





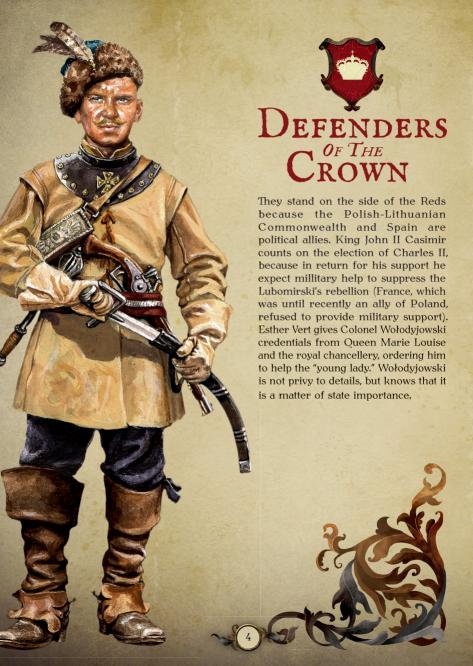
You hold in your hands the Book of Light. It is intended for players leading factions supporting Charles II Habsburg, i.e. the Defenders of the Crown, Veterans of the Tercios, Monster Hunters and Viennese Mafia,

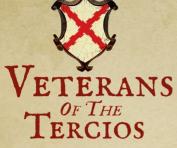
The scenarios from the Swords of of Light and Darkness rulebook will inform you on which page to open the Book of Light to read an introduction for a given scenario.

We present the ending turned 180 degrees to not allow you reading it just after the introduction (which spoils you a fun). Please just read the right ending (if you win - written in green, if you lose - written in red). The ending will inform you what scenario you should play next.

Have fun!

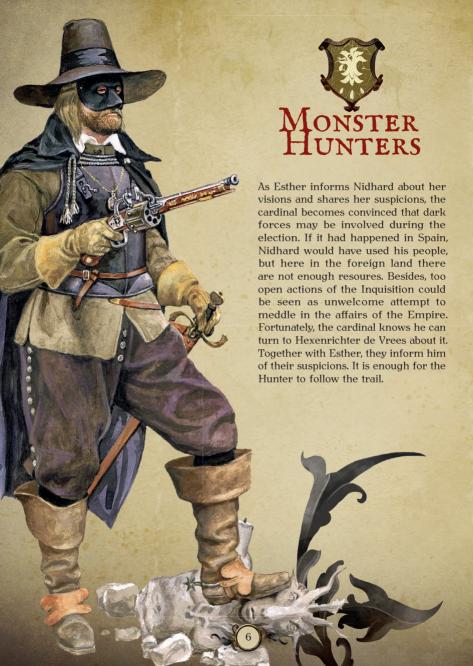






Veterans support the candidacy of Charles II with their actions not for the patriotic but for purely pragmatic reasons. Diego and his men had long been under the surveillance of the Inquisition, Summoned by Cardinal Johann Eberhard Nidhard, Grand Inquisitor of Spain and member of the Regency Council, who arrived in Vienna - El Capitan received an offer that could not be rejected: either he will do the work and the files of his and his friends' affairs will be ,lost' (they will also receive appropriate remuneration) or he will refuse, and then the documents will be handed over to the secular arm of the Inquisition...







The relationship between the Neapolitan mafia and the Church has always been at least correct. However, Elena does not pay attention to tradition, but follows the balance of profits and losses. Nidhard needs men that can do the work and are easy to replace. Elena needs money and contacts. To make matters worse, if Louis XIV becomes the emperor. Elena's "business operations" will be much more difficult. French regiments will be located between Vienna and the "headquarters" of the mafia in Naples. Ludwik will also be a much stronger ruler and his fiscal apparatus will operate much more effectively. If, on the other hand, a young and at the same time - as rumors say - not very mentally capable Spaniard sits on the throne, not only will the border between the Habsburg possessions become illusory, but it will be easier to operate and develop a business in a poorly governed country. Elena suspects that the case may also have something to do with it, and it will be possible to obtain information that will not necessarily have to be passed on to the Inquisitor.



