

THE SANGUINE DAWN INN - GROUND LEVEL

1 SQUARE = 5 FEET



THE SANGUINE DAWN INN

For generations, Ostenwold was a humble smattering of homes and farms along the river Ost, a quiet, peaceful hamlet with little connection to the outside world. Thirty years ago, two retired adventurers, the human Horst Blackfoot, and the elf Déulara Tauranis, chose to settle down and spend their hard-earned gold on building The Sanguine Dawn Inn. At the time, it was the only safe resting place for travelers on the long march between civilized areas, and soon became a regular stopover for merchant caravans and traveling nobility.

Before the people of Ostenwold mysteriously vanished, The Sanguine Dawn featured everything you needed for a restful stay: a roaring fireplace, a warm bath, a stage for traveling bards, comfy bedrooms upstairs with a view, a fully stocked kitchen—and a secret trapdoor behind a bookcase leading to an underground chamber and the tunnels beyond.

1 - Porch

A dense, mysterious fog blankets the area, creating an almost ethereal atmosphere. Standing prominently amidst this mist is a well-kept building, its wooden structure exuding a sense of welcome despite the eerie surroundings. A sign gently sways in the fog, depicting a blood-red sun rising against a dark sky, silently beckoning travelers. The front porch of the inn is shrouded in the thick fog, adding to the sense of isolation. Through the windows, clouded by the mist, you catch a fleeting glimpse of movement within the barroom. For a moment, it seems as if someone—or something—is there, but it quickly vanishes, leaving you questioning whether it was ever there at all. The silence that follows is profound, as if the inn itself is caught in a moment of suspended anticipation, awaiting the unfolding of unseen events.

The thing the characters witnessed was one of the **GHOULS** from Area 4. It slithers back to the dining area to alert the others of the characters' presence.

The double doors to the inn are unlocked. If the characters stand on the porch long enough, one of the doors opens with a slow creak.

2 - Barroom

The barroom of the inn exudes a warm, inviting atmosphere, though it lies eerily silent and uninhabited. Six sturdy wooden tables are meticulously arranged across the room, each set with fine cups and plates, as if expecting guests at any moment. The soft, flickering glow of candles, strategically placed on the tables and in sconces along the walls, casts dancing shadows and adds a cozy, albeit slightly unsettling, ambiance. A grand bar stretches along one side of the room, its polished wooden surface reflecting the candlelight, showcasing an array of glasses and bottles lined up as if awaiting the innkeeper's hand.

Dominating the southwestern wall is a huge fireplace, its large hearth appearing like a welcoming beacon. However, the crackling flames seem to play tricks on the eyes, creating illusions in their leaping light. This massive fireplace serves as a natural divider between the barroom and the stateroom, hinting at further mysteries and comforts beyond. The whole scene is a paradox, a space fully prepared for merriment and company, yet hauntingly devoid of life, as if frozen in time just before its patrons vanished into the mist.

Characters who spotted the creature moving inside this room from Area 1 might want to observe the room, looking for signs of life (or otherwise). A successful DC 10 Intelligence (Investigation) check identifies bare footprints on the floor boards, coming and going from the various doors, but all inevitably disappearing into the room to the southwest (Area 3).

Treasure: Crossbow. Characters who actively search the bar discover a loaded light crossbow pinned underneath it. The bolt in the crossbow is silvered, as are the other nine bolts kept in a small box within reach of the weapon.

Obstacle: Stuck Door to Area 6. The mess in the kitchen has wedged the door connecting the stairwell between this area and there closed. Opening it requires a successful DC 12 Strength check.

3 - Stage

This large room is dominated by two huge tables, each surrounded by sturdy benches that once might have hosted lively audiences. A trio of smaller tables sit before a stage set against the southwestern wall, a platform that in happier times would have been the heart of entertainment and joyous gatherings. Now, it looms silently, a stark reminder of what once was.

