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# S. Petersen's Field Guide To Lovecraftian Horrors: A Field Observer's Handbook Of Preternatural Entities And Beings From Beyond The Wall Of Sleep (Call Of Cthulhu Roleplaying)





### Synopsis

With its clear visuals and hard-won information, this guide has saved my bacon on more than one occasion! Ernest P. Wilderbeast, Visiting Professor of Preternatural Studies Miskatonic University Weird shapes in the park? Odd rumbling noises in the basement? A lurking dread in the kitchen? Bad dreams involving strange adventures and bizarre creatures? Identifying the lurking horrors of the Cthulhu Mythos is never an easy task, so researchers need all the help they can get don t leave home without the Field Guide! An essential spotter s guide for the budding and experienced preternaturalist. Accurate and complete 53 Lovecraftian creatures categorized and detailed Full color illustrations Size comparison charts Habitat, distribution, and life cycle notes How to distinguish similar-seeming entities Observer warnings Bibliography and recommended reading list Illustrations and descriptions from the Cthulhu Mythos and Dream Cycle based upon the creations of H.P. Lovecraft.

#### **Book Information**

Series: Call of Cthulhu Roleplaying Hardcover: 128 pages Publisher: Chaosium (May 16, 2016) Language: English ISBN-10: 1568820836 ISBN-13: 978-1568820835 Product Dimensions: 8.4 x 0.5 x 10.8 inches Shipping Weight: 1.4 pounds (View shipping rates and policies) Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars 13 customer reviews Best Sellers Rank: #130,823 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #5 in Books > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Gaming > Call of Cthulhu #48 in Books > Arts & Photography > History & Criticism > Themes > Science Fiction & Fantasy

#### **Customer Reviews**

Weird shapes in the park? Odd rumbling noises in the basement? A lurking dread in the kitchen? Bad dreams involving strange adventures and bizarre creatures? Identifying the lurking horrors of the Cthulhu Mythos is never an easy task, so researchers need all the help they can getdon't leave home without the Field Guide! An essential spotter's guide for the budding and experienced preternaturalist. [[ Accurate and complete [[ 53 Lovecraftian creatures categorized and detailed [[ Full color illustrations [[ Size comparison charts [[ Habitat, distribution, and life cycle notes [[ How to distinguish similar-seeming entities [[ Observer warnings [[ Bibliography and recommended reading list Illustrations and descriptions from the Cthulhu Mythos and Dream Cycle based upon the creations of H.P. Lovecraft.

Great art work. I own the original and this one is even better.

There are glaring differences between the artwork and the words of the original author (Lovecraft). All in all it is a good book with a nice take on the mythos, but to me more use of source material and less artistic license would have made it much better.

My husband loved this and how wonderful it was done. Amazing drawings and descriptions.

As a Lovecraft fan this is a great addition to any Mythos library. The illustrations are wonderful and I found myself surprised by some of the information in it as well. The only reason I'm giving it 4 stars is because it's not as comprehensive as I thought it was going to be, but still a delight none-the-less.

#### Excellent book

What does that brain-numbing, unnatural horror look like? Now we know.

Fantastic and thematic. Great accompaniment to pour games.

Let me say the artwork is good. The illustrators certainly had skill and the designs can be inventiveBut that's not what brings the book downFirst, the artists seem to like the color black a bit too much. Most of the creatures are black or at least have their color scheme subdued beyond what should be reasonable. For instance, the purple spider of Leng is black with just bits colored purple.Yog Sothoth's irredescent globes are now a dull charcoal grey.Fanciful creatures like the Magah bird and Butterfly Dragon are set to earth tones (and context, the Magah bird hypnotizes its prey using it's bright feathers while the Dragon Butterfly is described as "prismatic")Which brings me to the second problem: the disparity between the lore and the art.The aforementioned purple Leng spider being blackThe Faceless Nightgaunts have obvious glowing eyesThe Stout legs of the Dark Young looking spindly, almost frail.The jewel covered Cats of Saturn are composed of dull ropy tendrils.The Byakhee lacked any of it's insectoid featuresAnd the oily Formless Ones appearing like

a Masago Sushi roll gone bad. Finally, comparisons between the original books and this are inevitable. Though as I said the artwork is guite nice on it's own (Even superior in some cases to the original) the originals were much better at adding context and interest. For example in the original we hadTsathogua lazily picking at a bone as he sat on his throne, which really showed his personalityThe Serpent People entry had the creature surrounded by magical implements, hinting back to the lore that they were great sorcerorsAnd Men of Leng surrounded by RubiesAnd the Cloudbeast being seen pulling a boat with hapless sailors into its maw. Or the picture of the Larvae fo the Outer Gods shown ina picture of a Dreamer swimming through gulfs of space, desperately shutting his eyes so he wouldnt' behold them These all seemed to be missing from the revised book. The creatures are just .. there. The original (at leats the dream lands book) gave these creatures much more personality and hinted at the larger mythos behind them This was, in my opinion, a poor choice. Especially since an exception in the new book was the Dhole, rising out of the grand next a barn. It really made clear how even a "small" Dhole is huge. The only other example was Azathoth, who was set in deep space. But again the artist's obsession with making thinsg black when they shouldn't be ruined the effect (Azathoth is a roaring nuclear inferno. How is a nuclear inferno black?!)It wasn't a bad book. But it could have been so much better. It looked like the artists and writers just phoned it in.

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