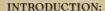


* PROLOGUE * MYSTERIOUS PACKGAGE





CHAPTER I THE UNLOADING



This is the third day as by order of His Excellency, the Grand Inquisitor of Spain, you watch the Viennese wharves. Esther, the secret emissary who came from Poland, had a vision that a dangerous cargo would be delivered on one of the boats. So far, however, nothing of the sort has happened. Just as you were about to give up, you noticed several figures from the pro-French camp. The arms they carry, the nervous glances and their observation of the river indicate that something might be up after all. They board 2 lifeboats and sail out into the Danube. You can see that several of them transfer aboard a larger riverboat and after a while the whole group arrives back at the wharf. It's time to get moving!



Go to Chapter IIA - The Experiment.

Damn Frenchies! They escaped with the packages. Let's hope it's nothing important. It's time to return to the Inquisitor and tell him the bad news.

ross.

Go to Chapter IIB - The Black List.

We captured the parcels that some of the French had with them. There are some papers in them. Some of it looks like meaningless gibberish, but maybe it's some kind of a code? One included also a lump of some strange red resin.

We'll see what the Inquisitor has to say about this.

Victory!





CHAPTER IIA THE EXPERIMENT



INTRODUCTION:

Agents of the Inquisitor hit the trail of the shipment. It turned out that it was to be delivered an apothecary, a certain Gunther Scholz. You observe his house from a nearby inn. Suddenly, you see that the errand boy who just left it starts running to the apothecary's house. It's time to act. You have been discovered!



Go to Chapter III - The Secret Meeting.

If it weren't for the cursed, mysterious swordsman and his comrades. They looked like ordinary townsfolk, but were powerful as soldiers. Unfortunately, the Inquisitor's men found information that the apothecary had another house in the city. You must pay him a visit. Maybe more information about his experiments can be found there.

'SSO'

Go to Chapter III - The Secret Meeting.

After you managed to decipher some of the logs, it turned out that Gunther had another hideout in the city, where he apparently conducted some of his experiments. This must be checked.

Whatever the apothecary was working on is gone. You managed to get his diaries and some more of that strange resin. It was also puzzling how fit and strong were the people who attacked you. They looked much weaker.

Victory!





CHAPTER IIB



INTRODUCTION:

It was possible to decipher some of the documents. It appears to be some kind of conspiracy, perhaps targeting the candidate for emperor or one of the electors. The inquisitor wants to find out more. We are checking all the clues. One of them is the information provided by an old fencing teacher - Gerard Thibault. He claims to have caught up with one of the conspirators and obtained information from him that in one of the inns in the port we might find someone who knows more. Thibault has seen the people that "his" conspirator met with and will point us to potential targets.



Go to Chapter III - The Secret Meeting.

one of the tenement houses.

No new information could be obtained. Fortunately, one of the agents of the Inquisition caught the trail of a group of conspirators who meet in disguise in

.SSOL

Go to Chapter III - The Secret Meeting.

Despite the fact that the French were waiting for us, we managed to secure another batch of documents. It looks like a list of people involved in the conspiracy, Soon afterwards we managed to catch the trail of several conspirators, who meet in disguise in one of the tenement houses,

Victory!





CHAPTER III THE SECRET MEETING



INTRODUCTION:

Here we are. Hopefully security won't be too strong and we'll be able to thwart the plans of the French agents and find out what this is all about.



Go to the next page.

Unfortunately, the French intrigue was not thwarted, but we made it difficult gor them. What is the secret of the people in the basement? Why were they so aggressive? Did they want to hide some secret from us or was it the influence of that strange substance we find everywhere? So many questions, and so few answers. Let's hope our failure doesn't affect the imperial election too much.

ross.

Go to the next page.

the Inquisitor's men will find out more?

We still don't know what exactly the Sun king's agents intended, but whatever it was we managed to prevent them. But those people in the basement... They preferred to die rather than get caught. Why were they so aggressive? Did they want to hide some secret from us or was it the influence of that strange substance we find everywhere? So many questions, and so few answers. Maybe

Victory!



