

THIRST UNQUENCHABLE

A *Dialect* backdrop by Nat Knight

We are the monsters who stalk the shadows. We corrupt the pure, cast down the righteous, and defile the innocent—alluring, horrifying, cursed, and eternal, we are Vampires.

Some of us revel in our power, indulging in every vice the sun can't touch. Some struggle, bound by our scruples or by simple ineptitude. A few bleakly resist the urge.

Whatever their inclination, all must drink eventually.

ASPECT GENERATION QUESTIONS

- **The Thirst.** What happens to us without fresh human blood?
- **The Mark.** You may always know our kind; how?
- **Free Aspect.** The choice is yours.

COMMUNITY QUESTIONS

- How are Vampires created?
- How can Vampires be killed?
- What rule do all Vampires follow?
- How do Vampires dominate mundane humans?
- How much do Vampires get involved in human society?

NAMES

Thorn, Shadow, Leech, Crow, Maria, Selene, Katherine, René, Claudius, Jack, Amari, Lux, Sage, Temperance, Epidiah, Iolanta, Lev, Cyprus, Malek

Throw in an honorific or a sobriquet if you like: Count, Bloodfather, Overshade, the Wicked, the Doll, the White, etc.

AGE TRANSITIONS

Choose a Pathway (the *black left column* or the *red right column*) on entering Age 2. Continue down the same Pathway as you progress.

Entering Age 2. An event to foreshadow the end of the Isolation. It finds its way into all conversation and is impossible to ignore.

There seem to be more and more Vampires around every year. Still, there are plenty of humans to go around.

Who warns that this trend isn't sustainable? Why are they ignored?

There are rumours that our power is not as absolute as we thought: fruitless hunts, prey fighting back, powerful Vampires gone missing.

Does this provoke fear or rage?

Entering Age 3. What was foreshadowed has come to pass. The end of the Isolation is near. There is no escaping it.

By the time we actually measure it the situation is dire: there *might* be enough humans to sustain our population, but the margin for error is excruciatingly small.

What drastic action do we take to prevent starvation? Who ignores the problem and continues with business as usual?

Someone or something is hunting us. They know our secrets—where we meet, where we feed, how we can be killed. Worse, they've shared this knowledge with the humans, who are now that much more difficult.

How does Vampire-kind react to being revealed?

Entering the Legacy. The last moments or the aftermath.

First it's rationing, then famine, and finally chaos. Blood goes from precious commodity to half-remembered dream in what feels like just a few weeks. What is left after the thirst overtakes us?

Things escalated to all-out war. We lost. We were outnumbered, outgunned, and outmaneuvered at every turn. Once, we stalked the shadows; now we lurk and hide and run for our lives. Do any of us survive, alone and hunted?