The floor around the stage and tables tells a more sinister story. Pools of blood are splattered across the wooden planks, their dark, crimson stains a jarring contrast to the room's intended purpose of merriment. This grim sight is further disturbed by a discernible trail of blood that leads from the vicinity of the stage to a closed door in the southern corner of the room. The trail is marked by obvious footprints, suggesting a hurried, perhaps panicked, movement of at least one person or creature.

The **GHOULS** in Area 4 left the footprints. Aware of the character's presence, they're planning an ambush there.

Cold Spots. Evil's presence has left an incontrovertible mark on this area. When the character's first come into the area and see the blood, have them make Wisdom saving throws. The DC for the saving throw equals 10 + half the party's average level (rounded down). On a failed saving throw, the target is frightened of the room for 1 minute. The target can repeat its saving throw at the end of each of its turns, ending the effect on itself with a success.

4 - Meeting Room

As you step into the private meeting area of the inn, an appalling stench immediately overwhelms your senses, clashing starkly with the room's otherwise orderly setup.

In the center, a large table surrounded by chairs hints at past gatherings, now eerily silent. The southwestern wall features a shelf adorned with an array of trinkets and a prominent chest. Opposite this, the northeastern wall boasts a large bookcase, its shelves laden with leatherbound books.

This scene of quiet and scholarly reflection is abruptly shattered as a number of hideous creatures leap from their concealed positions within the room. These beings, with their gaunt, decayed appearances and hollow, lifeless eyes, move with a startling quickness and a clear intent of malice.

Encounter: Undead Menaces. The creatures are vicious undead. The number and types of creature present in this encounter depends on the party's average level, as shown in the table below. These vile things fight until destroyed.

Area 3 Encounters

Average Level	Encounter
1–2	1 GHOUL and 2 ZOMBIES
3–4	3 GHOULS
5–7	4 GHASTS
8–10	6 GHASTS

Investigation. The trinkets and goods on the southwestern wall's shelf are interesting, but don't hold more than 20 gp of value. Similarly, the nature and geography books on the shelf are nice, but relatively common in the region, worth no more than 70 gp total.

Secret Chamber. The bookcase in the northeastern side of the room obscures a secret chamber (4b). Finding this secret chamber requires a successful DC 15 Wisdom (Perception) check. Once discovered, a DC 13 Intelligence (Investigation) check is needed to find the book that serves as a lever to open the door.

Locked Trapdoor. There is a locked door in the secret chamber that leads down to the hidden section of the basement. A successful DC 15 Dexterity check using proficiency in thieves' tools unlocks the trapdoor.

5 - Toilets

As you step into the small room, a sense of eerie disquiet hangs in the air. Directly ahead, a large clawfoot bathtub looms, its cast iron form casting long, odd shadows in the flickering light. Despite its promise of warmth and relaxation, the tub now seems oddly out of place, contributing to the room's unsettling atmosphere. To one side, a single wooden stall is present.

Encounter: Toilet Ghoul. There is a **GHOUL** hiding in the toilet stall. If reduced to half its hit points or fewer, it attempts to flee to area 3 to join the other undead creatures there.

6 - Kitchen

The door connecting this area to the stairway between here and area 2 is stuck shut, due to the destroyed furniture. Forcing the door opens requires a successful DC 12 Strength check.

As you step into the kitchen of The Sanguine Dawn Inn, the once orderly and bustling heart of the establishment, you're greeted by a scene of utter chaos. The large room, normally filled with the warm glow of the stove and the inviting aromas of cooking, is now a disarray of destruction. Shelves that once held an array of spices and ingredients have been torn from the walls, their contents strewn across the floor in a mix of colors and scents. The large stove, a centerpiece of the kitchen's modest appliances, stands cold and abandoned, surrounded by shattered crockery and broken utensils.

Treat this area as difficult terrain.

7 - Gardens

As you wander through the well-tended gardens on the south side of The Sanguine Dawn Inn, enveloped by the lush greenery and vibrant colors of the herbs and vegetables, you notice a shift in the atmosphere. The fog, more pronounced here, gathers gently around the quaint wooden fences, mingling with the earthy scents of rosemary, thyme, and the ripe tomatoes. It swirls softly, caressing the tops of the herbs and brushing against the robust vegetables, creating a scene of serene, otherworldly beauty.