"My dear friends," said Thibault, "When I arrived in Vienna, I received a vision a warning. I saw evil people trying to smuggle lumps of some kind of a substance into the city. The first attempt was made with the use of magic and demons. But the messenger of hell carrying the substance did not escape the keen eyes of the archangel and was cast down into the depths of hell. I thwarted the second attempt myself by killing the messenger. The third attempt was the one that took place on the wharf. You yourselves had a part in the attempt to stop it. After I was able to decipher some of the notes obtained from the apothecary, I was puzzled by the phrase Sangre de Draco - dragon's blood. At first I thought it referred to the resin. It's used to make varnish for musical instruments, or is used for painting. I myself used it in the past when I painted miniatures. It would seem that this is nothing unusual in an apothecary's notes. However, the consistent use of the capital letter did not give me pause until yesterday, when I had an epiphany. I saw the events described in the Scriptures.

Saying this, he reached for a heavy tome and started to read:

- Apocalypse, 12: The great dragon was thrown down, the old serpent, he who is called the devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world. He was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him. I saw the archangel Michael pierce the Dragon with a spear and send it into the abyss of hell. How the Dragon's blood gushes out and defiles the earth. How some of it is collected, but many drops escape the angels and in time turn into resin-like lumps.

Yes my dear friends. It seems that our enemies have decided to use the droplets of blood of Lucifer himself for their purposes. I don't know what effect this may ultimately have on the unfortunates who have ingested it, or what else will come of it, but we must be on our guard and pray."

END OF PROLOGUE

Go to Act I - The Blades of Light and Darkness.

ESTHER VERT

Esther Vert. A Wallon, and a former nun. Esther perceived the world in a different way since she was a child. She actually felt its other, spiritual nature, in a tangible way. Strange things often happened around her. Some considered her crazy, others cursed. After the mysterious death of her parents, she was taken to a hospital run by Daughters of Charity. Numerous exorcisms left a mark on her psyche. As a novice, she came to Poland to a newly founded monastery in the suburbs of Warsaw. There she looked after the poor. After a few years, Esther escaped from the order. Uncommon beauty, mysterious personality and her divination skills allow her to win over powerful patrons.



THIBAULT

He was born at the end of the 16th century in the family of a wealthy textile merchant. From childhood, he was fascinated by melee weapons - especially rapiers. However, his father had other plans for him. He hoped that he would take over and develop the family business. Unfortunately, Thibault was sickly from an early age. When he was less than 10 years old, doctors pronounced that Thibault only had a few years to live. Father summoned and paid more medics, but the diagnosis was always the same, so he gave up and allowed his son to pursue his dream. This way Thibault started to train under master Lambert van Someron. He learned quickly and soon equaled his teacher in fencing mastery. The strangest thing was that he was still alive. Some said he wins duels with death every night. His father, seeing that Thibault was growing up and doing well, entrusted him with a part of the family business.



During one of his trade expeditions, Thibault ended up in Spain. There, in Sanlúcar de Barrameda, in the Guadalquivir Valley, for the first time in many years he met a swordsman who better than himself. A strange, old man in a threadbare clothes with an embroidered cross of the "Ordem do Hábito de Cristo" stumbled into Thibault. An argument ensued after the stranger refused to apologize. Thibault reached for his weapon to teach him a lesson. The stranger didn't even draw his weapon. He only picked up the shod cane on which he was leaning and attacked. Thibault parried with ease and pushed the blow away. However, the opponent, reacting to the pressure of the blade, only changed the position of his hand and continued the attack. Thibault realized that his defense got him into an even worse position and he had to defend himself again. Every action was met with an immediate response from the stranger. Finally, after a few moves, the stranger took advantage of Thibault's slightly too strong parry, broke the staff off the blade and hit into the resulting opening. Thibault was disarmed. He was furious and humiliated, on the other hand - he was fascinated. He asked the stranger his name. - Jerónimo Sánchez de Carranza, retired Grand Master of the Order of the Robe of Christ. You are talented. Come with me. And so Thibault began studying with the creator of la Verdadera Destreza, the true art of fencing.

