ones exist, drawing from other cultures. We learn of the Norse Setites who revere the great serpent, the African Children of Damballah, the Sabbat's Serpents of Light who follow Voodoo and Santeria, the Shaivite Daitya of India and the Tlacique, ancient Aztec, Mayan and Incan vampires who now challenge the Sabbat. The chapter closes out with some mechanical stuff. New knowledge called Setite Lore, which draws upon the forbidden lore from ancient Egypt, and some new discipline powers. We get higher level Serpents powers, along with some Obfuscate, Presence and multi-discipline powers. Plus we finally get a look at the hoary magics of ancient Egypt. The Setites can boast blood magicians just as potent as the Tremere. And not only are there Egyptian blood magics, but also Hindu magics of the Daitya, voodoo and santeria magics from Serpents of Light and the sacrificial magics of Mesoamerica used by the Tlacique. And of course, it closes out with the standard character templates, signature characters and a Setite specific character sheets. Surprisingly, the character templates are all pretty unique and original, a rarity for a clan book. Things like prophetic

artist, business man who sells cheap Egyptian-style art, psychology, techno-mystic and gladiator. Plus we get the non-standard ones: Native rights activist Tlacique, voodoo queen Serpent of Light and debunking scientist Daitya. Pretty cool actually. The signature characters include a brood of Setites who repair other's reputations, as well as the signature character Heshu Ruhadze. More interesting, for me anyway, was the Daitya "devil-Brahmin" Sundervere. From what I've been told, he's going to become a major signature character in the upcoming Victorian Era Vampire. Regardless, he's a cool character. Check out this book if you want to make Setites with any real depth to them. It's an excellent clan book, and well worth the buy. Afterwards, you will actually be able to run them in your chronicles. The section on Egyptian history was extremely well written, even without the Setites, plus the new non-western bloodlines like the Children of Damballah, Daita and Tlacique were all neat additions too. Check out Blood Sacrifice for more on non-western blood magicians (especially Setites).

I picked up CB: FoS to help round out a character I was playing in a Vampire LARP, in large part because I had never actually tried to play a real Settite before. All clans are hobbled by excessive stereotyping, but the infrequency of the minor clans and bloodlines makes such stereotypes even more difficult to break out of successfully. The Clanbook helps bust through the "traditional" view of the Followers of Set, barely even mentioning the base pandering that most people would associate with the Clan. The Revised V:tM books as a whole are a major improvement over the stumbling in first and second edition, and this clanbook is no exception. An updated Path, while less strenuous in its hierarchy of sins than some, gives much more character to the Followers of Set, while a review of history and pre-history of the world through the eyes of the cult provides a depth that suits so ancient a following. The updating of the dogma of the Followers of Set does a great job of transforming them from a group of fundamentalists into a vital if dark religion. The style of writing also keeps the message fluid enough that one finds it hard to get locked in to a single interpretation of the message of the Followers of Set, emphasizing once again that their faith is one to be experienced, not simply one of words. What I would have liked to see more of: examples of the founding of a temple on akhu and specific ritualistic practices

This book is a cultural and historical study of one of the darkest of clans. The focus is on the culture and the mindset of the "snakes." This book discards the worn out stereotype of "Servants of Set" and gives them more depth. They are still his servants, but they are more... mainstream. They still have their dark goals, but they are portrayed with more human motivations. They are seen as

religious, not mindless fanatical worshipers who cant think about anything beyond Set and snakes. Set colors everything they do, but he no longer appears to dictate everything that they do. If you read the clan novel, you will see that this clan book better describes Heshu, the previous work made it hard for me to imagine how a clan of fanatics could create such subtle schemeing sellers of secrets. This work paints a picture that makes it clear. The down side is that the list of disciplines is weak.

All I can say is way better than the original Clan Book. This book gives a much better telling of the tenets of the Followers of Set, and a telling of there history, from a realist of the clan. It also for me answered the questions like why do the other cainites put up with the snakes. It plays more on the keeping of "dark secrets" than the first book did, takes a stance of knowlege can bring corruption, and not all favors are payable to the giver. I think this is good resource if you are a Story Teller, or a player intresed in running a snake, this book realy helped me get what they are all about. It also makes the snakes more playable in any game (MET or Table Top).

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