



THE WORLDWOUND INCURSION



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Bestiary 3	B ₃	Ultimate Equipment	UE
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Lords of Chaos, Book of the Da	mned, Vol. 2 BOTD2		

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table of contents

Foreword	4	
The Worldwound Incursion by Amber E. Scott	6	
NPC Gallery by Amber E. Scott	56	
Wrath of the Righteous Treasures by Amber E. Scott	64	
Kenabres Before the Fall by Amber E. Scott	66	
Pathfinder's Journal: Sweet Ichor 1 of 6 by Robin D. Laws	<i>7</i> 4	
Bestiary by James Jacobs, Jason Nelson, David Schwartz, and Jerome Virnich		
Campaign Outline	90	
Preview	92	



Let's Get Mythical!

hew... here we go!

"The Adventure Path where you fight the demons of the Worldwound," has been on my to-do list more or less from the very start of Pathfinder. Alas, there was a problem: an adventure where you go fight a demon lord at the end is difficult to do with just the Pathfinder RPG Core Rulebook.

That's one of the primary reasons that Pathfinder RPG Mythic Adventures came about: It's here so we can create campaigns where the PCs go beyond the core and tackle truly legendary quests—save-the-world type stuff. With Wrath of the Righteous, we're finally able to head into the Worldwound and face off against its architects, which include some of the most dangerous and deadly foes we've ever published in an Adventure Path.

Also, before I go on, I'd like to call out a big hearty thank you to Jesper Haglund (aka "Kajehase" on the

paizo.com messageboards), who came up with the name for this Adventure Path. Without his input, you wouldn't be starting up a "Wrath of the Righteous" campaign—you'd be starting a "Demonblight Crusade" campaign. I'm pretty sure you'll agree that "Wrath of the Righteous" is a *much* better title.

Of course, this adventure wouldn't exist without its author, Amber E. Scott. Amber's been one of our go-to authors since before Pathfinder was even born, so I can't express how glad I am that she agreed to kick off Wrath of the Righteous—she really hit this one out of the park!

Making Friends and Enemies

Of course, there's much more to Wrath of the Righteous than just fighting demons and getting powerful. We're also going to be trying out some new stuff here. You can expect us to touch upon some of the rules in *Pathfinder*

RPG Ultimate Campaign for mass combat and downtime events alike—your PCs will be periodically leading armies against the forces of the Worldwound, after all, and they'll even help liberate the lost crusader fortress-city of Drezen, wherein they'll have chances to help rebuild the city and take part in other downtime-based events. We'll be exploring other themes as well: in particular, the idea of "sometimes ugly people are the good guys, and sometimes beautiful people are the bad guys," in addition to strong themes of redemption—whether it's the redemption of a person, an entire organization, or even a demon!

One of the biggest things we're doing with Wrath of the Righteous is trying to put certain NPCs into "co-starring" roles. You've probably already noticed the inside covers of this book. Inside the front cover we'll be posting updates for the eight most important allies the PCs meet in the campaign, while in the back we'll be doing the same for eight of the more important villains. For the good guys, these details should help you keep track of what the NPCs are up to before they meet the PCs and what they might do after they've met. For the bad guys, these notes can help you if the PCs do something unusual (like attempt to scry on someone) before they meet that villain, but also give you information on what that villain might do if he escapes his fate and avoids being killed by the PCs. More detailed notes on NPC actions will be referenced as appropriate in the adventures in which their roles are most prominent.

In many cases, NPC allies might end up traveling and even adventuring with the PCs. In these cases, you should not reduce the XP the PCs earn. The NPCs themselves should not "rob" experience points from the PCs—the encounters in Wrath of the Righteous tend to be tough ones, after all. The rate at which an NPC ally levels up should be determined by in-game events, not by the accumulation of XP, and the inside covers provide advice on what levels NPCs should be beyond their initial levels when first encountered.

STARTING WRATH OF THE RIGHTEOUS

While the PCs don't start this Adventure Path with mythic powers, their characters have mythic potential. Your players should know from the start that this is a mythic campaign. If you would rather run Wrath of the Righteous as a standard, non-mythic game, you can do so, but you'll need to make adjustments as you go. In this adventure, since the PCs don't become mythic until after the adventure is over, you can run things without adjustment, but in future volumes, we'll provide a few notes and words of advice to aid you.

This adventure begins with the PCs trapped in a cavern hundreds of feet below the city of Kenabres, and presents the reason for their situation in the form of a flashback as readaloud text. If you desire a more traditional beginning in which you allow the PCs to roleplay out their reactions to the initial attack on the city, you can do so, but keep in mind that

on the cover

Wayne Reynolds returns to the Adventure Path with an illustration of Irabeth Tirabade, a paladin suddenly thrust into a key leadership role after disaster strikes Kenabres. And what's a disaster on the Worldwound border without a balor like the Storm King in your city killing your dragons?

the initial attack on Kenabres by the Worldwound involves demons of incredible power, and if the PCs were exposed to it, in all likelihood most or all of them would perish, even if only from falling masonry or fiery explosions. Some of Kenabres's most powerful NPCs, like Terendelev and Lord Hulrun himself, perish in this attack—by sheltering the PCs from these events and presenting them as campaign background, you can ensure your party survives long enough to start the campaign!

It's important to know what equipment the characters have with them when the game starts. You don't want to undermine the shock of the campaign's opening by asking to see exactly what gear they bring with them to the opening ceremonies, but neither should you assume the PCs leave everything at home. While Kenabres is a city, it's also one located on the front lines of one of the Inner Sea's longest-standing wars. No one in Kenabres walks around unarmed, and those who own armor certainly wear it wherever they go. The bulk the people gathered at Clydwell's Plaza are fully geared, so you can assume the PCs are as well. It's fine to assume that each PC has whatever gear is recorded on his character sheet, save for particularly large objects. Note that certain classes also have animal companions, familiars, mounts, or eidolons. You can assume that familiars and other small creatures hid in a master's pocket or under a hat and were otherwise protected via the fortuitous feather fall spell, as were the PCs. Purchased mounts with no special bond to the characters spook and flee before their owners fall—at your discretion, the PCs may encounter these mounts again when they reach the surface. The point isn't to rob the PCs of their starting wealth, but to give them the terrifying thrill of stumbling into an adventure unprepared!

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