When Carranza died, Thibault returned to his homeland. There, at the tournament in Rotterdam, before the assembly of Dutch martial arts masters and in front of Maurice Orange himself, he defeated all his opponents. The unusual fighting style caught the attention of the prince and the fencing masters. However, they remained skeptical. Thibault calmly announced that he could defeat anyone who had any doubts. This is how one of the most unusual duels in history took place. News were sent out. Soon a place was marked out in the market square at the Prinsenhof in Rotterdam. Every morning, for 3 days, Thibault waited there. Anyone willing could cross blades with him. Thibault was leaving undefeated every night.

* ACT I * SWORDS OF LIGHT AND



DARKNESS

CHAPTER I



INTRODUCTION:

A month has passed since the events surrounding the mysterious shipment. The son of the Elector of Brandenburg has reportedly arrived in Vienna. The vote will take place in just a few days. For now, the electors' votes are split evenly: three support the Frenchman and three support the Spaniard. Only the Elector of Brandenburg has not yet declared his support. Today the Spanish emissary is holding a party at the palace. The inquisitor sent us to keep an eye on everything. Esther had some disturbing visions. Everything was going fine until the party moved to the gardens. At one point, Gerard Thibault emerged from the maze of hedges. You recognized him immediately. Just then, a second figure emerged from the shadows near the monument. A swordsman holding a bare rapier. At the same time, French agents appear at the far end of the garden. To arms!



Go to Chapter II - The Bitter-Sweet Fruit.

Unfortunately, the French have won. We have only scraps of information.

ross.

Go to Chapter II - The Bitter-Sweet Fruit.

more evidence. Time is of the essence.

Thibault delivered the news that the son of the Elector of Brandenburg had been kidnapped. The Elector himself denies this, probably negotiating with the kidnappers. Thibault claims that French agents are behind all this, but we need

Victory!





CHAPTER II THE BITTER-SWEET FRUIT



INTRODUCTION:

The agents of the Inquisition have managed to get on the track of the Elector's son. The boy is in disguise, so we are not quite sure if it is him. We must intercept and protect any potential target. The boy must be unscathed if we are to win this election.



We have failed. The inquisitor will not be happy.

Go to Chapter III – Prisoner Transport.

Loss.

Go to Chapter III - Prisoner Transport.

We have the boy. He is mute and stupefied, but maybe it's just a matter of shock. Now we must deliver him to the Inquisitor.

Victory!





CHAPTER III PRISONER TRANSPORT



INTRODUCTION:

Damn Frenchmen! The kid turned out to be a substitute.... Meanwhile, the Inquisitor learned that the Sun King's envoy - the Marquise de Montespan - has fled the city with the Elector's real son and is heading for the border. We must stop her!





Go to Chapter IV - Posession.

Monfespan fled with the kid. This means that the Elector of Brandenburg will be on the French side. This realization accompanied us all the way back to Vienna. However, the inquisitor was not very disason, conspiracies and dark forces had caused the Archbishop of Mainz to come over to our side. If he votes according to his declarations, it will be 4-3 for us. The election is in two days.

ross.

Go to Chapter IV - Possession.

We rescued the elector's son! We returned with the child to Vienna. The father, as soon as he saw his descendant alive and well, promised to vote for the King of Spain. And that means we have 4 votes to the French 3. The election is in two days.

Victory!

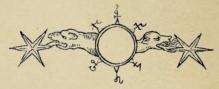


CHAPTER IV POSSESSION



INTRODUCTION:

Esther woke up screaming. Her vision was clear and bright. It's not over yet. That night French agents will summon a demon to possess one of the electors. The ritual is difficult and risky, but the alignment of the stars favors them, and if we don't prevent it, all will be lost. The forces of the Inquisition were divided in order to observe the residences of all the Electors. You were sent to the residence of the Elector of Bavaria. The long night wait was interrupted by news that something was happening in the gardens. You move out immediately.



