

NIGHTMARIUM



For centuries, the masters of the Order of Dreamers studied the endless expanses of the human dreamscape.

They journeyed across the hilly plains of Slumber, swam the waves of Rapid and Languorous Sleep, descended into the caves of Hypnosis, and even made their way to the land of Secret Desires. Only one corner of the netherworld remained off limits to them: the Nightmarium, populated by gruesome Night Terrors, fragments of human nightmares.

Ages have passed, and the Order's successors, the learned mediums from the Dream Research Institute, have now mastered the art of subduing Night Terrors and weaving phantasmagorical Creatures out of them.

These things are hostile and unstable, and they often escape the dreamers' control—only to attack one another or disintegrate. Yet only with their help can the heart of the Nightmarium be reached: the pulsating Crystal of Panic. The scholar who first assembles five Creatures of their own design around the Crystal will come to know the essence of the Nightmarium and acquire power over the Terrors themselves.

NIGHTMARIUM

Components

108 Night Terror cards

5 reference cards

These rules

The Nightmarium box contains 108 Night Terror cards that players can combine to form Creatures. A complete Creature is made up of three parts: legs, a torso, and a head. On the right side of each card there is an icon indicating which part of a potential Creature this Night Terror can become. Most cards can be used for only one body part, but some Night Terrors can be used in one of two or even three parts.

Each Night Terror is also associated with one of four Legions of Horror: Necronauts, Insektoids, Homunculi, or Chimeridae. A Terror's legion is indicated by the color of the card's background: blue stands for Necronauts, brown for Insektoids, green for Chimeridae, and red for Homunculi. A creature can be made up of any Night Terrors, but players are better off weaving Creatures out of cards that all belong to the same legion. Most cards have a special ability icon in the top-right corner; these abilities activate when the player completes the Creature. There are six such abilities, all of which are described in detail later in these rules.



Necronauts



Chimeridae



Homunculi



Insektoids

Credits

Game Designer
Konstantin Seleznev

Producers
**Timofey Bokarev and
Dmitry Kibkalo**

Artist
Erbol Bulentaev

Editor
**Petr Tyulenev and
Paul Grogan**

Graphic Designer
Andrey Shestakov

Manager
Ivan Karmanov

Contributors
**Tikhon Fiseysky,
Sergey Abdulmanov,
Anna Polovtseva, Maria Minina,
Elena Grigoryeva, Max Polovtsev
and Irina Sobol**

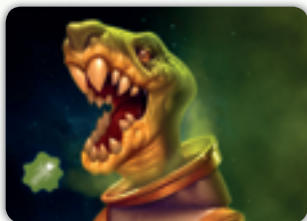
Developed by Igrology, www.igrology.ru
© "Magellan" Ltd., 2014-2018.

Ability

Legs only

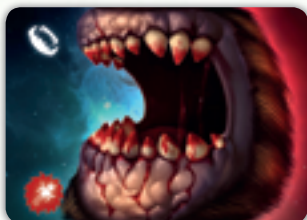


Head only



Ability

Head or torso



Ability

Any body part



English Edition

Editing and Supervision
Roberto Di Meglio,
Jim Long and
Fabrizio Rolla

Layout
Laura Neri

English Edition © 2018 Ares Games Srl.

All rights reserved. No part of this game
may be reproduced without permission of
the right possessor.

A game produced, and distributed
Worldwide by **Ares Games Srl**



Via dei Metalmeccanici 16, 55041,
Capezzano Pianore (LU), Italy.
www.aresgames.eu

Retain this information for your records.
Warning. Not suitable for children under
three years. Small parts.



How to Play

At the beginning of the game, shuffle the deck of Night Terrors and deal five cards to each player. Players keep these cards in their hand, secret from their opponents. Place the deck face down in the middle of the table, and leave a space next to it for the discard pile. If you run out of cards in the deck during the game, reshuffle the discard pile and place it face down, creating a new draw deck.

Players take turns in clockwise order, beginning with the last person who had a nightmare. The game continues until one of the players completes five Creatures—this player immediately becomes the winner. If you like, you can play to a higher number of Creatures—six or even seven, for example—but this will require a very large table, especially if you have many players participating.

During your turn, you perform two actions, after which the next person to your left takes his turn. There are 3 possible actions to choose from. You can perform the same action more than once.

Possible actions

- A) Draw a card.
- B) Discard as many cards as you like from your hand and draw half that number (round down).
- C) Play a card from your hand and activate a Creature's abilities (if the Creature is complete).

A) Draw a card

Draw the top card from the deck and add it to your hand without showing it to your opponents. You can have as many cards as you like in your hand.

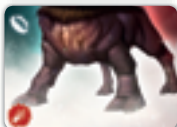
B) Discard cards from your hand and draw cards

Discard as many cards as you like, then draw one card from the deck for every two cards you discarded. For example, if you discard five cards, draw two cards, and if you discard six, draw three. Place the discarded cards face up in the discard pile next to the deck.

C) Play a card from your hand

This is the primary action in the game allowing you to weave Creatures from Night Terrors. Choose one card from your hand and place it in front of you to make it a part of one of your Creatures. When you do this, you must observe the following rules:

- Each card can only be placed in the position (head, torso, or legs) indicated on the lower left corner side of the card.
- Legs are placed first (beginning a new Creature). In other words, Creatures are always assembled from the bottom up.
- Torsos can only be added to Creatures that already have legs.
- Heads can only be added to Creatures that already have legs and torsos.
- You do not have to complete one Creature before beginning another. However, you cannot have more Creatures than are required to win (usually five). For example, if you already have five legs cards in front of you, you cannot play a sixth legs card.
- If you choose to use both of your actions to play cards, the two cards you play **MUST** belong to the same legion.