Amidst this tranquility, a curious buzzing sound captures your attention, subtle yet unmistakable. It seems to emanate from nowhere and everywhere, a ghostly hum that resonates with the mystique of the fog-shrouded garden.

Encounter: Mi-Go Scientist. The first time the characters come to this part of the inn, there is a **MI-GO** scientist (see the appendix) hidden in the fog. It's observing the inn, keeping tabs on its specimens—the ghouls in Areas 3 and 5. The mi-go stays 60 feet away. However, a character who succeeds on a DC 20 Wisdom (Perception) check can see its glowing fronds through the mist.

Mi-Go

This fungal, insectoid creature has stubby wings, multiple limbs, and a nightmarish head.

The mi-go are a space-faring people of great skill and vast malevolence. They travel in large numbers between worlds, somehow covering astronomical distances in months rather than decades.

Strange Technology. Their technology includes powerful techniques to implant mi-go elements and minds in others' bodies (or to extract them). They also have unparalleled mastery of living tissue in both plant and animal form. Mi-go merchants exchange psychic tools, surgical instruments, and engineered materials. They work these materials into fantastic objects such as void-crossing solar wings, glowing lampfruit, and purple starvines, which induce sleep.

World Colonizers. While they have their own secrets and goals, the mi-go also serve ancient powers from between the stars. They are devoted followers of Shub-Niggurath, goddess of fecundity and growth, and take their evangelical mission seriously. They colonize entire worlds in Shub-Niggurath's name, planting and harvesting entire species according to her will.

Brain Cylinders. The brain cylinder, a device that permits the extraction and maintenance of a living brain outside the body, is the apex of mi-go technology. Safely isolated in a mi-go cylinder, a humanoid brain can travel safely between the stars. They deploy, fill, and retrieve these cylinders according to mysterious schedules and for purposes. Indeed, most of their technology appears either revolting or simply bizarre to humanoids (plant folk are less disquieted by their functioning).

Mi-Go

Medium plant, neutral evil

Armor Class 17 (natural armor)

Hit Points 95 (10d8 + 50)

Speed 30 ft., fly 60 ft.

Str	Dex	Con	Int	Wis	Cha
16 (+3)	19 (+4)	21 (+5)	25 (+7)	15 (+2)	13 (+1)

Saving Throws Str +6, Con +8, Cha +4

Skills Arcana +10, Deception +7, Medicine +5, Perception +5, Stealth +7

Damage Resistances cold, radiant

Senses blindsight 30 ft., darkvision 120 ft.
Passive Perception 15

Languages Common, Deep Speech

Challenge 5 (1,800 XP)

Proficiency Bonus +3

Special Traits

Deathly Spores. When a mi-go dies, its body crumbles into millions of spores. Each creature within 10 feet of the mi-go must succeed on a DC 15 Dexterity saving throw, or take 14 (4d6) poison damage and become poisoned until

the end of its next turn.

Unusual Nature. The mi-go doesn't require air, food, drink, sleep, or ambient pressure. It requires only minim exposure to starlight a few times each year to sustain itself.

Actions

Multiattack. The mi-go makes two Claw or Psychic Bolt attacks.

Claw. *Melee Weapon Attack:* +7 to hit, reach 5 ft., one target. *Hit:* 17 (3d8 + 4) slashing damage, and the target is grappled (escape DC 15) if it is a Large or smaller creature.

Psychic Bolt. *Ranged Spell Attack:* +10 to hit, range 120 ft., one target. *Hit:* 17 (3d6 + 7) psychic damage.

Spore Burst (Recharge 5–6). The mi-go releases hallucinogenic spores in a 30-foot cone. Each creature in the area must make a DC 15 Dexterity saving throw. On a failure, a creature takes 21 (6d6) poison damage and is incapacitated until the end of its next turn. On a success, a creature takes half the damage and isn't incapacitated.