The End of Campaign.

packing up. This is the end of our mission...

The possessed Elector of Bavaria voted for Louis XIV. The French won. The worst part is that although we know all this, we have no evidence except visions and words. And what does the word of a mercenary mean against that of the Elector of the Reich? King Louis XIV was elected emperor. French regiments have already left their garrisons to man the border fortresses. Tomorrow morning the Spanish envoy leaves Vienna, along with Inquisitor Nidhard. We are also

ross.

Go to Act II - The Assassination Plot.

We thwarted the French plans, French agents scattered. The demon has been chased away, The Inquisitor is satisfied, but not fully. He has failed to obtain any incriminating evidence against the Marquise de Montespan. The Elector of Brandenburg officially denies that his son was kidnapped. Young Frederick does as well. It sounds like a bad dream, but the Marquise is still an envoy of the Sun King and frequents Viennese palaces and noble houses. One should keep an eye on her. The election went according to plan. Charles II was proclaimed an eye on her. He will soon arrive in Vienna for the coronation.

VICTOPY!



* ACT II * THE ASSASSINATION PLOT



CHAPTER I CONVERSATION IN THE PALACE

INTRODUCTION:

Charles II arrived in Vienna. Before the coronation can take place, several political celebrations must take place. One of the numerous balls in honor of the new emperor will take place tonight. The inquisitor does not lose his vigilance. He has come across information about some sort of a cult. Apparently, several people from the upper classes are involved, maybe even imperial courtiers. We are to go to the party and find out more. This time peacefully.



Go to Chapter II - The Catacombs.

lylətbibəmmi tuo pnivom

Unfortunately, we did not learn anything interesting at the party. After returning to the Inquisitor's headquarters, we reported back. The next evening he called us for a meeting. He was contacted by a certain Father Eusebio. A monk - an agent of the Vatican, who managed to infiltrate the ranks of cultists. They will meet this night in the catacombs under the Chapel of Mary Magdalene. Apparently, they are planning something that could threaten Vienna. We are

ross.

Go to Chapter II - The Catacombs.

It turned out that one of the people at the party was a monk - Father Eusebio. It appears that he is a Vatican agent who managed to infiltrate the ranks of cultists. According to his information, the cultists are scheduled to meet tomorrow night in the catacombs under the Chapel of Mary Magdalene. Apparently, they are planning something that could threaten Vienna. We will be paying them a visit.

Victory!





CHAPTER II THE CATACOMBS



INTRODUCTION:

Charles II arrived in Vienna. Before the coronation can take place, several political celebrations must take place. One of the numerous balls in honor of the new emperor will take place tonight. The inquisitor does not lose his vigilance. He has come across information about some sort of a cult. Apparently, several people from the upper classes are involved, maybe even imperial courtiers. We are to go to the party and find out more. This time peacefully.

NOTE: Secret objective.

Although the Monk (Father Eusebio) is a part of the Blue team, do not attack him, even if he takes the scroll. The Blue team player does not know that he is an agent of the Vatican, and you are the one who receives 2 VP if he takes the scroll off the board. In addition, if Father Eusebio dies, instead of receiving VP for him, you receive -2 VP.



Go to Chapter III - The Ritual in the Gardens.

Unfortundfely, we lost most of the scrolls. Fortundfely, our Vatican agent, Father Eusebio, has stolen the most valuable ones for us. They are encrypted, but the Inquisition's specialists should be able to handle them. Esther spends her evenings in long conversations with Father Eusebio. However, she doesn't want to share what they talk about.

TOSS.

Go to Chapter III - The Ritual in the Gardens.

We managed to recover most of the scrolls. Unfortunately they are encrypted. We are waiting for the specialists of the Inquisition to deal with them. Meanwhile, Esther is still having long conversations with Father Eusebio.

Victory!





CHAPTER III THE RITUAL IN THE GARDENS



INTRODUCTION:

Treason! We still can't believe what happened. It started with Esther having nightmares in which she saw a demon tearing the emperor apart. The cursed Eusebio calmed her down and gave her some herbs. Last night, they both disappeared. The Inquisitor's agents moved to track them, but the French were faster. A fight ensued. Eusebio and Esther escaped with the French. One of our agents was killed, the other brought us the terrible news. It seems that Eusebio collaborated with the French from the very start!