Complete Creature
(head, torso and legs)



Incomplete Creature
(torso and legs)



Incomplete Creature
(legs only)

Activating Abilities

As soon as you complete a Creature (by adding a head), perform all of its abilities starting with the Creature's head, then its torso, and ending with its legs. Abilities are activated one at a time in the order they appear, from top to bottom. You cannot refuse to perform the abilities.

If a certain ability of the completed Creature cannot be performed because there is no appropriate target, this ends the activation of the Creature's abilities. This ability is not performed, and neither are the ones that follow it.

If the completed Creature is comprised of Night Terrors of the same legion (in other words, if all three cards that make up the Creature have the same background color), each of your opponents must discard one card of that legion from their hands before its abilities are performed. If an opponent does not have an appropriate card, they must discard any two cards.



Herald: reveal two cards from the deck and play them according to the usual rules (ignore the legion limitation). Discard any cards you cannot play.



Weeper: draw two cards from the deck.



Mocker: play one card from your hand (ignore the legion limitation).



Executioner: add the top card from any other player's Creature (complete or incomplete) to your hand.



Scavenger: discard any incomplete Creature belonging to another player.



Devourer: discard the top card from any of your Creatures other than this one.

Creature Abilities

Weaving Creatures with well—thought—out ability chains will increase your chance of winning. For example, a Creature with the Executioner and Scavenger abilities can rip the head off a completed Creature, thus making it incomplete, then send it back to the discard pile. A chain of Devourer and Mocker will allow you to remove the head from your own Creature, give it a new one, and activate its abilities.

When resolving the Herald or Mocker abilities, it is possible to complete another Creature. If this happens, stop activating the first Creature's abilities and immediately switch to activating the new Creature's abilities (including the need for your opponents to discard cards if all of the new Creature's parts belong to the same legion).

Example: Performing Abilities

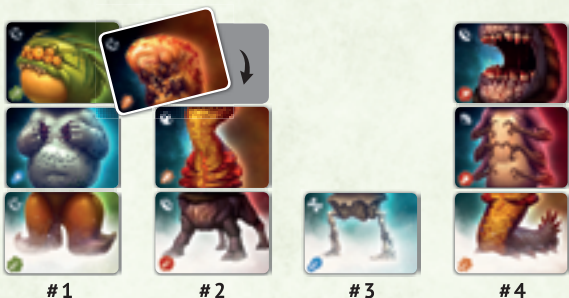
You play a card and add a head to Creature #1, thus completing it. This Creature's head and legs have the Mocker ability, so you need to play one card from your hand twice. By playing two cards, you complete Creature #4 and must now perform its abilities: Devourer, Weeper, and Herald.



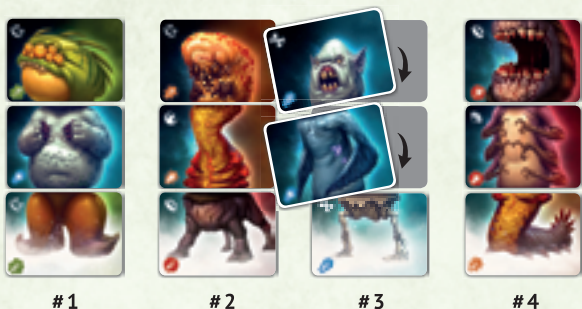
You use Devourer to discard the head from your own Creature #2, Weeper to draw two cards from the deck, and then Herald to reveal two more cards from the deck.



One of them turns out to be a head, so thanks to the Herald you immediately add it to the very same Creature #2 you just decapitated.



Creature #2 is now complete again, and you perform its abilities Mocker, Herald, and Devourer. Using Mocker, you add a torso to Creature #3, then, using Herald, you reveal two cards from the deck, one of which is a head, which you use to complete Creature #3.



Creature #2 didn't have a chance to perform its Devourer ability because you have just completed another Creature, so you now begin performing the abilities of Creature #3 instead. The first thing you do is notify your opponents that you have created a pure Necronaut, which means they have to discard either one Necronaut card or any two of their other cards. You then perform the two Scavenger abilities from Creature #3 – you destroy an opponent's incomplete Creature, but you can't find another target, so the creature activation ends.

NIGHTMARIUM

Nightmarium: Legions of Horrors

Expansion



3x Seal of
Chimeridaes



3x Seal of
Necronauts



3x Seal of
Homunculi



3x Seal of
Insektoids

This optional expansion introduces into the game **Seals**, a new type of cards providing a new possibility (“incarnating” creatures): We recommend you play with this expansion after playing a few normal games of **Nightmarium**.

Set up

Add these 12 Seal cards into the deck and shuffle it. Now the deck is made up of 120 cards.

How to play

All normal rules of the game applies, with the following changes.

If you have one or more Seal cards in your hand, you can play one of them, using an action, on top of a completed Creature. This Creature is now considered **incarnated**.

When a Creature becomes incarnated, you must activate its abilities one more time, just as if you just completed the Creature, from top to bottom. However you only perform the abilities of the cards of the same legion as the played Seal card (so, during incarnation none, some or all abilities might be activated).

Incarnated Creatures are immune to all abilities until the end of the game, so they cannot be the target of abilities such as Executioner or Devourer.

Only one Seal card can be played on a Creature during the game.

Example

In this situation none of the abilities of the cards forming this Creature are activated again, because all three cards belong to a legion not matching the Seal card used to incarnate. The head and the legs belong to Homunculus legion, while the torso belongs to Insektoid legion, while the Seal card used belongs to Chimerida legion. The incarnated creature is still protected, and cannot be the target of any Creature abilities.