We have not been able to decode many of the notes. Eusebio took the originals with him. The most interesting of the translations read:

NOTE: Excerpts from the notes of Master Laurentius Dura are on next page.

Immediately go to the Palace Assault Chapter.

then moved toward the palace door.

The sky darkened. Esther bent spasmodically and looked around with demented eyes, Montespan turned pale. She started screaming that she was the one who was supposed to be chosen. Esther just looked at her and said a few words in a voice that was not her own. Montespan fell to her knees and replied: "Yes, my Lord.". Moments later reality tore like a curtain and Caacrinolaas, the Count of Hell, Commander of the 36 legions of Hell, Lord of murder and bloodshed, entered the gardens. He swept his eyes around, looked angrily at the sky, and entered the gardens. He swept his eyes around, looked angrily at the sky, and

Esther lives.

The End of Campaign.

Unfortunately, we had to kill Esther. To this day we still mourn her, but she was under full control of the enemy and her mere presence made it possible for a demon to enter our world and kill the emperor. This is a proof that even a someone full of fervent faith can become a victim of dark forces. So let's trust in God and pray that he protects us from evil and leads us towards a just cause... Evil never sleeps and we should always be ready to face it cause...

Esther is killed.



"Summoning a demon is not always a simple matter. Although in theory demons can materialize anywhere, consecrated ground, sincere prayer, or the sound of bells alone can prevent them from doing so. Here I would like to draw attention to a purely theoretical problem - the power that the blood of God's Anointed is supposed to have. For centuries, sorcerers have tried to break the barrier held by the royal guardian angel. Temporary possession has occurred, such as the recent summoning of a demon that possessed Grand Duke Ioannes of Moscow and caused him to kill his son and heir of the same name as him. As far as I know, however, no one has succeeded in summoning a demon in corporeal form so that it could harm the ruler. Numerous years of studying Ars Magica and conversations with powerful spirits have led me to the conclusion that in order for a breakthrough to occur, it is necessary to summon a powerful entity, at least the Count of Hell is required. However, one should not exaggerate, as an entity that is too powerful (if it agrees to come at all), may draw the attention of the archangels. A suitable arrangement of the stars, which will hide the demon from the eyes of the heavenly guard, and the presence of a powerful medium are essential. Despite all these preparations, the demon will only have a few moments before the archangel's fiery sword drives it from this world. Below I present the results of my research of the heavens. They show that in the coming century a suitable orbis coelesti arrangement will only happen in Anno Domini MDCLXVI [...]"

Everything is falling into place. We don't know why Esther joined the French, but it looks like they want to summon a demon and kill the emperor before the coronation. We must prevent them.





INTRODUCTION:

The demon must be stopped at all cost!



tain law and order. You must flee. Vienna is lost. -nilding where they were hidden. French regiments cross the border to maindisappeared. Only a scorched hoofprint was found on the wooden floor of the if they were under a spell. To make matters worse, the lists themselves have are hurling accusations at the Spaniards. The people around believe them as dignifaries whose names you remember from lists of Dragon's blood The would-be emperor lies in a pool of blood. The court is in furmoil. Several

The demon has reached the emperor's bedroom:

behind the clouds.

stands in the door. Flanked by the glave of the sun, which has come out from and hearing you notice that the demon has disappeared. The young emperor lightning bolt. A blinding flash. A monstrous roar. When you regain your sight upwards. It spreads its wings and claws, as if challenging the heavens. Another The sky is cut by fiery lightning. You see the demon curl in on itself and glance

The time is up:

the sun beams down on the young emperor standing in the doorway. out from behind the clouds and a rainbow appears in the sky. The brilliance of puddle stinking of sulfur remains. The sky immediately clears up, the sun comes Caacrinolaas lets out a monstrous roar. His body melts away and only a dark

The demon is killed:





